

MINUTES OF 19th PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF
MAPPLEBOROUGH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD MONDAY, 4th DECEMBER 2006 at 8.15pm at THE VILLAGE HALL

1. PUBLIC FORUM - No members of the public were present but The Chairman wished to speak on behalf of the Village Hall Committee. The AGM of the Village Hall had been held on Friday, 1st December. There had been an increase over the past three years of grass cutting costs and for the current year was £450 plus £300 for tree lopping. The annual donation from the Parish Council though appreciated, had not increased and Cllr. Green requested that an increase might be considered.
 2. CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING OPEN AT 8.25pm
 3. APOLOGIES - Cllrs. Joannah Fitchett and Cllr. Jane Fitzhenry.
 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - A declaration was received from Cllr. Green on the subject of the Village Hall donation.
 5. MINUTES OF THE 18th PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 9th OCTOBER 2006 were accepted as a true record and signed.
 6. MATTERS ARISING
 - Village Sign
The Parish Clerk and The Chairman had met with Chris Cunliffe of AmeyMouchel on site at the entrance to Abbeyfields Estate on 2nd November. Mr. Cunliffe could see no problems in re-siting the sign as long as it did not interfere with any underground services and suggested positioning it just below the south entrance to the Estate in front of the large direction sign. He, however, said that HA approval would be required and a formal agreement may be needed to be entered into. He pointed out that the A435 was due to be de-trunked around May 2007 when it would become the responsibility of W.C.C. and we may wish to wait until then. At the moment because of funding, it would probably take a few months if HA were approached. It was considered that we move it anyway but concern was then raised regarding insurance cover if an accident occurred whilst doing this. It was agreed to wait until next year (May) to see the situation regarding de-trunking. Cllr. Helen McCarthy would look at the possible timing for the take over.
 - Transport
The Parish Clerk had received an email from Dot Mitchell, Parish Clerk at Studley, regarding the 'Friday Shopper' coach. She is canvassing users regarding the suggestion by the operators, Johnsons, that it be available to all residents in order to subsidise the operation. It would mean all pensioners travel free but possibly other residents pay. The Parish Clerk would check the reaction with Dot Mitchell.
 - The Parish Clerk had also written to Hardings International regarding the possible inclusion of Mappleborough Green in their services. As yet she had received no reply.
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- Vehicle Activated Signs

These had now been repaired. The Parish Clerk advised that she had been notified that 'SpeedAware' would be on the Henley Road near the School week commencing 27th November for 3 weeks.

- Speed in Pratts Lane

The Parish Clerk had contacted W.C.C. with the concerns of speed of vehicles entering Pratts Lane especially at the southern end. A report form had been received and returned with comments. However, the reply received from Chris Fossey (Road Safety Liaison Officer) said priority was given to sites where there have been a number of recent collisions/injuries. He said one of his Safety Engineers had checked the accident records for the 'Boot' area and there was only one record of a slight injury accident within the last three years, therefore, he was unable to help.

The Parish Clerk had made an appeal in the last Newsletter requesting residents to slow down when entering/exiting at this point. When the website is up and running another request would be made.

- Post Box

The Parish Clerk had chased both County Highways and Mr. Cox at the Royal Mail, Redditch. Mr. Cox said he had been out to the site and taken photographs of the position and had contacted Nick Wild at W.C.C. He said he would chase them again.

- Website/Laptop/Ankorn House,

The Parish Clerk reported that she had contacted Ian Geddes of 2geedesign informing him that the Parish Council wished to go ahead with the website and for him to set it up based on information from her. She had prepared some 'mock-up' pages which she had distributed to the Parish Councillors with a request for any information/feedback.

Cllr. Green would obtain information for the Village Hall and the Church. He had several post cards of the old village which he would email to Parish Clerk or Ian Geddes when required. Parish Clerk had written to the School and received some background from them. A suggested logo of trees similar to the road signs was made. The domain name had been registered - mappleboroughgreenparishcouncil.org.uk and Ian Geddes had set up a draft front page to give an impression of how it would look. This received an agreeable response.

The Parish Clerk would proceed with gathering information and getting it across to Ian.

A Laptop and Printer had been purchased and the Parish Clerk distributed a sheet showing probable costs under the 'Awards For All' Grant Scheme. It had previously been suggested that she have a mobile phone for specific use for Parish Council work in order to keep costs separate from her home telephone. It would be more economical to have a Pay-As-You-Go phone rather than a contract because of the low usage. She would look into this.

She had been in touch with the Insurance Company regarding cover for the new equipment. It was agreed to have cover for house use at £4.05 for the Laptop and 0.44p for the Printer plus the Government tax rather than approx. £40.00 in the event the Laptop was taken to a meeting.

The Chairman was in contact with Revd. Deimel regarding the possible siting of a metal storage cupboard to be purchased by the Parish Council for files/archive material, within Ankcorn House. He is waiting for the cost of renting space.

Cllr. Regan asked if use could be made of Ordnance Survey mapping for the website. Parish Clerk to look at the material received from O.S. in recent months. The intention at presentwastousea link to Multimap.com.

- Precept

It was agreed to submit an application for the same Precept for 2007/8 (£10,440). This was proposed by Cllr. Regan and seconded by Cllr. Green.

A Quotation/costings had been received by Cllr. Green from Select Business Services, after a suggestion to purchase two flower troughs for positioning outside the Village Hall. The costs were to include liner and compost at £359.00 plus £100.00 for installation and planting out work plus £12.00 maintenance as and when required by the Parish Council. It was agreed for the Parish Council to purchase these directly from the supplier (Hilliers) and for Select to carry out the installation. This was proposed by Cllr. Regan and seconded by Cllr. Salmon.

It was suggested that a General Reserve Fund be set up out the Precept of £3000.00 to be reviewed every four months. The was proposed by Cllr. Green and seconded by Cllr. O'Neill Thomas.

- Dog Waste Bins/Litter Bins

The Parish Clerk had enquired into the regularity of emptying these and any cost involved. Chris Sumner at S.D.C. advised that the Dog Foul Bins would initially be emptied once a week probably on Mondays, and similarly the Litter Bins unless this proved inadequate. No charge would be made for this service. The cost of the 25ltr. Dog Foul Bin (green 'Fido') was £160.00 including mounting post and installation. The 70ltr. Floor mounted 'Otto' Litter Bin was £235.00. It was decided that two Dog Foul Bins were required - one at Abbeyfields Estate near the Play Area, one in Haye Lane together with the Litter Bin. Parish Clerk to check how the Litter Bin is fixed as it needs to be secure. If this is satisfactory, she would order and liaise with Cllrs. Green and Regan for siting.

- Donations

Following the appeal earlier, it was felt that an increased donation to the Village Hall was justified, also a similar amount to the Church. The amount agreed was £250.00 each. This was proposed by Cllr. O'Neill Thomas and seconded by Cllr. Salmon.

The Church had distributed a letter to residents appealing for help towards essential work that is required to stonework and addition of aids for less agile members of the congregation using the Church. It was agreed that a further sum of £250.00 be donated as a one off towards this fund. Proposed by Cllr. Regan and seconded by Cllr. Salmon. Cllr. Regan asked that the Parish Clerk make reference in the letter accompanying the donation, that Mappleborough Green includes Abbeyfields Estate and they should be included in any communications from the Church.

Cllr. Regan asked if the Parish Clerk had received a letter from the Junior Football Club regarding a possible donation. She had not - Cllr. Regan would contact them.

- Church Entrance
Still awaiting a letter from the Vicar.

- Light at Abbeyfields Footpath

This had now been repaired. Dot Mitchell at Studley P.C. had advised that W.C.C. had taken over responsibility for lighting on the Abbeyfields Estate but not the Footpath. The Parish Clerk had received an email from Bob Yarwood at W.C.C. advising that the Lighting Principle Engineer would be in touch in January giving details of the proposed maintenance contract to run April-March to cover the three lights involved.

- Public Footpath at the rear of the Church

The Parish Clerk reported that the field is now walkable with no obstruction but the path does not appear to be marked. She would keep an eye on this.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Since the last Parish Council Meeting the following Applications/Notices had been received:-

- Application 06/02772/FUL Mr. & Mrs. Berry, Cross Roads, Warwick Highway
- Application 06/02837/FUL Mr. K. Freeman, The Elms, Common Lane
- Application 06/03168/ADV Mitchells & Butlers re 'The Boot' re. signs

Applications Granted:

- Mr. Bull, Cranhills Farm, Henley Road
- The Boot, Birmingham Road - re. - lighting column for CCTV

8. OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A letter had been received from Mark Porter, Traffic Projects at W.C.C., regarding the 2nd (2006) Edition of the Advisory Lorry Route Map due for publication in the New Year. He requested any comments. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk reply repeating the views expressed following the meeting with Studley Parish Council and Mr. Porter in July.

The Parish Clerk reported that she had written to Mick Potter, Emergency Planning Unit, regarding errors in the printing of the Mappleborough Green Emergency Plan of which copies had already been distributed.

The Parish Clerk had registered with W.C.C. Trading Standards, to be advised of any 'scams'/ alerts in the area. She requested Councillors to advise her of any such problems they may become aware of in order to advise W.C.C.

Mr. Norman Dixon had written again to the Parish Clerk with his dissatisfaction of action over his complaints raised regarding the verges in Pratts Lane. He also was concerned over the road surface and suggested it be 'walked' to check the condition. He had requested sight of the Minute of the last Parish Council Meeting when his complaint was raised. The Parish Clerk had acknowledged the letter and would act on it accordingly. She had been down Pratts Lane and in her opinion only two areas could do with some attention. She had left messages for Nick Wild at W.C.C. to contact her.

Cllr. McCarthy had replied also to Mr. Dixon's letter of which she was sent a copy. She presented the Parish Clerk with a copy of her reply and gave brief details of its contents to the Parish Council. It was again felt that the Parish Council could do no further with this matter.

9. DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS

No written report received from the District Councillor who was not present.

Cllr. Helen McCarthy gave the Parish Clerk an old Footpath Study which was completed ten years ago by Studley Parish Council for information.

She reported on a White Paper 'Strong and Prosperous Communities' which could be viewed on line at www.communities.gov.uk. The Parish Clerk had also received details on this from NALC and has a summary on file. It relates to changes in power to Town and Parish Councils.

Cllr. McCarthy also spoke about the proposed new bridge at Stratford. She had voted against it because she felt it could lead on to use of recreation land across the river for parking and thereby destroying the wellknown view.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

Notification had been received from WALC regarding an Induction Day for new Clerks and elected or co-opted Parish and Town Councillors. Cllr. O'Neill Thomas did not wish to attend.

The Parish Clerk had obtained a complimentary copy of The Local Plan Review 1996-2011 from Stratford District Council. Cllrs. Green and Regan wished to view this.

Notification from S.D.C. of their adoption of Managing Housing Supply - Supplementary Planning Document. Can be viewed on line www.stratford-dc.gov.uk

Notification from WALC regarding information from W.C.C. advising that Councils can obtain bulk purchasing arrangement through ESPO.

The Parish Clerk had received from W.C.C. a copy of Warwickshires Countryside Access & Rights of Way Improvement Plan (CAROWIP).

11. FOR CIRCULATION - none

12. DELEGATES REPORTS

The Parish Clerk attended a Briefing Day on 29th November at Norton Lindsay organised by WALC. The subject was General Financial Clinic/Race Relations Act/Equality.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

14. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS

The Parish Clerk distributed a Bank Balance to 26th October of £14657.01 which included the £5000.00 Awards For All Grant.

Less cheques issued since last Meeting £422.35

Less cheques drawn for signing £441.39

£13793.27

15. CHAIRMANS BUSINESS

16. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The dates for 2007 were set every two months commencing Monday, 5th February at 8.15pm at The Village Hall. The Parish Clerk to book the Hall with the Secretary.

Cllr. McCarthy gave advance apologies for the April meeting.

- Meeting closed at 10.00p.m. -