

MINUTES OF THE 30th PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF
MAPPLEBOROUGH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY, 6th OCTOBER 2008
at 8.15pm at THE VILLAGE HALL

1. THE CHAIRMAN OPENED THE MEETING AT 8.15pm
2. PRESENT - Cllrs. M. Green, J. Fitzhenry, J. Fitchett, L. Topham, H. McCarthy
3. APOLOGIES – Cllrs. S. Regan, G. Ward, N. O'Neill Thomas
4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None
5. PUBLIC FORUM
Mrs. Sue Crampton thanked the Parish Council for their support over the Planning Application in respect of Hill Crest Farm, Pratts Lane. She asked for their support in the future.
6. MINUTES OF THE 29th PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 4th AUGUST 2008 were accepted as a true record and signed.
7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION – Matters arising from the last Parish Council Meeting

TRAFFIC CONCERNS

- SPEED

The Parish Clerk had followed up discussions with Studley Parish Council regarding the approach to the problem of the A435. Their Parish Clerk, Dot Mitchell, advised that the problem had been discussed by Studley Parish Council and the feeling was that now the road has been de-trunked, each Parish Council should look at their own areas – 'to spend money on lawyers to go through courts is not a viable option'. Therefore, we proceed alone.

- SIGNAGE

The Parish Clerk had contacted Caroline Burrows again at W.C.C. reporting the recent spate of accidents. Her reply was that she is aware of these. As the A435 has only been taken over by W.C.C. this year, it has not previously been included in their reports on accidents – it will now be looked at in the new 'routes list' for work from April 2009 for consideration. The improvements already discussed for the bottom of Gorcott Hill are due between January and March 2009.

Regarding Henley Road, the Parish Clerk had been chasing up the 'new equipment' advised on by Tim Hamson. So far only two 'camera' signs have been put in place. She will follow this up to see what else will be provided.

An email had been received from Mrs. J. Judd, Clerk to the School, voicing concerns of parents regarding speed outside the school. The Parish Clerk had advised her that negotiations are going on to provide some deterrents.

TRAFFIC CONCERNS continued

- LAY-BY PARKING

Cllr. Ward had previously reported on overnight parking of lorries in the lay-by opposite the Village Hall which was causing a nuisance. The Parish Clerk had contacted Nick Wild, W.C.C., and a 'No Overnight Parking' sign had been installed. She had also contacted the Police and been advised that 'drive bys' would take place to check. No reports had been received by her from residents.

A resident had contacted Cllr. Ward regarding parking of vehicles near the exit out of Pratts Lane onto the A435. The Parish Council though sympathetic have no authority over vehicle parking on roads in this instance. It was suggested that the issue may be dealt with personally between the residents in question and suggested Cllr. Ward speak to them.

- FLOODING

Work had now been successfully completed by W.C.C. in Pratts Lane and to the surface in Hays Lane. The Parish Council asked the Clerk to withdraw the application for the Flood Grant. This had been done.

- A435 CONDITIONS (Verges, Dog Island)

The Parish Clerk had been chasing Nick Wild, W.C.C. regarding the road surface from the Dog Island south and was advised that he is keeping a check on it. Parish Clerk still following this up. She had also emailed regarding the promise of more top soil for the island following lorries crossing over it – as yet no response. Cllr. Green felt that only a hard core surface or making the island smaller would be the long term solution. Cllr. Ward had previously raised the problem of water for the plants on the island as at the moment it having to be carried across avoiding traffic. The Parish Clerk suggested placement of water butts within the shrubs but this was felt not to be suitable. More thoughts should be given to this. Cllr. Green thanked Sue Crampton for her voluntary work in carrying out the planting.

The Parish Clerk had made enquiries regarding the cutting back of areas by the Henley Road Village Sign and corner, and to the right of the entrance to Abbeyfields Drive. W.C.C. would not include these areas in their cutting. However, the last cut showed an improvement at Abbeyfields and the Henley Road is tidy.

- WASTE COLLECTIONS

The Parish Clerk had received some concerns following the introduction of the new service and still experiencing missed collections. It is still in its infancy and better than the previous arrangements.

- AUDIT COMMISSION SURVEY

The Parish Clerk had a hard copy of the survey findings if the Parish Councillors wished to view or copy it.

- COMMUNICATIONS GRANT

An application for this Grant of £500 had been sent to W.C.C. and had been granted. Parish Clerk awaiting details. This would help with continuing updates on the Website/computer.

- POST BOX

This was now in situ. The collection time plate was wrong and Royal Mail were organising a new one which is due to be installed this week. Collections should be operational from week commencing 13th October. The Parish Clerk will put a notice on the Website and Notice Boards and advise the School of this.

- LinK

The Parish Clerk had looked at their website to register the Parish Council's interest but because of the request for some personal details, she had emailed them for reassurance of security. No response yet.

- STANDARDS & ETHICS COMMITTEE VISIT/CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING

Following the letter from Liam Nevin, S.D.C., the Parish Clerk had requested a visit from a representative of the Committee to explain their role. She had been notified that Dr. Peter Bebbington will attend the next Parish Council Meeting on 1st December and this should last for around 15minutes.

She had also been advised that a Training Session for the Alcester area on the Code of Conduct will take place on 4th November at 6.00pm at Studley Village Hall. Liam Nevin will conduct the session which will last about 1 1/2hrs. Cllr. Ward had previously expressed an interest in attending.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- NALC DOCUMENTS – POWER OF WELLBEING

The documents had been forwarded to the Parish Council on 13th August.

The Parish Clerk had also received a notice from WALC regarding the Model Publication Scheme Review. Adoption of the new scheme must take place before 31st December 2008. She would copy the information and circulate to the Parish Council and include on the next Agenda for 1st December for a Resolution Vote.

- CROSSING BY SCHOOL

Cllr. Ward had been contacted by a resident of Moat House Court regarding the possibility of a crossing on the Henley Road/A435 or both. This had been requested some time ago and met with a negative response from the Highways Agency. Cllr. McCarthy was involved in this previously and felt that as the road is now de-trunked and the responsibility of W.C.C. then another approach maybe worthwhile. She would make enquiries and the Parish Clerk would also follow-up.

- PARISH COUNCIL MEETING COMMENTS

Following attendance at the last Parish Council Meeting by some residents of Moat House Court, comments had been sent to Cllr. Ward who forwarded them to the Parish Clerk. She had replied that the public can speak within the 15minute Public Forum but the rest of the evening is for Parish Council business. Her seating position was so she could face and address the Parish Council. She endeavoured to speak as loud as possible. The Parish Councillors confirmed the seating arrangements are better than 'in the round' or similar. It had been suggested the use

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING COMMENTS continued

of microphones – this was not agreeable with the Parish Councillors. Cllr. Green also reaffirmed that the public are not allowed to speak once the business of the Parish Council was being conducted. The Parish Clerk suggested a notice board with useful information be placed within the Hall. It was felt that this is covered enough with the Website and Notice Boards outside the Village Hall and at Abbeyfields Drive. It was suggested that a small supply of extra Agenda's be available at the Meeting for members of the public. The Parish Clerk would arrange this for future.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Parish Clerk produced a list of Planning Applications/Notices of Granting and Withdrawals received since the last Parish Council Meeting. The Application in respect of Hill Crest Farm was due to go to the West Area Planning Committee on 2nd October but the Application had now been withdrawn.

The Parish Clerk advised that the new system was now in place for receiving and commenting on Planning Applications by email. This would enable early notification of Applications and quick response to returning comments.

9. DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr. McCarthy gave a typed report.

Cllr. Topham said the new Waste/Recycling system was proving successful with an increase in recycling percentage.

Cllr. McCarthy advised that on the first Saturday of the month a facility is on the Pool Road car park at Studley for the disposal of items of rubbish thus saving a long journey to the Stratford waste site. Parish Clerk to put on the Website and Notice Boards.

Regarding housing, there is still a great deal of concern regarding the possible development of Wynyates triangle under W.M.R.S.S. The Redditch green space is 37%. Stratford District is 16%. Redditch want to build 4600 houses on the Stratford District side with something like 400 plus houses on Wynyates. Stratford District Council are trying to stop this. Cllr. Topham and Cllr. McCarthy said both S.D.C. and W.C.C. are opposing WMRSS.

New car parking charges are being looked at in Stratford (off-street) though nothing has been confirmed yet. Fees and fine money go into the Council Tax fund. W.C.C. want Park and Ride.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

CAR PARKING CHARGES – A letter had been received from Robert Walsh of S.D.C. regarding the review of car parking charges in Stratford District (off-street). There are a number of options. The Parish Clerk had enquired regarding Pool Road, Studley which is used by residents of Mappleborough Green. She had been advised that there are options for some free period then charged for or it could remain free. The Parish Council felt it is a matter for Studley Parish Council. Cllr. Topham confirmed no decisions had been made yet.

Signed

CORRESPONDENCE continued

W.C.C. Minerals Local Development Framework –

A letter had been received advising the preparation of framework. Details are on W.C.C. website (County Council Minerals webpage). Parish Council have no comments.

Communities & Local Government Report –

The Parish Clerk has received the Consultation Document (The Making & Enforcement of Byelaws'. Comments are invited by 20th November 2008.

W.C.C. Notice Boards/Newsletters –

The Parish Clerk had returned a questionnaire received regarding the facilities in place and benefits.

She had also received a copy email sent to Richard Diemel, Vicar regarding the supply of a newsletter. It was agreed this had been tried before but failed due to lack of input. The Parish Clerk already asks for information for the Website with little response.

WALC Programme -

A list of Briefing Events to March 2009 had been received for Chair Persons, Parish Councillors and Clerks.

Ramblers Association –

A letter received detailing work of the Ramblers and suggesting Parish Council affiliation. Parish Council declined.

W.C.C. Funding Bulletin –

An email has been received detailing various Funds available. Parish Clerk will hold on file for reference.

11. DELEGATES REPORTS

The Parish Clerk attended the inaugural meeting of the Community Forum (Henley & Studley Area) on 10th September 2008 at Studley Village Hall. She had already emailed her report to the Parish Council and gave a brief summary. It was basically to set up the Forum and decide its aims. Those present in the 'audience' felt the room too small (Media Room) and largely taken up by the 'Committee'. There was not sufficient publicity of the event especially to the public giving them chance to attend. Representatives from groups such as health, youth and aged were not there – they must be if it is going to work. The general concern was are these Forums going to be just another form of Parish Council Meeting? People will not travel to them if agenda items do not refer to them. The early time of 6.00pm was wrong – 7.30pm was agreed and the next meeting is at Henley on 26th November. The police gave a report.

12. ACCOUNTS

HSBC Account –

The Parish Clerk had contacted the Manager regarding opening another account giving greater interest but still with instant access. The information received was not giving a good rate. Cllrs. Green and Fitzhenry will look into other accounts.

Signed

1st December 2008.

ACCOUNTS continued

Audit result –

The External Audit had been completed by Clement Keys and ‘an unqualified audit opinion has been given’. Notice had been posted on the Website and Notice Boards.

General Reserve Review –

The current General Reserve is £3000 for any legal fees looking into road speed/safety. Cllr. Green proposed this be increased to £6000 and was seconded by Cllr. Fitzhenry.

Parish Clerk Wage Review –

The Parish Clerk requested a review of wages. The National Award this year has not yet been agreed (from April). However, it had come to her notice (from WALC) that she was ‘entitled to rise by one spinal column point per year’ until reaching the top of LC1 rate which she was on. This had not been done. She would email the Parish Councillors with details for their consideration at the next Parish Council Meeting.

Accounts Paid/for Payment –

The Parish Clerk distributed a list of payments made since the last Parish Council Meeting and those for approval and signing. The Bank Statement received to date (26th September) shows a balance of £10,478.75 not including cheques for clearance.

The second payment of the Precept had been notified (£5,500) – this was not included in the Statement.

Email responses –

The Parish Clerk asked the Chairman to stress the need for Parish Councillors to reply to all her emails. This he did.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting is Monday, 1st December 2008 at the Village Hall at 8.15pm. prompt.

- The Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 9.20pm -

Signed

1st December 2008.

APPENDIX 1.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED/
NOTICE OF APPLICATIONS GRANTED/
APPLICATIONS WITHDRAWN
SINCE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 4th AUGUST 2008

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

- No. 08/02358/FUL Mr. Tony Bennett, Kymin, Orchard Place, Mappleborough Green
Dated 16.9.08. two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and
detached garage.
6.10.08. returned – no representations.
- No. 08/02118/LDE Mr. M. Crisp, Outhill Cottage, Henley Road, Outhill.
Dated 10.9.08. Use of land as part of residential curtilage.
30.9.08. returned – no representations
- No. 08/02244/FUL Hy-Line UK, Lower Skilts Farm, Henley Road, Outhill.
Dated 18.9.08. Extensions of poultry hatching unit; regarding and landscaping
works in association with the hatchery development.
- No. 08/02405/FUL Arden Leisure Ltd., Studley Football and Social Club,
Dated 22.9.08. Abbeyfields Drive.
Proposed part change of use of existing function room to day
Nursery (continued use as function room during the evenings).

DECISION NOTIFICATIONS

- No. 08/01788/FUL Mr. and Mrs. D. Gold,
Date of decision The Lodge, Gorcott Hill, Beoley
27.8.08. Granted Erection of garage/storage building and aviary following demolition of
existing aviaries.
- No. 08/01786/LBC Dr. Ann Bicknell, Moat House Farm, Pratts Lane,
Date of decision Mappleborough Green
28.8.08. Granted Remove non load bearing modern brick façade from gable end wall of
lounge. Expose builders opening – not tied in on one face elevation.
Demolish flue on gable end of lounge on external aspect – only tied in
at roof apex and on one buildings opening elevation. Rebuild flue -
using reclaimed brick and lime mortar.

WITHDRAWAL OF APPLICATION

- No. 08/00615/FUL Arden Leisure Ltd., Studley Football and Social Club,
Notice dated 9.9.08. Abbeyfields Drive, Studley.
- No. 08/01577/FUL Mr. S. Coley, Hill Crest Farm, Pratts Lane
Notice dated 1.10.08.

APPENDIX 2.

PAYMENTS MADE SINCE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING (4th August 2008)

Cheque No.	Description	Amount	Date Paid
100249	2Gee design – website updates June/July	£29.63	11.8.08.
100250	Broadband	£20.99	11.8.08.
100251	Parish Clerk – wages August less PAYE	£283.06	1.9.08.
100252	Admin. Expenses August	£57.92	1.9.08.
100253	D.J. Bennett – Landscaping August	£120.00	1.9.08.
100254	Clement Keys – External Audit	£182.13	3.9.08.
100255	Church Committee – Rent of space Ankcorn	£104.00	8.9.08

PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL AND SIGNING

100256	D.J. Bennett – Landscaping September	£120.00
100257	2Gee Design – website updates Aug/Sept.	£26.50
100258	Admin. Expenses September/phone	£11.39
100259	Broadband – September/October	£41.96
100260	Parish Clerk – wages September less PAYE	£296.24
100261	PAYE payments – Aug/Sept/Oct.	£225.21

Signed

1st December 2008.