

MINUTES OF THE 27th PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF
MAPPLEBOROUGH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY, 7th APRIL 2008
at 9.00pm at THE VILLAGE HALL

1. THE CHAIRMAN OPENED THE MEETING
2. PRESENT - Cllrs. M. Green, J. Fitzhenry, S. Regan, N. O'Neill Thomas, J. Fitchett, H. McCarthy
3. APOLOGIES - Cllr. L. Topham
4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None
5. PUBLIC FORUM – None present
6. MINUTES OF THE 26th PARISH COUNCIL MEETING of 4th February 2008 were accepted as a true record and signed.
7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION
 - PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY
This had been advertised and the Chief Executive of Stratford District Council had advised that no one (more than 10) had asked for an election and, therefore, it was in order for the Parish Council to co-opt a replacement. None of the Parish Councillors had been approached by any interested parties. The Parish Clerk would re-advertise on the Website and Notice Boards (in bold).
 - VILLAGE BOOKLET/WEBSITE
The Parish Clerk presented proofs of the Booklet and apart from two additions it was ready for printing. The Parish Council gave their approval to go ahead. The Parish Clerk had prepared an updated Contact Sheet which could be printed at the same time and distributed with the Booklet. As this was being funded by the Awards For All Grant and money allocated the Parish Council agreed to this. Cllr. Fitzhenry reminded the Parish Clerk that a copy of the notice re W.M.R.S.S. be sent out with the Booklet.

Parish Clerk would make any amendments and printing should be complete during April. Dates of the Parish Council Meetings for the rest of the year should be included in the Contact Sheet.

The Parish Clerk reported that a larger NEWS item in the Website menu home page had been introduced to draw readers attention to current items. The Parish Council were happy with this. Cllr. Green asked that a 'calendar' of events be incorporated similar to that of the Meriden Website. Parish Clerk would organise.

The 'Village Walk' which is being printed on the back of the Booklet was being put on the Website. Parish Clerk had been contacted by www.walkinginwarwickshire.co.uk regarding putting a link to Mappleborough Green Website – he currently links with other Councils. The Parish Council agreed that this was in order.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION (continued)

- ABBEYFIELDS PLAY AREA

The Parish Clerk had emailed and spoken to both Chris Fennell at Stratford District Council and

Cllr. Topham. Funding was still being prioritised. Mr. Fennell had suggested that S.D.C. could put Five-A-Side posts to the left of the Play Area at no cost to the Parish Council. Cllr. Topham suggested the Parish Council could perhaps look at purchasing some new equipment but arrange for S.D.C. to maintain. The Parish Council were concerned over the insurance question regarding equipment. Cllr. Regan said if S.D.C. were offering to add the Five-A-Side facility then the Parish Council should take this up. Parish Clerk to follow-up.

- TRAFFIC CONCERNS

Cllr. Regan had received a reply to his letter to Nicholas Dauncey, Transport Planner, Environment & Economy, Warwickshire County Council. A further contact had been received from Shirley Reynolds – Team Leader, Highways & Transport Studies offering to meet to discuss concerns. The Parish Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting between all interested parties including Studley and Coughton. Cllr. Regan suggested visiting areas of concern then meeting. Cllr. McCarthy reported she had been making enquiries and suggestions of moving the start of the dual-carriageway further back up the A435 and moving the 40mph signs had been made. She also reported on two cameras that had been installed on the Studley – Sernal stretch and that this was to become a 30mph zone. Cllr. Fitzhenry questioned how they had managed to get cameras when we had failed – Cllr. McCarthy said it was because there had been deaths on this stretch – the Parish Council said that there had been a death in recent years at Mappleborough Green. Cllr. McCarthy would follow-up regarding speed.

- FLOODING

The Parish Clerk reported on various emails with a resident of The Covers effected by the floods, Carol Hemming, Land Drainage Officer, S.D.C. and Nick Wild of W.C.C.

The ditch at the rear of properties in The Covers had now been cleared and was being finalised on the stretch leading to the Cricket Club. Residents expressed concerns over the 'debris' taken out but this is being matter is being dealt with by Carol Hemming who is in direct contact with those residents. The Parish Clerk had been asked to provide a supply of sand for The Covers and to take up the offer of suitable receptacles from S.D.C. On enquiries this offer was not straight-forward in that applications had to go to Committees etc. before decisions on allocation made. It had become apparent that placement of sand or receptacles could present legal consequences. Therefore, it was agreed to leave the situation as it is with two large bags being stored at Cllr. Greens. Cllr. Green reported that some residents of the two affected areas – Abbeyfields and Pratts Lane, had filled sand bags. The Parish Clerk advised that she had obtained some details on flood defence equipment, which was not cheap, but would keep on file.

The Parish Clerk would contact Carol Hemming again regarding meeting with Cllr. Fitzhenry to discuss the problem in Pratts Lane. Cllr. Fitzhenry reported that she had spoken to Nick Wild, W.C.C., who said the problem is a cracked pipe which is being difficult to identify/rectify. The Parish Clerk had also been chasing him on this problem and would follow-up.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- INTERNAL AUDIT RISK ASSESSMENT/STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE

The Parish Council agreed that procedures are in place and that the Parish Clerk was submitting reports and recording correctly. The Parish Council signed the 'Statement of Assurance' confirming this.

- GENERAL RESERVE

This is currently at £3000.00 and in place should professional advice be sought regarding the road problems. This should remain. All Parish Councillors agreed.

- INSURANCE

The Parish Clerk had received renewal details which showed an increase of £17.00 on the current premium. She had been approached by Came & Co. to quote but the Parish Council agreed to stay with the current insurers - Allianz.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) The Parish Clerk listed Applications received since the last Meeting.

07/02844/FUL

T. Tandy, Land at Gorcott Hill

08/00209/ADV

Orchard Pub Co., The Old Washford Mill

These had been returned with no recommendations.

b) For consideration – Application received

07/03345/FUL

Mr. & Mrs. J. Richards, Haye Pasture, Haye Lane

Conversion of existing outbuilding to holiday lets (4no)

Parish Council had no recommendations to make.

The Parish Clerk would post on the Website and Notice Boards.

Notice of Granting of Application received

07/03384/FUL

Mrs. N. O'Neill Thomas

c) The Parish Clerk had received details of the new Planning Application Validation Checklist Consultation from S.D.C. She had obtained a hard copy but it is available to view on their Website. Details had been emailed previously to the Parish Council on 20th March. A letter had also been received from W.C.C. on the subject. The Parish Council had no comments to make.

9. DISTRICT and COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS

No reports received. Cllr. McCarthy had already reported on some items earlier in the Meeting.

10. CORRESPONDENCE – none

11. DELEGATES REPORTS

The Parish Clerk had attended a Seminar at Warwick organised by WALC which gave updates and advice on procedures. She is acting accordingly.

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12. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAID / FOR PAYMENT

The Parish Clerk distributed sheets listings payments made since the last Meeting and cheques requiring approval and for signature (list attached). These were approved and signed. She also distributed an up-to-date Balance Sheet.

The Parish Clerk asked for agreement to purchase a copy of 'Arnold Baker' which is a reference book for Councils. All Parish Councillors agreed and a cheque was signed.

The Parish Clerk reported that she would prepare the 'Awards For All' expenditure details for the next Meeting. She also reported that the Notice Board at the Village Hall was 'collapsing' at the back with two hinges broken. The Parish Council authorised her to arrange repairs.

13. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND PROPOSED MOVE OF THE

A.G.M.

Following the Seminar, the Parish Clerk was now aware that the Annual General Meeting should take place in May. Therefore, she suggested that this take place on Monday, 19th May at 8.15pm. The Chairman suggested bringing the June meeting forward to follow immediately after the A.G.M. All Parish Councillors agreed – proposed by Cllr. Green – seconded by Cllr. Regan.

The Parish Clerk had already provisionally booked the Village Hall and would cancel the June booking.

- Meeting closed at 9.50pm -