

MINUTES OF THE 34th PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF
MAPPLEBOROUGH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY, 18th May 2009
at 8.40pm at THE VILLAGE HALL

1. THE CHAIRMAN OPENED THE MEETING AT 8.40pm
2. PRESENT - Cllrs. M. Green, J. Fitzhenry, Nor O'Neill Thomas, G. Ward,
A. Crichton, L. Topham, H. McCarthy
3. APOLOGIES – Cllr. S. Regan
4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – none
5. PUBLIC FORUM –
Mr. S. Jacobs asked if the Parish Council had any plans for spending with such a large amount in the Bank Account and if not could residents have a 'Tax Holiday'. The Chairman responded that there was no planned spending but the Parish Council are always encouraging residents to suggest things they would like done for the benefit of the Village. This was regularly asked at Parish Council Meetings, the Notice Boards and Website. Cllr. Topham said to split say £12,000 between all the households of the Village would not amount to much and it is good to have monies available in the Bank for projects that may arise or unforeseen needs.

The Chairman pointed out that as shown in the Accounts presented at the Annual General Meeting, the annual expenses to run the Parish Council is around £10,500 – the Precept is £11,500.

Mr. Jacobs asked if figures could be made available on request – the Parish Clerk said that under the Freedom of Information Act this was so, and confirmed by the Parish Council.

6. THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING and THE 33rd PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 6th April 2009 were accepted as a true record and signed.
7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION – Matters arising from the last Parish Council Meeting
- SPEED/SIGNAGE
The Parish Clerk reported that she had contacted the SpeedAware unit and was advised that the schedule was on the W.C.C. Website. This, however, showed that the next visit was due in July. She had contacted Chris Fossey again with concerns but was advised that more dates would be added. She was follow this up.

Regarding the work due the bottom of Gorcott Hill, the Clerk received a notice of other work to be carried out on the Coventry Highway and slip road with diversions using the A435. This was due to take place around the same time as the planned work here. She had queried this and emphasised the importance of going ahead with the scheduled dates (last two Sundays in June). The contact at W.C.C. had said he would be getting back to her regarding the other work. Clerk to follow up.

- DOG ISLAND

The Parish Clerk had written to D. Bennett asking if he could rake over the damaged edge of the island (if safe to do so) when he was grass cutting and then to regularly do so to keep it tidy. This he is doing and has also re-seeded the edge. Agreement was that it looks better although there is evidence that lorries are still cutting across this. The Chairman said we need to pursue this with W.C.C. when they have funding available to repair the actual edges as they are breaking away.

- SCHOOL CROSSING

The Parish Clerk had forwarded the Parish Council and Parents comments and suggestions to Lynn Harding at W.C.C. This followed the W.C.C. survey and failure of agreement on crossings. She had replied that the requests/comments had been noted and would consider them. She also pointed out that Mappleborough Green is due to be considered as part of the Village Speed Limit Review and this will include the limit near the school. Dual flashing lights are still on the agenda for the summer. Parish Clerk to follow up.

- STREET LIGHTING/MAINTENANCE

Parish Clerk had calculated the current value on the Village Hall light to include it on the Asset Register and also for insurance purposes. She had enquired from W.C.C. and Studley Parish Council regarding ownership of the other two lights on the footpath through Abbeyfields. It appears that as these were installed for Studley Parish Council prior to the formation of Mappleborough Green Parish Council, but are now included on the Maintenance Contract together with the light purchased by this Parish Council then ownership has transferred to Mappleborough Green. Therefore, these lights should go in the Fixed Asset Register and be insured. The Parish Clerk had requested a price from the Insurance Company (Allianz) and expects this to be in the region of £100 more. The insurance renewal has been received but does not yet include these lights.

- BROADBAND

The Parish Clerk had received a visit (by appointment) from HM Revenues & Customs as part of their 'spot checks' on Councils of all sizes. Everything was found to be satisfactory but the question of Broadband payment was raised. The Inspector said this is a very contentious issue but it should be taxed and, therefore, should be included at the end of the month salary sheet and tax deducted accordingly. This is being done.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- GRASS CUTTING

The Parish Clerk had contacted Nick Wild at W.C.C. regarding the poor state of the verges – these had now been cut but still rough in areas. On querying this, Mr. Wild said that W.C.C. only do three flail cuts a year and anything else would need to be organised under Amenity Cutting. He suggested contacting Dot Mitchell at Studley as they have this cutting done. The Parish Council agreed to leave the cutting as it is. Whilst contacting Nick Wild, the Parish Clerk also reported the deep pot holes appearing at the south end of Pratts Lane requiring attention.

- NOTICE BOARD – SIGN/REPAIR

The Notice Board door at Abbeyfields had been cracked by the wind. The Parish Clerk as if she could organise fitting of a retaining chain/clip. She also reminded the Parish Council that the main Notice Board pin board needs replacing because damp/rain gets in. Because of this the typed sign detailing the Website constantly needs replacing and she had obtained a quotation for an anodised aluminium sign. This was £75.00 plus VAT. The Parish Council approved this. Proposed by Cllr. Crichton, Seconded by Cllr. Nor O'Neill Thomas.

- PURCHASES

Donations had been discussed at the last Parish Council Meeting but a letter had been received from Studley Cricket Club at Abbeyfields Drive requesting help towards the cost of new nets. These nets are between the houses and the grounds. The Parish Council agreed to make a donation of £200. Proposed by Cllr. O'Neill Thomas, Seconded by Cllr. Ward. Clerk to organise.

The Parish Clerk pointed out that the money remaining from the Community Grant could be used to produce an up-to-date Parish Council Contact Sheet for distribution around the Village. All Parish Councillors present agreed – Clerk to price up.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Notice had been received from S.D.C. that the Public Footpath Diversion at Outhill was now confirmed.

The Clerk distributed a list of Notices received since the last Parish Council Meeting – Appendix 1. A further Application had been received:-

Ref: 09/00863/VARY for A.E. Beckett & Sons re Lakeside, Common Lane
Referring to: Permission of occupation of dwelling partly employed on agricultural/activities incidental to the agricultural side of the Company's business.
The Parish Councillors present had no objections.

9. DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr. Helen McCarthy reported as her last report before retiring. She said there were two areas she was very pleased to have been associated with.

A resume - Corporate Parenting, 450 children in care. No residential homes, Foster Parents only who are well trained. Children disadvantaged – aiming to achieve better. Virtual head teachers help. Pilot '18+ Staying Put' scheme – children are on their own after 18, no home. This scheme would enable them to remain with their Foster Parents if agreed, or in a 'Staying Put' placement. They would not feel abandoned. To be reviewed every six months. The 450/500 figure is increasing and includes asylum children.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. McCarthy for all her help and wished her well on behalf of the Parish Council.

Signed

DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT Continued

Cllr. Les Topham had nothing major to report – 50 new sites for Gypsy caravans are to be found.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

Details of the next Community Forum had been received and next planned dates. The Clerk would email Parish Councillors and post on the Website and Notice Boards.

A notice of temporary closure of Haye Lane on 1st June for five days had been received. The Chairman also advised that Castle Road bridge would be closed on 1st June.

11. FOR CIRCULATION

The Clerk distributed details of forthcoming Briefing Days for Parish Councillors to consider.

12. DELEGATES REPORTS - none

13. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAID/FOR PAYMENT – FINANCE

The Clerk distributed a list of cheques for approval and payment with explanations. Cheques were approved and signed. Appendix 2.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting was confirmed as Monday, 3rd August at 8.15pm at The Village Hall.

- The Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 9.25pm -

Signed

PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED/
NOTICE OF APPLICATIONS GRANTED/APPLICATIONS WITHDRAWN
SINCE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 6th APRIL 2009

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

No. 09/00643/FUL Mr. L. Topham, Les Topham Garden Centre, Birmingham Road
Proposed: Extend building to form extension to garden centre,
comprising ancillary offices, sales and display area.

Comment from P.C. No objections – some concern re access/traffic congestion

No. 09/00738/FUL Ms. Debbie Morris at Land South of, Haye Lane, Mappleborough Green
Erection of a shire horse stable and implement shed building with
associated hardstanding and ménage on land to be changed to paddock
use.

**Comment from P.C. No objections – some concern re proximity to the Lane (size possibly
being intrusive), suggestion to site the building/ménage to rear of the field.**

No. 09/00863/VARY A.E. Beckett and Sons –
re Lakeside, Common Lane, Mappleborough Green
Variation of condition 3 of Planning Permission ref. S97/0227

NOTICES RECEIVED

No. 08/02118/LDE Mr. M. Crisp, Outhill Cottage, Henley Road, Outhill
Notice 6.4.09. **An appeal against the decision is to be dealt with at a Public Inquiry –
date to be advised.**

09/00342/FUL Mr. K. Osaki, Hillcrest, Birmingham Road, Mappleborough Green
Notice 21.4.09. **Application withdrawn.**

NOTICE OF DECISIONS

No. 09/00367/FUL Mr. S.W. Coley, Hill Crest Farm, Pratts Lane, Mappleborough Green
Dated 21.4.09. **Granted with conditions**

No. 09/00096/FUL Studley Football & Social Club, Abbeyfields Drive, Studley
Dated 28.4.09. **Granted with conditions**

APPENDIX 2.

CHEQUES FOR APPROVAL AND SIGNING

Cheque No.	Description	Amount
100290	Mappleborough Green Church Council - donation towards Grass Cutting	£250.00
100291	Mappleborough Green Village Hall - donation towards Grass Cutting	£250.00
100292	Studley Parish Council - donation towards 'Friday Shopper' bus	£50.00
100293	D.J. Bennett – Landscaping April	£185.00
100294	Stationery/Post Expenses - April	£16.25
100295	Allianz Insurance plc – Renewal	£390.27
100296	Parish Clerk – Wages April & Broadband less PAYE	£362.11

Signed