

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 19th November 2013, at Eathorpe, at 7.30pm

PRESENT

Councillor W.Redford, chairman, councillors Mrs, M.Weeks, M.Burgun, Mrs J.Seaton and Mrs M.Green.

Also present, Councillor R.Davies, chairman of the District Council and Councillor N.Pratt

1.APOLOGIES

Received from councillors D.Mynors, S.Palmer, Mrs C.Foyer, Mrs.R.Commander, M.Brooks, J.Hammon and M.Doody

Councillor Davies introduced himself, noting that he will have attended 28 Parish Council meetings in his year of office. Reporting that the main point of interest discussed has been gasification. He appreciated the concern shown over housing quotas and of HS2.

He outlined the timescale relating to the Local Plan.

We were also advised that the 1st battalion of Royal Fusiliers will be marching through Leamington on 26th November, as a homecoming celebration, Assembling at 2.30pm. They will be receiving the freedom of Warwick District.

The chairman's Christmas concert is on December 14

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

3. MINUTES

Having been circulated beforehand, the minutes were taken as read, agreed and signed by the chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING

The clerk noted that the gritting bins have not yet been filled, and will monitor.

Letter received from the Weston clerk, advising that the restrictive covenant at Offchurch has been removed, and apologizing for it ever having been put on.

4.Continued.

Some Hunningham drains still need attention and councillor Mrs Green is monitoring.

The anniversary celebrations at Eathorpe made a small profit.

5. PLANNING

W133073, Corridene, Eathorpe withdrawn

W131321. The Haven Offchurch shed granted

6. HIGHWAYS

Offchurch request an additional street lamp for School Hill, between the vicarage and village hall where it is very dark and dangerous.

The village nameplate has still not been replaced, and Councillor Pratt will make enquiries for us.

More appropriate flood warnings are requested near the ford. Some small funds are available but are insufficient, Councillor Redford will make an application to the delegated budget scheme.

There is a dog waste bin in the village field, and it is suggested it would be more appropriate at the junction of Village Street with the Long Itchington road. Mr, Moorcroft to be asked to re site it.

7. POLICE MATTERS

There have been 60 incidents in Warwick East Division.

Speed checks are going on around Cubbington and Radford. There have been a number of thefts from vehicles left on people's drives, and a burglary at Offchurch.

8. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Recently attended the District Chairman's supper.

The Community Forum is approaching the end of the budget year, and its future is in doubt. No funds are being carried over.

A number of notices were given to the clerk for circulation.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Letter of thanks from Offchurch village hall for the insurance payment.

The various leaflets etc were circulated.

10. HS2

We again thank Councillor M.Burgun for his report to the meeting, and for providing the following summary;-

1. Following HS2 unilaterally stopping Community Forum meetings, a letter strongly criticising HS2 has been sent to Allison Munro the chief executive.

This letter advises that the work of Community Forums was incomplete with little or no mitigation agreed, most actions outstanding and no wish from the Community Forums for the meetings to be disbanded.

The letter has been sent to Jeremy Wright M.P. on behalf of 30 action groups and is copied to all relevant MP,s.

2. HS2 have advised they will start up Petition Management Meetings, however no information regarding these has been received to date.

3. HS2 have also advised that Bilateral Meetings will continue, dates yet to be advised.

4. The rerun of the HS2 Compensation Roadshow was held in Offchurch on 18th October 2013.

The HS2 consultation material provided was similar to that provided at the first consultation which HS2 were required to repeat due to their response being "so unfair as to be unlawful"

The 2nd Consultation Process ends on December 4th 2013.

It was agreed that the action group will prepare a response which will be submitted by the JPC to HS2.

5. The Paving Bill has been passed in the House of Commons and is proceeding through the House of Lords who are not able to object, due to it being a "money bill".

Essentially this bill allows HS2 to spend money to continue with preparations PRIOR to the Hybrid Bill being debated /agreed/disagreed.

It has been passed with NO budget and NO cost against progress being reported until AFTER the next General Election.

6. The Hybrid Bill together with the Environmental Statement are due to be deposited in Parliament on 25 november 2013.

A protest will be held outside Parliament on that day against HS2.

7. The Environmental Statement will be sent out by HS2 to all local/parish councils immediately after 25 november 2013.

Arrangements to view the information will be made locally and advised to the public in due time.

8. A paper has been received urging Parish Councils to be affiliated to the 51M group, in order that they may benefit from closer/faster communication.

The JPC approved this arrangement and Mr. Winterburn will write to confirm our wish to be affiliated.

9. Due to HS2 granting no mitigation in our area to date, we have no alternative but to petition Parliament under the provisions set out in the Hybrid Bill.

This process will be essential if we are to have ANY chance of better protecting OUR environment and the living conditions of our parishioners if the Hybrid Bill for HS2 passes into law.

However, to prepare adequately the case for local mitigation and legal representation in Parliament will necessarily cost money.

A very nominal £10,000 would be the minimum sum envisaged in the first instance.

The JPC agreed to discuss/consider this matter which will form an agenda item during the next meeting to be held on 21st January 2014.

The current indications are that petitioning may commence during the spring of 2014.

11.FINANCE

Received precept £3887. Payments chqs 110 Gritting bins £152,34. 111 hedging £210. 112 mowing £197. 113 Rospa £170.40. 114 insurance £773.31. 115 audit £150. 116 playgrounds £167. 117 mowing £98.50. 118 room hire £20. 119 clerk £240. 120 tax £60. 121 expns £90.90. 122 subs £64.

The annual audit has been completed and the certificate received without comment.

12.GAS EXTRACTION.

Councillor Redford reported that the suggested area includes ourselves and outlined the scheme, which requires refining. Test drilling needs permission from the landowners, after which they will apply for planning. Opposition meetings have been held, one of which was at Eathorpe, but there will be no action until an application is received. He noted some of the experiences in Australia.

13,PLAYGROUNDS

The Rospa inspection has been completed along with our own quarterly inspection.

Offchurch requested some more chippings under equipment where it is muddy, also that the dog waste bin should be re-located to the end of Village Street at the junction with the Long Itchington Road.

14.PUBLIC SPEAKING AT MEETINGS

Councillor Redford noted from other meetings he had attended, that 15 minutes were allowed for the public to raise matters with the council. This was discussed, and agreed that we too should do this.

15. A.O.B.

None

Next meeting 21st January at Hunningham