

HOCKLEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 18th April 2007 at Hockley Heath Pavilion at 7.30 p.m.

Present:-

Cllr R Holt	Chairman
Cllr B Brown	Vice Chairman
Cllr V Arfan	
Cllr B Lintern	
Cllr M McCarthy	
Cllr M Pettinger	
Cllr J Potts	
Cllr A Thompson	
Cllr D Skelding	
Mrs D Weir	Clerk

Members of the Public: 21

Public Forum

Mr Graham Jones and representatives from Banner Homes were in attendance to talk to members about the proposed planning application for sheltered housing on the site of the former Jaguar Garage at 2635 Stratford Road, Hockley Heath. It was indicated by the developer that changes to the previous scheme would result in improved design, a reduction in height of buildings by 1.5 metres. It was also indicated that two pedestrian crossing points on the Stratford Road would enable safe crossing.

Following the presentation, the Chairman advised that the Parish Council would consider views expressed during Public Forum when the item was discussed on the Agenda.

The Chairman opened the meeting following Public Forum at 8.30 pm.

Minute 40/2007 - Declarations of Interest

Cllr Brown declared an interest under the Code of Conduct in respect of Agenda Item: Land adjoining Cheswick Green Surgery – Access Drive due to business relationship with shop keepers

Cllr Holt declared an interest under the Code of Conduct in respect of the Agenda Item: Land adjoining Cheswick Green Surgery – Access Drive

Cllr Pettinger declared an interest under the Code of Conduct in respect of the Agenda Item: Land adjoining Cheswick Green Surgery – Access Drive

Apologies received from Cllr Vine, Cllr Kennard, from Cllr Bulcock and Cllr Robinson.

The **Minutes of Parish Council Meetings held on 21st and 28th March 2007** had been circulated. **IT WAS RESOLVED:-** that the Minutes be approved.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

Minute 16/2007 - Hockley Heath War Memorial – Application for Listing

The Clerk reported that the application for the War Memorial at Hockley Heath had been submitted to English Heritage for consideration for listing as a building of special architectural or historic interest.

Minute 37/3007 – Parish Council as Employer – Seminar to be arranged for members

Members noted that WALC had agreed to arrange a seminar for members covering the council as employer, conditions of Service and Employment legislation, the seminar to be held on a Saturday.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the Clerk make arrangements with WALC for the seminar to be held on a Saturday in June at one of the village halls in the parish.

Minute 41/2007 - 2635 Stratford Road, Hockley Heath – Planning Application

The Clerk confirmed that the Planning Committee had submitted an objection to the application. Members considered the views expressed during Public Forum and the response of the Developer to questions raised by members and the public.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the Clerk write to the Borough Council's Planning Department, expressing the Parish Council's concern at the issues raised during Public Forum.

Minute 42/2007 – Returning Officers Report

The Chairman gave the Returning Officer's Report on the result of the un-contested election for the following Wards:-

Dickens Heath Ward: Cllr Vaseem Arfan, Cllr Richard Holt, Cllr Charles Robinson, Cllr Alyson Thompson

Hockley Heath Village Ward: Cllr Andy Vine, Cllr Martin McCarthy, Cllr David Skelding

Tidbury Green Ward: Cllr Peter Kennard, Cllr Petter Seddon

Cheswick Green Ward: Cllr Brian Brown, Cllr Barbara Lintern, Cllr Tim Hodgson, Cllr Margaret Pettinger

Minute 43/2007 - Allianz Cornhill – Renewal of Public Liability and Fidelity Guarantee Insurance Cover

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the Parish Council's public liability insurance cover be renewed for a further 12 months at an annual premium of £1,063.51.

Minute 16/2006 - Hockley Heath Parish Council – Parish Review

Cllr Brown stated that he did not think the Borough Council's departure from the Parish Council's original request for three parish councils was a fair representation of the parish council's request for a review. There had been no public evidence at the consultation meetings to indicate that a split was wanted between Hockley Heath and Cheswick Green and he requested the Parish Council pass these comments onto the Secretary of State, as the Parish Council had not been consulted by the Borough Council on the revised proposals for four parish councils.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the Parish Council advise the Secretary of State that the view of the Parish Council, was that the Parish Council's recommendation for three parish councils, including the proposal for Cheswick Green and Hockley Heath to remain as one parish council, remained unaltered.

Minute 2/2007 - Dickens Heath Youth Club – Storage

Members considered the request during Public Forum by M/s Kim Ross, Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council's Youth Team for an update regarding discussion at a previous Parish Council Meeting for storage facilities to be built at the rear of Dickens Heath Village Hall, and which M/s Ross understood the Management Committee were to consider. She had contacted Cllr

Robinson, but had received no response and the equipment could not be used by the Youth Club because there was nowhere to store it and it was too bulky to transport backwards and forwards.

The Chairman expressed concern that young people attending the youth club could not use the equipment provided. Cllr Thompson advised that the Parish Council had agreed to contribute to provision of storage and requested the Management Committee be reminded of this.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the Clerk request an update regarding provision of storage facilities at Dickens Heath Village Hall with Dickens Heath Management Committee.

Minute 124/2004 - Proposed Motorway Service Area at Jctn 4 M42 Monkspath

The Chairman reported receipt of a letter from Stansgate Planning Consultants dated 28th March 2007 regarding fees and the position following the recent Pre Inquiry Meeting. An invoice was presented covering their fees and those of the barrister incurred to date in the sum of £7,014.36.

Members expressed concern over the increasing level of fees and members were directed to the contents of the letter from the Parish Council's Planning Consultant reminding members that an estimate had been provided originally based on actual costs incurred during the previous public inquiry in 1999/2000.

Members discussed the changing circumstances relating to the Inquiry with regard to the application by Shirley Estates and the number of pre inquiry meetings. The next pre inquiry meeting was to be held on the 12th June to establish a new timetable for the inquiry at which the barrister would need to attend together with Stansgate Planning Consultants. Stansgate Planning Consultants had attended four pre inquiry meetings to date.

The view was expressed that a quotation rather than an estimate should have been obtained.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the Chairman in consultation with the Clerk review the file correspondence, the Clerk to be delegated to raise the issue of costs with Stansgate Planning Consultants in accordance with S.101 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Minute 44/2007 - Inspections of Play Equipment to comply with Insurance Requirements

The Clerk advised members that those members who undertake layperson's inspections to comply with the Parish Council's insurance requirements, should change their check sheets to say 'Visual Inspection' which was acceptable to fulfil the requirements regarding health and safety of the equipment on a monthly basis.

Minute 45/2007 - WALC – Newsletter – Renewal of Annual Subscription

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that a) the annual subscription to WALC be renewed in the sum of £825.00 b) the subscription to Local Council Review be renewed for 13 subscriptions in the sum of £156 in accordance with the provisions of S111 of the Local Government Act 1972 and c) the details of induction training be noted.

Minute 46/2007 - Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council – Ball Games – Proposed Joint Agency Policy

Members considered the Borough Council's Transport & Highways Department's draft policy and request for comments by 15th May 2007 and noted that the Borough Council hoped that various agencies involved would agree to be a party to the final policy to be produced following consultation.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the Parish Council approve the proposed policy and agree to sign up to the proposed Joint Agency Policy to be produced by the Borough Council.

Minute 47/2007 - Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council - Club Premise application Earlswood Cricket Club, Watery Lane Earlswood

Members raised no objection to the application by Earlswood Cricket Club.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the application for the licence be noted.

Minute 48/2007 - Solihull Area Committee – Meeting 7th June 2007

Members had been circulated with a copy of the minutes of the last Solihull Area Committee meeting and the agenda for the meeting to be held on 7th June 2007.

Minute 49/2007 - Zurich Municipal – Annual LCAS Seminar 2007

Members noted receipt of correspondence from Zurich Municipal regarding a seminar to be held at Banbury on 18th July 2007 - covering Fire Safety, Managing events safely, outdoor sports facilities, accident and claims review and that one free place was available as part of the LCAS membership with additional places at a cost of £30 plus VAT.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the Chairman, Cllrs Brown, Pettinger and the Clerk be authorised to attend the Seminar at a cost of £30 plus VAT with one delegate to go free of charge.

Minute 50/2007 - Notice of Audit

Members noted Notice of Audit of the Parish Council's accounts had been received from the External Auditor.

Minute 90/2006 - Parish Council/West Midlands Police – Agreement to fund PCSO

Members noted that a revised Agreement was to be signed on behalf of West Midlands Police and submitted to the Parish Council for signature.

Minute 130/2006 - Land adjoining Cheswick Green Surgery – Access Drive

Members noted that the Parish Council's Solicitor was awaiting a response from the Surveyor.

Minute 51/2007 – Any Other Business

a) Postwatch

Members noted the contents of a letter dated March 2007 regarding Post Office closures.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 10.20 pm.