
Held on: Monday 19th July 2021 at 6.30pm

Place: Coughton CofE Primary School

Present: Cllrs Roy Piddington (Chair), Christine Lewington and Lynne Stanton

In attendance: Kerry Finlayson (Parish Clerk), DC Gill Forman

Members of the public: 4

68/21 WELCOME and APOLOGIES

Councillors received and accepted apologies from Cllr Len Carter who was unwell and CC Kerridge who was unable to attend.

The Chair introduced Sarah Whittaker who would be taking over the role of Parish Clerk from August.

69/21 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared in any item of business on the agenda

70/21 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meetings held on 4th & 19th May 2021 were **confirmed** and **signed**.

Proposed Cllr Stanton

Seconded Cllr Lewington

All in favour

71/21 VILLAGE REPORTS

i. Flood Group

A Member of the Public (MOP) reported that Amy Spencer from Severn Trent was unable to attend but had updated them on the current situation:

- Flash flooding had caused another overflow of sewers into the same houses as before yet the main road was clear, so a camera had been put down the sewer and it had found the main cause of the blockage to be a brick. There may still be more blockages as the water still wasn't flowing properly so this would be investigated by Highways.
- A meeting with residents would be taking place later that week and ST would be bringing along some technicians to try and simulate flood conditions. The 2 pumping stations ran independently, and nothing was being recorded on the monitoring equipment
- There were regular multi agency meetings and Coughton was always on the agenda!
- Flood risk management - business proposal for a grant for a flood defence system for Coughton for 2024 to be put together

ii. Community Group

- Photo and sunflower competitions ongoing
- Choir and Book Club would be started probably in September when the school re-opened
 - Running club is emerging
 - Afternoon Tea for community fund
 - Lost some signatories for community fund so it had been difficult to access funds but there was now a new signatory

iii. Ford

- Structural engineer needed to check movement on the bridge **AP1 JUL KF/SW**

iv. Village Issues

- Footpaths and Rights of Way
Many paths had signs missing and were inaccessible. DC Forman reported that this work was being undertaken by volunteers and to contact WCC to get added to the list. The Clerk would contact CC Kerridge.
- Tree down in Coughton Lane **AP2 JUL KF/SW**
There was a tree down in the fishing area so the Clerk would contact Simon Pickering to find out who was responsible for the tree, it's removal and also repair of the broken fence.

v. Coughton C of E Primary School

Alex Kolb reported:

- Planning permission had been granted the previous week
- The September classroom for 32 Y6 would be the hall
- 100% engagement from pupils either in school or remotely during lockdown
- The school had a high percentage of critical care workers, so the classes had been busy
- There would be a few staffing changes. Two of the new staff lived in the village which would help with staff parking
- There had been a number of people wishing to volunteer but had had to decline as there were no parking spaces for them
- Parking was, as ever, an ongoing issue which the school was doing its best to deal with

72/21

OPEN FORUM

- A MOP advised that parents are now even parking on the yellow zig zags. It was recognised that this was an impossible task
- **AP3 JUL KF** Request PCSO, camera cars and traffic warden visits from September
- The Headteacher would contact PCC Philip Seccombe and arrange for Community Police to come into school to talk about road safety with the children
- Cllr Stanton was still awaiting assurance that the speed cameras would be operating again soon

73/21

FINANCIAL MATTERS

i. RFO Report

Payments:

Inv. No.	Payee	Details	TOTAL
12	SDC	New Bin	375.00
13	SDC	Annual fee to empty bins	408.74
14	K Finlayson	Salary - May	215.80
15	Solopress	Printing	29.59
16	W Robinson	Audit	81.40
17	CTKT	Grass Cutting - May	90.00
18	K Finlayson	Salary - June	215.80
19	CTKT	Grass Cutting - June	90.00
20	K Finlayson	Allowance etc.	86.95
21	Unity	Bank Fees	18.00

1,611.28

Proposed Cllr Lewington

Seconded Cllr Stanton

All in favour

Receipts

Receipt	Date Rec'd	Payee	Details	TOTAL
R1	06/05/21	SDC	Precept	2,575.00
R2	23/06/21	HMRC	VAT Refund	190.87
				2,765.87

The bank account was reconciled and Virements approved

Proposed Cllr Lewington

Seconded Cllr Stanton

All in favour

ii. Internal Audit

Councillors were pleased with the report.

iii. Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2020/21

Kerry Finlayson, RFO, certified that for the year ended 31 March 2021 the accounting statement in the annual governance & accountability return had been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and presented fairly the financial position of the authority.

a) Certificate of Exemption

Cllr Piddington reported the annual gross income and expenditure for the authority for 2020/21 and the Certificate of Exemption was approved.

Proposed Cllr Piddington

Seconded Cllr Stanton

All in favour

b) Annual Governance Statement

Cllr Piddington read out the Annual Governance Statement and Cllrs agreed with each statement and that this could be signed off.

Proposed Cllr Piddington

Seconded Cllr Stanton

All in favour

c) Accounting statements 2020-21

Cllr Piddington read out the details of the accounting statements on page 6 of the AGAR and these were all agreed by all Cllrs.

Proposed Cllr Piddington

Seconded Cllr Stanton

All in favour

74/21

PREVIOUS ACTION POINTS

AP1 Sep

LS - Gateways **COMPLETED**

Cllr Stanton reported that having looked at the issues with speeding in Sambourne the gateways had done nothing to alleviate the problem therefore it was agreed to not take the proposal any further and Cllr Stanton would concentrate on getting Community Speedwatch up and running and for the cameras to be activated again.

AP3 Nov

RP - Parish Cross **ONGOING**

Deferred as still awaiting replies from The National Lottery and Heritage Funds

AP1 Mar

KF - Removal of dustbin that was being filled with dog waste & rubbish **COMPLETED**

75/21

CC KERRIDGE

CC Kerridge had not submitted a report.

76/21

DC FORMAN

DC Forman reported:

- Firstly, how good it was to see everyone in person after a year of Zoom
- Covid was increasing in the district with cases currently at 243.7 per 100k with the majority being under the age of 60
- Possible merger plan with WCC to reduce staffing costs
- Green bin permits had been taken up by approx. 74% of district
- Fly tipping was on the increase and all cases should be reported to SDC to enable them to identify hotspots
- SDC now provided 50% of the salaries for 2 Rural Crime Officers
- Recruitment drive in place for the planning department due to the volume of work
- Work had started on the Local Plan in conjunction with WDC to replace the core strategy. This would affect planning up to 2050 and a number of consultations would be sent out

- The Greig Hall in Alcester had now re-opened and locals were being asked to participate in a survey: <https://online1.snapsurveys.com/greighall>

77/21 RISK ASSESSMENTS

There had been no changes/updates

78/21 GOVERNANCE

- Standing Orders Update
Proposed Cllr Stanton Approved Cllr Lewington All in favour

79/21 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- Community Engagement

80/21 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

- 27th September 2021 at 6.30pm at Coughton CofE Primary Meeting

81/21 TO CONSIDER CLOSURE OF THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

The meeting was closed at 19.43

Proposed Cllr Piddington Seconded Cllr Stanton All in favour

82/21 PERSONNEL and CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

- i. Appointment of New Clerk

Dated:

Signed: