

## **OLD MILVERTON AND BLACKDOWN JOINT PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE ZOOM MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 18TH. JANUARY 2021**

*This Parish Council Meeting employed the Zoom method of holding its meeting in view of the Coronavirus Regulations.*

**PRESENT:** Councillors J. Emmerson (in the Chair), Mrs. L. Keeling, Rachel Pope, and M. Rayner; District Councillor Martyn Ashford (Chairman of Warwick District Council), County Councillor W.Redford; County and District Councillor W.L.Gifford; and District Councillor Sidney Syson.

#### **2049. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor W.M.O. Tansey; and District Councillors Mrs. C.P.Gifford and D. Russell.

#### **2050. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup>. September 2020 were approved for signature by the Chairman.

#### **2051. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

(a). The two plant half-barrels had been installed at the entrance to the Car Park secured by 2' x 2" steel pipes in concrete, 600 mm from the roadside complete with compost and planted with herbs and shrubs: any surplus plants and compost would be added to other containers in the Village. Grateful thanks were expressed to Cllr. Tansey for making these arrangements.

(b). Cllr. Mrs. Keeling had suggested varieties of trees to be planted along the verges in Stoneleigh Road with which Cllr. Emmerson agreed, and this list would be forwarded to the Forestry Section of Warwickshire County Council for consideration.

(c). It was agreed to endeavour to fix the next Parish Tidy Day in the autumn of 2021 when coronavirus restrictions were apparent.

#### **2052. DISCUSSION WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL**

The Parish Council had no issues demanding the attention of Councillor Martyn Ashford, Chairman of Warwick District Council, but he addressed the meeting setting out the provisions made in partnership with Warwickshire County Council to assist the community in the present coronavirus restrictions. To date, £6.7m had been paid to businesses across the District which had been impacted by the various closures and assistance was given to the homeless to ensure that all rough sleepers were taken off the streets and housed, with ongoing support to ensure they were provided permanent accommodation. Assistance had been given with the provision of a facility in Leamington to be home to the largest diagnostic laboratory in UK history. In addition, support had been given to the County Council to establishing the lateral flow testing centre in Lillington to help to detect asymptomatic people and break the chain of transmission. Warwick District had worked closely with neighbouring Stratford District Council to ensure that the residents of South Warwickshire can benefit from effective and efficient local government providing them with value for money. In addition to sharing Head of Service posts, it was in the process of procuring a joint waste management contract with Stratford to provide a better, more efficient and environmentally friendly kerbside collection.

### **2053. REDESIGN OF PARISH WEBSITE**

Cllr. Pope reported that work on redesigning the Parish website was still in progress.

### **2054. QUESTIONNAIRE TO RESIDENTS**

There had been 18 responses to the Parish Questionnaire, delivered to all electors comprising 9 from Blackdown and 9 from Old Milverton (including 2 from Kenilworth Road residents). These could be divide into 3 categories comprising Roads and Transport, Environment and Wild Life and Positive Observations.

It was agreed that the following actions be taken:

*Roads and Transport:* The “housekeeping” items including attention to footpaths would be the subject of a site meeting with the Highways Engineer and Parish Councillors who wished to participate as soon as coronavirus restrictions allowed.

The more major items such as installation of pedestrian crossings would be the subject of a similar site meeting, but also including County Councillor Redford in case he is able to provide financial support from his allocation.

*Environment and Wildlife:* Suggestions supported by the Parish Council would be the subject of meetings and negotiations with the appropriate authorities.

*Positive Observations:* The observations were noted with pleasure, which demonstrated the value local residents, including from north Leamington, placed on the facilities provided for country walks in our rural area, especially during the coronavirus lock down.

Cllr. Rachel Pope was in the process of drafting a news letter for residents to update them on the actions being taken on their suggestions.

Thanks were expressed to Cllr. Pope for her valuable contributions to carrying out this initiative.

### **1955. 2019-20 ACCOUNTS, 2020-21 ESTIMATES AND 2021-22 PRECEPT**

The accounts as at 22<sup>nd</sup>. November 2020 were received and found satisfactory, which the Clerk confirmed accorded with the bank statements. Consideration was then given to the estimates for 2021-22: taking into account the need for professional assistance and existing balances it was agreed that the precept for 2021-22 be £7,500. The accounts and estimates were approved in accordance with the summary at Appendix A.

### **2056. AUDIT OF 2020-21 ACCOUNTS**

It was agreed that, notwithstanding the decision on 27<sup>th</sup>. November 2017 (item 1868) to have the accounts audited by the External Auditor every three years, in the present circumstances, the 2020-21 accounts be limited to an Internal Audit and that the External Auditor be involved with effect from the 2021-22 accounts when, hopefully, arrangements following coronavirus restrictions could be restored to normal.

### **2057. THE LATE MR. BOBBY SOLT (30TH. DECEMBER 1923 – 6TH. DECEMBER 2020)**

It was noted with regret that the former Parish Councillor Bobby Solt, long-serving member as Councillor and as Chairman, had died on 6<sup>th</sup>. December 2020 at the age of nearly 97 and a letter of sympathy had been sent to his widow, Mrs, Jonquil Solt on behalf of the Parish Council. He was well-known in the area and represented Blackdown Parish. He withdrew from the Chairmanship on his resignation from the Parish Council in 2005. The notice of his death in Leamington Spa Courier described him as “A dignified, kind and generous gentleman of the old school”.

## **2058. CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(a). The ditch in Church Lane, Old Milverton, had been found to be require attention and the Highways Engineer had placed an order for its rectification within the following month.

(b). It was noted that the existing Local Plan was about to be reviewed and that it was essential that the Parish Council continued to advocate the preservation of the Green Belt in its area.

(c). Old Milverton Lane had lately suffered excessive litter problems and District Councillor Gifford had kindly drawn this to the attention of Warwick District Council with a view to getting it tidied as soon as possible.

## **2059. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

(a). The following Planning Application actions were approved or noted, as appropriate:

### Observations made by Parish Council:

W20/1275 River Studio, Old Milverton Lane: removal of conditions - rejected and Appeal made. Parish Council confirmed its original objection

W20/1529 Jephson House: major demolitions and additions. No objection but observations made.

W20/1660 Kenlea - Erection of conservatory. Objection. Application refused.

W20/1823 New Farm off Kenilworth Road: Erection of agricultural building. No objection; later decided planning approval not required

### Granted by District Council:

W20/1297 Tudor House, Stoneleigh Road – two storey side extension

W20/1720 River Studio, Old Milverton Lane – Erection of bicycle shelter

### Withdrawn:

W20/0682 Churchside Barn, Old Milverton - replace outbuilding with double garage

W20/0886 Highfield Barn, Old Milverton Lane - change from agricultural to garden land

### Appeal decision:

W20/0243 Pear Tree Cottage, Stoneless Road - enlargement and remodelling: the Parish Council's initial objections were reiterated.

## **2060. 2021-22 MEETING DATES**

The following dates were agreed for Parish Council Meetings in 2021-22:

2021: 26 April (Annual Parish Meeting) [if this meeting had to held via zoom, a supplementary live meeting in the autumn could be considered], 17 May (Annual General Meeting), 5 July, 6 September, 18 October, 29 November

2022: 17 January, 14 March.

## **2061. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS**

The payments specified in the Schedule provided for Members, including £123.95 for administrative expenses were approved, the cheques having been already signed.

## **2062 BUDGET COMPARISONS AND COMPARISON WITH BANK BALANCES**

The budget comparisons were considered and balances as at 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2020 verified with bank statements by the Clerk.

## **2063. ITEMS FOR FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

Making a case for the provision of waste bins in the lay-by at Bericote Road and near the Notice Board at Sandy Lane, Blackdown (also included in the suggestions made under the Parish Questionnaire at item 2054 above).

## **2064. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

CHAIRMAN

**OLD MILVERTON AND BLACKDOWN JOINT PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Review of 2020-21 Estimates and Actual Receipts and Payments,**  
**and Consideration of 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 Estimates**

	2019-20 actual	2020-21 estimates	2020-21 revised estimates	2020-21 actual to 22.10.20	2021-22 estimates	2022-23 estimates	2023-24 estimates
Brought forward	<u>65361</u>	<u>76466</u>	<u>78004</u>	<u>78004</u>	<u>80160</u>	<u>79513</u>	<u>78576</u>
<b>INCOME</b>							
Precept	10000	7500	7500	7500	7500	7500	7500
CIL contribution	7,130						
Bank compensation	50						
Bank interest	103	60	30	25	60	70	80
VAT refund	<u>485</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>.....</u>
	<u>17768</u>	<u>7560</u>	<u>7530</u>	<u>7525</u>	<u>7560</u>	<u>7570</u>	<u>7580</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>							
Salary and tax	2575	2627	2700	1300	2800	2900	3000
Admin. expenses	732	760	700	274	760	770	780
Meeting room hire	105	120	60	15	120	120	120
Subscriptions	240	260	260	184	260	270	280
Insurance premium	252	290	254	254	290	300	310
Audit fees (a)	50	250	50	50	250	60	70
Installations main/ce		50	50		100	50	50
Professional pl services	130	1,000	500		500	700	900
Grants (d)	100	500	500	500	100	300	300
Election expenses (c)	450						3250
Speed gun expenses	40	50	40		50	50	50
Website expenses	255	350	200	39	350	360	370
Courses	128	200	50		200	200	200
Publications	29	50	10		50	50	50
VAT payments	<u>39</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>.....</u>
	<u>5125</u>	<u>6507</u>	<u>5374</u>	<u>2616</u>	<u>5830</u>	<u>6130</u>	<u>9730</u>
	78004	77519	80160	82913	81890	80953	76426
CILexp ringfenced (b)	<u>0</u>	<u>1400</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2377</u>	<u>2377</u>	<u>2376</u>
General contingencies C/F	78004	76119	80160	82913	79513	78576	74050

*Bank accounts at 22.10.20*

<i>Current account</i>	31,897
<i>Deposit account</i>	<u>51,026</u>
	82,923
<i>Less un-cashed</i>	<u>-10</u>
	<u>82,913</u>

**NOTE**

(a) £250 where there is an external audit; £50 for an internal audit

(b) Based on formula £7,130 divided by 4 years

(c) 2023-24 figure based on 1 uncontested election (£250) and 1 contested election (£2,500 to £5,500 depending on size)

(d) 2019-20 grant to Leamington Rugby Football Club; remainder based on grants to Old Milverton Village Hall.