

Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 16th September 2021

Present: Cllrs Woolliscroft (Chairman), Clarke, Dalby, Dent and Wright and 5 members of the public

Apologies: Cllr Partridge and the Clerk Mrs Higgins

Cllr Woolliscroft opened the meeting by welcoming members of the public and explaining the format of the procedures, i.e. there is no agenda and no decisions will be taken but items can be taken to the next Parish Council meeting for discussion and action if necessary.

The Cllrs introduced themselves

Gypsy and Traveller Site, Fosseway

The question was asked if any developments had taken place.

Cllr Woolliscroft replied saying the applicants had lodged an appeal but the process is unlikely to be started before 42 weeks. The start date will be determined when the Planning Inspector issues a “start” notice and that has not happened as yet.

The Parish Council will be represented at the hearing and the previous comments will be repeated. RBC are currently reviewing their Gypsy and Traveller policy which may not be completed by that time but should be well under way. RBC should provide 61 sites in the next 10 years, a count of sites has been carried out by drone but the figures are not yet available. If a three year temporary approval has been renewed three times then RBC could agree that such sites are now permanent and this may take the number of sites over 61.

Our RB Cllr, WC Cllr, CPRE and WALC have all offered support. The applicants have appealed but resolution is a long way off and the Parish Council is optimistic that more evidence will become available. Enforcement and several Stop notices have been breached and the Parish Council has asked for this to be remedied. National guidance states no building is allowed in the Green Belt except for certain reasons and sites for Gypsy and Traveller settlements are not included in those exceptions.

Beausale Parish Council has challenged a similar site in the Stratford District and has been successful.

Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire

A member of the public suggested that the questionnaire appears to ask “how do you want development” Cllr Woolliscroft said this was not the case and introduced Mr Washington as Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Group to explain the process.

Mr Washington explained the point of doing a Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Woolliscroft clarified the situation regarding affordable housing which would only occur if there was a proven need. Affordable Housing is for local people and stays affordable. A housing needs survey will be undertaken in the first instance followed by an open meeting with Midlands Rural Housing Trust.

Cllr Wright invited volunteers to come forward to assist with the Neighbourhood Plan.

Speeding

Complaints were received regarding parking by the Revel School particularly parked drivers leaving their engines running and the incidences of abuse were deplored.

These problems have been reported again to the School and more recently to the newly appointed PCSO. The speed of the school coaches was highlighted and Cllr Woolliscroft asked witnesses to inform the Parish Council in order to be reported to WCC who have influence with the coach companies as the funding authority.

Cllr Woolliscroft explained about the possibility of the Parish acquiring some speed activated signs in the near future. Following a query about a one way system for school traffic it was pointed out that there is a voluntary system in operation but it is entirely voluntary and cannot be enforced.

Further questions about speeding motor bicycles on the Fosseway and Coalpit Lane – has any traffic calming measures been tried?

WCC has some speed activated signs at the Cloudesley Bush crossroads. Cllr Woolliscroft pointed out it was more difficult to get restrictions put in place on the major roads than on our village lanes.

Comments about very large tractors moving at speed through the village – Cllr Woolliscroft suggested the perception of speed is very difficult and it is awkward for agricultural machinery to get through the village because of parked cars.

Cllr Wright commented that we live in a rural area.

Neighbourhood Watch

Has the initiative been disbanded? It would seem that the Borough scheme relevant to Monks Kirby has ceased and certainly the previous organiser of Rugby Neighbourhood Watch has disappeared. A local informal Whatsapp group has proved to be very useful but incidents do need to be logged with the Police. The local PCSO has attended Parish Council meetings and the mobile visits may be reinstated when the pandemic restrictions are relaxed.

Flooding Severn Trent

Cllr Woolliscroft has contacted those households recently affected and reported the ingress of water to properties to the WCC Flood Risk Management Team who will then liaise with Severn Trent Water. WCC Highways Dept are to visit regarding the flooding on The Hayes and Brockhurst Lane, other areas will be included.

Cllr Woolliscroft thanked everyone for attending the meeting and invited them to come again. The regular Parish Council meetings are now held on the second Tuesday of the month at 6.30 p.m. everyone is welcome and there is a dedicated period at the start of meeting for public participation.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.