**Pailton Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 22 January 2024 in Pailton Village Hall**

Present:

Councillors: Tony Gillias (Chair, TG), Tina Simpson (Vice Chair, TS), Kristian Shaw (KS)

Mark Foxon (MF), Stuart Law (LF)

In attendance: Leona Bendall, Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer (clerk)

Also present for the meeting were two parishioners and Councillor Adrian Warwick (Cllr AW) until the end of item 7a.

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| Minute  Ref |  | Action |
| 1/22.01.24 | **Chairman’s Welcome and Apologies for Absence**  Councillor Gillias welcomed all to the meeting |  |
| 2/22.01.24 | **Declarations of Interest**  These were given by Cllr T Gillias, as a Councillor for Rugby Borough Council (RBC) and Chair of RBC’s Planning Committee and Cllr Kristian Shaw as holder of the contract for the amenity grass cuts in the village. |  |
| 3/18.12.22 | **Standing orders were suspended to allow members of the public to address the meeting . The following items were raised:**   * The continuing issue of rubbish, including unsanitary items being thrown into driveways etc. After discussion it was agreed that the guilty party was probably known to the PC and that photographic evidence would be good. Then a quiet word would be had by TG to ask the offender to stop doing this – rather than involving the police at this stage. * Potholes and sunken manhole were also raised as ongoing problems – some of which are so deep that they may cause an accident as motorist try to avoid them. Cllr AW asked that details of all of these – with photographs should be sent to Dan Perkins and Craig Thompson at WCC and copied to Cllr AW. Clerk to report but photographs by councillors would be very helpful. * There was also discussion on the problems of dropped kerbs and the increased risk and actual incidents of flooding (by example outside 47 Lutterworth Road) when they were higher than the drainage covers. This also to be reported to the WCC team. * A parishioner raised the experience of residents on the corner of Lutterworth Road with flooding over the holiday season. (This is covered further in item 7a.) | TG |
| 4/22.01.24 | **Resumption of Standing Orders** |  |
| 5/22.01.24 | **To approve the minutes and financial papers of the meeting held on 18 December 2023.**   * These were proposed by KS seconded by TS and approved by all. They were signed as a true record of the meeting. |  |
| 6/18.12/23 | **Matters Arising from previous meetings – not covered elsewhere on the agenda.**   * Nothing raised |  |
| 7/18.12/23 | **Information Reports –**   1. **County Council AW made the following points**  * Residents with flooding problems should contact the flood management team and sign up to the scheme. AL asked for clarification of the scheme as he was new to the PC and was told it arose from severe flooding in around 2007 … and after 10 years of negotiations WCC declined to take steps to remove the problem entirely but rather offered residents steps to offset the problem when flooding occurred. This area of the village is prone to flooding – one resident present who had taken up the offer to offset the problem reported that she thought it worked well and protected her home. As before AW urged residents at risk of flooding to take up the offer. * WCC’s traffic speed and volume tests should be undertaken by the end of February. * AW advised that there is a consultation on Rights of Way and urgent residents to participate. * There is also a major review underway to ensure the balance of risks and resources for the fire service is properly calibrated. At present the service can be out of kilter, but this is not about cuts, nor savings but making the service more responsive and will be part of regular reviews. * The clerk asked if WCC would be charging for the new signs required to replace those destroyed in the accident on 15 December 2023. AW replied that these would be met by WCC.  1. **Rugby Borough Council, TG**  * TG said that WCC had been offered some funding by Magna Park to put road signs directing HGVs away from the villages. Unfortunately, the WCC officer involved was suggesting locations for these signs that would in the view of TG and AW not be effective. It was agreed that they would speak to the officer and share information with the PC.  Cllr KS raised concerns that HGV drivers from Wrights of Twycross are driving through Harborough Magna and Pailton with heavy loads of waste when in fact they should not enter the villages as there are more suitable routes. It was agreed the clerk should write to the company and request this practice is halted. * Responses to the local plan are increasing but it is important that everyone take the time to respond and in tandem with this, work is underway with a cross-party group looking at regeneration of Rugby town centre. * TG reported that the campaign to save Brandon Stadium had been successful and that the Planning Inspector felt this offered more sustainable community value than houses and an all weather football pitch.      1. V**illage Hall Trust, LF**  * LF reported that the first Saturday café of the year has been successful and the next would be on 3rd February, with ‘blues’ focus Live and Local on 3rd March. She also asked if TG would fit two plug sockets to the exterior of the Hall over the summer. * The clerk reported that all dates for PC meetings had been booked in the VH but that 22 July was already booked – so it was agreed to move the meeting to 29 July. |  |
| 8/22.01.24 | **White Lion Project Update**   * TS reported that the successful fund raising quizzes and other social events were continuing. * The Working Group would be meeting on line with the Architect to discuss planning feedback/progress this week. | TS |
| 9/22.01.24 | **Finance and Governance**   1. The clerk asked the meeting to accept the cash book forecast to the end of January and approve the following payments: Clerk’s January salary – £312; HMRC - January £78.00; TG Electrical Services – replacement of bulb outside 16 Brookside and a complete new lamp fitment to outside 21 Brookside.  **White Lion** – Kate Andrews, conservator - £3830.90; A Meredith – evaluation £1000; Caneparo – traffic issues, £1200; and Anthony Collins for work on the CIC; E-on standing charge £32.55 This was proposed by TG and seconded by KS. 2. The clerk gave an update on the Insurance Claim which was complicated but Aviva’s solicitors were seeking to get our losses and our £250 excess returned. 3. The meeting agreed that the clerk should complete the bank mandate and add TS as a third signatory. 4. The clerk gave an update on our website as our current providers, who in reality were just resellers of the technology, will end all services on 31 March 2024. However we can continue with the company that actually owns the software etc and she will get more details and feedback on this. 5. The Cabinet Office has told WALC that the domain name for all parish council websites must end in …gov.uk. In the same practice, all parish councillors and clerks must have … .gov.uk email addresses. Clerk will look into costings and timings for this and report back. | Clerk  Clerk  Clerk  Clerk |
| 11/22.01.24 | **Planning Applications and Matters for Consideration**   1. TG asked for a representative from the PC to attend the next planning committee meeting and speak to the reasons why the application for the Old Telephone Exchange should be refused. It was agreed that the clerk would do this.. 2. PC is considering its detailed response to the Local Plan Consultation and the clerk will circulate a new document that integrates councillors feedback – to enable our submission by the end of January 2024. | Clerk  All |
| 12/22.01.24 | **Ongoing Village Matters –**   1. Telephone Box Renovation –  KS reported that work is completed and the box now houses the defibrilllator. The PC wanted to record its sincere thanks to Ian Dew for the new door that he has built and has declined to charge for. It was agreed to purchase a bleed kit to go in the Telephone box for use in an emergency. 2. Playing Fields and Footpaths –   KS will arrange a working group meeting in January which SL will attend with a view to assessing cutting of the field. TG sought volunteers to lope the top off the overgrown Ash Tree outside the Telephone Exchange.  TG will also speak to Len Bailey re the very high styles that mark part of the central footpath in Pailton very difficult to use.  The clerk wanted the meeting to be aware of the work of the resident who ‘runs’ the allotment for the PC – and it was agreed to thank her by presenting her with some flowers. Clerk to arrange.   1. Highways Working Group. –   Nothing new to report until the WCC test results are in. KS offered to talk to DT about resurrecting the speed watch group but in the meantime TG, KS and SL will rotate the VAS speed signs on the three sites.     1. Ex Service Men’s club –   Nothing new to report but agreed to report in the February Revel that the PC continues to try and engage with the Trustees of the Denbigh Estate on this. | All  KS/Clerk  KS  All  TG  Clerk  KS.  KS/TG/SL  Clerk |
| 13/22.01.24. | **Correspondence**   * Nothing new to report |  |
| 14/22.01.24 | **Additional items for next meeting**   * Date for village Litter Pick * Replacement of 4 damaged refuse bins |  |
| 15/22.01.24 | **Meeting Dates**  The next meetings will be on 26 February 2024 and 25 March 2024 |  |

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Chairman of the Parish Council

Anthony Gillias 26 February 2024