**Pailton Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 25 March 2024 in Pailton Village Hall**

Present:

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

Mark Foxon (MF), Stuart Law (SL)

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

Also present for the meeting was one parishioner

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| Minute  Ref |  | Action |
| 1/25.03.24 | **Chairman’s Welcome and Apologies for Absence**  Councillor Gillias welcomed all to the meeting. There were no apologies for absence. |  |
| 2/25.03.24 | **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 in 2023. |  |
| 3/25.03.24 | **Standing orders were suspended to allow members of the public to address the meeting .**  No items were raised. |  |
| 4/25.03.24 | **Resumption of Standing Orders** |  |
| 5/25.03.24 | **To approve the minutes and financial papers of the meeting held on 26 February 2024.**   * These were proposed by KS seconded by TS and approved by all. They were signed by the chairman as a true record of the meeting. |  |
| 6/18.12/23 | **Matters Arising from previous meetings – not covered elsewhere on the agenda.**   * TG advised that he had received a call from Severn Trent and after a site visit they were proposing to reinstate the land and install alarms on the manhole covers that will send a signal to ST when action is needed – they will also work to clear the blockage on any pipework that may be restricting flow. |  |
| 7/18.12/23 | **Information Reports –**   1. **County Council AW sent his apologies** 2. **Rugby Borough Council, TG**  * Advised there are still opportunities for grants from the Shared Prosperity Fun. * RBC is changing its requirement for planning on consent for Houses with Multiple Occupancy (Article 4 covering houses with unrelated occupants) – making it more difficult to change designation as the current limit is too high and creating problems with waste, parking and anti social behaviour. Due to legal rules the change cannot begin until March 2025. * RBC has recruited an officer to deal with CIL (community infrastructure levy) which provides financial benefits for communities from developers of up to 10 homes of £200 psm in rural areas – 25% is retained for parishes with a Neighbourhood Plan and those without a neighbourhood plan, the benefit is 15% of the CIL.  1. V**illage Hall Trust, LF**  * LF asked how to obtain another blue bin for the Hall as with more events, recycling materials have increased. She was advised to go on line and request one. * Working is beginning on the 2024 Fete with the intention to ensure the planning meetings are more professional. * The first bingo event is very soon – and the organiser’s intention is to have one a week. The White Lion team expressed concerns that having it on a consecutive day to White Lion fund raising events might not be a good idea, * Next Live and Local is a folk singer on 19th May. |  |
| 8/25.03.24 | **White Lion Project Update**   * TS advised that the Working Group were awaiting the funding decision from NLHF. * The agreement between the Parish Council and the CIC is now ready for signing – and was signed by the Chairman and witnessed by the Clerk at the end of the meeting. | TS |
| 9/25.03.24 | **Finance and Governance**   1. The clerk asked the meeting to accept the cash book forecast to the end of March 2023 and approve the following payments: Clerk’s salary – £312; HMRC - £78.00; RBC – White Lion license for 2024, Bleedkit for defibrillator - £108.95; E-on standing electrity charge for White Lion and £63.00 for February and March; it was agreed to set up a business account for 12 months with EON as this would be cheaper than our current ‘out of contract price’. This was proposed by MF and seconded by KS. 2. She advised that Cuttlefish (who were the company behind Commune 2 who supplied the current website and emails) are an approved Cabinet Officer supplier for transferring parish council domains and emails to .gov.uk and because of this there would be no cost for the PC this year. A decision needs to be made by end of June on whether we go forward with Cuttlefish or seek a new provider. She will undergo training tomorrow and report back at the next meeting. 3. Clerk reminded councillors of the importance of getting their nomination form to the Council by 5th April – if required she can provide the electoral roll number of residents who are signing the nomination papers for councillors.  **After meeting note** Clerk corrected misinformation she gave and advised that the eligibility requirement was either one year’s resident in the parish **or** being on the electoral roll. On that basis all current councillors can stand. 4. KS left the meeting at this point to enable councillors to discuss who to appoint as the amenity contractor for 2024. She explained that she had prepared information to allow three contractors to submit a price for the 2024 season. But only one contractor submitted a price but he was based in Wales. The current contractor (KS) also submitted his price which was £125 higher than the welsh bidder, but the council agreed with the clerk’s view that the extra added value that the village gains from the resident contractor made his reappointment the best value option. This was proposed by TS and seconded by MF and agreed by all.   KS was asked to rejoin the meeting at this point.   1. The clerk asked councillors to consider a previously circulated email from WALC’s legal adviser that care must be taken to ensure that Working Groups are not decision making bodies. | Clerk  Clerk  Clerk  All |
| 11/25.03.24 | **Planning Applications and Matters for Consideration**   1. TG advised that a date is still awaited for the planning application on the Old Telephone Exchange. 2. The clerk advised that she completed the consultation on the Rights of Way on behalf of the Parish Council. |  |
| 12/25.03.24 | **Ongoing Village Matters –**   1. Playing Fields and Footpaths – KS  * Due to dire weather the planned work on the playing field was postponed until 24 March. This went well and progress was made on restoring and moving benches and repairing ‘gaps’ between the grass and the ‘wet poor surface’ as identified in the RoSPA safety inspection. New hardwood is needed to repair the bench seating and KS would get a price for his. A new picnic bench made from composite materials will be put in the area preferred by the users of the playing field.- * The new climbing frame will be installed on 2nd April. * The clerk agreed to complete the application (with support from KS) for a small community orchard to be planted where the benches used to be. * Further consideration would be given to installing a safety board outside the playing field – to remind all users of their responsibilities when using this unmonitored playing facility.  1. Highways Working Group and Traffic calming– TG    * 1. Nothing new to report until the WCC test results are in – clerk to chase. TG expressed his frustration that the tests have still not taken place. Likewise the position of the warning sign to HGV drivers warning them not to cut through the village is still not agreed.      1. Ex Service Men’s club – TG   Nothing new to report.   1. New Litter bins   The clerk had previously circulated suggested choices for bins to replace damaged bins. These were approved by councillors – with the preference to select green as the colour. Clerk will now send these to RBC’s refuse team for their approval as they will only empty bins if they meet their standards. Once approval is received the Council will need to agree on fixing methods. | KS  KS  KS/Clerk  KS/Clerk  TG |
| 13/25.03.24. | **Correspondence/Other matters**   * There has been a complaint about people parking near the war memorial and blocking the dropped curve disabled access. All to monitor this and when driver is known, clerk to write and ask for their co-operation to keep this access open. * A resident of Brookside Avenue has complained that another resident is blocking the pavement outside of his house which means he cannot access the pavement to put out bins, nor can his wife use her mobility aid. It was agreed to report this in the first instance to RBC’s housing team who would arrange for a community warden to visit. * KS will erect a banner between the posts on the notice board to promote the litter pick on 16th April. LF offered to produce other A3 laminated posters to go on lamp posts, notice boards etc. |  |
| 14/25.03.24 | **Additional items for next meeting**   * Approve papers and submission for the audit on 24 April. |  |
| 15/25.03.24 | **Meeting Dates**   * The next meetings will be on 22 April 2024 and this will be followed by a meeting on 13 May. This will be the first meeting after the election … followed immediately by the Annual General Meeting of the PC. There was some debate on timing etc of the Annual Parish Meeting but after the meeting the chairman and clerk agreed this would be on 20th May and be the focus of our Round the Revel submission for publication in May. |  |
| The meeting closed at 9.14 | |  |

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Chairman of the Parish Council

Anthony Gillias 22 April 2024