

NOTICE OF A MEETING OF WALL PARISH COUNCIL

To be held at Wall Village Hall at 7:30 pm on Wednesday 18 September 2019

Members of the public and press are welcome to attend

Email: wallparishcouncil@live.co.uk

Website: www.wallparishcouncil.com

12 September 2019

Dear Councillor

You are summoned to attend a Meeting of Wall Parish Council to be held at Wall Village Hall, Watling Street, Wall, at **7.30pm on Wednesday 18 September 2019** at which the following business will be transacted.



Peter Young
Parish Clerk

AGENDA

1. **Apologies:** To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence.
2. **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**
3. **Minutes:** To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 July 2019 (**Appendix 1**).
4. **Matters Arising on the Minutes**
5. **Meeting to adjourn for up to 15 minutes for Public Session. Meeting then to reconvene.**
6. **Policing Matters**
7. **District and County Councillors' Reports** (if present)
8. **Reports from Chairman, Councillors and Clerk**
Reports on matters, and consideration of correspondence received.
9. **LDC Parish Forum**
The Chairman to report on the LDC Parish Forum meeting held on 17 September 2019.
10. **Best Kept Village Competition**
 - a. To note that Wall came 3rd in the small village category in the Lichfield/Cannock Chase area.
 - b. To consider ways to submit an improved entry for 2020.
11. **VE Day Anniversary**
To consider ways to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day on 8 May 2020. The early May bank holiday has been moved from Monday 4th to Friday 8th to assist in weekend events.
12. **Village Lengthsman**
To consider costs and options for employment of a Village Lengthsman to undertake minor maintenance tasks around the parish on highway and public areas.
13. **Wall Neighbourhood Plan**
To consider the report (**Appendix 2** attached) on options.

14. Highways and Open Spaces

- a. Community Payback Team - update on current works.
- b. Speed sign – to report on latest speed data.
- c. Update on car park light barrier
- d. Disposal of weeds and vegetation collected within the Village by volunteers
- e. Any other matters.

15. Planning Applications

- a. New applications: – none at agenda date
- b. To note decisions on previous applications:

Ref	Address	Details	Wall PC Comment	Decision
19/00110/FULH 19/00111/LBC	Wall Farm, Green Lane	Retention of external works comprising new garden wall, entrance gates, piers, bin store	No objections to revised gate detail.	Approved 23/07/19
19/01028/FUL	Barn Farm, Cranebrook Lane, Hilton	Erection of 1no open sided agricultural lean-to building	Recommend Refusal: appears to create, in stages, a larger development on the site similar to application 18/00632/FULM which was refused by LDC. No noise assessment provided for machinery that would be used for the grading of the potatoes. Likely that this new building would free up additional storage space within the store buildings thereby leading to further movements of heavy goods vehicles to and from the site on the inadequate local roads and using existing inadequate farm access. The buildings permitted under 19/00547/ABN are for storage only, so unlikely that grading of potatoes will be a frequent activity, and there is a strong possibility that in practice the lean to becomes used for additional storage. If permission is to be granted there must be a condition placed on the development that it is used for grading of potatoes only and for no other purpose.	Awaited
19/01179/COU	Chesterfield House, Ashcroft Lane	Conversion and extension of outbuildings to form a 3-bedroom dwelling with associated parking/turning area and alterations/improvements to existing access	No objection: but note that application is not entirely a "change of use" as it includes construction of a new link building.	Awaited

16. Accounts for Payment, Bank Reconciliation and Financial Progress Report

To note the bank reconciliation for 31 August 2019 and approve the payment of accounts (details to be circulated at the meeting).

To note the Financial Progress Report for 31 August 2019, (**Appendix 3** attached).

17. Date, Time, and Venue of Next Meetings

Wednesday 20 November 2019, 7:30 pm, Wall Village Hall

Wednesday 15 January 2020, 7:30 pm, Wall Village Hall (Budget meeting).

* * *

Appendix 1

WALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Wall Parish Council held on Wednesday 17 July 2019 at 7:30 pm at Wall Village Hall

Present: Cllrs M J Crowe (Chairman), R Barker, P Sampson, R Saxton, Mrs F Robertson and A Ryman.

In Attendance: County Cllr David Smith, District Cllr Alastair Little, PC Lee Turner, four members of the public, and Peter Young (Clerk).

Apologies: Cllr C Rubisch whose apologies were accepted.

22. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

Cllr R Barker declared an interest under Minute 30 as his property was included in the proposed amendments to the list of buildings of local architectural and historic interest. No discussion took place as to the inclusion of that specific property.

23. Minutes

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 15 May 2019, as circulated with the agenda, were approved and signed as a correct record.

24. Matters Arising on the Minutes: None.

25. Public Session: Two members of the public reported on a suggestion to undertake a living history project about memories of WWII in Wall and its surrounding areas. This would form part of the commemoration of the 75th anniversary of VE Day in May 2020, culminating in an exhibition in Wall Village Hall. Members expressed support for this proposal and if funding was required this would be considered by the Council as an agenda item at a future meeting. It was mentioned that other village events should be planned to celebrate this important anniversary and it was noted that the 2020 early May Bank Holiday had been moved to Friday 8 May to permit a long weekend of events nationally.

Two members of the public reported on being made welcome when they moved to Wall recently. They were very willing to get involved in village life and improve community activities. In particular they felt that more could be done to improve the standard of Wall's entry to the Best Kept Village (BKV) competition. Members welcomed this initiative and felt that establishing a BKV working group of residents might be a good way to support BKV, and could also help promote community engagement in the parish generally. This idea to be included on the agenda of the next Parish Council meeting.

26. District and County Councillors' Reports

District Cllr Alastair Little reported that he was newly elected to the District, although also a County Councillor for a different area. Together with his fellow District Councillor for the ward (Janice Silvester-Hall) it was hoped that one or other would attend most parish council meetings to report.

County Councillor David Smith reported on his proposed speed enforcement initiative for which there was a meeting planned for 29 July.

There was general discussion with both councillors regarding the lack of cutting of highway verge areas, particularly outside the 30mph zone. There was also concern that the recent remarking of the lane lines and direction arrows at Wall Island had made the traffic island more dangerous than before.

The Chairman thanked both councillors for their attendance and reports.

27. Policing Matters

PC Lee Turner reported that as the new local neighbourhood officer whose area included Wall Parish he was keen to be involved and take up any local policing issues. He was happy for his contact details to be minuted, and he could be contacted by email at Lee.Turner@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk or by phone 07814 784568. The Chairman thanked PC Turner for his attendance and involvement, particularly as he had taken the trouble to attend even though 'off-duty'.

28. Reports from Chairman, Councillors and Clerk: The following matters were reported:

- a. Further to Minute 15 of the meeting 15 May 2019, the Council had agreed a new 22 month contract (26/5/18 to 31/3/20) for the electricity supply to the car park light and former phone

box. The charges were substantially lower than those previously and credit notes totalling £560.40 had been received against the charges already paid for the period 26/5/18 to 31/3/19. Following acceptance of this new contract, a quotation had been obtained to fix a protective barrier around the car park light and fit a new LED lighting in the former phone box.

Resolved: an order be placed with Darwin Electrical to undertake the work as per the quotation.

- b. It was noted that Lichfield District Council was consulting on amendments to its Street Trading Policy. Members noted that the high charges and onerous licensing criteria required under the current policy had meant that the Bower Market had been cancelled and there had been hardly any stalls present at the Festival Market.

Resolved: to respond that the current Street Trading Policy for community style events needed to be abandoned, not amended.

29. LDC Parish Forum

The Chairman reported on his attendance at the Parish Forum meeting on 25 June. The meeting was much better-attended meeting than previously and there had been several items of interest, including an update on Neighbourhood Plans in the District. **Action:** The Clerk to circulate the Minutes of the Parish Forum meeting to all members for information.

30. Proposed amendments to the List of Buildings of Local Architectural and Historic Interest.

It was noted that Lichfield District Council was proposing to add a number of building and structures to its list of Buildings of Local Architectural and Historic Interest (Local List). A consultation process was being undertaken and the consultation documents had been emailed to councillors.

Resolved: That the proposed amendments to the List of Buildings of Local Architectural and Historic Interest be noted.

31. Draft Air Quality Action Plan

It was noted that Lichfield District Council had produced a 69 page air quality action plan to reduce air pollution in two 'air quality management areas' in order to meet national air quality objectives. One of these two areas was at Muckley Corner. A consultation process was being undertaken on the draft plan. Member considered the proposed Plan and it was:

Resolved: That the only action likely to have a significant effect on the air quality pollution caused by queuing traffic at Muckley corner would be to remove charges on the M6 Toll and thereby take traffic away from local roads.

32. Highways and Open Spaces

- a. Data was reported from the Speed Watch sign at its third location capturing data from northbound traffic on Wall Lane by Manor Farm. Despite the proximity of the narrow and dangerous bends, 67.5% of vehicles were exceeding the 30mph, with a top speed of 57 mph recorded. **Action:** speed sign data to be forwarded to PC Turner.

- b. Cllr P Sampson showed mock-ups of the "30mph Please Slow Down" signs to be fixed to the speed sign back plates to be used when they speed sign itself was not at that location. **Action:** Subject to Highway Authority approval these signs be purchased by the Council.

- c. It was felt that for various reasons this year's entry to the BKV competition had been below par. As discussed earlier in the agenda a more proactive approach should be adopted for the coming year. With uncertainty over the future of the Community Payback team it was felt that the Council should consider the engagement of a village lengthsman to undertake odd jobs around the parish. **Action:** this item to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

- d. It was noted that the low rail fence in the car park at Watling Street had been damaged again, and that other areas of fencing around the car park needed attention.

Resolved: that LDC be requested to repair the areas of broken fencing in their ownership, and that delegated authority be given to the Clerk (in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman) to assess other areas of the car park fencing and either arrange repairs if required for urgent safety, or report back to the next meeting with costings, as appropriate.

- e. There was ongoing concern about the safety of the service bus using either the Wall car park or the entry to The Butts to undertake the reversing movement onto Watling Street which is required by the bus route. **Action:** Concerns to be reported to the bus company.
- f. SCC highways had reported they had dealt with gullies in Raikes Lane, Chesterfield, but that not all the gullies could have been emptied as some of the gully covers were immovable.

33. Planning Applications

- a. **19/00110/FULH Retention of external works comprising erection of new garden wall, entrance gates, piers, and bin store.** It was noted that the original application had been in January, but the Council was now invited to comment on amended plans for the design of gates. **Resolved: No objections.**
- b. Members noted decisions on previous applications as follows:

Ref	Address	Details	Wall PC Comment	Decision
18/00632/FULM	Barn Farm, Cranebrook Lane, Hilton	Erection of agricultural building; extension to farmyard, erection of transformer cabin, creation of new farm access drive, etc	Recommend Refusal (detailed reasons).	Refused 18/06/19
19/00468/FULH	The Bungalow, Grange Farm, Ashcroft Lane	Single storey extensions to side and rear to form 1 bedroom, ensuite, dining and living area; 3 dormer windows, canopy porch to front	No objections	Approved 21/06/19
19/00540/FUL 19/00541/LBC	Wall Farm, Green Lane	New external entrance lobby	RECOMMEND REFUSAL: the scale and massing of the proposed porch (even when the depth is reduced from that currently built without planning consent), is totally unsympathetic and out of keeping with this very old listed building. It dominates the whole frontage destroying the character and appearance of the original building.	Approved 17/06/19

34. Accounts for Payment and Bank Reconciliation

The bank reconciliation at 30 June was noted. **Resolved: payment of the following:**

Date Paid	Chq No.	Payee	Details	TOTAL
26/06/19	817	P Sampson (reimburse)	Country Gardening - 1 litre of 2 stroke oil	16.00
26/06/19	818	MJ Crowe (reimburse)	Projector	694.80
26/06/19	819	P Young (reimburse)	Barriers Direct - barrier for lamp-post	88.20
28/06/19	820	C Rubisch (reimburse)	Petrol for brush-cutter	10.00
17/07/19	821	SJL Landscapes	Verge cutting June 2019	146.74
17/07/19	822	Wall Village Hall	Use by Payback Team 19/5/19 to 14/7/19	80.00
		Total £98.00	Room Hire 17/7/19 Council	18.00
17/07/19	823	GeoXphere	Digital mapping year from 30 June 2019	60.00
17/07/19	824	P. Young	Net Salary + expenses June/July	431.51
17/07/19	825	HMRC	PAYE on salary	97.20
				1,642.45

35. Dates of Next Meetings

Wed 18 September 2019, 7:30 pm, Wall Village Hall

Wed 20 November 2019, 7:30 pm, Wall Village Hall

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:35 pm

Chairman:

Date:

Appendix 2

Wall Neighbourhood Plan

1. Background

The Localism Act 2011 enables parish council and community groups to produce a Neighbourhood Plan (NP) to support the development of their area. Once agreed and adopted following a parish referendum, a NP becomes part of the statutory Local Plan for Lichfield District.

To date, 11 NPs have been completed in Lichfield District: Stonnall, Shenstone, Little Aston, Wiggington & Hopwas, Lichfield City, Whittington & Fisherwick, Fradley, Elford, Longdon, Alrewas, and Armitage with Handsacre. NPs for Burntwood and for Hammerwich are nearing completion.

Wall, along with Colton, Fazeley, and Streethay have undertaken the initial step of defining the area for which their NP will apply, but have not progressed further. The remaining parishes in the District have not yet made any approach to produce a NP: Clifton Campville, Curborough/Elmhurst/Farewell/Chorley, Drayton Bassett, Edingale, Harlaston, Hints with Canwell, Kings Bromley, Mavesyn Ridware, Swinfen and Packington, Thorpe Constantine, and Weeford. Details of each Neighbourhood Plan are published on the District Council's website at www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplans

Wall PC applied in January 2014 to establish Wall parish as the “Neighbourhood Area” for its plan, and that was designated by LDC on 8 April 2014. A ‘drop in’ session for residents about the NP was proposed by the Council in September 2014 but does not appear to have taken place. A questionnaire was circulated with the Wall Newsletter early in 2015, and the Minutes of the meeting on 25 March 2015 state that the Chairman, “read out the comments received from parishioners on the reply sheets”. Since then no further progress appears to have been made, and it would be opportune therefore for the Council to look again at the requirements for producing a NP, and whether it wishes to proceed.

2. To NP or not to NP

Some of the pros and cons of producing a NP can be summarised as follows:

Potential Advantage	Potential Disadvantage
A NP is part of the statutory Local Plan framework so can influence planning decisions	Policies in a NP must conform to the Local Plan and national planning policies, so their ability to make significant change is limited
Residents can come together to formulate a positive vision of what they want for their local area, thereby promoting community involvement	The process of producing a NP is long and complex – at least 2 years and possibly up to 5 years. Residents may be frustrated by the formal stages and lengthy processes and initial enthusiasm may wane
	Policies in a NP can only relate to land use and development issues. Residents may become disillusioned when their general aspirations cannot be included in Plan Policies (aspirations still can be included in the supporting text of a NP)
	Residents may have conflicting views (e.g. pro-development or anti-development) so proposals may be contentious
Must involve the community so that local residents have ‘ownership’ and their views are reflected in NP	Community involvement is time-consuming. Final Plan may be rejected by residents at referendum stage
Grants (up to £9,000) can be obtained towards the cost of producing a NP	In addition to direct costs, producing a NP will require a considerable time and administrative commitment from those involved. There are timescales and criteria on what NP grant money can be spent on
Areas with a NP receive 25% of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) received from development in their NP area, which can be used on infrastructure projects. The CIL is only 10% if there is no NP	If there is very little development, there is very little CIL
Plans need to be reviewed periodically to ensure they are still relevant	Plans need to be reviewed so the process will need to be repeated in the future

An alternative to a NP would be a “Village Plan” setting out the vision and aspirations of residents. This does not need to be constrained by land use issues, but the main disadvantage is that it has no statutory significance in relation to planning decisions, is not eligible for grant funding from Government, and would not attract the 25% CIL receipt.

3. Three main stages to producing a neighbourhood plan

Stage 1 – Getting started

- Designation of the neighbourhood area (Wall completed this April 2014)
- Build an evidence base – Plan policies will need to be based on robust evidence to support decisions
- Publicity and engagement – set up the structure of the local partnerships which will be involved
- Draw up action plan of stages/timescales/costs/budget/grants available etc

Stage 2 – Preparing the plan

- Draft the plan through extensive community involvement and evidence base
- Meeting the basic conditions e.g. must conform to Local Plan/national policy and contribute to achievement of sustainable development
- Pre-submission (Regulation 14) consultation with local residents and other stakeholders. Modify the NP in the light of comments received

Stage 3 – Bringing the plan into force

- Submission of Plan to LDC who check that the necessary documents have been provided.
- Publicise Plan – 6-week formal consultation
- Independent examination – arranged by LDC.
- Modify Plan with regard to recommendations from the Independent examination
- Referendum of local electors. Simple majority in favour from those voting and NP is adopted.

A 65-page booklet which explains in more detail the process of producing a NP is available at:
https://neighbourhoodplanning.org/wp-content/uploads/NP_Roadmap_online_full.pdf

* * *

Appendix 3

WALL PARISH COUNCIL Progress Report at 31 August 2019 (42% of year)

	2018/19 Actual	2019/20 Budget	Actual at 31/8/19	% allocated
<u>RECEIPTS</u>				
PRECEPT	10,600	11,600	11,600	100%
Lengthsman and grass cutting	950	0	0	-
Wall Leaflets	127	150	98	65%
VAT refunds	857	300	0	0%
Gross Receipts	12,534	12,050	11,698	97%
<u>PAYMENTS</u>				
Employee Costs	2,848	2,930	972	33%
General Administration	1,106	1,450	773	53%
Lengthsman and grass cutting	1,500	1,650	367	22% ¹
Speedwatch sign	2,997	500	0	0%
Other Projects	1,155	2,500	1,652	66%
Car park light	288	1,270	342	27%
Grants paid out	1,300	2,680	680	25%
Election Cost May 2019	0	1,600	0	0%
VAT on payments (refundable)	849	300	387	129%
Gross Payments	12,043	14,880	5,173	35%
<u>BALANCES</u>				
Opening Balance 1 April	13,088	13,579	13,579	
Profit (Loss) on year	492	-2,830	6,525	
Closing Balance	13,579	10,749	20,104	

Notes:

¹ Cost of SJL Leisure contracted mowing in full year is £856