

WALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Wall Parish Council held on Wednesday 18 September 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 Janice Sylvester-Hall, five members of the public, and Peter Young (Clerk).

Apologies: None – all members present.

36. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations: None.

37. Minutes

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 17 July 2019, as circulated with the agenda, were approved and signed as a correct record.

38. Matters Arising on the Minutes:

With reference to Minute 32b there was conflicting advice on adding a static speed reminder sign to the speed sign backplates.

39. Public Session:

A member of the public reported on suggestions that a committee of local residents organise a commemoration of the 75th anniversary of VE Day in May 2020, including an exhibition in Wall Village Hall. A sheet of possible events to mark the anniversary was circulated. Members welcomed the proposals and it was suggested that an approach be made to the County Councillor's Local Initiatives Fund for grant aid towards the project.

Other members of the public reported on the work they had undertaken to various public areas in the parish. There was a litter problem with cigarette butts around the Trooper, and they would speak to the landlord about this. Disposal of vegetation collected would require an additional domestic wheelie bin and it was agreed that the Council would fund this.

40. District and County Councillors' Reports

District Cllr Janice Silvester-Hall introduced herself to the meeting and responded to various matters relating to the District Council.

County Councillor David Smith reported on his speed enforcement initiative and his Local Member's Initiatives Fund.

Councillor A Ryman raised the issue of continuing problems at Wall Island, and County Councillor D Smith responded that the recent works undertaken were not what had been promised. **Action:** Clerk to contact Highways England seeking action to improvements to the Island. Clerk also to contact Police for their support for improvements.

The Chairman thanked the County and District councillors for their attendance and reports.

41. Policing Matters

PC Lee Turner had submitted his apologies due to a work commitment but had emailed a report which was read out to members.

It was reported that a homeless person was living in a mini parked in Ashcroft Lane by the A5 bridge. Members were sympathetic to the plight of the person, but there were problems with litter being generated. **Action:** Clerk to contact Police and LDC Homelessness officer on this matter.

42. Reports from Chairman, Councillors and Clerk:

Councillor P Sampson reported his continuing concerns regarding the safety to pedestrians and other road users when the service bus used the Wall car park entrance or the entry to The Butts to undertake the reversing movement onto Watling junction required by the bus route. **Action:** Clerk to contact the Bus Company on this matter and suggesting an alternative routing via the Wall bypass.

Councillor R Barker reported that gullies in Raikes Lane had not been emptied as reported, because the gully covers were jammed. **Action:** Clerk to report again to Staffordshire Highways.

43. LDC Parish Forum

The Clerk reported on the Parish Forum meeting on 17 September which he had attended along with the Chairman. The meeting had been very well attended. Items discussed included a forthcoming Community Governance Review of the District and an update to the District Council's Strategic Plan.

44. Best Kept Village Competition

Members were delighted to note that Wall had been awarded 3rd place in the small village category for Lichfield and Cannock Chase districts. Arrangements were discussed to submit an improved entry for the 2020 competition.

45. VE Day Anniversary 2020

This matter had been considered during the Public Forum.

46. Village Lengthsman

Members considered the appointment of a 'Village Lengthsman' to undertake minor maintenance tasks. It was agreed to proceed with this, utilising a contractor rather than an employee. It was noted that there was funding for this in the budget. A list of possible routine annual works would need to be prepared, and a possible contractor was suggested.

47. Wall Neighbourhood Plan

Members considered the Clerk's agenda report on the background to a Wall Neighbourhood Plan, and the pros and cons of undertaking such a Plan. It was noted that the entire parish was in Green Belt, so large-scale development should not arise. It was agreed that a Neighbourhood Plan was not justified at present, but this would be reconsidered if any future development proposals emerged.

48. Highways and Open Spaces

- a. Community Payback Team: Councillor Sampson reported on current works being undertaken.
- b. Speed sign: this would shortly be moved to a new location.
- c. The car park light barrier and LED light in the former phone box had now been installed.

49. Planning Applications

No new applications for comment. Members noted decisions on previous applications as follows:

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 a larger development on the site similar to application 18/00632/FULM which was refused. No noise assessment provided. Likely that new building would free up additional storage space thereby leading to further movements of heavy goods vehicles to and from the site on the inadequate local roads. 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 3-bedroom dwelling with associated parking/turning area	No objection: but note that application is not entirely a "change of use" as it includes construction of a new link building.	Awaited

50. Accounts for Payment and Bank Reconciliation

The 31 August bank reconciliation together with the Financial Progress Report from 1 April to 31 August 2019 were noted. **Resolved: payment of the following:**

Date Paid	Chq No.	Payee	Details	TOTAL
02/09/19	826	SJL Landscapes	Verge cutting July 2019	146.74
02/09/19	827	P Sampson (reimburse)	Petrol for mower	14.39
18/09/19	795	Darwin Electrical	Phonebox light and car park light barrier	346.80
18/09/19	796	Wall Village Hall	Use by Payback Team 21/7/19 to 15/9/19	80.00
		Total £98.00	Room Hire 18/9/19 Council	18.00
18/09/19	797	P. Young	Net Salary + expenses Aug/Sept	432.12
18/09/19	798	HMRC	PAYE on salary	97.20
18/09/19	799	SJL Landscapes	Verge cutting August 2019	146.74
				1,281.99

51. Dates of Next Meetings

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

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

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:15 pm

Chairman:

Date: