

## WALL PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of Wall Parish Council held on Tuesday 15 March 2022 at 7:30 pm at Wall Village Hall, Watling Street, Wall

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

**In Attendance:** 3 Members of the Public, County Cllr D Smith, District Cllr J Silvester-Hall, and Peter Young (Clerk).

**49. Apologies:** None – all members present.

**50. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** Cllr A Ryman declared an interest in the matter discussed under Minute 65 and left the meeting during the discussion and voting thereon.

#### **51. Minutes**

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 18 January 2022 were approved and it was agreed that these be signed as a correct record.

**52. Matters Arising on the Minutes:** None.

**53. Policing Matters:** PCSO Andrea Horsnall had submitted apologies as she was attending another meeting. It was reported that horses had been escaping from a field at Hilton and action would need to be taken because of the danger of horses straying onto the nearby main roads. A new poster with Police contact details was still awaited for the noticeboard.

#### **54. Public Forum**

The Meeting adjourned for the Public Forum.

A member of the public reported on arrangements for a street party in The Butts on Sunday 5 June as part of the celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. There was an offer of use of tables from the Village Hall and use of the Hall itself in the event of inclement weather. Members of the Council supported the event and indicated that, should funding be required, an application could be submitted to the 17 May meeting and would be likely to be favourably considered.

#### **55. Reports from County and District Councillors**

County Cllr David Smith reported that there was potentially some funding available from his County Councillors' fund which the residents could apply for towards the cost of the Jubilee celebrations. He reported that the County Council was making free trees available for collection, but that these would require resources to maintain them once planted.

As regards the Community Governance Review of the District he outlined possible scenarios regarding the Hammerwich Triangle Ward. He would support Wall Parish Council's proposals, but it would be useful to be able to demonstrate community support for these.

District Cllr Janice Silvester-Hall reported that Lichfield District Council was implementing improvements to its Planning system, including employment of additional staff, but that recruitment was proving to be difficult. She also reported on the Community Governance Review and that Hammerwich Parish Council was proposing no changes for its parish. She would liaise with the Council if there were any new issues which arose.

Cllrs D Smith and J Silvester-Hall were thanked for their attendance and reports.

#### **56. Community Governance Review of Lichfield District**

It was noted that Lichfield District Council had commenced a Community Governance Review (CGR) of the District with an implementation date for any changes of 1 April 2023. A CGR could consider creating, merging, altering or abolishing parishes; the naming of parishes and the style of new parishes; electoral arrangements such as council size, number of councillors and parish warding; and grouping or de-grouping of parishes. The Clerk circulated a map of the current parish boundary with a breakdown of the number of electors, divided between Wall Village and its various outlying settlements.

Various comments were made that the current parish council was adequately resourced, had a full complement of councillors, and represented a clear geographic area.

***Resolved: That Wall Parish Council proposes that there should be no change to its current community governance arrangements.***

It was noted that the closing date for submissions of responses to the initial consultation stage was 21 April 2022. If there were developments prior to that date which could impact on the parish then councillors would be circulated and if necessary, a Special Council Meeting would be convened.

#### **57. Review of Parliamentary Constituencies**

It was noted that the Boundary Commission for England (BCE) was conducting a Review of Parliamentary Constituencies to rebalance the number of electors in each constituency. The BCE was required to produce proposals whereby each new constituency had between 69,724 and 77,062 electors, this being +/- 5% of the average electorate of 73,393 (based on 2020 electorates).

The BCE proposal was that the area of Wall parish [approx. 370 electors] would move from the Tamworth constituency to the Lichfield constituency, and that an area including Streethay and Whittington would move from the Lichfield constituency to the Tamworth constituency. Comments on the proposals needed to be submitted by 4 April 2022.

***Resolved: That Wall Parish Council supports the inclusion of Wall Parish in the Lichfield Constituency as Wall parish has a far greater affinity with Lichfield than Tamworth. Should the electoral numbers permit, the parish council would also ask that the area of Streethay with Fradley Parish that was proposed to move to the Tamworth Constituency, should remain within the Lichfield Constituency.***

#### **58. Former phonebox electricity supply**

It was noted that Wall Parish Council had an unmetered supply to the former phonebox on Watling Street. The supply was currently on a fixed price contract from SSE at cost of £89 p.a. The current contract would end on 30 April 2022 and SSE had quoted for a fixed price two-year contract to renew at £293.48 p.a. The supply could only be ended if it is physically disconnected by Western Power who quoted £663 for this in 2021.

***Resolved: That given the limited night-time usage of the former phonebox, the supply be disconnected, and the energy supply contract terminated. A solar-powered photocell light with motion detector would be fitted instead.***

#### **59. Calendar of Meetings 2022/23**

The Calendar of meeting dates 2022-23 was agreed as follows. Meetings to be held at Wall Village Hall.

Tuesday 17 May 2022, 7:15 pm (Annual Parish Meeting)

Tuesday 17 May 2022, 7:30 pm (Annual Meeting)

Tuesday 19 July 2022, 7:30 pm

Tuesday 20 September 2022, 7:30 pm

Tuesday 15 November 2022, 7:30 pm

Tuesday 17 January 2023, 7:30 pm

Tuesday 21 March 2023, 7:30 pm

THURSDAY 4 MAY – PARISH AND DISTRICT ELECTIONS

Tuesday 16 May 2023, 7:15 pm (Annual Parish Meeting)

Tuesday 16 May 2023, 7:30 pm (Annual Council Meeting)

#### **60. Reports from Chairman, Councillors and Clerk**

a. Platinum Jubilee: Further to matters considered during the public forum, it was also proposed that the Council liaise with the Friends of Letocetum to renew/restore the information panels that had been provided by the Council for the Jubilee replica Roman milestone.

b. Litter Legends: It was agreed that the local Litter Legends could provide a display around the Watling Street bus shelter for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

c. Churchyard Maintenance Grant: A letter of thanks had been received from the PCC Treasurer.

## 61. Highways and Open Spaces

- a. Replacement of Watling Street bus shelter: The replacement shelter would be erected on 28 April.
- b. Highway Verge Grass Cutting Contract: SJL Landscapes had accepted the grass-cutting contract for 2022, based on 2021 prices, plus RPI.
- c. Length of adopted highway at The Butts: SCC Highways were claiming that the entire length of the Butts was unadopted. Previously all information had been that the length of the Butts from Watling Street to Roman Walk was adopted highway, and that only the remaining section northwards was unadopted. **Action**: Clerk to pursue with SCC Highways.
- d. Leaves on Green Lane at 'Trooper Hill': As well as the build-up of leaves the side banks had been collapsing narrowing the available road surface. **Action**: Clerk to pursue with SCC Highways.
- e. Best Kept Village: It was agreed to enter the 2022 Best Kept Village Competition (entry fee £27.50). Support and involvement would be encouraged from local residents and organisations.
- f. Raikes Lane Flooding: It was reported that Raikes Lane, Chesterfield had recently been closed for 2 weeks due to flooding. The flooding was caused by inadequate maintenance of the drainage gullies and had also created many potholes in the surface. SCC Highways needed to maintain the Lane, not close it. **Action**: Clerk to pursue with SCC Highways.
- g. Trees A5 Wall Bypass: Cllr Sampson reported a longstanding problem a resident was experiencing caused by high trees alongside her bungalow. The trees were on National Highways land adjacent to the A5 Wall Bypass. **Action**: Cllr Sampson to pursue this with National Highways and Christopher Pincher MP.

## 62. Planning Applications

### a. 22/00281/FUL Hollybank, Walsall Road, Pipe Hill.

Variation of condition 2 of permission 21/00874/FUH to allow alterations of external staircase to the proposed new basement, alterations to the rear external staircase to the proposed new basement and alterations to the internal basement and ground floor layouts.

**Resolved: No objections.**

### b. Decisions on previous applications were noted as follows:

Reference	Details	Wall PC Comment	LDC Decision
20/01265/FULM Springhill Farm, Walsall Road, Muckley Corner <i>NB Not in Wall Parish but would impact on the parish</i>	Variation of conditions to approved plans 09/00069/FULM relating to site layout including access and reception building	Recommend Refusal: original approval required a roundabout access, and this should be retained for highway safety. Revised reception building is higher than previous and is a non-conforming development in the green belt.	Pending
21/00883/FUL The Bungalow, Walsall Road, Pipehill	Demolition of existing house and garage/store; erection of 1no replacement dwelling and garage	Recommend refusal. A large two storey dwelling would result in a loss of openness of the green belt contrary to green belt policy.	Pending
21/01612/COU Barn Farm Cranebrook Lane Hilton	Change of use of existing storage building to No2 dwelling houses and the re-use of a second storage building as garages, with associated off-street parking and external amenity space	No objection in principle to a conversion to residential, but no approval should be granted until the conditions in 19/01736/FULM are fully met. In addition, substantial soundproofing and visual screening take place to mitigate the adverse effects from operations which take place on the adjoining land.	<b>Approved</b> 1/2/22
22/00067/FUH The Beeches Pouk Lane, Hilton	Erection of two storey side extension	No objection in principle as the proposal is not out of keeping in relation to the current property but note that the current property has been considerably extended previously.	Pending
22/00242/FUL The Trooper, Watling Street	Retention of doors, windows and Juliet balconies plus internal changes to bar and toilets	A retrospective application and so no ability to comment prior to the works taking place. Application makes no mention that the replacement windows have uPVC frames, nor that the Trooper has Local Listed status. A condition for planning approval should therefore be that the uPVC frames are replaced with timber frames befitting an historic and Locally Listed building in the Wall Conservation Area.	Pending

**63. Accounts for Payment**

A schedule of the receipts and payments 1 April 2021 to 14 March 2022, together with the bank reconciliation at 14 March 2022 showing a balance of £25,911.07 was noted.

It was noted that the Clerk’s pay was subject to a National ‘cost of living’ pay award of 1.75% backdated to 1 April 2021, equivalent to £4.37 per month.

**Resolved: That payment be made of the following:**

Payee	Details	£ Amount
P Sampson	Reimbursement for defibrillator batteries	27.48
Staffs County Fund	Website & domain name 2020 + 2021	271.90
Wall Village Hall	Council meeting 15/3/22	18.00
P Young	Net Salary Feb/March + expenses + home allowance Plus back pay 1/4/21 to 31/1/22 on pay award	503.06
HMRC	PAYE on salary	110.40
Southern Electric	Phonebox electricity - February 22 (Direct Debit)	7.51
SPCA	Membership (1 year from 1/4/22)	157.49

**64. Dates of Next Meetings**

Tuesday 17 May 2022, 7:30pm at Wall Village Hall (Annual Meeting)  
 Tuesday 19 July 2022, 7:30 pm at Wall Village Hall

**65. Roman Site Field Gate**

It was reported that, with the support of English Heritage, a gate had been erected on the southern boundary of the upper part of the Roman site to discourage people from making an unofficial path into the Roman site from the Trooper. However, barbed wire had been wrapped around the top bar of the field gate with potential safety implications.

**Action:** Clerk to report this matter to English Heritage to investigate.

***There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:00 pm***

Chairman: .....

Date:.....