

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
OF THE PARISH OF MANCETTER**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the Parish of Mancetter, held on
Tuesday 23rd January 2018 commencing at 7.00pm in the Schoolroom, St. Peter's Church, Mancetter.

Present

Chairman: Mr T Hopkins.

Parish Councillors: Mr J Arrowsmith, Mr B O'Keeffe, Mr B Twining.

County Councillor: Mrs M Bell.

Borough Councillor: Mrs D Clews.

Parish Clerk Mrs K Meads.

Assistant Parish Clerk Mrs E Higgins.

Parishioner Mr R Smith.

Item 1- Welcome and Apologies

Borough Councillor Mr M Davis and Parish Councillors Mrs G Forknall, Mr H Blackburn and Mrs S Healy sent their apologies. These apologies were accepted. Apologies were also received from PCSO M Yaqub. Mr T Hopkins informed the meeting that the Council was Quorate for Decisions despite the high level of apologies.

Item 2 – Recording of the meeting

The Chairman, Mr T Hopkins welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if anyone recording the meeting could make themselves known. There was no recording of the meeting.

Item 3 – Notice of Interest

Mr T Hopkins and Mr B O'Keeffe declared an interest in Item 14- Allotments.

Item 4 – Public Question Time

Mr R Smith attended and gave some details of a planning application for a Travellers site that has been submitted to Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council. He explained that he has e-mailed the Police Crime Commissioner with questions concerning the policing of the Emergency Stopping Place in Oldbury Road and wished the Council to endorse some of these concerns. Mr Smith was advised to speak to Ansley Parish Council, as the site is actually located within their Parish. Mr Smith also mentioned some options for the footpaths and bridal paths within the Mancetter Parish Area.

Mr Smith left the meeting at 8.30pm prior to the discussion on the Parish Precept.

Item 5 – Minutes of the last meeting

It was unanimously agreed that the draft minutes of the 28th November 2017 be accepted.

Signed

Date:

Item 6 – Matters Arising from the Parish Council meeting on 28th November 2017

- **Ability to co-opt to Parish Councillor Vacancy**

The official notice period for displaying a vacancy on the website and Parish noticeboards has now ended, and the Returning Officer has officially notified the Parish Council that the existing Councillor Vacancy can be filled by Co-option.

- **World War One Commemoration Plans for November 2018**

Following on from the open day at Joseph Cadman Court, it has been suggested that a plaque is commissioned for the building, paying tribute to all of the families who lost a loved one in the Great War within the Parish. Mr H Blackburn has started to research the families from the War Memorials.

Plans for writing a play about the Cadman Family and the lives of other local WW1 Soldiers and their families are underway, with a view to performing at the Memorial Hall in Mancetter on Sunday 11th November 2018.

RCS Plants Ltd will be asked to quote for growing some red winter pansies to spell out the words “We Remember” on the Green.

- **To agree a date for installing Parish Council E-Mail Addresses**

It was decided that Councillors would meet up at the Parish Office in Mancetter Memorial Hall on Monday 12th February from 5.45pm to set up their E-Mail Accounts. Devices will require a system such as Outlook to access e-mails that can be separated from Personal information.

Item 7- Report from the Police

No update from the police was available.

Item 8 – Report from County and Borough Councillors

- **County Council.**

Councillor Bell informed the meeting that there may still be some funding available through the County Councillor Grant Funding Scheme.

A resident from Laurel Gardens has reported the lack of a safe wheelchair friendly route from Mancetter into Atherstone due to inappropriate drop kerbs. The route has been walked by Officers and a Highways Grant awarded to make the necessary repairs and adaptations. There is no dropped kerb on Watling Street by the entrance to the Blue Boar Carpark, and the kerbs have been damaged on both sides of the entrance into Priory Walk from Church Walk as a result of the building work on the new development. Borough Councillor Clews will ask the Contractors to repair this and also ensure that appropriate dropped kerbs are in place at the entrance into Cadman Close.

The Queen Elizabeth Academy in Atherstone will be extended in order to accommodate additional school places as a result of the planned building of new homes within the catchment area.

A Health Task Group has been looking at the pressures that affect GP Provision including home visits for Care Homes and the difficulty in attracting GP's into the Practice Partnership Model. Atherstone Surgery is better placed than most despite a number of GP's approaching retirement, although appointment waiting times is still an issue for residents. The greater use of Qualified Nurses and Pharmacists to prescribe is being considered to alleviate some of the workload.

The issue of Street lighting was discussed and whether the change to more energy efficient LED lights may allow lights to be left on overnight. The Police can ask for the criteria for leaving off lights in specific streets to be reviewed and therefore residents are encouraged to report all instances of Crime and risk areas.

- **Borough Council**

Councillor Clews attended the open day for Joseph Cadman Court and Cadman Close and was pleased with the quality of the finish within the properties as well as the parking provision.

The Owner of Rawn Hill Cottage has been given an additional 5 weeks in order to remove the fencing as per the Enforcement Notice and needs to submit a schedule of work to NWBC.

Councillor Clews also asked if the Honesty Shops being run in the local area could be publicised to members of the Parish.

Councillors Bell and Clews left the meeting at 8pm.

Item 9– Any other Parish Business for Discussion

- **To discuss any Grant applications received**

No applications have been made.

- **Joint Meeting of Borough, Town and Parish Councils 25th January 2018**

Mr T Hopkins will be attending on behalf of the Parish Council.

- **WALC Annual Briefing Day 3rd March 2018**

Mr T Hopkins will attend and all Councillors are asked to let the Clerks know as soon as possible if they are able to make the Briefing Day.

- **Laurel Gardens Emergency Contact Details / Emergency Plan**

There have been several instances of local people including two Parish Councillors returning residents to Laurel Gardens who have been found wandering lost around the village. The Parish Council will ask Laurel Gardens about its system for monitoring the safety and wellbeing of its residents and feed those details into the Parish Emergency Plan which is in the process of being updated.

- **Parking in Church Walk/ Bus Stop and Dropped Kerbs**

Cars are parked both sides of the road which could cause difficulty for emergency vehicles to pass through. There is also a bus stop which is unmarked and residents often have to catch the bus from the middle of the road. The County Council are responsible for the Highways and marking of bus stops with the Police having responsibility for enforcement of the parking issues. The bus in the middle of the road would at least prevent traffic from passing close to the Passengers as they board the Bus but the situation is far from ideal.

Item 10 – Correspondence

A full list of correspondence received had been passed to the councillors (Appendix I)

Item 11 – Planning Matters and New Applications

- **PAP/2017/0278 Gladman Developments Ltd** – An Objection from Highways has been received by NWBC, but no further information on the application has been given to the Parish Council.
- **PAP/2017/0384 Land Rear of 66 – 71 Arden Forest Estate Ridge Lane – Erection of 12 houses plus associated access and landscaping** – No additional information has been received.
- **PAP/2017/0534 14 The Spinney – Extension to replace existing Conservatory** – Pending.

- **PAP/2017/0645 46 Old Farm Road – Erection of Single Storey Side Extension – Pending.**
- **PAP/2018/0035 53 Watling Street – Two Storey Front Extension – No Objection** providing Local Residents are consulted and able to pass comment.

Item 12 – Finance

- **Signing of all payments since the last meeting**
All cheques and bank payments were signed in accordance with the bank mandate.
- **To agree the Precept Request for 2018/2019**
The Council Tax base for 2018/2019 is set by NWBC at £672.17. The Precept Options were discussed and the Forecast Expenditure and Reserves were reviewed.

It was decided unanimously by the Quorate of Four Councillors to select Option C which equates to an Annual increase of £5.05 on a Band D Property.

The figures will be published on the website and in the March/ April 2018 edition of Mancetter Matters. As happened last year, the actual costs will be published as well as the percentage increase, along with an explanation of the loss of the Transition Grant. It was also decided to highlight how much money is ploughed back into the local economy through the use of local contractors.

Item 13 – Cemetery and Maintenance around the Parish

- **Review of Cemetery Fees**
It was decided unanimously to maintain the Cemetery Fees at the current level for the forthcoming Financial Year.

A Document will be tabled at the next meeting to approve the cost of Gravedigger Fees for both Burial and Cremation Plots.

Item 14 – Allotments

- **Review Allotment Rents**
As Allotment holders interest had been declared by Mr T Hopkins and Mr B O’Keeffe. It was agreed by the other Councillors to maintain the rents at the current value as a rent increase had taken place the previous year. It was suggested considering a rate for out of Parish Allotment Holders which will be considered at a future meeting.
Authority for collecting the Allotment Rents was given to Mr T Hopkins proposed by Mr J Arrowsmith and seconded by Mr B Twining.

On the 12th January DEFRA sent out an update on Avian Flu which was posted on the Allotment Gate to warn plot holders who keep poultry.

Item 15 – Date of next meeting: Tuesday 27th March 2018

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.