

**SAMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

**www.sambourne.org.uk**

**Chairman: Cllr Chris Clews**

**01527 853844**

**Clerk: Teresa Murphy**

**01789 778009**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2019

**Present:**

Cllr Chris Clews	Chairman
Cllr Phil Jones	Vice-Chairman
Cllr David Shaw	
Cllr Phil Bond	
Cllr Peter Taaffe	
Cllr Clive Rickhards	Warwickshire County Council
Cllr Peter Hencher-Serafin	SDC (Studley with Mappleborough Green)
Teresa Murphy	Clerk

**1. Apologies:** Cllr Neil Edden

There were 16 parishioners present

**2. Disclosure of Interest:** None

**3. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

**4. Matters arising from the Minutes**

***Broken railings by the brook in Whitemoor Lane:*** Cllr Rickhards reported that he has complained about the broken railings. He suggested we contact John Brown of WCC Highways.

**Action:** Chairman

***Flooding solution in Middletown Lane:***

Councillor Bond is lending support to the Chairman on this subject. The observations made by John Heppenstall concerning storm water drainage in Oaktree Lane/Perry Mill Lane will be added to the list for Mark Banning from WCC Flood Risk Management. Cllr Bond will ask Mark to visit Sambourne again and also look at the gulley by David Shaw's house.

**Action:** Cllr Bond

**Redditch Eastern Gateway:** The Parish Council submitted a response commenting on the HGV Routing Strategy. Cllr Peter Hencher-Serafin reported that we lost the battle and the Routing Strategy was sanctioned at the meeting of the Steering Committee on 9<sup>th</sup> July.

**Purchase of circular bench for the Green:** The Chairman thanked all those who helped with the installation of the bench, with special thanks to Geoff Smith for his input and expertise.

**Request from Studley PC for monitors at the Bulky Waste Facility:** The Clerk confirmed that she had written to Studley PC informing them that we were unfortunately unable to commit to this. A pleasant response has been received from Studley.

**Training for defibrillator use:** The training took place on 16<sup>th</sup> August and was well attended. The fee of £120 was paid.

**Contribution to upkeep of Coughton Cemetery:** The Clerk confirmed that a contribution of £200 had been forwarded. A letter of thanks has been received from Mr McTavish.

**Repair to the bus shelter:** The Chairman has received a quote for £750 to strip and repair the bus shelter. Another quote is needed. It was agreed that this should be an Agenda item for the November meeting.

**Action:** Chairman, Clerk

**Power station, Haselor:** The Chairman had submitted an objection, on behalf of the Parish Council. The application was subsequently re-submitted and permission was refused.

**Overgrown footpaths:** Agenda Item 6.

**Faulty manhole cover in Middletown Lane:** There have been 2 incidents in Middletown Lane, one concerning the manhole cover and the other concerning the crumbling edge of the road. Sambourne PC has fulfilled its obligation by reporting these faults to the WCC.

**Brian Summers** reported that there were pot holes at the entrance to Glebe Farm and also a blocked drain outside Elmwood on Oak Tree Lane.

**Action:** Cllr Rickhards

**Biodiversity Project in the Recreation Ground:** Agenda Item 8.

5. **Public Participation**           None

6. **Report on Public Footpaths**

Cllr Jones reported the following:

- The footpath behind Sambourne Hall Farm was very overgrown in June and July. We are very grateful to Cllr Taaffe and his colleagues who took on the task of cutting and strimming the path.

- A large amount of manure had been dumped, this had subsided and blocked the footpath. The farmer has been through it and cleared the path, which is now passable.
- The path that emerges on the Coughton end of Wike Lane is totally overgrown and impassable. This has been put on the list for the WCC Footpaths Officer but, due to their workload, we do not know when this could be dealt with.

An additional amount of Precept money was granted this year for Election expenses. Under Section 137 any surplus can be used for community matters. This money could be used to pay for clearing of the footpaths. Cllr Jones was asked to contact the Footpaths Officer and get advice on this option. The Chairman will contact Coughton Parish Council and ask if they would share the costs.

**Action:** Chairman, Cllr Jones

A concern was raised concerning the footpath from the church to Astwood Bank, at the end of the first field hedgerow and the footpath in the next field. A new barbed wire fence has been erected which blocks the path. Cllr Jones said that the Footpaths Officer was aware of it and said that the land owner was within his rights to erect the fence. Cllr Jones will show Rowena Pilling a map of the footpath and she will be able to discuss the matter with the land owner, Mr Collins.

**Action:** Chairman

#### **7. Measures to reduce the number of HGV's passing through Sambourne**

- Sambourne is unsuitable for hgv's. The only road sign is 'Unsuitable for HGV's' – this is only advisory and readily ignored. What is needed are the weight limits for the three bridges and mandatory signage in place.
- Parishioners were asked to photograph HGV's travelling through Sambourne, preferably with the operators name clearly visible.
- The chairman will ask Coughton PC how they got their 7.5 ton limit sign.

**Action:** Cllr Rickhards, Chairman

#### **8. Request to establish a Project to enhance Biodiversity in the Recreation Ground**

The Chairman said that parishioners had been given ample chance to gain information about the Project – there have been two PC meetings where it was discussed and an Open Meeting on Saturday 7th September. Despite these opportunities, there have been some adverse comments voiced.

- 1) The problem of parking is a valid one. Parking in Wood Terrace is problematic and could become worse. The Parish Council would agree to provide funding for signage stating parking is strictly for residents only. If the problem persists further steps will be taken.
- 2) It is not envisaged that the problem of speeding will increase.

- 3) The concern that ‘undesirables’ would be attracted does not seem likely. The proposed Conservation Scheme is not seen as a magnet as, perhaps, is the playground at Astwood Bank.
- 4) The layout and location of the Scheme means that noise will not be an issue. It is too remote.
- 5) The question of access at the rear of houses was raised but, given the nature of the Project, this was felt to be unfounded.

The Parish Council thinks that the Project is an excellent way to get children interested in nature and biodiversity. They have met with the people involved in the Scheme and are sure that those concerned would not let their children behave in any way to cause a nuisance.

**Safeguards:**

- Geoff Smith will be involved with all aspects of the Project.
- No trees will be touched, just brambles to be removed.
- The organisers will be working with the Wildlife Trust and WCC Environmental Department.

It was agreed to vote on the Scheme, with the following condition:

- There will be 12 month’s probation.
- Anyone with any problems should contact the Parish Council, who will contact the ladies concerned and ask them to rectify the matter.

The vote to proceed with the Project was unanimous.

**9. Funding for The Link**

There was unanimous agreement to continue funding for the Link and a cheque for £100 was raised. This will be reviewed annually at the September meeting of the Parish Council.

**Action:** Clerk

**10. Accounts**

**Bank Mandate:** Changes to the Bank Mandate for Unity Bank were made and duly signed. The Clerk will forward this document to the bank.

**Action:** Clerk

**The following cheques were signed:**

PCC	Funding for the Link	100.00
Clerk	Salary	547.20
	Expenses	90.00
HMRC	Clerk’s Tax	136.80

Coughton/Sambourne PCC	Room hire	80.00
Studley PC	Bulky Waste	253.62
British Gas	Electricity for the Green	53.15
Chairman	Website	11.98
	Defibrillator course (10 residents)	120.00

## 11. Planning

### New Applications

06/08/2019	19/02205/TPO	Caprice, Perrymill Lane T1 Oak – Reduce crown		
14/08/2019	19/02064/FUL	Chestnut Farm	Change of use of listed farmhouse and lower barn from B1 to 4 C3 dwelling houses	Support
16/08/2019	19/02085/FUL/	Hollowfield, Middletown Lane	Installation of oak framed car port and store	
21/08/2019	19/02356/TREE	Sambourne Church	T1 yew – coppice	
23/08/2019	19/02259/FUL	Sambourne Hall Farm	Conversion of barn and cattle byre to single dwelling	
27/08/2019	19/02019/FUL	Coventry Diocesan Board of Finance	Land opposite Whitemoor Farmhouse	

### Decisions

23/07/2019	19/00540/FUL	Truslove House Wike Lane	2 and single storey rear extension	Granted
22/07/2019	19/1361/FUL	Haydens, Middletown Lane	Erection of detached garage	Refused

### Chairman's Business

- 1) The Government backed 'Playing Out Movement' states that anywhere in the UK residents can make an application to close their street for play up to 3 hours per week. This may be worth considering.

2) Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020 will be a Bank Holiday to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day. Celebrations could take the form of:

- A 'Back to the Past' retro style party to be held on the Green
- Village Association to organise, with help from the Parish Council.

**Action:** Village Association

### **Any other Business**

- 1) Simon Holmes reported that the building work in Middletown Lane will be coming to an end shortly. The lay-by will be clear again. Would it then be possible for police speed checks to resume from their van parked in the lay-by?
- 2) Cllr Taaffe reported that the Speeding Action Group has been re-formed. Cllr Phil Bond, Cllr Peter Taaffe and Rob Clarke will be active on the Group. Discussions have taken place and Cllr Rickhards has agreed to arrange a meeting with Phil Salter and other members of WCC Traffic Group to discuss various options for the Village. Cllr Rickhards confirmed that the plans for a gateway will go ahead next year, financed through the County Councillor's delegated budget.

### **15. Dates of Next Meetings**

- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 7.45 pm
- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm