

**Minutes of the Meeting**  
**Tuesday 1st February 2022 – 6.30pm at Friends Meeting House, Hartshill**

**Councillors:** Councillor Roberts, Thomason, Pearson, Sharp, Parker, Peart.

**Apologies:** Cllr Lees – Accepted and Authorised by the Council.

**Absent:**

**In attendance:** County & Borough Cllr Bell, Gregory Payne of National Highways, PCSO Emily Jenkins and Martin Rone Clarke Traveller Liaison Officer for Warwickshire Police, Parish Clerk & three members of the public.

**1)- Welcome and apologies**

The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

**2) Procedural items**

Councillors are reminded that they must act solely in the public interest and should never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person, or act to gain financial or other material benefits for yourself, your family, a friend, or close associate – Noted.

**3) Declarations of Interest**

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, s81 and the Parish Councils (Model code of Conduct) Order 2001, members are asked to declare any personal interest and the nature of that interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting as well as any gifts or hospitality received. This requirement applies to elected members and co-opted members – Noted.

**4) Chairman's Announcement**

In the interests of openness and transparency, Councillors and members of the public are reminded that the law permits any person to film, record, photograph or use social media to report on the proceedings of a meeting of the Council or its Committees when they are open to the public. This does not extend to live verbal commentary. Filming and photography will only be permitted from the area designated. No flash photography or additional lighting should be used without prior consent. Anyone wishing to report on the meeting should notify the Clerk or Chairman so that they can be afforded reasonable facilities. People under the age of eighteen or other members of the public not wishing to be filmed or photographed should notify the Clerk or Chairman and should sit in the area designated for this purpose. Improper conduct or any disruptive behaviour could result in expulsion from the meeting – Noted.

**5. Report from Borough Councillor Bell**

- The Court case for the injunctions on the Traveller Site is due to take place on the 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> March.
- A transport study has taken place for the Victoria Rd, School Hill and Plough Hill Rd Junction. Initial idea of a one-way system will not work. Evidence shows a large roundabout needed but more research needed on this. Would like to see no further development in the area until Plough Hill Junction is sorted.
- There is no warranted police officer for Hartshill/Mancetter. This is needed. Decriminalisation of parking in North Warwickshire to be introduced this month.
- Residents are encouraged to report all anti-social behaviour as police cannot do anything without it being reported properly. This can be done over the phone and online in a non-emergency.
- Saria liaison meetings - would like to be started up again.

**5.1 Report from PCSO/Warwickshire Police**

- PCSO Emily Jenkins - Hartshill School – police held a drop-in session. Took the knife Arch to the school and students were asked to walk through on their entry to the school. Searches took place where necessary.
- A police boxing/fitness club to take place at Hartshill School.
- Parking tickets have been issued outside the schools in the area.
- Martin Rone-Clarke the Traveller Liaison Officer for the village introduced himself and explained his position with Warwickshire Police dealing with unauthorised encampments around Warwickshire and developing relationships with families, gathering information, diffusing situations, and working with young offenders. He expressed that Kirby Glebe is currently the largest site in the County.

Questions were welcomed from the public at this time:

- Residents stated that they would like to see anti-social behaviour dealt with properly.
- Residents would like to know if the electricity supply that was illegally tapped into in the site was eventually paid for.
- Residents expressed their concerns and issues they'd been having with anti-social behaviour from residents of the Kirby Glebe site.

The Council agreed not to readdress the topic of the Traveller Site until further information has been received following the Court case in March.

**7. County Highways**

- Gregory Payne the area safety engineer officer from National Highways attended the meeting to discuss the A5 Junction with Woodford Lane.
- The Council expressed their concern about the number of collisions taking place on this junction.
- Mr Payne explained works to the junction in 2016 did result in lower personal injury collisions although during 2020 and the pandemic a change in driver behaviour resulted in an increase in collision on this junction. 2021 statistics have not yet been released.

- The Council raised concerns as to how data is recorded and what it is based on. Incidents requiring a road closure should be considered and recorded as a serious incident. Any accident requiring a road closure should be recorded, not just a fatality.
- The Council also asked Mr Payne to consider how much safer cars are these days and that Highways should consider accidents numbers not just fatalities.
- The Council asked Mr Payne to consider better lighting for Woodford Lane, during the Winter months. They would also like to see the junction better lit with more warning lights and signage for approaching traffic from Atherstone direction and Nuneaton direction.

**8. Accounts for Payment** – payments amounting £12524.63 were approved by the Council. Invoices inspected and approved by Council – Proposed Sharp, Seconded Parker.

**9. Financial Report** - Income received £6850.33 Balances at end of December Current account: £94917.98 & Reserves at: £203933.26

**10. Planning Applications.**

- No applications at this time.

**11. Minutes of last meeting.** – Minutes of meeting Ref: 110122 were signed as a true record. Proposed Pearson, Second. Thomason.

**12. Correspondence**

- Correspondence received from the Head Teacher of Michael Drayton Junior School to explain their plans for a Mardi Gras celebration on the 1<sup>st</sup> March. Schools in the village have been invited to take part and will consist of a parade through the village. A road closure notice is in place for Church Road leading to Castle Rd.
- Steps to the Hayes – Communication received from Marina Kerchum who would like to consider composite material rather than wood for the replacement steps. She hopes that Warwickshire County Council will give the go ahead to fund the additional cost. Cllr Roberts proposed that in the case of WCC not being able to fund the additional cos that the Parish Council will agree to fund it as the composite material is a much longer lasting material. Council in agreement – resolved.

**13. Estate**

- **Community Centre** – Fire extinguisher service took place. A lot of them out of date and needed replacing so initial quote was a lot more than expected
- **Cemetery** – Electric to be installed last week in Feb.
- **Library** – None
- **Snowhill Recreation Ground** – Cllr Roberts would like the Council to consider installing extra lighting columns in the recreation ground as currently the area is very dark at night and puts people off walking through. Additional lighting would help people feel safer about walking in the rec at night time. Cllr Roberts has received quotes for the work.  
**Councillors would like to visit the site before making a decision.**

**14. Queens Jubilee**

- The Council agree to fund the Beacon Trail for the village on the Queens Jubilee weekend.
- A Beacon will be purchased for the village – Clerk to contact Country Parks to see about placement on Oldbury Hills in Hartshill Hayes to be lit on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June.
- Cllr Roberts had hoped to arrange a football match at the rec to mark the occasion but there was no interest.
- Cllr Peart explained that her organisation HCEO was arranging an art exhibition of 70 pieces of art to mark the occasion which will be put into a book to preserve them and will be kept at the library. They are also hoping to hold a big jubilee lunch possibly on the Michael Drayton site and an art workshop with James Bennet.

**15. Staff Review**

- Staff reviews to be arranged. Cllr Sharp and Cllr Peart to organise and conduct reviews with Clerk, Groundsman and Caretaker.

**16. Items for next agenda.**

- Road Sign – Cllr Pearson
- Mancetter Road – Mud
- Queens Jubilee
- Hartshill Sign

**Meeting Closed 8.40pm**

**17. Next meeting to take place on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_