

ROCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Rock Parish Council Meeting held in Callow Hill Methodist Hall on **Monday 31st July 2017 commencing at 7.00pm.**

Present: Councillors Christopher Price (Chairman)
Pat Pain Ms Sue Morris
Douglas Godwin Calne Edginton White
Sandra Woodhouse David Nott
Alistair Scott Alan Brooks
Jim Lawson Chris Sankey

In attendance: Mr S Clee Clerk, County Councillor Rebecca Vale & 43 members of the public.

Apologies: Councillor Richard Williams & District Councillor Rod Wilson

1862 Confirmation of the Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held on 26th June 2017 as previously circulated were approved and signed by the Chairman.

1863 Declaration of Interest for a) The Meeting and b) Any Changes to be notified to the Registers of Interests and Gifts & Hospitality;

A) There were none. B) There were none.

1864 Public Participation:

The Chairman introduced the public speaking session and stated 30 minutes was set aside for public contributions relating to items on the agenda or parish matters. Many members of the public came to give their views on the Consultation Document by Wyre Forest District Council on their proposed New Local Plan.

The following concerns were made relating to Far Forest;

- Potential loss of wildlife and harm to the landscape
- Various protected species are located on the proposed development land
- Harm to the Landscape Protection & Hedgerows
- The Primary School at Far Forest cannot accommodate additional pupils
- Concern at the increase of traffic in New Road especially after the last schools review
- Road Safety in and round Cleobury Road & New Road
- No Car Park for Far Forest Church causes problems
- New Lane used as Bus Stop for school children in morning
- Sewerage System in Far Forest is still a major ongoing issue as the upgraded system cannot cope with the current dwellings

The following concerns were made relating to Clows Top travelling show people proposals;

- Concern that there has been no discussions between WFDC & Malvern Hills District Council relating to the Clows Top proposals
- Holding a Public Meeting at Clows Top to explain the proposals to residents
- No Mains Sewerage System at Clows Top
- Road Safety at Clows Top Cross Roads
- Nothing has changed since the previous rejection of Clows Top for travelling show people

Ms Melanie Holt addressed Council and asked for consideration to be given to her clients request to add a section of field along Rectory Lane into the Local Plan proposals for consideration. The Chairman thanked her for her contribution and suggested she present her proposals to WFDC during the current public consultation process.

The Chairman thanked everybody for their contributions to the meeting. He stated the Local Development Plan was a District Council Document and that Drop in Sessions were arranged by the WFDC so residents could view the plans and give their views on the proposals. He encouraged all residents to feed back their concerns to the WFDC.

1865 Planning Matters:

015 17/0406/FULL. Application for Storm porch to rear elevation & replace existing windows & doors with PVC at Grove End, Rock.

RESOLVED to support this application.

016 17/0435/FULL. Replacement Ancillary Buildings at Haymit, Worcester Road, Clows Top.

RESOLVED to support this application provided the Ancillary Building is not separated from the main dwelling and sold separately.

017 17/0436/FULL. Erection of a sunroom at Oakwood Barn, Dunley Road, Heightington.

RESOLVED to support this application.

018 17/446/FULL. Use of land for keeping of horses and erection of stable block at GLADDERBROOK FARM, HEIGHTINGTON,

RESOLVED to support this application.

1866 Update Sheet

There was none.

1867 County & District Councillor's Report

County Councillor Rebecca Vale stated the Highways Manager Mr Alex Clarke Ellson who had taken over from Mr David Hunter was on long term sick leave at the moment. She stated earlier today she had met with the New CABINET Member for Highways in Welsh Gate to look at the congestion problems and air quality issues and some solutions to the problem were being drawn up.

1868 Parish Magazine

Councillor Christine Sankey to write tonight's report for the Parish Magazine and Councillor Jim Lawson in September.

1869 Apprenticeship Scheme

Councillor Alan Brooks presented a paper on the current scheme we were operating. He had spoken to Kidderminster College and they were keen to find a new Apprentice when the current trainee completes her course in March 2018.

The Council RESOLVED to endorse the revised apprenticeship working paper.

1870 Bliss Gate Telephone Kiosk Defibrillators within the Parish

The Clerk advised council he had purchased the Kiosk at Bliss Gate in 2016. It was considered a good location to house a defibrillator. However over the past few weeks vandals have caused considerable damage to the kiosk and the windows and local neighbours had requested the Kiosk be moved from their boundary wall and fencing. After discussions it was agreed the kiosk would not be appropriate to house a defibrillator and the project would not proceed.

1871 Wyre Forest District Council – Local Plan Review Consultation

The Clerk presented an overview of the District Councils proposals for the District at large and included the proposals for Rock Parish. There were two options in the Consultation Document Option A & Option B. Option A considered a large expansion on the Eastern Side of Kidderminster with extensions adjoining the Spennells, Comberton and Offmore Estates.

Within Option A it was noted there was an Infrastructure Plan to accommodate a new Road between the A449 Worcester Road & A456 Birmingham Road. Together with a New Three Form Entry Primary School to accommodate the proposed growth.

Within Option B, several fields within the Green Belt on the Eastern Side of Kidderminster were removed and the proposed development was dispersed between Bewdley & Stourport on Severn.

Both options included key core sites but option B added additional development into Far Forest. The Travelling Show People proposals were also considered and after a full discussion and debate Council RESOLVED to support Option A and feed all the concerns raised earlier by local residents into our response.

Council further RESOLVED to support our previous objections to the Travelling Show People at Clows Top for exactly the same reasons as before namely;

It is an inappropriate location for Travelling Show People because: Lack of Transport Links, No Provisions at Local Schools, Noise and Nuisance, Accessibility, Road Safety, No Mains Sewerage, Electricity Supply problems, Visual scene, Security issues and Devaluation of Property Values.

1872 West Mercia Consultation on Hereford & Worcester Fire & Rescue Merger

The Chairman presented a report on the consultation relating to West Mercia possible merger with Hereford & Worcester Fire & Rescue Services. Following a debate and discussions it was RESOLVED to support the objections to the merger as outlined in the Chairman's report.

1873 Accounts for Payment

- a) Accounts amounting to £737.45 were approved for payment as recorded on the payments spreadsheet.
- b) Council noted the income & expenditure sheets to date.

1874 Date of the next Meeting

There being no other business the meeting ended at 21.45pm. It was noted the date of the next meeting would be held on Monday 25th September 2017.

Chairman.....
25th September 2017