

# Beaudesert & Henley in Arden Joint Parish Council



179 High Street, Henley in Arden, B95 5BA

## Minutes of the meeting of the Beaudesert & Henley in Arden JPC, held online Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021

**Present:** Cllrs E Field [Chair] A Okey, J Kingsnorth, J Jones, K Easton, G White, J Clarke & T Woods

**In Attendance:** The Parish Clerk, Ray Evans, and Mr D Tomlinson [Advisor to the JPC Planning Committee] Mr Robin Rumbles [NDP Rep]

### Public Question Time

Public Bodies (admissions to meetings) Act 1960 s 1 extended by the LG Act 1972 s 100. There was one member of the public in attendance.

## Numbered Minutes

### 21/001 Acceptance of apologies for absence

Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a record to be kept of the members present and that this record form part of the minutes of the meeting. Members who cannot attend a meeting should tender apologies to the Parish Clerk as it is usual for the grounds upon which apologies are tendered also to be recorded. Under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence are accepted.

**Resolved:** All members were present barring Mrs M Bainbridge. The Chair sadly announced that said councillor had tendered her resignation and that it had been accepted by the Chair on behalf of the full council.

### 21/002 Dispensations

**Resolved:** None were received.

(Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012/1464) (NB this does not preclude any later declarations).

### 21/003 Declarations of Interest

A declaration of interest was made by Cllr K Easton in respect of item 11.00 of the agenda. Cllr Easton mentioned her father was applying for membership under this item of the agenda.

**21/004 To receive and sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March 2021 (Signed off on the 12<sup>th</sup>, in the absence of 2020 Parish Assembly Meeting being held) LGA 1972 Sch 12 para 41(1)**

### 21/005

**Payments LGA 1972 s150 (5)**

**Resolved:** Reviewed and approved items of expenditure following, motion to make payments to all was proposed by Cllr J Kingsnorth, seconded by Cllr K Easton, and carried unanimously by all members present at the meeting.

<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Brief Description</b>	<b>Resolution</b>	<b>Cost [Gross]</b>
Creative Touch	Shelter Signage	17.08.20 [Item 13]	£1,064.00
Creative Touch	Play Area Signage	17.08.20 [Item 13]	£96.00
WALC	Annual Subs	Mandatory	£874.80
Art Attack	Town Website	WCC Funding	£1,000.00

**21/006** Chair requested that Item 10.00 [NDP] be brought to this point in the meeting so that Mr Robin Rumbles may present a report on the progress made on the final submission of the document. All members agreed. Mr Rumbles reported that all the feedback from all stakeholders had been embraced in the update, *excepting* car parks. He reiterated on the fact that there were no longer any plans for a combined car park strategy and that only the Croft car park had been adopted by the JPC. The Clerk updated all on the present stance of the JPC, that the north car park was a separate entity owned and run by others, and that he was keeping a watching brief on the Prince Harry car park, as SDC had declared they were not moving towards any upgrade or charging policy for the short to medium period. Plans by the JPC for charging at the Croft, either by residents permits and/or parking fees for shoppers, had **not been finalised** and would be the matter of a public consultation when a coherent plan was in place<sup>\*\*\*</sup>. Mr Rumbles appeared satisfied that he could now finalise this last submission. Cllr Clarke expressed doubts that even if SDC accepted and adopted the NDP provided by Henley, would they *actually* support the needs expressed in the plan. Mr Rumbles agreed that this was to be seen. He referenced the need for traffic calming and stressed that enforcement would be the only effective means of managing the problem. All agreed that the matter should be followed up robustly when the SDC have reached a decision. **\*\*\* A full update and presentation of logistics and costs for the Croft Project would be provided by Cllr Greg White on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May next.**

### **21/007 Annual VAT Claim**

The Clerk confirmed that he had actioned a VAT reclaim for £10,792.33. The Clerk went on to explain that the accounts for 2020/2021 would be formally presented for acceptance at the Annual Meeting. Cllr Okey raised the question of reserves and was advised that these were listed on the balance sheet which had been copied to all. Cllr Kingsnorth clarified the matter of reserves – that they are an accumulation of income in excess of expenditure, she went on to say that as a council, you are able to earmark reserves equal to a full years' precept, so that in the event of not being awarded the precept, the council could continue to function. The council can choose to spend the reserves on specific projects or at least be assured, that the reserves if required, will support planned projects, otherwise they may be carried forward. Cllr Okey asked what value the reserves stood at. The Clerk read out the figures from the balance sheet, amounting to just under £77,000.00. Approximately 67% of the JPC precept. The Clerk added that a national average for all parish councils ran at between 3 months and 12 months of the precept value, and that 67% was a comfortable position to be in.

### **21/008 Task Leaders Announcements**

Cllr Woods mentioned that her report had not been published and had been sent to the Clerk in good time. The Clerk apologised, Cllr Woods accepted the apology and said that there was not any items of the report that were in need of a decision by full council.

A brief summary by Cllr Okey on the information she had placed before the council in the matter of planting in areas around Henley. [Refer to supporting documents on website]. The Clerk requested that Cllr Okey might present the matter, along with the supporting rationale and costs for consideration by the full council, and that he would add the item to the agenda for the Ordinary Meeting on Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> of May. Cllr Clarke updated council on his progress and that he would be working with the Clerk to produce a full page statement for publication in the May edition of the Henley Focus, informing the community of the present state of affairs.

### **21/009 Chair's Announcements**

Chair mentioned that she was minded to go forward with the Council Foundation Award, organised by NALC, costs amounting to no more than **£100.00**, and asked that this matter be placed on the agenda for the meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May for a forward decision.

### **21/0010 Clerk's Announcements**

#### **Henley Sports Working Party Update.**

*The Clerk reported that progress was at a pace and that it was clear that two sites were under serious consideration, this included the High School site for the 3/4G pitch etc, and the ARC for a social/gym/sports hall. Logistical and financial information would be presented at the next working party meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May next. Cllr Clarke asked that it may be prudent to include a representative from the Henley Cricket Club, the Clerk said he would contact the appropriate person at the club. No statement will be made to the community until a viable and coherent plan could be delivered.*

### **21/0011 Annual Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 Items for the agenda.**

*The Clerk reiterated on the importance of this meeting and explained to new members that this was where the election of the Chair, Vice Chair and committees were undertaken and that regard to policies and accounts would also be tabled in readiness for the annual return {AGAR}.*

### **21/0012 Flagpole**

*The Clerk said he had useful talks with SDC [Robert Weeks & Stuart Flaherty] and that a variation [Form 73] application had been lodged and that he would report further on the matter when comments were in hand. Cllr White mentioned that he had spoken with EH Smith, and that they were happy for the JPC to use their property for flagpole storage purposes.*

### **21/0013 Internal Audit**

*The Clerk mentioned that he was in possession of the IA report, prepared by Mr Bob Morgan, which covered a wide ranging set of comments and that this would be placed on the agenda for the Annual Meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> for discussion and adoption.*

### **21/0014 NDP Update [Moved Forward]**

### **21/0015 The Matter of Co-opted Members**

Mr Gerry Easton made his representation for wanting to join the JPC. It was the need to put something back into Henley he had been a resident for 37 years and that he felt that it was time for him to contribute, that he was weary of hearing folk complaining about certain issues without stepping forward to help. He answered a small number of questions from members. The Clerk summarised by saying he would forward a declaration of acceptance of office and statement of interests which would be formally executed at the Annual Meeting. He thanked Mr Easton for offering himself as a co-opted member.

### **21/0016 Planning**

The following applications were considered by the JPC Planning Committee, under the acting Chair, Cllr E Field. The responses in brief indicated in the following. We advise all to go to the SDC Planning Portal for the full outcome of each decision.

**21/00947/TREE** 243 High Street – ***Delegated to the Clerk to respond.***

**21/00079/FUL** Wasps **Resolved:** A proposal to lodge a decision of **No Objection** was proposed by Cllr J Kingsnorth, seconded by Cllr G White, and carried in favour unanimously by all members present.

**21/00843/FUL** Barons Retreat 21 April. **Resolved:** A proposal to lodge a decision of **Objection**, was proposed by Cllr Okey, based on the fact that the proposed development would not follow the vernacular of the adjacent properties and that the design was not sympathetic to the style of the original buildings, seconded by Cllr J Kingsnorth, and carried in favour unanimously by all members present.

**21/00073/FUL** 1 The Yew Trees 20th April

**21/00074/LBC** 1 The Yew Trees 20th April

Both applications **Resolved**, the proposal to lodge a decision of **No Representation** was proposed by Cllr Okey, seconded by Cllr White, and carried in favour unanimously by all members present.

**21 /00728/FUL** 64 Brook End Drive - **Resolved:** A proposal to lodge a decision of **Support** was proposed by Cllr Okey as it was a modern improvement of an outdated house, seconded by Cllr G White and carried in favour unanimously by all members present

**21/01054/TREE** 275 High Street - ***Delegated to the Clerk to respond.***

**21/01121/TREE** Cloisters Beaudesert Lane - ***Delegated to the Clerk to respond.***

**21/00884/FUL** 14 Fieldhouse Close NOT ON SDC PORTAL, the Clerk will report to SDC for clarification. No decision made.

**21/01052/TREE** 277 High Street - *Delegated to the Clerk to respond.*

**21/01156/TPO** 9 Ashbury Court - *Delegated to the Clerk to respond.*

**21/00895/FUL** Beaudesert Cottage NOT ON SDC PORTAL, the Clerk will report to SDC for clarification. No decision made.

**21/0017 Date of the next meeting**

**Tuesday the 4<sup>th</sup> of May** at 7.00pm, is the date of the **Annual Parish Meeting**. A pivotal meeting where elections may take place, please take the trouble to ensure that the full body council are present.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

