



BEAUDESERT & HENLEY IN ARDEN JOINT PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES FOR ORDINARY JOINT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 8TH 2024

The Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of the Beaudesert and Henley in Arden JPC took place on Monday the 8th of January 2024 at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall, Henley in Arden.

Present: Cllrs Andrews [Chair] Turner, Brady, Tomlinson, Clark, McCaskie and Broadbent. Cllr Rice SDC.

In Attendance: A resident seeking co-option, the Clerk to the Council and 18 members of the public.

MAIN TOPICS:

Allotment Fees

Planning Applications

Green Spaces & Town Upkeep Strategy

Henley Fire and Rescue Update

High Street Entrance Gates and Planters

Sports Facility Update

Public Participation Session

Chair asked if there were any issues which members of the public wished to raise. A resident raised the issue of lighting at the Croft car park reporting that one or two were not working and needed replacing, he further suggested that ALL of the lamps be replaced in one go for best economy. The Chair instructed the Clerk to seek a quotation from the local electrician DCE, for this work. In addition, the resident asked that ivy on one of the other lamps be removed as soon as possible, the Chair promised that Colin Harrison would attend to this work. A resident raised the perennial problem of parking on yellow lines adjacent to the Co-op and asked what take up was evident for short stay on the Croft. The Clerk quoted approximate figures amounting to about 25 – 30 stays at 50p per week. A lively discussion ensued, and the Chair promised that further investigation, particularly the law applicable to parking on yellow lines will be discussed amongst members and reported to residents in due course, that discussions with Napier Parking were imminent and that a review would take place. The Clerk will report back to all at the next meeting.

The co-opting of a new member of the JPC.

The Clerk introduced Ms. Christine Rouse and asked her to address the assembly. She spoke of her desire to help in the safeguarding and upkeep of the dual parishes, there were no questions raised and the Clerk duly asked the candidate to sign a declaration of acceptance on becoming a member, which he duly witnessed, the Clerk invited her to join the other members as a lawful councillor to debate the business on the agenda. The Clerk reminded Cllr Rouse that she had a short time in which to return her declarations of interest to him. The Clerk has since lodged the Ms. Rouse's said declarations with SDC. The Chair wished Cllr Rouse every success as a new member of the JPC.

1. Apologies for Absence
M1. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Okey
2. Declarations of Interest
M2. There were no declarations made.
3. Acceptance of Minutes of the last Meeting [04.12.2023]
M3. It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 4th of December 2023, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair. This motion was proposed by the Chair and carried unanimously by all those present at the meeting.



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4. County & District Reports

M4. Cllr Rice reiterated in the main items on his report which can be found on the JOC website. He mad a point about the SDC Cabinet being asked to debate the nature of the BUDGET and that their proposals will be a matter of a public consultation, he urged all to take time to look at the proposals which he said, would culminate in an increase of just under 3% borne by ratepayers. He also highlighted the measures by SDC to use hydrogenated vegetable oils to power their refuse collection fleet.

5. Payments made since last meeting which were NOT listed for consideration

NB: All items are either ongoing direct debits agreed by full Council or, payments made, following a majority vote by balloted members on the JPC Slack platform.

| Creditor | Gross | Net | Provision |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|
| Orbit Housing | 56.03 | 46.69 | Garage rental |
| Cllr Okey | 164.35 | 164.35 | Reimbursement for refreshments*** |
| Slack Communications | 75.60 | 63.00 | Hosting charges |
| JP Vale | 90.00 | 75.00 | Strimming nature plot Littleworth |
| Value Productions Ltd | 101.40 | 84.50 | Bike rack [Barclays Bank] |
| Redcurrent Limited | 492.00 | 410.00 | Grant funding - Henley Climate Group |
| SDC | 200.00 | 200.00 | Elections May 23 cost for 2 Wards |

*** JPC Ordinary Meeting 4th December - refreshments following closure of session.

6. Creditors payments for consideration by Members

| Creditor | Gross | Net | Provision |
|--------------------|-------|-------|-----------------|
| R Adams [21.12.23] | 46.80 | 39.00 | Sand and cement |
| R Adams [31.12.23] | 14.40 | 12.00 | Ballast |

7. Income received since last meeting

| Debtor | Gross | Net | Provision |
|----------------|----------|----------|---------------------------------------|
| Lloyds Bank | 123.41 | 123.41 | Interest on Deposit Account |
| Lloyds Bank | 69.80 | 69.80 | Interest on Reserves Account |
| Napier Parking | 1,059.18 | 1,059.18 | Croft Tariff Charges |
| SDC | 362.59 | 362.59 | Reimbursement for grass cutting [CIL] |

M5, 6 & 7

The Chair asked if all members had inspected the data for finance listed in the agenda and published on the official website. It was **RESOLVED** the data was approved unanimously by all members.

8. Banking

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Lloyds Bank Deposit Account Balance at 31.12.2023 | £104,000.00 |
| Lloyds Bank Reserves Account Balance at 31.12.2023 | £61,800.49 |
| Lloyds Bank Current Account Balance at 31.12.2023 | £1,419.96 |

M8. Chair asked the assembled members to take note of the financial status and comment. RESOLVED there were no issues raised with the banking statements to 31.12.2023

9. Flood Prevention Working Party

M9. Cllr Turner updated members and the public on the actions in hand by the group. Here is a summary of his report.



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- Team A met before Christmas. Cllr Shenton and Rice were present as well as two of Henley residents.
- A range of topics were discussed including identifying flood risk locations and inspection of drains particularly on the High Street.
- The county council attempted to jet wash the whole system in November, but further issues were raised. We have been informed that the whole drainage system will be camera surveyed and any issues identified will be identified and repaired.
- There was another flash flood on the 29th of December affecting the north end of the High Street. A combination of heavy wind and intense rainfall.
- Team A intent to review the drains at this sight
- Team B - Colin is looking into four sites to store sandbags
- A member of the team and I met with the environment agency and Warwickshire wildlife trust today. We will feedback in due course.

Cllr Turner's report was followed by a short debate regarding the possibilities of diverting flood water using barriers and the spokesperson for the Flood Prevention WP said that further investigation is needed. The matter remains ongoing.

Clerk's Note: Two tons of sand have been delivered to a site on the St Nicholas car park, rear of the hall and CH will be bagging up sixty or so sacks for distribution to all residents as well as two or three other strategic sites around the town.

10. Allotment Fees 2024-2025

The Clerk will call on members to resolve charges for plots for the new season

M10. The Clerk requested that all members provide urgent consideration for the review of, and if appropriate, the adjustment of allotment fees. **RESOLVED** the full council voted in favour of no changes, i.e. large plots £50.00, small plots £25.00 plus a couple of hybrid sites, charges to be agreed. The Clerk reported that all plots had now been allocated due to folk giving up plots and that the waiting list is now much reduced.

11. Members to Consider Planning Applications/Update on Progress of NDP

M11. Cllr Clark [Chair of Planning and Development Committee] explained that their objective was to review all applications thoroughly and that if apps were received too late for the scheduled meeting, an inspection would be organised in the interim period to ensure that an opinion was lodged with SDC on or before the due date for submission. He asked Cllr Tomlinson to report on the three cases listed and the results are indicated below, further details of all can be found on the SDC website - <https://apps.stratford.gov.uk/eplanning/>

Cllr Clarke then updated all on the progress of the NDP and that the Regulation 16 submission was now the subject of scrutiny by the appointed examiner, updates on progress will be posted on <https://www.henley-in-arden-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>

Finally, he reported to all that following a request placed with SDC reiterating the JPC's concerns that any development whether large or small **MUST** be supported by the appropriate infrastructure and that he was pleased to have received full confirmation from the portfolio holder, Mr. George Cowcher that this would be emphasised in his address to the cabinet who will be debating the SWES. He asked all assembled to join with the JPC in keeping up the momentum until the NDP was made in spring 2024.



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| App Ref | Address | Works |
|--------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| 23/03238/LDP | 15 Arden Road, B95 5LE | OBJECTION |
| 23/03263/FUL | 15 Rose Avenue, B95 5JR | NO OBJECTION |
| 23/02500/LBC | Bradford House, High St, B95 5AU | NO OBJECTION |

12. High Street Entrance Gates and Signage

Following a site meeting with the stakeholders prior to the ordinary meeting, the Clerk will present the members with a list of actions thought necessary for consideration and, if appropriate, seek a vote from members to proceed with such and the preparation of a budget to cover any costs for approval at the next meeting.

M12. The Chair updated all on the progress of the Gates and Planters at the four entrances/exits to the town. That a meeting had taken place with the stakeholders, namely The Mount and Earlswood Nurseries, and with Cllr. Ian Shenton, WCC, and that all eight sites will now be provided with appropriate groundworks and planters thus improving the aspects visitors will see as they enter the town. The Clerk advised all that further markings associated with the 20MPH adoption were in hand and, as soon as the weather improved, WCC will provide repeaters and roundels along the whole of the High Street. A resident enquired on the cost of these works and the Clerk explained that most of the work was accounted for by the monies provided on a matched funding campaign [£23K] supported by The Mount and WCC, that the planters were gifted free by Earlswood Nurseries, and that the JPC would, if appropriate, fund Henley in Bloom to plant-up and maintain all of the planters during the coming summer season.

13. Draft Budget and Precept Demand 2023/24

Postponed due to illness affecting the Finance Working Party, a separate report will be issued in due course.

M13. Chair explained that the JPC Finance WP will meet when convenient following absence through illness.

14. Members Urgent Business Matters

Chair will enquire whether members have any urgent business to bring to the attention of the assembly.

M14. Prompted by the Chair, the Clerk raised the matter of audio equipment to improve reception at the meetings. She asked the Clerk to raise a second quote, insisting that costs must not exceed £1,500.00 the figure quoted by a supplier. RESOLVED, the full Council voted in favour of obtaining a second offer.

15. Chairs Report

15.1 Chair will update assembled on the attendance of the County Council Portfolio Holder, Andy Crump, The Chief Fire Officer, Ben Brook and the Leader of WCC, Isobel Seccombe at the next Ordinary Meeting of the JPC on **Monday the 5th of February.**

M15.1 & M15.3 The Chair emphasised the importance of taking part in the public consultation in motion by WCC and updated all that Isobel Seccombe will not be attending the meeting on the 5th of February next. She is passionate about a fair and just outcome for the F&RS in Henley. She reiterated that Mr. Philip Seccombe, Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner, would be attending one of the meetings in March or April 2024, where residents can raise such issues as enforcement of the 20MPH and parking on double yellow lines.



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15.2 Chair will address members on the importance of communication through the Slack Platform.

M15.2 The Chair urged all members to be proactive on this platform in order that all were fully acquainted with the business in hand, she said that she would invite Cllr Rouse to join the platform.

15.3 Chair will raise the matter of the attendance of Philip Seccombe, Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner, to either the **March or April Ordinary Meetings**, so that due publicity can be provided for the community.

M15.3 covered under Item M15.1 above.

15.4 Chair will provide a definition for the support to Town Upkeep and Green Spaces Strategies and the distribution of duties between the Town Handyman and the PayBack Team and selected contractors. In particular plans for sand bags and grit filling of JPC bins. She will also ask that the Clerk provides for the supply of sand and grit and a distribution point for filled sand bags at the rear of St Nicholas Church Hall, Beaudesert Lane.

Sand is supplied by R Adams & Sons, grit/salt see supporting documents [SD]

<https://www.henley-in-arden-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/grit-salt-bulkbags.pdf>

The Clerk was asked to obtain road grit for topping up all the grit bins under their management.

M15.4 see below.

15.5 Chair will raise the matter of the Sports Facility which will make use of accrued and future CILS payments and, in particular, the offer of outreaching from Birmingham City Football Club, for support in the community, based on their recent lease acquisition at the old Warks Colleges site.

M15.4 Please refer to Minute M9. above for further information.

Chair called on Cllr Brady to update all on any progress on the use of the CILS payment for the furtherance of a sports facility project In Henley. Cllr. Brady said that until SDC provides the potential for funding through the Playing Pitch Strategy, there can be no progress. Cllr Brady reminded all that Birmingham City Football Club had made offer to HWMT to provide a pitch upkeep service free of charge commencing February this year. The Chair noted Cllr Brady's remarks and the Clark will pursue this with Cllr Rice.

Clerk's Note: The JPC has just been informed that the PPS is on schedule for completion by the end of 2024.

16. Clerk's Report

16.1

The Clerk will propose that the three notice boards presently situated in **Arden Road, Beaudesert Lane** and the **High Street**, be given over to community associations for the benefit of publicity on their planned events and that the JPC provide a prominent [Conspicuous] weatherproof noticeboard sited centrally in the town. If agreed, the Clerk will provide costs at the next meeting.

M16.1 Following a brief discussion the full council were happy for the boards to be gifted to the community and that a SINGLE new board, dedicated to JPC business only be erected in a conspicuous place in the town centre.

16.2

The Clerk will recommend that the members give urgent consideration to a highly competitive offer made by Sound Services for a PA sound system in response to public requests for better audibility at meetings. The cost for this equipment will not exceed **£1,500.00** excluding VAT.

M16.2 Please see Item M14.



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M16.3 [Not on the agenda] Mr. Graham Smith asked the Clerk to raise the matter of screening erected at the A3400 roadside perimeter of the Birmingham City Football Club taring ground, Mr. Smith said that he had approached the club and been told that permission had been given by the Parish Council. The Clerk confirmed that this was not the case and the Chair asked that the Clerk approach the club for an explanation and report back at the next meeting.

17. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Monday the 5th of February at the Memorial Hall starting at 7.00pm, if there are a substantial number of planning applications or a highly controversial request, a separate Planning Meeting will be convened at 6.30pm.

Signed

Date.....

DRAFT