

LAPWORTH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LAPWORTH PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT
7.30PM ON MONDAY 14th APRIL 2008 AT LAPWORTH VILLAGE HALL

Present: Chairman Cllr Mrs Francis, Cllr Corney, Cllr Mrs Fox, Cllr Mrs Lester, Cllr Lewis, Cllr Henderson, Cllr Polgreen, Cllr Mrs Toogood, C. Cllr Mrs Compton,

1. **APOLOGIES**

D Cllr Caborn, Cllr Cox

3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

Due to the high number of members of the public present to discuss item 9.2 Dick's Lane Canal Bridge Lapworth (Prohibition of Vehicles) Variation Order 2008 the public participation session was brought forward.

With over 40 members of the public present the Parish Council heard strong representations from local residents and a representative from British Waterways opposed to the variation of the Prohibition of Vehicles order relating to Dick's Lane. Objections focused on the fact that the use of Dick's Lane by motorbikes could adversely impact on the ability of horseriders and pedestrians to use the lane safely; there are very few bridleways where horses can be ridden safely; the limit of 60 mph and mixed traffic could result in greater accidents in a location where access for emergency services would be difficult; the increased traffic would cause greater erosion and deterioration of a grade 2 listed bridge and ancient carriageway; the use of motorbikes would harm the natural habitat for birds and wildlife in a very good rural environment as well as impacting on the neighbouring fields which were largely occupied by horses whose only access is on to the lane.

A representative from the Trial Riders Fellowship (TRF) was present to support the variation order. He advised that he had ridden his motorbike at equestrian events in Warwickshire for over 30 years and could provide letters of commendation from a number of British riding clubs. He advised that the TRF would support the local community in taking action against illegal riders.

Reports were made of Dick's Lane already being used illegally and Councillor Mrs Compton advised that these should be reported to the police.

Any enquiries relating to the proposal may be made to Annemarie Grace, Countryside Recreation (tel 01926 413426).

Objections to the proposals, which must be in writing and must specify the grounds on which they are made, must be sent so as to be received by 25th April 2008 to D G Carter, Strategic Director of Performance and Development, Shire Hall, Warwick, CV34 4SX.

Councillor Mrs Compton advised that individual letters would carry more weight than a petition, that the decision would be made by Warwick Area Committee in July or September and that members of the public were invited to attend the Area Committee meetings to put forward their views.

On another matter Gerald Tanner, Pastor of the Lees Chapel advised that his congregation wished to do something to support the community and asked the Parish Council's views about the congregation washing all the local road signs, on May 10th. He also asked whether there were any other suggestions that the Parish Council might make for the congregation to support the local area. The Parish Council welcomed the offer and suggested at the same time an inventory could be carried out of signposts needing attention.

It was agreed to check with Peter Hallam, of the County Council, that this was kind offer would not contravene any health and safety aspects.

Clerk to action

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared relating to matters included on the agenda.

2.1 PHILIP CLARKE – WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL CORE STRATEGY

Representing the District Council Philip Clarke gave a very interesting presentation regarding the Core Strategy that looked at options for meeting the requirement of the Planning Policy set by the West Midlands Regional Assembly. The District Council was currently tasked with building 8,150 new homes and identifying 15 additional hectares of land for employment purposes. However, there was no guarantee this would not increase and it would necessitate building on Greenfield sites.

Of the five options identified by the District Council four concentrated growth around urban areas and a fifth dispersed growth across the districts including within the villages.

Further consultation would take place prior to a preferred option being set out for public consultation.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting of 10th March 2008, having been circulated were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a. Nomination for Honours – it was agreed to defer this item

6. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Warwickshire's Calor Village of the Year Competition 2008 in circulation box
- b. Lapworth Cricket Club Fun Day 13th July 2008 support the event would be on an individual basis rather than as the collective Parish Council.

- c. Community Sustainable Energy Grant Programme – details passed to the Village Hall Committee.

7. **PUBLICATIONS**

Circulation Box

8. **WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL**

- a. **Planning Agenda 9th April** – in circulation box

- b. **Warwick District Flooding Scrutiny Group** – The Parish Council considered and answered the following questions.

- What role do you play in a flooding emergency?
Keep emergency plan up to date, provide sandbags.
- What problems have you identified from last year's flooding?
Flooding in the Parish is largely due to blocked drains and culverts.
- Were there any lessons to be learnt?
Blocked drains need to be attended to when reported.

Clerk to feedback

- c. **Seminar regarding the new Code of Conduct** and dispensation to attend meetings, be held for District, Parish and Town Councillors, to be held on 17 April 2008, between 6.00 pm and 8.00 pm at the Town Hall, Parade, Royal Leamington Spa

Councillor Mrs Toogood and Clerk to attend

9. **WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

- a. **Dick's Lane Canal Bridge Lapworth (Prohibition of Vehicles) Variation Order 2008**

Having considered the overwhelming opposition of local residents to the proposal to allow motorbikes to use Dick's Lane the Parish Council resolved object on the following grounds:

- unprecedented and overwhelming local opposition to the proposal;
- the use of Dick's Lane by motorbikes could adversely impact on the ability of horseriders and pedestrians to use the lane safely;
- there are very few bridleways where horses can be ridden safely whilst the motorcycling community already has a far wider range of options and there has been a large increase horses being ridden in this area;
- the limit of 60 mph and mixed traffic usage could result in greater accidents in a location where access for emergency services would be difficult;
- the increased traffic would cause greater erosion and deterioration of a grade 2 listed bridge and ancient carriageway which dates back to Roman times;
- the use of motorbikes would harm the natural habitat for birds and wildlife in a very good rural environment, as well as impacting on the neighbouring fields which were largely occupied by horses whose only access is on to the lane;
- concern that this could result in Dick's Lane becoming part of a 'loop' followed by motorcyclists; and
- whilst the Parish Council appreciated that members of the TRF may consider horse riders this Traffic Variation Order would enable

Dick's Lane to be used by others who may not adopt the same standards.

Clerk to respond

10. **WARWICKSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS**
No items
11. **LAPWORTH VILLAGE HALL**
 - a. **Gardenwork** – the flower beds on one side of the Village Hall had been attended to. It was also stated that the bed near the Oaks needed preparing for seeding for grass.
 - b. **Shrubbery the Oaks**
Councillor Mrs Francis and Councillor Mrs Toogood undertook spend some time and to try and bring some order back to the shrubbery.
Councillors Mrs Francis and Toogood
 - c. **Youth club** – the storage container had arrived and would be permanently located once the grass dried out to enable it to be moved.
12. **SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS**
Councillor Corney had attended a meeting of the Safer Neighbourhoods on 12th March. The meeting had been satisfactory with Inspector Woodcote in attendance. Principal items remained the behaviour of some youths, speeding and parking issues. It seemed likely that Lapworth would get a dedicated PCSO in the near future.
13. **ROADS & PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY - General highway issues**
 - a. **Old Warwick Road – Speed Limit Review**
The Parish Council welcomed the County Council's proposals to extend the 30mph zone to 50 meters past the Boot and then have a 40mph limit to Hockley Heath. Councillor Mrs Compton advised this proposal would be considered by the Area Meeting of 6th May. Costs of the proposals (including a flashing sign) would be met by the County Council and were likely to be in the region of £22,500.
 - b. **Bushwood Lane – flooding and hedges**
Councillor Mrs Compton undertook to advise the County Council of these problems. **Councillor Mrs Compton to advise**
 - c. **Temporary Speed Limits B4439 Old Warwick Road, Lapworth**
A temporary speed limit of 10mph would be put in place for approximately 5 days between May and September in connection with convoy working whilst surface dressing is carried out on the carriageway between Wharf Lane and the County boundary.
 - d. **W191 footpath (Punchbowl to Knowle)**
Councillor Polgreen to check signage
Councillor Polgreen to action
14. **LAPWORTH RECREATION SITES**
 - a. **Canal Picnic Site**
Councillor Mrs Francis had got a quote of £475 for two solid and robust barbeques to be concreted in at the Canal Picnic site. The Parish Council

resolved to buy the barbeques subject to this being acceptable to the District Council and British Waterway. **Clerk to check**

British Waterways were considering relocating the plaque to Len Wall next to the British Waterways office.

b. Toilets

These were now opened and being cleaned on a daily basis.

Councillor Henderson declared an interest in Planning Application W08/0381 LB

Councillors Henderson, Polgreen and Corney left the meeting.

15. PLANNING

a. Documents for circulation/items for discussion

The Cottage, Lapworth Street Concern had been expressed by a local resident about the Planning Application for the Cottage, Lapworth Street. The concerns reflected those expressed by the Parish Council on 10th March. Councillor Mrs Francis undertook to discuss the concerns with the resident. **Councillor Mrs Francis to progress**

Consultation on the Planning Application Local validation list (in circulation box)

b. Planning applications for consideration, together with any other applications or planning matters that may be received prior to date of meeting:

W08/0351	Two storey extension to rear of property Meadow Hill Farm, Lapworth Street, Bushwood
	OBJECTION on the grounds that the development style should be in keeping with ancient building
W08/0379 W08/0381 LB	Conversion of attic space to accommodation, bedroom, dressing room and bathroom Mountford Farm, Church Lane, Lapworth
	OBJECTION proposed dormer and new windows not in keeping with style of ancient listed building
W08/0425	6 no lighting columns to access and 2 no. bollards to site entrance (amended scheme to that refused under W05/1026) Land at Heronbrook House, Bakers Lane, Lapworth
	COMMENT The Parish Council would prefer consistent use of bollards as it does not see a great difference from the original application other than a reduction in the number of lighting columns
W08/0480	Erection of two storey extension to rear Greenacres, Chapel lane, Lapworth
	OBJECTION This is a replacement dwelling that has already been substantially developed

c. Decision Notices

W08/0001	The Chapel, 101 Chapel Lane, Lapworth Change of use from workshop to office B1	Granted
W08/0175	2 Kingswood Close Lapworth Erection of two storey side extension and detached garage	Granted
W08/0196	The Hey Hose, Lapworth Street, Lapworth Erection of two storey entrance hall and detached three car garage	Granted

16. FINANCE

BALANCES as at 14th April 2008

Community Account – statement date 12.3.08	£	5,571.19
Business Premium Account – Statement date 7-12-07	£	611.96
Business Reserve Acct - Statement date 3-3-08	£	11,216.99
National Savings at 8-4-08	£	1,502.34

PAYMENTS TO BE AUTHORISED 14th April 2008

Invoice No	Cheque No	Payee	Amount
	100997	WALC Annual Subscription	£463.00
	100998	Warwickshire Playing Fields Subscription	£15.00
0903	100999	Village Hall Hire 10-3-08	£20.00
	101000	Clerk March Salary, postage & mileage	£471.03
	101000	Employers National Insurance (07-08)	£5.84
	101001	Cleaning Bromehall Toilets 20 th March to 13 th April Litter collection Oct 2007 to 13 th April 08 Cleaning supplies £3.71	£466.71
Total			£1441.58

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 12th May 2008

meeting ended 10.45 pm