

Quinton Parish Council

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 19th October 2021
Quinton Village Hall 7.30 pm

Present: Cllr Robert Spooner (Chairman)

Cllr Andy Gibb

Cllr Abbie Taylor

Cllr Chris Watson

Mrs M Norman (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

Also present: 1 member of the public.

1	Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Edward Fitter, Cllr Paul Milliken, Cllr Andy Smith, Cllr Kathy Clarke and Cllr Izzi Seccombe and were accepted by the Council.
2	Declaration of interests. There were no declarations of interest.
3	Minutes of the previous meeting: The minutes of the meeting on the 7 th July 2021 were agreed as an accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.
4	Questions from the public: A member of the public wished to raise a point about renovations to the duck pond. It was decided to hear comments on this topic during item 6.
5	Neighbourhood Plan: a) Cllr Milliken had previously circulated his update on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan. In it he wrote that the draft plan was now complete apart from some final adjustments to the Appendices to the consultation statement. Avon Planning Consultants had made an essential contribution by helping the Steering Group to finalise the Local Green Spaces documentation, and by drafting the basic conditions statement. b) The Council unanimously resolved to send the draft Plan to Stratford District Council for the purposes of Regulation 16 consultation. c) It was unanimously agreed to dissolve the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group as its work was now complete. The Chairman thanked the Steering Group for its work.

6	<p>Renovations to the pond: A member of the public mentioned that at night, the island on the pond was populated by sleeping ducks who would fall prey to foxes if the island was removed. Cllr Watson said that it was intended to replace the current island with a floating island, capable of accommodating all the ducks. After discussion it was resolved to authorise the expenditure of £580 + VAT in order to remove the island from the duckpond and dispose of the rubble.</p>	
7	<p>Telephone box Upper Quinton: The Council discussed the proposal to install a bookstore in the telephone box in Upper Quinton. As there were already two bookstores, one in the church and the other in the Pavilion, the Council did not feel it necessary to have another. It was resolved to reject the motion.</p>	
8	<p>Repairs to the fencing at the Village Hall: Cllr Taylor informed the Council of the various quotes she had received for repairs to the fencing at the Village Hall. The first option was to replace the damaged panels at a cost of £1,820 plus VAT, though this sum would not include a crank top. The second option would provide for a crank top but the cost would be £9,398 plus VAT. The final option would change the positions of the football goal and the basketball hoop in the hope of preventing further damage to the fence and roof of the village hall. This option would cost £5,242 plus VAT. It was agreed to defer consideration of these and other options until such time as the Council could explore other possibilities for the playing field. They were interested in hearing the views of the young people who used the playground, as well as examining the facilities provided by other Parish Councils.</p>	
9	<p>Proposed Youth Council: Cllr Taylor had arranged a meeting with pupils from Years 5 and 6 of Quinton Primary School. Only four pupils attended but none were interested in taking part in a Youth Council. This being so, Cllr Taylor advised the Council not to pursue the idea. It was generally agreed that there were insufficient leisure or recreational facilities for older children. The facilities at Meon Vale were well used and seemed to be popular with all those who used them. The Council would consider what other schemes it may be able to implement.</p>	
10	<p>Any matters from the Chairman: The Chairman said that he had asked Cllr Seccombe to investigate the problems with the roadworks near St. Swithin's Drive. She reported that the work had not been done to a satisfactory standard and so the developers had been required to make amendments. For safety reasons, WCC had put cones in place. Cllr Seccombe hoped that the work would be complete in two weeks' time. She had also requested updates on the damaged fence and the blocked access on the footpath. No further information had been forthcoming about either of these as yet. The Chairman said that he had heard that the vegetation on either side of the footpath from Meon Vale would now be cut back by Warwickshire County Council. Four more road closures were planned involving Goose Land and Tailor's Lane. Cllr Seccombe agreed that road closures were not acceptable and said that traffic lights should be installed instead. The Chairman also reported that the Pavilion Coffee Shop would be hosting an Open Evening to thank all those who had contributed to its opening, whether through donations of money, food, equipment or voluntary help.</p>	

11	<p>District and County Councillors' reports:</p> <p>The information provided by Cllr Seccombe had been reported by the Chairman under item 10 above. Cllr Fitter had circulated his report to members of the Council. In it he said that he had asked the question about unauthorised attachment of posters to lamp posts and railings in Quinton. He had been told that some posters were permitted, but that the District Council would allow the Parish Council to remove any unauthorised posters as this would be classified as fly posting.</p> <p>Cllr Fitter had also asked about the increased numbers of HGVs in the rural settlements of his ward, which was upsetting to the local rural character. As Policy CS14 states that "the rural character of the District will have to be maintained and enhanced" he asked how this was to be maintained with the increased traffic caused by development. Cllr Parry, who is the Portfolio Holder for Planning, told him that Policy CS14 was in fact designed to limit industrial and business activity in the Vale of Evesham, rather than district wide development, including housing. Planning officers liaised closely with officers from the Local Highway Authority in order to take traffic generation impacts into account when deciding planning applications. The aim was to have an acceptable balance between traffic generation and impact.</p>	
12	<p>Queen's Green Canopy:</p> <p>After discussion it was resolved to plant two trees to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee. It was agreed that these would be planted on the playing field, land owned by the Council. A decision on the type of trees to be planted would be made at a later date.</p>	
13	<p>Royal British Legion:</p> <p>It was unanimously resolved to purchase a wreath to commemorate Remembrance Sunday at a cost of £25.00</p>	
14	<p>Zoom subscription:</p> <p>It was resolved not to renew the Council's annual Zoom subscription.</p>	
15	<p>Harvest Festival:</p> <p>The payment of £28.34 for the Parish Council's contribution to the Harvest Festival was approved by the Council.</p>	
16	<p>External audit:</p> <p>The external audit had been completed by PKF Littlejohn who reported that on the basis of their review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) in their opinion the information in Section 1 and 2 of the AGAR was in accordance with proper practices and no other matters had come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met.</p>	
17	<p>Campden Road Focus Group:</p> <p>Cllr Watson said that an online meeting had taken place between representatives from Marston Sicca, Quinton and Clifford Chambers Parish Councils. Because of the imminent planning application from All Things Wild in the Clifford Chambers parish, it was agreed to support the Clifford Chambers representative in studying the traffic impact. The aim was to provide facts for use in traffic modelling. Representatives would be nominated from each parish and Cllr Watson would be the Quinton representative.</p>	

18	<p>Planning applications: The following planning applications were considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) 21/03107/FUL 8 Dobbie Road, Upper Quinton: removal of existing detached garage to erect a single and two storey extension to the front, side and rear of the property together with a pergola and a replacement porch. Existing hedgerow to be removed locally on northern boundary to make way for a new wall and fence. Hard and soft landscaping modified in conjunction with the driveway and air source heat pump and solar panels incorporated. It was resolved to support the application. <p>The results of the following planning application were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) 21/01855/ADV Corner of Main Street, Lower Quinton: application withdrawn.
19	<p>To receive receipts and payments records for the quarter: The Council received the receipts and payments records previously circulated and agreed them as an accurate record. The Chairman and Cllr Taylor signed the supporting documentation.</p>
20	<p>To receive any correspondence: Highways Verge Management Policy – document outlining proposed changes to the verge cutting schedule with comments invited on the proposals. Apologies from Thomas Fox regarding the delay in completing all the scheduled works. Query from Warwickshire County Council regarding a possible extra stop for the mobile library in Lower Quinton.</p>
21	<p>Councillors’ reports and items for future agenda. Cllr Watson reported that Open Reach anticipated that the work to instal the high fibre broadband would be complete by the end of January.</p>
22	<p>Accounts for payment and finance matters: The following payments were noted and approved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Thomas Fox (grass cutting) - £1,602.68 ii) BT (broadband) - £64.50 iii) Andy Smith (reimbursement for plants) - £247.43 iv) Avon Planning Consultants (Neighbourhood Plan) - £231.00 v) PKF Littlejohn (external audit) - £360.00 vi) Clerk’s salary – £** vii) HMRC (income tax) - £** viii) Wicksted Leisure (parts for tango seat) - £1,179.60 ix) Geosphere (online mapping) - £80.00 x) Avon Planning (Neighbourhood Plan) - £600.00 xi) Thomas Fox (grass cutting) - £1,832.78 <p>The meeting ended at 8.55 pm.</p>

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