

Quinton Parish Council

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 7th October 2015

Quinton Village Hall 7.30 pm

Present: Cllr David White (Chairman)

Cllr Caroline Barton

Cllr Paul Milliken

Cllr Phil Maundrill

Mrs M Norman (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

Also present: Cllr Mrs Seccombe and 2 members of the public

1	Apologies Apologies were received from Cllr Sue Branston and Cllr Mike Brain.
2	Declaration of interests There were no declarations of interest.
3	Minutes of previous meeting 22nd July 2015 The minutes of the previous meeting of the 22 nd July 2015 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.
4	Co-option: Cllr Milliken proposed that Mr Philip Maundrill be co-opted to fill one of the vacant seats on the Parish Council. This was seconded by Cllr Barton. The Council voted unanimously to co-opt Mr Maundrill who then signed the declaration of acceptance of office.
5	Questions from the public: There were no questions from the public.
6	Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting: a) In the absence of Cllr Brain, this item was deferred till later in the meeting. b) The Chairman reported that the Speed Aware Campaign was in abeyance as no volunteers had come forward to operate the camera. c) There was no information to report on the Neighbourhood Plan as a committee had not yet been formed. d) It is hoped to have discussions with the current website host regarding modifications to the website. The Chairman intends to make contact with residents who may be able to advise on suitable modifications.

	<p>e) The clerk reported that she had been in touch with the Highways Agency with regards to the ditch in Goose Lane. Work was scheduled to be carried out in Taylors Lane and the contractors would deal with the ditch at the same time. In the opinion of the Highways Officer, the situation was not sufficiently serious to warrant the expense of bringing in equipment to deal with Goose Lane alone. The clerk had not yet been informed of the date when the work would take place.</p> <p>f) There had been complaints from residents about the spoil left by contractors on the public open space in Millfield Close. The site has since been cleared and the grass has been re seeded.</p>	MN
7	<p>Any matters from the Chairman:</p> <p>a) Update on Road Safety Package: The Chairman had met with Cllr Seccombe, Cllr Brain and two officers from the Highways Department to discuss the Road Safety Package. Funding is being obtained for a pedestrian crossing near the car wash on the B4632. Planning permission would be needed to erect a sign in Back Lane warning of its unsuitability for heavy vehicles but it is possible to place a sign near the Old School House which it is hoped would improve the traffic problem. This issue would be discussed further at the next Parish Council meeting.</p> <p>b) Report on appropriate usage of open public space: A resident had complained of a remote controlled car being used on the playing field. A Police Community Support Officer had interviewed the person using the car and was satisfied that it was used well away from the children’s play area. The Council agreed that it had no objection to the use of the remote controlled car provided all activities were carried out as far away as possible from houses and children playing.</p>	
8	<p>S106 agreement:</p> <p>The Council discussed the possible provision of a Multi Use Games Area on the playing field, suitable for both adult and children’s sporting activities. The area would be surrounded by a high fence so that football could be safely played within it. An alternative proposal is to renovate the playing equipment on the Fordway which is in need of major repairs. The sum available (£24,000) under the s106 agreement would fund one adult sports facility and one child or youth off site facility. The Chairman suggested using Council funds to undertake the work at the Fordway with the aim of beginning a total refurbishment of the play area in the spring. Work on the MUGA, which may include low level floodlighting, would be deferred till the s106 funding became available.</p>	
9	<p>Millfield Close roadworks:</p> <p>As the contractors had cleared the area of debris and replaced the damaged grass, no further action was considered necessary at this point.</p>	
10	<p>Any matters from the District Councillor or County Councillor</p> <p>Cllr Seccombe reported that a cabinet meeting was scheduled for the 8th October where the issue of devolvement to Town and Parish Councils was being discussed. Appropriate funding would be provided to local councils to enable them to deliver some front line services. Possible services could include assisting vulnerable members of the community or participating in the Lengthsman Scheme where local councils directly employ an independent contractor to carry out essential maintenance in the locality, such as repairing potholes or clearing gullies.</p> <p>Cllr Seccombe also advised the Council that discussions were still taking place regarding the proposed combined Unitary Authority comprising Birmingham, Solihull, Coventry and the</p>	

Black Country Metropolitan authorities. Cllr Seccombe was opposed to Warwickshire County Council joining the Unitary Authority as she believed it would entail loss of control over provision of essential services.

In the absence of Cllr Brain, Cllr Seccombe advised the Council on the progress of the traffic improvements on the B4362. Discussions are taking place with regards to the provision of a ghost island outside the Garden Centre and consideration is also being given to the creation of a cycleway between Quinton and Stratford. This is in addition to the proposed crossing beside the car wash on the B4362. Ownership of the land utilised for the cycleway needs to be established together with the cost of the project. Cllr Brain will report further to the Council on this.

Cllr Seccombe reported that she had been approached by a member of the public concerning the removal of a lamp post in Stileman Close. This had been taken down as it was unstable and now needed to be replaced. Establishing ownership of the lamp post had been unexpectedly complicated, but the Council agreed with Cllr Seccombe that it was likely that it belonged to Orbit. The Clerk was asked to contact the company to request them to replace it.

11 **Planning applications**

Parish Councillors noted the following planning applications submitted since the last Parish Council meeting:

- a) 15/01973 LDP 38 Millfield Close, Lower Quinton – replace decking
- b) 15/02620 FUL 35 Stileman Close – single storey side and rear extension
- c) 15/022551 FUL 15 Edmund's Close – three new dwellings adjacent
- d) 15/02981 TPO 5 Camberley Vale Meon Way – fell ash tree; replace with apple, plum, cherry
- e) 15/03097 FUL 11 Magdalen Close, Lower Quinton – single storey garage extension
- f) 15/03244 OUT Morningside Cottage
- g) 15/03189 TPO 9 Millfield Close, Lower Quinton – thin crown of walnut tree

It was resolved to make no representations regarding these planning applications.

To receive any results of planning applications:

The Parish Council noted the following planning decisions which had been notified since its last meeting:

- a) 15/02450 LBC 3, The Barn, Upper Quinton – listed building consent approved
- b) 15/02449 FUL 3, The Barn, Upper Quinton – granted with conditions 20th August 2015
- c) 15/02699 FUL 5 Dobbie Road, Upper Quinton – granted with conditions
- d) 15/02683 FUL 38 Millfield Close, Lower Quinton – granted with conditions
- e) 15/02671 TPO 7 Millfield Close, Lower Quinton – consent for arboricultural work
- f) 15/01899 FUL Long Marston Storage Depot, Campden Road, Lower Quinton – granted with conditions
- g) 15/01357 REM Meon Vale, Campden Road, Lower Quinton – granted with conditions
- h) 15/01358 FUL Meon Vale, Campden Road, Lower Quinton – granted with conditions

12	<p>Reports from Council members on outside bodies:</p> <p>a) Village Hall Report There was nothing to report in respect of this item.</p> <p>b) Playground inspections – Village Hall playing field and Fordway play area Cllr Barton reported that an inspection of the equipment on the playing field had taken place. The inspector noted two abrasive surfaces which needed to be smoothed down, one being the concrete edge of the tunnel and the other the sharp edges of the goal post. One of the new bins recently installed was becoming loose. The Council agreed to try to find someone local who would be able to repair this.</p> <p>Cllr Barton reported that she had been advised that the adult equipment on the playing field should ideally be fenced off to prevent its use by children. After discussion the Council agreed that a sign warning that the rowing machine and walker were unsuitable for use by children should be placed beside the equipment.</p> <p>The Council noted Cllr Barton’s advice that the teen shelter had a life span of between three and five years.</p> <p>The clerk had been advised by a member of the public that the bench in the Fordway had been vandalised. The Chairman intended to remove the back of the bench and effect some repairs to ensure it was safe.</p> <p>c) John Cooper Foundation: Cllr Milliken advised that a meeting was to be held later in the month and that he anticipated that a grant would be forthcoming.</p>	
13	<p>Bank Mandate</p> <p>It was resolved that a new bank mandate be submitted to HSBC with the clerk, Maria Norman, authorised to have sole access to internet banking and that Cllrs Barton, Milliken, Maundrill and White be authorised signatories to the bank accounts.</p>	
14	<p>To receive receipts and payments records for the quarter.</p> <p>The Council received the receipts and payments records previously circulated and agreed them as an accurate record.</p>	
15	<p>To receive any correspondence</p> <p>There was no correspondence to report.</p>	
16	<p>Councillors’ reports and items for future agenda</p> <p>Representations will be made at the next meeting regarding the traffic problem in Back Lane. One of the trees outside the Church requires attention and the Chairman will obtain quotes from tree surgeons to carry out the work. It was noted that the pub, The College Arms is up for sale.</p>	
17	<p>Accounts for payment and finance Matters</p> <p>The following payments were noted and approved:</p> <p>a) Came and Company – insurance premium £1,000. b) Came and Company – insurance premium £276.36 c) Office expenses - £28.25</p>	

- d) Clark's salary June - £***
- e) Thomas Fox – grass cutting contract £900.00
- f) Thomas Fox – grass cutting contract £648.00
- g) Clerk's salary July - £***
- h) Payment to HMRC for tax on clerk's salary - £***
- i) Thomas Fox – grass cutting contract £738.00
- j) Contribution to St. Swithin's newsletter - £500.00
- k) Contribution to St. Swithin's churchyard maintenance - £500.00
- l) Clerk's salary August - £***
- m) Thomas Fox – grass cutting contract £1,758.00
- n) Clerk's salary September - £***

18 **External audit**

The external auditor certificate and report was presented to the Council by the clerk. The Council noted that the auditors were satisfied that the information in the annual return was in accordance with proper practices and no matters had come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met. Other matters not affecting the auditors' opinion which they wished to draw to the Council's attention were also noted (see Appendix A attached). The clerk informed the Council that the Annual Return would now be posted on the website, in accordance with the requirements of the Transparency Code.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

19 Date of next meeting Wednesday 18th November 2015