



Minutes of the **Parish Council Meeting of Keresley Parish Council**  
held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2018  
Venue: Keresley United Reform Church, Bennetts Road, Keresley @ 19.00 hours

Present			
Cllr S Camwell	Chair	Cllr C Wood	
Cllr T Gudgeon	Vice Chair	Cllr J Passmore	
Cllr A Middleton		Cllr R Weaver	
Cllr S Redhead		Mrs B Bland BB	Locum Clerk

**In attendance: Cllr G Williams**  
**There were 5 members of the public in attendance.**

**1. Welcome & Apologies**

Cllr Camwell welcomed Councillors and Members of the public, opened the meeting and invited public questions. There were no apologies.

**2. Public Participation**

There was a request for an update of meeting with Developers on 20<sup>th</sup> November; Cllr Gudgeon advised this was on the agenda under item 13. Planning.

Cllr Gudgeon wished to record thanks to Cllr Weaver and Mrs Bland for providing Development Day Training; on behalf of Members attending she advised a lot was learnt and it was very beneficial to moving Keresley forward. Unanimous thanks were received from all Members who attended.

**3. Declarations of Interest**

2a Personal Interests

None declared.

2b Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

**4. Advisor**

4.1, 4.2 & 4.3 Recent Training & Future Training Requirements

Cllr Weaver thanked Cllr Gudgeon and Members; the training on 24<sup>th</sup> November and 8<sup>th</sup> December was valuable and worthwhile. It was also good for Keresley to meet other local parish councillors. Significant steps have been taken by Members to bring themselves up to date with latest governance infrastructure for parish councils. All future training briefings are listed on the WALC website and Cllr Weaver urged take up of training to continue with individual councillor development. Cllr Redhead stated that the training on 24<sup>th</sup> November was helpful in understanding the training of the 8<sup>th</sup> December specifically around budget and precept setting.

Cllr Camwell suggested parish councils are alien to Coventry City Council and the value of parish councils is not valued and there is no wish to communicate. Contact had been made by the clerk with monitoring, legal, planning and highways colleagues all expressing a willingness to work with the parish council.

Locum Clerk Mrs Barbara Band c/o Meriden Parish Council, 55 James Dawson Drive, Millison's Wood, Coventry, CV5 9QJ. T: 01676 522474 M: 07767 162423 E: [barbarablandmpc@btconnect.com](mailto:barbarablandmpc@btconnect.com) or [clerk@meridenparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@meridenparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Signed** ..... **Dated** .....

Cllr Williams commented that the clerk from Allesley and Finham was attempting to rearrange the 5<sup>th</sup> November meeting previously cancelled bringing together the Keresley, Allesey, Fillongley and Corley for the purposes of proposed developments and relief road infrastructure.

Cllr Weaver added that the use of Ward Councillors could be valuable in establishing a flow and pattern of communication. She further added that the Clerk to contact Adrian West for a protocol of communication between the parish and city council.

**Action: Clerk to contact Adrian West re Protocol of Communications between Parish and City Councils.**

**5. Minutes of Last Meeting (13<sup>th</sup> November 2018)**

The minutes of the last meeting were circulated prior to meeting and considered by Members. It was agreed that the minutes were an accurate record and approved. Cllr Redhead proposed approval seconded by Cllr Passmore.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** Cllr Redhead proposed the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2018 be approved; seconded by Cllr Passmore.

Cllr Williams added that referral in the minutes to Cllr Jeffrey Robinson’s surgeries not being hosted any longer, should be noted that Cllr Robinson has had a stroke and is in recovery.

**6. Finance**

**6.1 December Payments**

The clerk circulated December payments approval list for consideration as follows:- Locum Clerk £231.30 and Expenses £17.59. Members approved payments for December totalling £248.89 listed as above; proposed by Cllr Gudgeon seconded by Cllr Redhead.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** Members approved payments for December to the value of £248.89. Proposed by Cllr Gudgeon and seconded Cllr Redhead.

**6.2 Bank Account**

The cash book summary was circulated to Members for information. The balance currently is £5488.12 and after payments is £5239.23.

**6.3 Precept Increase 2019-2020**

Cllr Gudgeon gave an overview of the situation; the current precept does not cover budget requirements. There is a need to register as an employer and factor in associated employer costs. There is a cap on the horizon and it would be prudent to implement a significant increase. Other factors to be considered (i) the appointment of a planning consultant to support the parish council mitigate the impact of the proposed developments; (ii) employment of an effective clerk which will include for ongoing professional support and development including equipment purchase; (iii) local council election costs 2019.



A closed discussion is required for the parish council to explore options and consider percentage increase to fully operate as a professional and effective parish council.

Cllr Passmore added that the previous Chair and Clerk reduced the precept and the current precept sum of £7.14 p.a. per band D is the same as it was in 2012. Cllr Weaver stated the national average is £64.05.

Cllr Gudgeon added that we need to operate in the best interests of local residents however current income is not enough for the parish council to operate.

**Action: All - a date for a closed meeting to discussion Precept increase to be set early January to meet Coventry City Council submission date for indicative precept budget.**

6.4 Budget 2019-2020

Members briefly discussed budget content during training session on 24<sup>th</sup> November and scoped out what is required to be factored in. Currently the precept does not cover budget content and there will need to be an increase. This item is deferred to January’s meeting after precept has been agreed.

**Action: All – a date for a budget meeting to be arranged.**

**7. Standing Orders/Financial Regulations**

Remains a work in progress; Cllr Gudgeon advised that work is needed for Keresley to legally meet requirements and be a credible organisation. She advised that she will work with the clerk to ensure all policy and governance is in place. Cllrs Passmore and Wood also confirmed their willingness to be part of a working group. It was agreed that the working group would meet on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2019 to commence the process.

**Action: Working Group comprising Cllrs Gudgeon, Passmore and Wood to meet on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2019 between 10-14.00 hours at the Pavilion, Meriden.**

**Action: Clerk to forward WALC standing orders and financial regulations to Working Group.**

**8. Progress Reports**

8.1 Fly Tipping Fivefield Road/Tamworth Road

Residents confirmed that removal of fly tipped rubbish had been undertaken and the sites were clear.

8.2 Poplar Trees, Robert Aitkinson Way

Clerk advised email confirmation received that Barretts/David Wilson Homes will be visiting the site to assess land ownership and maintenance required. A request has been made for Cllrs Passmore and Wood to be in attendance.

**Action: Clerk to liaise with Barretts/David Wilson for date of site visit.**

**9 Clerk’s Report**

Mrs Bland advised clerks actions may be picked up from agenda and November timesheet.

## 10 District/Ward Councillor Report

Cllr Williams provided the following update:-

- Change of Cabinet Member after unexpected resignation; Cllr Pat Heatherton is the new Cabinet Member for City Services;
- Requested a private meeting with Cllr Heatherton regarding Ward actions;
- Homelessness in Coventry City – temporary accommodation under review with current bed and breakfast/hotel emergency accommodation standing at £6M. The Beechwood Hotel, Keresley, being used this way is currently £500K. The City Council is looking at refurbishment of a tower block in Henley Green c/o Whitefriars Housing. The intention will be to no longer use Beechwood and Allesley Hotels for emergency accommodation.
- Local Plan Review request to get around Ward; currently reviewing Keresley but swamped with development proposals i.e.
  - Thompsons Farm – unimpressed;
  - Rookery Farm – outline application in 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018 which parish council is urged to submit representation;
  - Jubilee Wood/Relief Road – too many unanswered questions;
  - Counden Wedge – a protest by 100-200 residents at Coventry City Council presented a petition of 2,300 signatories that was taken to full council by Cllr Jim O’Boyle, Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration;
  - Meeting local Police Sergeant for Bablake Ward regarding Keresley (townside) crime issues after many community complaints of no visual police presence and community Speed Watch;
  - Andy Street is up for election 2020 and it is proposed that the new Mayor will take over everything including crime commissioner. Consultation is currently open.

## 11 Correspondence & Communication

- Notices continue to be received by Mrs Bland regarding M6 works and are passed to Cllr Passmore for website/noticeboard updates.
- Clerk/Council Magazine received.
- Mayor’s invitation to attend Warwick Civic Event – Cllr Camwell look invitation and will personally respond.

## 12 Keresley Parish Matters

### 12.1 Footpaths

Boundary hedge overgrowth around Crabtree Cottage needs urgent cutting back by private land owner. Coventry City Council to be requested to send an enforcement notice to land owner to cut back boundary hedge due to footpath/pavement being obstructed and users forced to walk in the road.

**Action: Cllr Williams to request Highways issue Enforcement Notice to landowner for immediate maintenance to boundary hedges.**

It was noted that other footpaths reported by adjoining properties/parish council to landowners have been cut back.

12.2 Noticeboard

Cllr Camwell reported she would like the name of Keresley Parish Council to be placed on the existing noticeboard. A brief discussion regarding cost of an engraved plaque was considered especially in light of budget constraints and required precept increase. Cllr Passmore agreed to source supplier and obtain cost.

**Action: Cllr Passmore to source supplier and obtain cost.**

**13 Planning Matters**

13.1 Marrons/Bellway Meeting Feedback

A meeting was held with Agent and Developer on 20<sup>th</sup> November; a follow email was sent to the Agent outlining issues raised to be included in outline planning application to be submitted by year end 2018. Cllr Gudgeon read out the email content and Agent's response to the meeting. Residents are concerned regarding access to Fivefield Road and the proposed link road to Tamworth Road. Cllr Gudgeon reassured dialogue with Agent and Developer is open for mitigation and S106 monies satisfactory outcome to resident concerns.

**Action: ALL - to liaise with Agent and Developer and arrange further meeting in January once outline planning application is submitted.**

13.2 Lioncourt Strategic Land - Proposals for Land at Thompsons Farm to provide up to 500 new homes (Public Drop-in Keresley Community Library 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018)

Cllrs Passmore, Wood and Gudgeon attended the drop in; the Environmental Statement will include additional information and the outline planning application is expected to be submitted early 2019. KPC discussion was around infrastructure prior to build commencement; construction traffic routing; mitigation for residents exposed to construction.

**Action: ALL – to liaise with Agent and Developer and arrange further meeting once outline planning application is submitted.**

13.3 Application OUT/2018/3080 Rookery Farm (field adjacent to Pumping Station) Watery Lane Coventry CV6 2GE

Cllr Passmore and Cllr Wood to draft formal response highlighting concerns around access road to site and proposed development in accordance with agreement to build. Cllr Passmore advised that the Tree Survey indicates some trees will be removed and we should inspect the area ourselves and record findings. There was also concern regarding the water table and flood risk; and a need to reinstatement loss of trees and hedgerows.

**Action: Cllrs Passmore and Wood to draft formal response on behalf of the parish council highlighting concerns (i) loss of trees/hedgerows; (ii) water table and potential flood risk; (iii) request for Environmental Impact Assessment; (iv) reinstatement of trees/hedgerows removed to create green open space; (v) access point to development site. KPC comments deadline 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018.**

13.4 Application 2018/2754 Erection of Gospel Meeting Hall, Land adjacent to Ashtree House, Sandpitts Lane

Members discussed the proposed development of this build and considered the community benefits of a Gospel Meeting Hall. On this basis whilst any new development is contentious in Keresley, there are benefits to local community groups.



Cllrs Passmore and Wood will draft a formal response to planning supporting this application.

**Action: Cllrs Passmore and Wood to submit formal response on behalf of the parish council supporting this application in accordance with community benefits.**

13.5 Highways Meeting – Colin Knight

Cllr Gudgeon advised she is keen to get a meeting arranged with Mr Knight in the New Year regarding relief road proposals and infrastructure required to ease current traffic congestion and potential grid lock with onset of proposed new developments.

**Action: Cllr Gudgeon and clerk to contact Mr Knight and arrange early New Year meeting.**

13.6 Planning Case Officer for Proposed Developments – Nigel Smith

Clerk reported she had made contact with Mr Smith who advised he would be the case officer for all Keresley’s proposed developments.

**Action: ALL – to liaise with Mr Smith on all planning applications submitted.**

**14 Election of New Members 2019**

Election costs have been received from Liz Read advising Keresley’s potential cost to be 5.5K for a contested election. However this sum cannot be covered within current precept. Members discussed the cost and considered it to be rather expensive for a small parish such as Keresley. The Clerk was requested to write to Liz Read and Adrian West highlighting the situation and requesting the cost be reviewed.

**Action: Clerk to write to Liz Read and Adrian West requesting election cost review.**

**15 Councillor Reports/Items for Future Agenda**

Nothing to report.

**16 Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019 commencing at 19.00 hours at Keresley URC, Bennetts Road.

The Meeting closed at 21.00 hours.