

**Meeting of Kinwarton Parish Council**  
**Monday July 1st 2024 at 7:30pm, Alcester Academy**  
**MINUTES**

**Present:**

Cllr Forman  
Cllr Langdon  
Cllr Giddings  
Cllr Rees  
Cllr Barnett  
Cllr Moore  
Z Illes-Cody (clerk)  
MOP 1,2,3,4

**Update from District and County Councillors**

Consultation on changes to Fire Service. SDC leader to respond on behalf of the district. Proposals have been to consultation across Warwickshire but local changes would include no night cover from Alcester Fire Station, with the nearest cover being in Bidford. Bidford have campaigned regularly for an active fire service. In Alcester we face threats of flood as well as fire, and the night traffic on main roads nearby are building up especially with an increasing number of HGVs. Hopeful that there will be further consultation.

Stratford District Council adopting WLC charter, which governs the way the councils work together. Last time this was reviewed was in 2015, so all councils across Warks have now agreed on a new charter about improved communication. WALC asked that Civility and Respect pledge to be considered.

LGA peer review for improving communication with residents and parish councils. New initiatives coming forward.

**AGENDA**

**1.Apologies**

Cllr Holmes  
Cllr Barley

**2.Disclosure of interests**

No interests disclosed.

**3.Confirmation of the Minutes**

Minutes signed as a true record of the meeting held June 2024. Proposed KR.  
Seconded JL.

**4.Ongoing matters**

**a) The Pastures**

**-ownership of hedges**

Redrow sent out a different company from Stafford to cut the KFR hedge, both tops and side, back to knee rail. Betts returned a few days later. Communication has been sent out that this will be cut again in October. Complaint Ref no. COMP\04\12\2023\3

at Redrow. This is a very positive step forward and thanks extended to all parties who have assisted in dealing with this longstanding problem.

**-speeding**

Speed check to be taking place tomorrow.

**b) Trees on Captains Hill central reservation**

Copper beech branch been removed but no further information on cutting from WCC.

**c) Private hedges around residents.**

Letters have been delivered to many houses around the parish requesting that hedges are kept clear of the pavement. Some households have already cut hedges back.

**d) St Mary's Park**

- Trees. Re-reported tree in river to Environment Agency. To be assessed.
- Round Table event. It was a success and thanks received from the Round Table. ZIC to forward pictures to KR with consent from Round Table.

**e) KPC credit card/debit card**

Debit card received. ZIC to continue to apply for credit card.

**f) Parking on central reservation on Captain's Hill.**

One sign hit by mower but no parking has been noted.

**g) Tree needing cutting near ATC boundary.**

WCC came out assess trees reported to Highways. Shredded the Hawthorn but haven't removed the leaning tree. Strip of land between pavement and hidden fence amongst trees is owned by WCC not Warwickshire Rural.

**h) Grit bin – Coughton Fields Lane junction.**

Quotation grit bin. £220.74 (inc VAT) to replace like-for-like grit bin. To be reconsidered after September finance meeting when budget can be reassessed.

**i) Hedge by gravel store on B4089**

Re-contact Alan Caldwell Jones at WCC about hedge which is very overgrown. Cllr Barnett has gathered 2 quotations for a combi strimmer/hedge cutter/blower/bush-cutter £1270 or £1100. To be discussed further at finance meeting.

**j) Planter replacement**

Alcester in Bloom ordered the incorrect size planter. Request refund back from Alcester in Bloom and await Autumn.

**k) Hedge/trees at Fenwick Close.** Resident attended meeting to express dissatisfaction with the pollarding job done on the hedgerow on Kinwarton Road. Having been alerted to the problem by the resident, this work was completed to remove the danger of falling trees on pavement users and the cars belonging to the resident. Unfortunately the resident felt that the cut was not what was communicated would happen and is concerned that the Close is now exposed. It was requested that the council pay for half of the cost of a fence for the property. Councillors were sorry that the job was not done in the way that was expected but declined to contribute to the cost of a privately owned fence with public money. The hedge will be re-evaluated in Autumn for filling gaps with whips, when it is an appropriate time for planting.

**l) New meeting venue**

Meetings will now take place in Church House from September 2024.

m) **Road name plates**

No further updates.

n) **Mower service and quotation for combi-tool**

Mower in for service now. Quotation discussed above and to be considered further at Finance meeting.

**5. Planning applications**

24/01183/FUL Planning permission granted. 41 Kinnersley Road, Alcester, Warwickshire, B49 6FJ. A single storey rear extension.

**6. Financial Matters**

a) **Invoices:**

• HSBC monthly charge (CHG)	£8.00
• ZIC wages June	£568.40
• Yu Energy electricity (DD) July	£361.23
• Yu Energy electricity (DD) July	£29.64
• Cllr Barnett reimbursement (petrol and broom)	£26.00
• Cllr Barnett equipment for bench refurbishment	£35.72
• ZIC salary underpayment (as advised by accountant)	£32.82
• WFH allowance to end of March 2024	£174.00
• Roots to Shoots inv 4016 (paid)	£750.00
• HAGS annual playpark inspection. Inv 096577	£210.00
• Internal audit inv 7882	£120.00
• Accountancy fees inv 2091	£600.00
• Limebridge inv 3070	£660.00

Proposer GF, Seconder KR

b) Audit to external auditors

**7. Correspondence**

No further correspondence received.

**8. A.O.B.**

a) Play park inspection report

No concerns noted apart mole hills. MM to contact mole catcher.

b) Flood action online presentation from GAPC.

Positive feedback on informative presentation. GAPC to hire a sludge sucker with a camera to investigate pipework for 3 days, and a hydrologist to further their knowledge of the area.

c) Grant applications

ZIC has completed application for road name plate grant. Grant for grit bin was not submitted as it did not fit any of the criteria required for application.

d) Vacancy notice

ZIC has placed vacancy notice for the parish council on the noticeboard and website.

e) Alcester Rock Academy

Alcester Rock Academy, which operates from Alcester Academy attended the meeting. Children from a wide area attend to learn musical instruments and play in bands. The building which has been used as a performance base until now is unsafe and can no

longer be used. A project to move to a different building on the Alcester Academy site has commenced. Currently have approximately £7500 but need £20,000 total. Request made to KPC for a donation towards meeting the cost of this project. Councillors thanked ARA for their presentation and agreed to discuss this further at the finance meeting in 2 weeks.

Suggestion that they also contact the Newport Foundation and Church Street Properties for possible financial assistance.

f) Mole catcher – Margaret to contact mole catcher

g) Newsletter – KR to draft the newsletter. ZIC to send photos.

### **9. Date of next meeting**

Monday September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024