

**Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Bearley Parish Council held in Bearley Village Hall at 7.00pm  
Monday 16 September 2024**

**Present:** Councillor Richard Le Page (Chairman), Councillor Nick Edden, Councillor Ray Greening, Councillor Marion Mitchell, District Councillor Ian Shenton.  
**Apologies:** County Councillor Penny-Anne O'Donnell  
**Parish Clerk:** Karen Mason  
**Public:** 3 members of the public for all of the meeting.

**1. Chairman's notice regarding the recording and filming of the meeting**

The Chairman's notice regarding the recording and filming of meetings was read out.

**2. Public Conduct during Parish Council Meetings**

The Chairman's notice regarding public conduct was read out.

**3. Record of members present**

Noted.

**4. Apologies and acceptance of reasons for absence**

Received for County Councillor Penny-Anne O'Donnell.

**5. Declaration of Interest (existence and nature) on Items on the agenda**

Councillor R Le Page declared an interest for item 17, Bearley Village Hall.

**6. Public Forum**

A resident wished to raise the Horse Chestnuts that line the Highway, adjacent to the Old Bearley Mill site, and whether they were protected with a tree order. The Chairman confirmed that due to rules set out by Stratford District Council, it is very difficult to place trees on the tree protection order. The current owners of the site (currently planning to develop) have expressed to the Parish Council previously that they would wish to maintain the tree line. A resident followed up on previous correspondence sent to the Clerk regarding the conifers growing on the triangle wedge at the entrance to St Marys Acre. A discussion was had on the history to these. It was agreed that Councillors will review and look to consider work to reduce the vegetation, paying close attention to the vicinity to the highway. A follow up will be made with Thomas Fox.

**7. To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15 July 2024**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15 July 2024 were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman. Resolved.

**8. Matters Arising**

The clerk provided an update on a number of matters. Those not covered under respective items in the meeting's agenda, are covered here:-

Community Infrastructure Levy – the Clerk has written again to Stratford District Council requesting clarification on the CIL amounts due and the time these will be released to the Parish Council.

Drains Odour – the Clerk had managed to secure a date with key partners for a meeting on Thursday 26 September 2024. It was agreed to extend the invitation to the two residents that came to the Parish Council meeting on 15 July, so that their account could be heard by all. Clerk to action.

Warwickshire Police Community drop in – The Police are keen to host surgeries in Bearley for local residents and are working on a number of dates. A suggestion was to see if they could link with the MacMillan Coffee Morning on Saturday 28 September. Clerk to action.

A3400 sign for village hall – An order has been approved and funded out of the County Councillors delegated budget. Awaiting installation.

Housing Needs survey – agree to progress as a door to door survey for the village.

Domain Emails and .gov.uk options – The Chairman and new Clerk attended a briefing on the afternoon of 16 September. Looking to progress.

**9. County and District Council Liaison**

The District Councillor's full report can be found here <https://bearley.org/district-councillor-update-bearley-september2024/>

It was noted that support should be offered to follow up on the outstanding CIL enquiries by the Parish Council. Councillor Shenton to action.

Councillor Shenton wished to note that he shared his frustration on the outcome of the planning committee report for planning application (Bearley Scrapyard).

It was noted that Warwickshire County Council Highways have a meeting arranged to visit the site of the Golden Cross regarding the width of the road (Salters Lane).

Warwickshire County Councillor Penny-Anne O'Donnell provided an update report via email due to her absence. A copy of the County Councillors report can be found here <https://bearley.org/warwickshire-county-councillor-update-for-bearley-september-2024/>

#### **10. Bearley Community Speedwatch**

Councillor Greening provided an update.

Volunteers remain enthused and proactive. It should be noted that there has been a marked difference in speed now that the Summer Holidays have finished. Nothing further to report on matters.

#### **11. To receive an update on Flood Prevention Measures.**

Councillor Greening noted that Warwickshire County Council Highways have scheduled clearance of the problem culvert on Snitterfield Road, for September.

It was agreed to keep a close regard to ensure that the September timeframe given, is maintained. The Clerk to progress, if required.

#### **12. Friends of Bearley Park (FoBP)**

##### **12.1 Lottery Bid.**

It was announced that the National Lottery Community Fund application was successful and the Parish Council has received the full grant applied for (£6,800). Councillor Greening proposed that Finding Fitness approved for installation of the Fitness Climbing Wall in Bearley Park. Resolved.

A location for the wall was defined and is to be placed at the rear end of the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA). An installation date has been tentatively agreed for Monday 14 October 2024. It was agreed that the Clerk should prepare a press release and share to the website and on Social Media.

The equipment should be added to the Asset register and the Insurance provider be notified. Clerk to Action.

The Clerk explained that the annual ROSPA inspections for Bearley Park and Upper Play area, have been Scheduled for October, with Play Safety.

#### **13. Trees**

The Chairman provided background to some proposed Tree work on Bearley Green (North side of Snitterfield Road).

The Parish Council sought two quotes and advice from local tree arboriculturists. The two quotes were tabled.

The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council appoint Company B £580.00. Seconded Councillor Edden. Resolved.

It was noted that prior to works, formal Planning Tree Consent would be required as the trees are both within the Conservation Area. The Clerk to progress.

#### **14. Parish Clerk recruitment and selection.**

The Chairman detailed the recruitment and selection undertaken during August. Duncan Mathison was appointed to the role as Parish Clerk. Being present, Mr Mathison was formerly welcomed by all to the Parish Council. The outgoing Clerk, Karen Mason will undertake a series of handover meetings and last working day will be Monday 30 September 2024.

#### **15. Parish Council Action Plan**

The Chairman proposed that, due to time required to fully review, that the Parish Council Action plan was moved to be tabled at a working group meeting. It was agreed that any revised action plan should align to future considerations around the South Warwickshire Local Plan. Seconded Councillor Mitchell. Resolved.

#### **16. Streetlighting**

The Chairman updated that 6 Streetlights had now been converted to LED, utilising the grant from Stratford District Council received in July. The final 6 streetlights need consideration for new brackets. The Chairman will speak to local companies on this as an option.

The Clerk updated that now the conversion had commenced, a new Certification could be requested from Western Power (National Grid) that would better represent the power output of all Parish Council owned streetlights. Once the new certificate has been issued then quotes from Clear Utility Solutions could be sourced for the new energy contract, to be tabled at November meeting. Clerk and Chairman to progress.

## 17. Village Hall Report

### 17.1 Playing Fields Border and hedge maintenance

The Chairman updated that correspondence had been received from Bearley United FC and shared with Parish Councillors, in respect of the work carried out to upkeep the hedges bordering the Playing Fields. The Chairman explained that the Village Hall Trustees had discussed the matter and wished to table an option of the Village hall Trust and Parish Council contribute 50% each to the costs of the work undertaken. It was proposed by the Chairman £175.00 be paid to Bearley United on this occasion but that payments would only be made in future if work and contribution from PC was approved in advance. Agreed Unanimous. Resolved.

## 17.2 Grass Cutting 2024

The Chairman proposed that the arrangement for the grass cutting of the playing fields, carried out by Fairways for Stratford Colts, be approved for the contribution in March of £1500.00. Seconded Councillor Edden, agreed unanimous. Resolved.

## 18. Finance

18.1 To note payments made since last meeting

18.2 To note payments received since last meeting

18.3 To note income/expenditure year to date

18.4 To approve invoices received for payment; Staffing related costs £489.66, SSE £290.19, HSBC £8.00, Eon July £115.20, Eon September £90.00, Eon Conversion £3113.14, T Fox June £624.76, T Fox August £624.76, T Fox September £328.28, Moore UK £252.00

18.5 External Audit Report 2023/2024. The Clerk reported that the External Audit Report has been received back from Moore UK. The Parish Council noted the outcome including notes to be considered for 2024/2025. The Clerk reported that this report has been posted on the Website and a copy of conclusion of the audit posted on the village noticeboards.

## 19. Planning Matters

19.1 Review of Schedule September 2024. The schedule was noted.

[illegible]

	Amendments resubmitted for consultation 21.05.22	21.05.22		
23/02102/FUL	Scrap Yard Birmingham Road Bearley Warwickshire B95 6DR  Amendments resubmitted for consultation	01.09.2023  16.05.2024	Object.	Approval with conditions (03/09). Committee meeting on 28.08.2024
24/00070/FUL	Darwin Escapes Hawkswood Farm Gospel Oak Lane Pathlow Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 0JA.  Change of use of part of museum building to 11no. units of holiday accommodation (Class C1 Use) and associated development, inclusive of alterations to elevations and introduction of solar paneling	06.03.2023	No representation.	Pending consideration
23/03262/COUQ	Agricultural Building Land Off A3400 Birmingham Road/Ash Lane A3400 North Of Pathlow.  Change of use of agricultural building and land within its curtilage to two No. dwelling houses and for associated building operations.	24.01.2024	Prior Approval Refused in advance of PC comment being registered.	Prior Approval Refused
24/00891/VARY	Agricultural Building Land Off A3400 Birmingham Road/Ash Lane A3400 North Of Pathlow.  Proposed removal of condition 2 of planning permission 07/00433/FUL (date of decision 04/05/2007) restricting use of building to agriculture only and requiring demolition of building upon ceasing of agricultural use.	09.04.2024	No representation.	Refusal of Variation (30/08/24)
23/03266/COUQ	College Farm, Birmingham Road, Bearley.  Application for prior approval for the proposed change of use of an agricultural building to five dwelling houses	11.01.2024 (note: extension to 16.01.2024)	No objection	Change of Use PA granted.  25.01.2024
24/00575/FUL	College Farm, Birmingham Road, Bearley.  Demolition of agricultural buildings, erection of four dwelling houses and garages, construction of new vehicular access, closure of existing vehicular access and associated development.	03/05/2024	No Objection	Pending consideration

24/01662/LBC	Manor Cottage Snitterfield Road Bearley Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 0SJ.  Repairs to property.	02.08.2024	Support.	Listed building consent approved.
24/01720/FUL	Woodlands House Snitterfield Road Bearley Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 0EX.  Flat roofed conservatory.	02.08.2024	No objection.	Permission with conditions.
24/01643/FUL	Scroobys Church Lane Bearley Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 0SL.  Construction of a detached 2 storey games room and greenhouse to the south side of the site.	16.08.2024		

#### 19.2 Application 24/01643/FUL Scroobys.

The Chairman provided a summary of the Planning Application and the current submitted response from the Parish Council. It was noted of representation made by a resident in their objection of the application. The Chairman asked Parish Councillors to consider a fuller response, having made a closer look. A number of points were discussed. Following debate, it was proposed by the Chairman to submit a further response to the Planning Authority objecting to the application on grounds of size, position and design, seconded Councillor Edden, agreed unanimous. Resolved. The Clerk to make contact with the Case Officer and resubmit the response on to the Planning Portal.

### 20. Correspondence and Communications Report

- 20.1 Severn Trent works A3400 – A local resident made contact with the Parish Council to notify that they had raised concerns with Severn Trent over a hole that has appeared on the verge of the A3400 near to the North bound bus stop. Since raising the issue, Severn Trent have acted quickly and resolved.
- 20.2 Parish and Town Council forum consultation – the Clerk reported that Stratford District Council wished to hear feedback from parish and Town Councils in the district as to whether there is appetite for a district forum. It was agreed to respond positively as it was seen as an opportunity to share learning and raise recurring issues such as that relating to Planning. Clerk to submit before the deadline.
- 20.3 Councillor Disclosure of Interests (DPI) – a reminder from Stratford District Council's monitoring team was circulated to all Parish and Town Councils, referencing the importance in ensuring Interests are kept up to date.

### 21. Date of next meeting

18 November 2024 7pm.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 08.37pm

Signed:

Date: