**ANSLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTE 9 of 2024/2025**

**Monday 18th November 2024**

**PRESENT: Cllr P. ARROWSMITH**

**Cllr D. KEARNS**

**Cllr C. BARRS**

**Cllr P. REES**

**Cllr A. NORGROVE**

**KEVIN HAYES (Clerk)**

**ALSO PRESENT: Five members of the public**

#### RULES AND PROCEDURES OF THE MEETING

The Chairman explained the procedures and reminded everyone that the meeting was being recorded.

#### APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Michala Jackson

#### DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA – Cllr Rees nonpecuniary interest on Item 10 (a)

**10(a)** *This item was brough forward at the request of Rev Steven Medley & Margaet Antill from St Laurence Church*

**Funding support for burial site of cremated ashes at St Laurence Church -** Margaret Antill and Rev Steve Medley addressed the councillors regarding the ‘cremated ashes’ burial site. St Laurence Church were seeking funding for the creation of the new burial site for ‘cremated ashes’ with the churchyard. They were requesting £20,000 over a seven-year period to cover this cost from the parish council. They also reported that there were enough burial sites for the next 60 years for those residents from the Ansley parish who wished to be buried in the churchyard. It was suggested that the £3000 in the reserves to go towards a new burial plot could be made available and go towards the total of £20,000 requested by the Ansley PCC. The councillors to have further discussions regarding the funding request. This request could be put into the precept in the future, and we can explain what the extra funding is for. There was concern that residents are not aware of the cost of funerals and burials Currently the cost of burial for a resident of the parish within St Laurence churchyard is £409 and around £3000 anywhere else in Nuneaton. The councillors will discuss this further at the December meeting

#### Marina Kitchen - Head of Service, Children & Families Service, Warwickshire County Council to speak about starting a branch of the Women’s Institute (This item was moved to Item 10 on the agenda)

#### REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Cllr Bell reported the following items:

* **Pedestrian Crossing in Ansley Common.** The crossing and the pavement repair outside the shop on Ansley Common have been completed and appears to be slowing the traffic
* **Pipers Lane.** Cllr Bell trying to get a new date with officers from WCC to discus reducing the speed of traffic on Pipers Lane.
* **Tunnel Road.** Cllr Rees asked about the 30mph signs on Tunnel Road. Cllr Bell to chase up
* **Build outs on Birmingham Road.** Cllr Norgrove reported that the build out near to Ansley Lane had been hit by a vehicle. Cllr Bell to report to Highways to ask about the assessment of the effectiveness of the build outs.
* **Crossing on Birmingham Road.** Cllr Barrs asked if we could have a crossing like the one in Ansley Common with a raised bump. Cllr Bell to chase up.

1. **PUBLIC SESSION**

* A member of the public who has bought the old ABM workshops on Ansley Common spoke about the plans for the site and answer any questions or concerns that councillors and others had about the development. Cllr Kearns said that concerns were about the gates that opened out onto the road. The other issue was the lighting. The application for the lights has been withdrawn. There is tenant who specialises in high end telecommunications is looking forward to moving in when its complete. They will provide employment opportunities. They will look at the gates and make sure they only open inwards. Cllrs thanked the member of the public for attending and outlining the reasons for the site. The company have supported the Hartshill parish council and was prepared to support the plans that the Ansley parish council have as well.
* Another member of the public asked if there was any update on the issue to do with reducing the speed of traffic along Pipers Lane. The clerk reported that they were waiting for a meeting with WCC Highways. Cllr Bell to check if there is a pavement all the way down from Ridge Lane to Coleshill Road via Pipers Lane. That must come under the ‘Safer schools’ route’ and Cllr Bell to check this as well.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF October 21st, 2024.** These were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting. Matters arising from the minutes.
2. **Change of dates of future parish council meetings.** Cllr Kearns asked if there were any other days available for future meetings at the St Laurence church halls. The clerk reported that Tuesdays had become available recently. It was explained that the Mondays often clashed with NWBC meetings which means the Borough councillors cannot attend the parish council meetings. The clerk to find out if Tuesdays are still available and to put this item on the December meeting agenda.
3. **CLERKS REPORT** The clerk reported on the following points:

* The clerk had reported the blocked drain on Birmingham Road to Highways and they said they had raised an order to have the drains jetted. Cllr Barrs reported that there had been an accident at the junction of Birmingham Road and Nuneaton Road. A car had failed to stop at the junction and had crashed on the other side of the junction. This may have been because of the excess amount of water on the road.
* The clerk reported the bins left outside number 88 Birmingham Road and the litter bins outside the old chip shop and the post office to NWBC. Cllrs asked the clerk to contact NWBC not to remove the bins outside the post office.
* Cllr Kearns and the clerk attended the funding workshop organised by WCAVA in Atherstone. It was interesting but confirmed that there was not much funding available, and all the charities were ‘fishing in an ever-decreasing pond’. An officer from WCC who was in attendance suggested that the parish council investigate funding opportunities offered by the Probation Service through their ‘Community Service’ if we have a project that require volunteers. It was agreed that the issue to do with creating a path in the Ansley Recreation area and access gates for wheelchair users to be put on the December meeting agenda.
* The caretaker vacancy has been put on the website and Facebook pages. Cllr Kearns, Barrs and Norgrove agreed to interview the candidates for the caretaker.

1. **PLANNING MATTER**S
2. **PAP/2024/0505 - Mr. R Lynes, Holly Cottage, Common Farm, Ansley Common, CV10 0QL. Erection of single-story front elevation**

***No objections***

1. **NEW MATTERS ARISING**
   * + 1. **This item was discussed earlier in the meeting**
       2. **Plans for organising the emergency food parcels for residents who need it -** Councillors to agree plan of action for spending the £1000 ‘Hardship Grant’. This was carried forward to the December meeting
       3. **Funding bids & plans to set up a youth club in Ansley –** Clerk reported that he had put in two applications for £5000 to WCC for support with the development of a youth club in Ansley Village. Waiting to hear the outcome of the bids.

Marina Kitchen spoke about her plans to set up a branch of the Women’s Institute (WI) for Ansley residents. She explained she had spoken to some Ansley residents who have asked if its possible to have a Women’s Institute branch. She said she needed some startup funding to pay for hall hire for the first six meetings. The councillors thought it was a very good idea and suggested that Marina makes an application to the parish council’s community grant.

* + - 1. **Party in the Park 2025 –** Councillors to agree date and invites for first working group meeting. The clerk suggested that we look at a date in July or August as this is easier for organising the event if he is involved in the organisation of the event. Councillors looked at various dates including July 6th. The working party is due to meet on 11th December and can make the decision when people have checked their calendars. The clerk suggested that the cost of paying for the free activities and the entertainment could be put into the precept. Consideration should be given to getting a volunteer to help with the note taking and other secretarial duties.
      2. **Grass & Hedge Cutting contracts –** Councillors to agree contract for future hedge cutting following 3 quotes obtained and to agree to put the grass cutting contract for 2025 out to tender. The clerk will send out the quotes for the hedge cutting and councillors can decide at the December meeting.

The grass cutting contract is with the current contractor and the councillors suggested we stay with the current contractor unless there is a legal requirement to put it out to tender.

1. **ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE**
2. ***Bank reconciliation October 2024 -*** *To be approved & signed**by the Chairman –* **This was approved and signed by the Chairman.**

**SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS FOR NOVEMBER 2024**

As per section 5.6 of the Financial Regulations, the following is a schedule of payments made or due to be made which are either agreed in the approved budget, or agreed at a subsequent council meeting:

1. ***Schedule of payments November 2024***

**This was approved and signed by the Chairman**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Salaries | £640.80 |
| WALC (New councillor training) | £42.00 |
| Lindsay Kearns (Website update) | £125.00 |
| 4 Counties Ground maintenance  Grass cutting August 2024 | £660.00 |
| Chirs Belcher (Fitting swings at Birchley Heath) | £84.00 |
| Chri Belcher (Felt bus shelter, fix posts, Fill pothole, Paint play equipment) | £824.40 |
| Argos (Cross cut shredder & 2-year replacement care policy) Paid by K Hayes | £72.48 |

**3) Clerks’ worksheet – This was signed by the Chairman**

**12) COUNCILLORS BUSINESS RELATED TO PARISH MATTERS**

Cllr Barrs said that she had checked the water leak at the Birchley Heath Recreation ground and reported that Severn Trent had fixed the leak. All the barricades were removed. Cllr Barrs also reported that the Re-treeing project had donated the trees to the residents of the parish who had request one. She felt it went very well.

Cllr Norgrove reported on the meeting of the Birchley Heath working party. There were four residents at the meeting along with Cllr Arrowsmith and himself. It was a good meeting, and the residents got to know who the other members were and share their common concerns

Cllr Kearns said the two Vehicle Activation Signs (VAS) in Ansley don’t appear to be working. He also said the build up along the kerbs and drains on Nuneaton Road, Ansley Lane, Birmingham Road need to be cleared, and the drains need jetting. The clerk will report this

Cllr Rees reported that residents at 110, 112 and 114 requested that the bollards should be re-installed by the grass verge and on the pavement to stop vehicle parking and blocking the access to the drives. The clerk will talk to highways to ask if its possible to install the bollards on the pavement

**The meeting closed at 9.28pm**

**Chairman…………………………………… Date………………….**