

COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Community and Environment Committee held on Tuesday 2nd July 2019 at 6:00pm, at the Sambrook Centre, Stirchley

Present: Councillors M Randle – Chair, R Breeze – Vice-Chair, T Bate, J Loveridge, and A Watkin.

Also Present: Mrs S Middleton (Deputy Parish Clerk) and Mr C R Corbett (Committee Secretary)

Public Open Session

There were 14 members of the community present at the meeting, including residents of Belgrave Crescent attending to here consideration on a planning application, and allotment holders attending to hear the agenda item on bees at the Allotment Site.

Mr Brian Edwards came along to witness the Parish Council in operation at a Committee and Mr Arron Perry attended to explain the operation of his Bee Colony and Hives located at the Parish Allotment site.

Mr Rob Davies of 2 Belgrave Crescent, on behalf of the residents of Belgrave Crescent (Nos 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10), wished to register a “strong objection” to the planning application for a first floor extension at 9 Belgrave Crescent, Stirchley. He commented that the application was contrary to the Telford & Wrekin Local Plan policies BE1 and BE2, and that it was too large and disproportionate to the locality.

The development was “out of keeping” and would alter the character of the area. There would be an unacceptable loss of privacy of neighbours in the crescent. The visual amenity of residents would be affected.

He commented that the applicant at No 9, could use alternative adjustments to the existing building layout to achieve a solution that would support the objective of creating independence, whilst adhering to the policies set out in the T&W Local Plan.

He commented that the Parish Council had previously objected to the application and as the characteristics of the application had not changed greatly, he was looking for similar support to an objection now.

CE/19/13 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs N England (work commitments) G Sinclair (CPRE meeting) and Mrs J Loveridge (T&WC commitments) which were accepted unanimously.

Cllrs S Parr was also unable to attend.

CE/19/14 MINUTES

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Community & Environment Committee held on 4th June 2019 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

CE/19/15 ACTION

None.

CE/19/16 PLANNING APPLICATIONS –The Committee received details of and considered the following planning applications from Telford & Wrekin Council:-

- a) **TWC 2019/0499 – 9 Belgrave Crescent, Stirchley** – Erection of a first floor extension.

Members supported the views of the local residents as stated by Mr Davies in the “public session” earlier and :-

It was proposed by Cllr R Breeze , and seconded by Cllr T Bate , and subsequently **RESOLVED – that an objection be registered with Telford & Wrekin Council on the grounds of disproportionate size of development, loss of local character, development not in keeping with the existing buildings in the crescent and loss of amenity.**

- b) Any further planning applications, received for consultation, after publication of the agenda - **TWC 2019/ - none**
- c) Any information of decisions taken by Telford & Wrekin Council relating to planning applications in the Parish – **TWC/2019/ - none**
- d) Any Pre-Application enquiries received - **PE/2019/0381 – The Glebe Bungalow, Stirchley Village – no comment** at the present stage but would await the formal planning application to comment on a more detailed proposal.

CE/19/17 DEPUTY CLERK'S REPORT

The Deputy Clerk reported upon :-

- Closure of the Sambrook Centre on 30th July due to the loss of electricity following works planned at the adjacent school.
- Eat Well Project to feed local children who had free school meals during the school holidays.
- Summer programme of events at Sambrook Centre and Brookside Centre
- Working Lunch next week
- Training event at Dawley House on Code of Conduct.

Cllr R Breeze commented on the ongoing issue of the overhanging trees and foliage at Northwood Terrace entry to the Town Park. The Deputy Clerk stated that works were due to start and asked Cllr Breeze to keep her informed of any activity at the site.

CE/19/18 PROJECTS & EVENTS FOR 2019

The Deputy Clerk commented upon the forthcoming events.

CE/19/19 ALLOTMENTS SITE

The Committee considered matters relating to the allotments site

Bees at the Allotments Site

The Deputy Clerk explained that as a result of the request of the last meeting, the Beekeeper at the Allotment Site, Mr Arron Perry, had provided copies of his insurance documents both personal and from the British Beekeepers Association (documents tabled at the meeting). The Dep Clerk had also, as requested, undertaken a Risk Assessment and had checked that with the Parish Council's Insurance Company.

During a robust debate a number of matters were discussed including a suggested move of the bees to a corner plot on the Allotment Site but a suitable plot was not currently available. Cllr Bate enquired as whether there had been any reports of injuries from the bees since that last meeting and was told by the deputy Clerk that no such reports had been made. Cllr Bate commented that as the PC insurance cover seemed adequate and there had been no further complaints that the matter seemed resolved.

However Cllr A Watkin commented that the matter was a serious issue of potential stings from the bees located in a plot in the middle of the row of plots and needed to be located in a corner. It was again stated that no corner plots were available at present.

Appendix A.

It was proposed by Cllr T Bate, and seconded by Cllr J Loveridge, and at the request of Cllr a Watkin, put to a Recorded Vote that the matter of bees at the Allotment Site be deferred to the Brian Johnson (Allotment Association) Arron Perry (Bee Keeper) and the remainder of the Allotment Association to resolve the matter.

The Recorded Vote was taken with the following votes cast – Cllr T Bates for the motion, Cllr J G Loveridge for the motion, Cllr R Breeze for the motion, Cllr M Randle for the motion and Cllr A Watkin against the motion. Subsequently, by 4 votes to 1 it was **RESOLVED – that the matter of bees at the Allotment Site be deferred to Brian Johnson (Allotment Association) Arron Perry (Bee Keeper) and the remainder of the Allotment Association to resolve the matter.**

Allium Leaf Minor

A request had been received to hold a one off fire at the Allotment Site to burn specimens of the Allium Leaf Minor to eradicate the harmful plant from the site.

Cllrs J G Loveridge and M Randle agreed to be on site to monitor the controlled fire.

It was proposed by Cllr J G Loveridge, and seconded by Cllr T Bate, and subsequently **RESOLVED – that the holding of a “one off” fire to burn Allium Leaf Minor plants be approved.**

Note : Cllr A Watkin abstained from the vote on the matter.

CE/19/20 GRANTS

The Committee considered the following grant applications under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972:- None to consider.

CE/19/21 COUNCILLORS REPORTS Councillors’ reports were made on matters relevant to the Committee as follows:-

Cllr A Watkin reported again that there had been incidents of Children throwing stones at cars and properties in Stirchley lane and that it had been reported to the Police.

Cllr J G Loveridge reported upon the recent success of the Youth Club activities at Brookside coordinated by Devon Peate. Also Sam Pitch had undertaken a successful Litter Pick in the area involving local people.

Cllr R Breeze again reported the effects of the recent “Colour Run” held in the Town Park area coming into the Parish and leaving coloured marker dye in the streets and lanes.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.02 pm

Signed

Dated