ALVECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

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Clerk – Tammy Williams

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD MONDAY 12th JUNE 2017 AT 7.00PM

AT HOPWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE, REDDITCH ROAD, HOPWOOD

17/022 Present: Councillors A Humphries (Chair), A Willetts, A Smith,

M Worrall, R Chima, A Helmore, N Wise, M Ball, T Wallis, J Cypher &

S Lambert

In attendance: Tammy Williams (Clerk), R Peach (Village Magazine), Ron Rand,

District Councillor K Van der Plank, County Councillor C Hotham, Sarah Courbet Richard Flanagan (Fitzgeralds) & Ken Wheatley

Councillor Humphries started the meeting by congratulating District Councillor Kate Van der Plank on her recent by-election success, becoming District Councillor representing the Alvechurch Village ward. Councillor Humphries also sent his best wishes to Ken Wheatley who had also stood as a candidate and had not been successful.

17/023 Apologies for Absence

Councillor P Freeman (accepted)

17/024 Declarations of Interest

None were noted at this point in the meeting, although Councillor Wallis did declare an interest in the allotments later on in the meeting (17/030v)

At this point in the meeting, Councillor Humphries moved onto Agenda Item 4:

17/025 To Approve The Minutes Of The Previous Meeting Held On 8/5/17

Councillor Smith raised a number of issues with the Minutes which were amended and initialled by Councillor Humphries. The matters raised were as follows:

17/001 It was noted that Councillor Chima and Councillor Smith were stated as being present at the meeting but also were recorded in 17/004 as having sent apologies prior to the meeting.

17/015e Councillor Smith added "to divert the route on a temporary basis" Councillor Smith also queried whether he had indeed spoken to the resident as noted in 17/015e but the Clerk confirmed this and the minute stood as recorded.

The Clerk and the Chair, Councillor Humphries, reminded all Councillors that Minutes should be reviewed prior to the meeting and if that's not possible, they should speak to the Clerk beforehand.

At this point in the Meeting, Richard Flannagan representing Fitzgeralds, spoke to all present regarding traffic management at the Weights Lane housing development. See Appendix 1 for more details.

17/026 Reports from Alvechurch Ward, District & County Councillors

District/County Councillor C Hotham advised as follows:

- a) Bromsgrove District Council
- i. Bromsgrove District Council has only met once recently and that was their Annual Council Meeting. At this meeting Geoff Denaro was appointed Leader of the Council, the cabinet members remained the same and Councillor H Jones was elected as Chairman for the ensuing year.
- ii. Councillor Hotham commented that at the recent Planning meeting, as part of discussions on the Longbridge Area Action Plan, he was very unhappy to have been outvoted when the Planning Committee approved plans to build 655 houses rather than the original promise of 750 (95 houses short). It was noted that as we had promised Birmingham City Council that we would assist them in meeting their housing targets, the shortfall of 95 houses will inevitably fall to Bromsgrove District Council to fulfil. In addition to the reduced number of houses being built, there will also be no Section 106 monies to improve the A441 and all Section 106 monies are being directed towards Birmingham City Council operations. In particular, Councillor Hotham noted, that £90,000 had been allocated to improve the telescope at the Lickey Hills rather than going a long way towards installing a crossing in Hopwood.
 - b) Worcestershire County Council (WCC)
- i. At the recent Annual Council Meeting, Councillors were advised that the County Council needed to find £30m in savings; however, Councillor Hotham noted that the County Council appeared to have a plan to find these.
- ii. Councillor K May was appointed as a cabinet member for Transformation
- iii. Worcestershire County Council had failed an Ofsted inspection for Children in Care and it was noted that an 8-point plan had been drawn up. However, Ofsted had recently visited them for an update on progress and email circulations after the event reported that it had been a disappointing meeting.
- iv. On closer inspection, the Highways department had agreed that the footway between Willowbrook and Birmingham Road had been adopted by Worcestershire County Council and as such the issue with the raised manholes will fall to WCC to resolve, although finding the necessary funds will be an issue. However, it was noted that a meeting is being held at Alvechurch Train Station to finalise the installation of cycle racks which will in turn release funds to WCC which can then be put towards the resurfacing of this footway. Parish Councillors queried whether there were Section 106 monies available from both the Persimmon Homes development and also the Rectory Lane housing development to improve facilities at the station.

ACTION POINT: County Councillor Hotham to clarify how much Section 106 monies might be available.

Councillor Humphries also noted that WCC had assigned £6m to footway improvements across the County and this is a key route used to access the school.

ACTION POINT: County Councillor Hotham to establish when the station franchising will be decided and **the Clerk** to notify the date and time of the meeting being held at Alvechurch station.

District Councillor Van der Plank advised that she had been signed into the District Council at 4pm today and is delighted to be taking on the role, intending to be visible, accessible and to work with the Parish Council. District Councillor Van der Plank feels strongly about protecting the greenbelt and instead encouraging further housing developments to be built

on brownfield sites as well as supporting community groups. Currently, District Councillor Van der Plank is assisting the Lounge with their New Homes Bonus application and she is trying to get round as many community groups as possible.

It was queried whether there was any news on District Councillor J Griffiths and District Councillor Van der Plank advised that District Councillor Griffiths was still off work at the moment but is on the mend and that any matters usually undertaken by District Councillor Griffiths should be forwarded to Kit Taylor.

17/027 Clerk's report including Matters Arising From Previous Meetings and Emergency Expenditure...

a. <u>Update on Knotweed Eradication Programme at the Wiggin Playing Field</u>
The Assistant Clerk has spoken with the Japanese Knotweed Ltd and they have confirmed that they are spraying the knotweed on 19th June and will tape off the area directly surrounding to exclude members of the public entering the area. The Clerk confirmed that a letter was sent last week to the landowner of the land adjoining the Wiggin Memorial Playing Fields regarding responsibility for payment of the knotweed eradication programme and to date a response hasn't been received.

b. General Update on Projects

Councillors were provided with a list of outstanding and completed projects since the last meeting.

c. <u>To Note the Updated Financial Regulations, Standing Orders & Good Councillors Guide</u> 2017

The Clerk provided all Councillors with copies of these three documents on the night for their reference over the next 12 months. It was noted that the Clerk had made enquiries with Worcestershire CALC regarding the appendices at the back of the previous version of our Standing Orders and the Clerk was advised that the Legislation was superseded by the Localism Act 2011 and as such were superfluous, with the exception of the Terms of Reference for each of our Committees and Working Groups, which had been updated and appended.

d. Update on the Asset Register & Insurance Renewal

The Clerk confirmed that she had reviewed and updated the Asset Register and consequentially, the insurance policy. Both the Asset Register and the Insurance policy renewal were reviewed and agreed at the Finance & Resources Meeting held on 22nd May 2017. Councillors were advised that as a result of increasing the items listed on the insurance policy, the premium had increased from around £1900 to £2428.74.

e. Update On The Resurfacing Of Tanyard Lane Car Park

Following an enquiry from the Parish Council, all parking fines issued on 16th May 2017 were revoked and a notice to that effect was published both in the Parish Council Office window and on our Facebook Page. When Bromsgrove District Council does decide to resurface the car park again they have advised they will liaise with the Parish Council and notices in the car park will be clearer to users.

f. <u>Update On The Repainting Of The Benches At Wiggin Memorial Playing Fields And The</u> 2016 New Homes Bonus

In 2016, we applied for £160 from the New Homes Bonus Scheme as a partial contribution towards the repainting of the metal benches at the Wiggin Memorial Playing Fields. Stuart Elder repainted all of the benches in and around the playground area before Picnic In the Park and now the work is completed, the Clerk has applied to Bromsgrove District Council for the £160.

g. <u>Update on Column 3 Street Light, Tranter Avenue</u>, Alvechurch

We recently contacted Prysmian about a street light that had been reported as not working in Tranter Avenue. We have since received a report from Prysmian to advise that no street light maintenance will be carried out at the moment until they have received advice from the

Health & Safety Executive regarding working on ladders. The Parish Council is pursuing Prysmian on this matter.

h. Update on Lone Working Arrangements at the Parish Council Office

As per Council's request at the May Parish Council Meeting, the Clerk and Assistant Clerk had discussed the matter of Lone Working at the Parish Council Office and agreed the following strategy:

- To obtain 2 x personal alarms
- To keep the door locked when lone working during opening hours
- To seek the landlord's permission to install a chain on the front door, to be paid for by the Parish Council and should either member of staff feel uncomfortable when a member of the public attends then the chain will be used. If the member of public still wants to come in then the staff member will advise the Member of the Public that we will call a Councillor to attend the office as well. It is not anticipated that this situation will arise frequently but it will be a policy to invoke should we find ourselves in a predicament. To be practical, the office staff will need to agree in advance who might be available to attend the office.
- i. To Note The Disposal Of Unused Office Equipment

The Clerk had provided Councillors with a list of obsolete office equipment and according to our Financial Regulations, 14.2, the Clerk can dispose of these items. Councillors requested that where appropriate, the Clerk offers these items to The Lounge.

j. Update on Alvechurch Train Station

A number of Councillors are meeting with Robert Hornsey of London Midland and Chris Wilson (WCC) on 20th June to discuss the Section 106 monies set aside to provide a cycle rack at the train station. Councillor Humphries has also sent photos of the "lake" in the car park following this week's rain and after a dry spring.

17/028 Finance & Administration

- a. <u>To Receive a List of Invoices for Payment and to Consider any Exceptional Items</u>
 Councillors were provided with a cheque list. The payments were approved and the cheques were signed.
- b. <u>To Consider Section 1 Annual Governance Statement 2016/17 of the Annual Return</u>
 The Clerk read out each of the statements in Section 1 of the Annual Governance Statement 2016/17 and the Council agreed to each statement in turn. The Clerk and the Chairman then signed and dated Section 1.
- c. <u>To consider Section 2 Accounting Statements 2016/17 of the Annual Return</u>
 Councillors were provided with copies of the Annual Return in advance of the meeting to review in greater detail. It was noted that the Clerk had made an error regarding Chairman's name on the Submission to the External Auditor document. No queries were raised and Councillors agreed they were content for the Clerk and Chairman to sign and date Section 2 Accounting Statements 2016/17 of the Annual Return.
- d. To Consider the Maintenance Work to the Floor at Hopwood Community Centre
 Councillor Worrall advised Councillors that he and the Clerk had met the contractor from Top
 Mark Flooring to review the floor at the Community Centre and work was scheduled to begin
 on 19th June and was expected to take until Friday 23rd June to complete all the work. Top
 Mark had also agreed to re-floor through to the front door as well for the same price as was
 previously quoted. The Clerk confirmed that all regular users of the Community Centre had
 been notified of the work and offered the opportunity to use the Pavilion instead if that
 helped, otherwise the Centre would be closed for a week. Top Mark Flooring had provided
 three large samples of vinyl floor covering and Councillors unanimously **agreed** to the woodeffect floor covering. The Clerk advised that a co-ordinating vinyl skirting would be selected
 as well.

Councillors also queried the progress of the installation of the new doors and windows at the Centre; Councillor Worrall advised that he had contacted our chosen contractor and had advised that as soon as the floor was installed we would look to update the doors and

windows as well. It was noted that the shutters in the Committee Room do not open and this may impact on the installation of the new window in that room.

ACTION POINT: The Clerk/Councillor Worrall to raise the matter of the shutter with the contractor to consider the possible solutions

e. <u>To Consider The Purchase Of Housing For A Defibrillator At Hopwood Community</u> Centre

The Clerk updated Councillors that following their decision at the May Parish Council meeting to install the defibrillator external to the Community Centre and therefore purchase housing as well, the Clerk had spoken with a representative of Craig and Charlotte Saving Hearts Foundation and they had advised that they could provide the defibrillator, training, housing and electrical installation for £1650, which would be covered as follows:

| Housing | £600 | Bromsgrove District Council Paid for by Alvechurch Parish Council |
|------------|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Difference | £164 | Paid for by Craig & Charlotte Saving Hearts Foundation |
| TOTAL | £1650 | |

Councillors **agreed** unanimously that the Clerk could proceed with the above arrangement.

f. To Consider Phase 2 Of The Update To Our Street Lighting Stock

Councillors were advised that following a survey of our street lighting stock, Phase 2 of the upgrade would comprise of the following works:

| Road Name | Light No. | Work to be Carried Out | Anticipated Cost |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Latimer Road j/w Snake Lane | 5 | Replace concrete column | £900 |
| and the state of t | | Led replacement | £375 |
| | | Lea replacement | 15/5 |
| Bear hill, LHS up from The Green | 2 | Replace concrete column | £900 |
| | | Led replacement | £375 |
| Redditch Road, Alvechurch | 2 | Replace concrete column | £900 |
| Opposite 10/12 | | Led replacement | £375 |
| Snaka Lana a/s 7, annasita | | Subsidence column needs to be | £1100 |
| Snake Lane o/s 7, opposite Withybed Lane | | moved | 11100 |
| | | | |
| Callow Hill Road j/w Snake Lane | 1 | Shown as removed by WCC? | |
| | | TOTAL ANTICIPATED COST | £4925 |

Councillors **agreed** unanimously that the Parish Council should proceed with Phase 2 of our Upgrade to the Street Lighting stock. Councillors were also advised that annual surveys would take place to continue with this rolling process of identifying the next columns in need of upgrading.

ACTION POINT: The Assistant Clerk to instruct Prysmian to begin Phase 2 of the upgrade.

g. To Consider The Purchase Of A Projector

Councillors were advised that the fan on the current projector used by the Planning Committee is broken and there are spots on the lens. It was noted that there are a few companies that offer a service to fix them and that we had received an estimate to fix ours costing from £240 for parts and labour to fix the one we already own. The Clerk provided Councillors with details of three new projectors and Councillors agreed unanimously that we should purchase the Optoma HD26 DLP Full HD 1080p 3D from Maplin at a cost of £499.99 including VAT.

ACTION POINT: The Assistant Clerk to purchase the new projector as stated above from Maplin

h. To Consider BDC's Draft Revised Street Trading Policy

The Clerk had previously emailed a copy of Bromsgrove District Council's Draft Revised Street Trading Policy to review. Councillors noted that there were a couple of traders situated in the lay-by close to Hopwood Services that this may be applicable to. A Councillor also queried whether the policy would impact on the Mop visiting Alvechurch and the Clerk noted that the arrangements for this were made with Bromsgrove District Council rather than Alvechurch Parish Council. The possibility of a Farmers Market in Alvechurch was raised and Councillor Humphries advised that we should see if this would form part of the policy. **ACTION POINT: Councillors** to review the policy and any comments should be emailed to

ACTION POINT: Councillors to review the policy and any comments should be emailed to the Clerk by the 31st July deadline

17/029 To Note Progress on the Neighbourhood Plan

Councillors were advised that it is the "Beginning of the End". A draft version of the Plan has been sent to the lead planners at Bromsgrove District Council and Worcestershire County Council for comment and it is expected that their comments will be received by the end of June. It was noted that Mike Dunphy (BDC) had commented that he didn't think there was anything much to worry about. Gerard Couper had carried out a Sustainability Appraisal and has made a few comments as a result. The Steering Group is now concentrating on the Evidence Base and making sure that all of the policies within the plan match up.

The next steps will be to arrange a pre-submission consultation with the public; anticipated to last for 2 days and will hopefully be held in Alvechurch Village Hall. It is hoped that the Steering Group may be able to finish all work on our Neighbourhood Plan by the end of 2017, however, it seems that Bromsgrove District Council may take the plan to a local Referendum at the time of the local elections in May 2018.

A public consultation was also held at Picnic in the Park and this helped to publicise the Neighbourhood Plan further. It was noted that 112 people had completed the survey and most surveyed were parishioners. Please see Appendix 2 for details of the output of the Consultation at Picnic in the Park. Councillors were all content for the results of the Picnic in the Park consultation to be sent to Richard Peach at the Village Magazine and to be circulated on Facebook.

It was also noted that Alvechurch Parish Council has to approve the Neighbourhood Plan and it should also be circulated to neighbouring parishes for their comments as well.

ACTION POINT: Councillor Cypher/The Clerk to forward the results of the Picnic in the Park Consultation to The Village Magazine

ACTION POINT: Councillor Cypher/The Assistant Clerk to add the results of the consultation to Facebook with a photo of the Consultation Team at Picnic in the Park

ACTION POINT: The Village Magazine to provide the Parish Council with a picture taken at Picnic in the Park of the Consultation Team

ACTION POINT: Councillor Smith to add the results of the PIP Consultation to the Neighbourhood Plan website.

ACTION POINT: The Clerk to add the approval of the Neighbourhood Plan to the July Agenda

ACTION POINT: Councillor Smith to circulate an electronic version of the Neighbourhood Plan to neighbouring parishes, when finalised.

17/030 Reports From Committees and Minutes Circulated Since Last Meeting

- a. <u>To Receive an Update From the Finance & Resources Committee Meeting Held on</u> 22nd May 2017
 - Please refer to the Minutes.
- b. <u>To Receive An Update From The Youth, Sport & Recreation Committee Meeting To</u> Include:
 - i. To Receive An Update On The 2017 Picnic In The Park Committee And **To**Consider The Committee's Request To Hold The Event In 2018

Standing orders were suspended in order for Sarah Courbet to, along with Councillor Wise, address the Council on this matter. It was noted that the event had been a great success, in part due to the fantastic weather on the day and also to the hard work carried out by the Committee and all involved. The Committee has not received the final costs yet but at this stage it is anticipated that the event will have made £1450 in profit, £350 more than last year, to be split 50/50 between the Wiggin Memorial Playing Fields and The Lounge. The stalls had made around £5000 and noteworthy was the funds raised by The Lounge and Finlay Church's family and friends on their stalls. The Dog Show raised £50 for Cramar Cat Sanctuary as well. Thanks were relayed to Ron Rand, the Clerk and the Assistant Clerk for their assistance. Thanks were also given to SJ Hopkins Ltd who came and put up and took down the bunting along Meadow Lane for free. A letter will be sent to them to formally thank them.

It was noted that on the day there were issues with the PA system and the generator and people in the village helped resolve those issues. Sarah noted that the minute's silence was well respected and thanks were sent to Councillor Humphries for his advice on this.

Ron Rand had also advised that the litter left after the event was minimal; in fact only one stray crisp packet was found which was fantastic and he commented that this was a great representation of the community spirit!

The Committee has received some feedback since the event including a request for more vegetarian food options and also for a permanent sign to be erected at the end of Meadow Lane to indicate that the Wiggin Memorial Playing Fields are located at the end of the Lane.

The Committee requested that they could hold the 2018 Picnic in the Park event on Sunday, 27th May 2018 and Councillors **agreed** unanimously that this could happen Councillor Humphries thanked everyone on the organising Committee for all their efforts.

At this point in the meeting, the order moved to Agenda Item 8.1.2.3:

ii. <u>To Receive An Update From The Wiggin Development Working Group And To Consider The Consultation Process</u>

At the Picnic in the Park, alongside the Neighbourhood Plan Consultation, a miniconsultation for the new play equipment proposed was carried out. The Working Group had devised a Consultation Questionnaire, the results of which suggested that there was a slight lean in favour of the Double Zip Wire. The Working Group will meet to discuss next steps on 15th June.

At this point, the order moved back to Agenda Item 8.1.2.2:

iii. <u>To Consider Stage 1 Of The Installation Of The Finlay Church Memorial At The Wiggin Memorial Playing Field, Next Steps And The Re-Surfacing Of The Paddling Pool Edges</u>

Councillor Smith advised that Andy de Comyn had managed to start part of the installation of the Memorial Garden for Finlay prior to Picnic in the Park, but it was obvious that it would not be possible to complete it before the event. On the day of Picnic in the Park, Andy de Comyn did some of the stone carving on the limestone benches.

As a result of the clearing of the paving stones, undertaken by the Community Payback team (formerly Probation Service), some trip hazards had been identified around the paving area and as such, some gravel had been put either side of the paddling pool for members of the public to walk on.

Andy de Comyn had also inserted a board at the end of the paddling pool to help increase the water level in the paddling pool but unfortunately this had been thrown downstream and it was hoped that Andy de Comyn would position a more permanent, harder to move the solution there instead.

Going forwards the paddling pool edges need to be concreted and be non-slip. Councillors **agreed** that the Clerk can obtain 3 quotes to be considered at the July Parish Council Meeting

With regards to the planting proposed for the area, it was noted that the Parish Council would be happy to make a contribution towards the planting.

It was also noted that the stream needs clearing out again.

ACTION POINT: Councillor Smith advised that he would request the Community Payback team clear the stream again.

iv. To Consider The Tendering Process For Grounds Maintenance

The Clerk had provided Councillors with a briefing note stating the timescales to complete the Tendering process by 31st December 2017. Councillors **agreed** unanimously with the proposed timeline.

v. <u>To Receive An Update On The Allotments And To Consider The Contractual</u>
Arrangements

At the beginning of this section Councillor Tony Wallis declared an interest in the Allotments.

It was noted that this year's rent is due on 1st July and the allotments have been up and running now for 5 years which in contractual terms, is the rent review point and then in year 9 this can be the break point for either party. As such, Councillor Humphries advised Councillors that it was important to discuss future arrangements for the allotments with the landowner and a letter to this effect would be enclosed with the cheque payment. It was also suggested that we monitor the situation with the allotments on a yearly basis now.

ACTION POINT: Councillor Humphries to circulate a letter to the landowner to all Councillors for comments.

vi. To Receive an Update on the Lounge

District Councillor Kate van Der Plank advised Councillors that Bill Ulyett of the Lounge had compiled a New Homes Bonus Grant application for the Lounge to extend their services so that they can support older people in the Parish as well. The application requires the support of the Ward Councillors and as Kate has only just been elected, an extension was granted. District Councillor K van Der Plank advised that the application needs to provide details of how the proposal can be sustained beyond a year.

vii. <u>To Consider Security Measures At The Wiggin Memorial Playing Fields With A View</u> <u>To Developing A Policy</u>

Councillors were advised that the gates to the Wiggin Memorial Playing Fields had been closed deliberately prior to the Picnic in the Park. Issues arising for members of the public include an inability to turn round on Meadow Lane when the gates are shut and walkers who need to drive to the Playing Fields.

Standing Orders were suspended to enable Ron Rand to address Council. He advised that an improved bollard should be installed on the vehicle bridge although Ron noted that vandals do have a way of ruining the locks on the bollards regardless. It was noted that the Parish Council does maintain close contact with the local Police force but concerns were raised about the cost to taxpayers should there be an incursion on any of our Playing Fields.

Councillors **agreed** that the Parish Council should continue to lock the Wiggin Memorial Playing Field's gates whenever they receive information that there are travelling groups in the area. The decision should be made by the Clerk and the Chairman or Vice-Chair.

ACTION POINT: The Clerk to add reviewing new bollards to the Youth Sport and Recreation Committee agenda on 19th June 2017.

c. <u>To Receive An Update On The Planning Meeting Held On 5th June 2017</u> Please refer to Minutes for further details.

ACTION POINT: The Assistant Clerk to investigate what constitutes a non-heritage design asset and update the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

- d. To Receive An Update On Highways Matters To Include:
- i. The Road Works at Bordesley See Appendix 1
- ii The Safer Roads Partnership Speed Monitoring on the A441, Hopwood It was noted that there wasn't an update on this.
- iii. Re-surfacing of the Footway Between Willowbrook and Birmingham Road
 This item was already covered in Item 17/026b.iv
- e. <u>To Receive an Update From the Health Working Group</u>
 It was noted that the Health Working Group had not met recently and therefore there were no updates to report, however the Working Group will need to meet again in the next month.

17/031 To Receive Updates From Outside Bodies

a. <u>To Receive an Update on the June Worcestershire CALC Meeting</u>
This item is deferred until the July Parish Council Meeting

17/032 To Consider Residents' Complaints and Queries, As Received:

- a. A Request For Maintenance To The Benches By The Bus Shelters At Hopwood
 A resident had forwarded pictures to the Clerk regarding the benches and the Clerk
 had provided Councillors with these details. Councillors proposed that the Clerk
 arrange for them to be re-painted as they are in a state of disrepair.
- b. Notification That Our No Dogs Allowed (in the Play Area) Sign at The Wiggin
 Memorial Playing Fields Had Been Vandalised

 The Clerk advised that the sign had been painted yellow and that the Caretaker and Ron Rand had cleaned it up again.
- c. Notification Of Illegal Parking In Disabled Bays In The Village Centre
 The Clerk advised that a resident had sent in pictures of illegal parking in the village and the Parish Council had forwarded the pictures on to Parking Enforcement. The Clerk also noted that we have been advised by Highways that the disabled bays by the precinct are marked in line with current regulations and that the Parish Council intends to raise this further with County Councillor Charlie Hotham.

17/033 Around the Parish

a. Hopwood

County Councillor Charlie Hotham advised Councillors the following actions he has arranged or requested for Hopwood:

- That the footpath from Hopwood to Longbridge Island is going to be cleared.
- Has requested that Worcestershire County Council installs a lamp post on the triangle by the roundabout.
- Bollards will be installed where Heavy Goods Vehicles park & destroy the verges as well as have Soft Verge signs installed.
- The bollards by the Hopwood Inn will be reinstated.
- Double yellow lines will be reinstated along Bittell Farm Road

b. Bordesley

There was nothing to report for Bordesley.

c. Rowney Green

It was noted that the Gigaclear works were continuing to prove an inconvenience and combined with Severn Trent who started work on Radford Road meant that at times there was no vehicular access to Rowney Green

d. Alvechurch

- i. The football pitches at the Wiggin Memorial Playing Fields have not been marked out because currently it is not the football season.
- ii. It was noted that County Councillor Hotham's comments about the footway between Willowbrook and Birmingham Road provided the Parish Council with encouragement as it is approaching one year since this issue was first raised.
- iii. The Post Office is still planning to move into the Simply Fresh premises when it opens in the Autumn 2017. The Post Office is undertaking a public consultation on this proposal starting on Wednesday 14th June.

17/034 Date and time of next meeting: The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 10th July 2017 at 7pm at Hopwood Community Centre, Redditch Road, Hopwood.

| This meeting ended at 9.45p | m | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------|--|
| | | | |
| Signed | | Date | |
| Chairman, Alvechurch | n Parish Council | | |