

## Parish Council of Balsall

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at 7.30pm at The Westlake Room, Village Hall, Station Road, Balsall Common**

### **Present**

Cllr Raymond Ritchie (Chair), Cllr Judy Lea, Cllr Richard Lloyd, Cllr Douglas Money, Cllr Peter Trend, Cllr Elizabeth Macdonald, Cllr Ian Hedley, Cllr Marie-Louise Marsden, Cllr Lionel King, Cllr Peter Lea and 12 members of the public to include Dave Felthouse (Residents Association)

**Headings are those set out on the Agenda**

**1. Apologies**

Cllr Rob Horsfield

**2. Declarations of Interest**

None

**3. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2014**

**Resolved** – The Minutes of the meeting 15<sup>th</sup> January 2014 are approved and the Chair signed the Minutes as a true and accurate record

**4. Matters arising from the Minutes**

None

Cllr Hedley provided an update of the position regarding Chadwick End Parish Council. He confirmed the details of the new Councillors and that from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014, Cllr Hedley and Cllr King will transfer to the new Chadwick End Parish Council. Therefore, this would be the last meeting to be attended by them as Balsall Parish Councillors.

Chair thanked Cllr Hedley and Cllr King for their valuable time and input during their service as Balsall Parish Councillors.

**5. Public Forum**

Members of the public wished to discuss item 10 on the agenda. Paul Lucas gave information concerning the current position regarding HS2 and a request that this Parish Council petitions parliament in relation to the Hybrid Bill. Mr Lucas also requested that the Parish Council contributes towards funding the cost of employing a parliamentary agent to advise on the process and assist with petitioning. Further Mr Lucas sought the Parish Council to appoint a petitioning champion to undertake work to enable petitioning.

Mr Lucas understood that there were no funds set aside in the 2014/15 budget for HS2 and requested that funds that were budgeted this year are earmarked for HS2 petitioning.

Mr Lucas detailed the grounds for petitioning and the impact HS2 would have upon this Parish. It is a clear case where the residents in this Parish are affected and are asking for protection and support from the Parish Council.

The Parish Council must formally resolve to oppose the Bill and advertise this in the Press. It would then enable the Parish Council to petition.

**6. Correspondence**

- 6.1. E-mails regarding annual inspections
- 6.2. Dogs Trust – Free micro chipping for dogs 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014
- 6.3. E-mail from SMBC advising of new kissing gate at Barrets Lane
- 6.4. E-mail from Residents Association concerning HS2

**7. Cemetery – Update from Clerk**

Chair provided and update. It was confirmed that dialogue was continuing with the Chaplains office and further information was required by the Bishops Chaplain that is being provided. A further update will be provided at the next meeting

**8. CCTV – update from Clerk**

Clerk advised that all but the two cameras outside HSBC were now working. The contractor is continuing to investigate the cause of the failure of these cameras. Once all cameras are operational, tenders can be finalised

**9. Precept and to approve budget for 2014/2015**

**Resolved that the budget circulated to Councillors is approved and the Precept amount is approved**

**10. HS2 – To consider request from Residents Association for funding and action outlined in e-mail and to consider e-mail from Berkswell Parish Council regarding petitioning**

This item was considered in public participation.

**Resolved that the Parish Council issues a notice to formally oppose the Hybrid bill and it is the intention of the Parish Council to hold an Extraordinary General Meeting to vote to oppose the bill.**

**(voting – unanimous)**

**Resolved that the sum of £4,000 is earmarked from this years budgeted funds to be spent on professional advice and associated costs with petitioning parliament in relation to mitigation**

**Resolved that Cllr Liz Macdonald is appointed as the environment champion**

11. **Grant Application** – To consider and approve the forms for grant funding

**Resolved that the Grant funding application form and Policy is approved**

12. **Donation** – Request from Balsall Common Village Hall  
The quotations received from the Village hall were considered.

**Resolved that a donation in the sum of £1,000 is approved**

13. **Chadwick End Parish Council** – update from Clerk  
Cllr Hedley had provided an update at the beginning of the meeting.

14. **Reports from Committees**

14.1. HS2 (Sustainable Communities Act)  
This matter was discussed at item 10

14.2. Airport  
Cllr Money reported that there was no progress to report on

15. **Joint Working with Berkswell**

15.1. Neighbourhood Development Plan  
An update of the meeting with SMBC's Planning Officer was outlined.

**Resolved that Cllr Liz Macdonald is appointed as representative for Balsall Parish Council to liaise with Berkswell Parish Council on the Neighbourhood Plan**

16. **Accounts & Governance**

16.1. **PROPOSAL** - To approve list of Payments for Approval and Payments Made  
**Resolved that the accounts are approved for payment**

17. **Date for next meeting** – The next Parish Council Meeting shall be the Annual Parish Council meeting to be held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2014 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall, Station Road, Balsall Common

There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 21.07pm

Signed..... Dated.....

**Cllr Raymond Ritchie**  
**Chair**  
**Balsall Parish Council**