

LEIGH AND BRANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Leigh and Bransford Parish Council held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 23rd November 2021 at Leigh & Bransford Memorial Hall

Present: Cllr Sharp (Chair), Cllr Fereday, Cllr Ralph, Cllr Hinchliffe, Cllr Cresswell, Cllr King, Cllr Porter, Cllr Oliver,
In attendance: Cllr Whatley (MHDC), Cllr Rouse (MHDC), Cllr Hanks (WCC), J Barker (clerk)

58/21 Apologies – Cllr Husband, Cllr Jones, Cllr Hawkins

59/21 a) Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda (personal and prejudicial) - None
b) Notification of any changes to the Register of Interests - None

60/21 Minutes

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 28th September 2021 had been circulated. Proposed by Cllr Cresswell, seconded by Cllr Fereday, approved unanimously.

61/21 Reports from representatives of other bodies:

WCC – Cllr Hanks reported on WCC news including highways matters and the results of WCC speeding data from Nash Green and the Malvern Road/A4103 junction, details of which she agreed to supply to the PC. She has agreed to fund repairs to the footway between the Bransford bus bay and The Fold from her personal budget. There is a new gully mapping system being trialled that should be available for use in January. She also drew attention to funds available to businesses to help them convert to green energy.

MHDC – Cllr Rouse gave an update on MHDC news including the connected communities and economic development strategies, and the SWDP. A 5-year land supply has been adopted across south Worcestershire. She also reported that the Leigh Sinton Community lights switch on will take place on 4th December.

The WCC and MHDC Cllrs left the meeting at this point.

62/21 Progress reports on ongoing issues - none

Planning committee chair Cllr Fereday took the chair for item 63/21

63/21 Planning

a) To consider and approve the minutes of the planning committee meeting held 26th October 2021
The minutes were proposed by Cllr Cresswell, seconded by Cllr King, and approved unanimously.

b) Updates on ongoing planning matters – None

c) Planning applications received

Application ref	Location	Proposal	Recommendation
21/01937/HP	Ceres Smith End Green Leigh Sinton, WR13 5DG	Replacement of existing flat roof. Extension to the front of garage, infilling of open-sided roof area and new fencing installed along carriageway. New porch and door.	Approval proposed AO seconded PK, Approved unanimously

21/02079/AGR	Land at (OS 7660 5176) Coles Green Leigh Sinton	Agricultural barn for the storage of grain and hay and agricultural equipment.	Approval proposed PR, Seconded AO Approved unanimously
Planning appeal APP/J1860/W/21/ 3283821	Brookend Boarding kennels and cattery Stocks Lane Leigh Sinton, WR13 5DY	Conversion and change of use of boarding kennels to form 2 no. dwelling houses with associated landscaping and drainage works.	Additional comments to be submitted – Note 1.

Note 1.

The proposed site is a disused boarding kennels and can now be classed as a 'Brown Field' site. The use of such sites for residential development is being encouraged by Government.

Malvern Hills District Council claims that if residential units were allowed on the site it would result in the creation of areas of garden with associated garden paraphernalia and high close boarded fencing. The proposal will actually remove current outbuilding, a UPVC cattery and also reduce the amount of close boarded fencing. This will improve the overall appearance of the site.

The conversion of the existing building will ensure a sustainable development making use of the current buildings. The conversion will provide two bungalows, a style of building which is needed in our community and of which there is insufficient to meet demand. The lack of such bungalows results in long term residents who have lived many decades in the community and wish to move to single story accommodation being forced to relocate elsewhere away from the community.

The development will include an improvement to land drainage designed to mitigate the flash flooding on the highway which, at the time of heavy rains, causes Stocks Lane to be closed to traffic. Stocks Lane provides an important throughfare between Leigh Sinton and Malvern.

The proposal includes the reduction of hard standing and the planting of a heritage orchard which will improve the biodiversity of the site.

d) Planning decisions received from MHDC

21/01781/OUT	Brookend House, Stocks Lane	Outline application, up to 3 detached Dwellings	Refused
21/00537/HP	Crowcroft Bakery,	Single-storey & two-storey extension	Approved
21/01785/PIP	Instones, Stocks Lane	PIP involving retention of Instones and Erection of min 2 and max 3 dwellings In the garden	Refused
21/01573/FUL	Old School House, Suckley Rd	Demolition of dwelling and construction Of replacement	Withdrawn
21/00711/HP	The Sett, Dingle Road	New lounge/garden room and Replacement double garage	Approved

e) Neighbourhood Planning

Cllr King reported that he is working through the comments submitted to the consultation. The results of the Housing Needs Survey are still awaited from MHDC.

Cllr Sharp resumed the chair for the remainder of the meeting.

- 64/21 To discuss speeding and road safety – including SID and VAS data
The first data from the SID were discussed. Vehicles leaving Leigh Sinton travelling in the Bransford direction were most concerning, with some reaching 60mph. The PC will request the local

police monitor speeds on this stretch of road. Rumble strips and countdown markers were also discussed as possible additional speed reduction measures.

- 65/21 To consider quotes for grass and hedge cutting in parish council owned open spaces in 2022/23. Two quotes were considered. The existing contractor quoted £2250 (2022/23) and £2420 (2023/24). Mr R Wilks quoted £1030 (2022/23) and £1081 (2023/24). Cllr Oliver proposed the quote from Mr R Wilks be accepted, seconded by Cllr Ralph, agreed unanimously.

66/21 Finance

a) To approve accounts payable

NEST	Pension – September	£55.18
J Barker	Clerk – September	£819.29
James Monk	Web hosting & domain	£72.00
Thomas Suttill	Outdoor areas maintenance 21/22	£1816.50
JC Garden & landscape	Rectory Wood works	£1195.00
R Wilks	Lengthsman – September	£460.80
R Wilks	Lengthsman – October	£288.00
J Barker	Clerk – October	£771.09
C Maddock	Jubilee Garden expenses	£65.57

Payments proposed by Cllr Ralph, seconded by Cllr Oliver, approved unanimously

b) To consider the budget and precept for 2022/23

The clerk had circulated a provisional budget and precept request of £22,000 and this was discussed. It was agreed that the decision be deferred to the January meeting when the tax base is known.

Bank Balance (20/11/21) £36,625.92

67/21 Reports of committees and working groups

The Memorial Hall committee are looking to improve the thermal efficiency of the hall. Insulation needs to be improved and electricity costs reduced. Solar panels have been discussed but dismissed to date, though the availability of grants towards the cost of this were noted.

Mr Nash has completed the refurbishment of the telephone box and has the timber to construct the shelves, and it is hoped that the box will be ready to receive books by the end of the year.

68/21 Reports and items for consideration at future meetings

The overhanging hedges at Malvern House and Dragons Cross have not yet been cut back. The clerk to follow up with WCC.

Potholes in Sandlin have been repaired.

The Memorial Hall silent statue will be delivered and installed soon.

69/21 Date and time of next meeting

Tuesday 25th January 7.00pm at Leigh and Bransford Memorial Hall

Planning committee meeting - Tuesday 21st December 7.00pm at Leigh and Bransford Memorial Hall (if required)

Chair.....

Date.....