

## LEIGH AND BRANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of conference call (to replace the meeting of Leigh and Bransford Parish Council cancelled due to Covid-19) held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 26 May 2020.

Attended by Mr J Sharp (chairman), Mr B Porter, Mr D Fereday, Mrs A Oliver, Mr N Cresswell, Mr P King, Mr P Ralph, Mr G Jones, Mr P Hawkins, Mr R Husband, J Barker (clerk), Cllr S Rouse (MHDC), Cllr P Whatley (MHDC), P Tuthill (WCC)  
One member of the public

### 01/20 Apologies

There were apologies from Mr M Hinchliffe

### 02/20 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

### 03/20 Minutes

The minutes of the conference call meeting held on 24 March 2020 had been circulated. No objections or abstentions; approved unanimously

Meeting closed for Open Forum

A resident suggested that footpath BF-502 (currently blocked and ending in a dead end) be joined up with footpath BF-506 by creating a new footpath going round the edge of the reservoir to link them.

The chairman agreed the item will be included on the agenda for the meeting scheduled for the 28<sup>th</sup> July and requested that the resident provide a formal paper identifying the current location and the proposed extension that can be circulated to councillors a least 2 weeks before the meeting. The parish council will also consult with the Countryside team at Worcestershire County Council for their observations prior to the meeting.

Meeting re-convened.

### 04/20 Reports from representatives of other bodies:

WCC – Cllr Tuthill gave updates on local fire, ambulance and hospital services and Worcestershire County Council.

The chairman sought clarification on whether PPWs can undertake footpath duties. Cllr Tuthill agreed to follow up. He also reported that tar has been seeping through the topcoat road surface on Suckley Road (30mph section) in high temperatures. Cllr Tuthill agreed to feed back to the Highways dept.

MHDC – Cllrs Rouse and Whatley gave an update on district council matters, particularly the Covid-19 response and the financial and logistical consequences of the pandemic.

They are lobbying for national funds set aside for cycling and walking schemes for the cycle path between Leigh Sinton and Malvern.

The Parish Council was asked to check that all those who asked for financial assistance during the February floods received it.

There has been little interest in the provision of faster broadband in the Ednol Cottages area, so this may not go ahead. The chairman noted slow broadband on Spruce Close. He agreed to get further information and feed back to Cllr Whatley.

### 05/20 Progress reports on ongoing issues

Leigh Hurst Play Area – Mrs Oliver reported that the application had been submitted in March and she is awaiting a response.



Rectory Wood – Natural Networks have been impressed with the work carried out and will be using Rectory Wood in promotional material for the scheme.

A number of community volunteers are using litter picking equipment to tidy up the parish whilst out on their daily walks.

Planning committee chairman Mr Fereday took the chair for item 06/20

#### 06/20 Planning

##### a) Planning applications

L&B Ref	MHDC Ref	Proposal Details	Location	PC Recommendation
20/01	20/00586/s106	Application under section 106A to modify the legal agreement dated 06/08/2014 Linked to ref: 14/00324/OUT. (i) To remove schedule 2 in relation to the recreation contribution; (ii) Replace references to fixed equity units with references to shared ownership units; and (iii) Amend the wording of the 'mortgage in possession' clause	Land at (OS 7765 5045) Hereford Road Leigh Sinton	See note i below

Note i. Clause (i) The parish council recommends refusing the removal of this clause. In a previous similar application (Bank House site, Bransford) the parish council were able to specify what the s106 funds would be used for. In the case of this application the council did not get that opportunity and therefore assumed the s106 funds would be forthcoming and could be allocated later. There is still a need for recreation facilities in Leigh Sinton and the parish council does not agree with the fact that s106 was not provided for this application. Agreed unanimously.

Clause (ii) Agreed unanimously that the clause should be replaced.

Clause iii) Agreed unanimously that the clause should be amended.

##### b) Planning decisions

20/00127/HP	2 Eastleigh, Sherridge Road	2 storey side extension	Approved
20/00322/HP	River Lands, Teme Lane	Side and 1 <sup>st</sup> floor extensions	Approved
19/01727/HP	Lambs Farm Stables, Coles Green	Side extension	Approved

##### c) Neighbourhood planning update

Mr King reported that the draft plan is being checked before being made available on the parish council website.

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

#### 07/20 To discuss reports of illegal business activity on Suffield Close

There have been reports of cars being dismantled on Suffield Close. It was decided that the parish council should write to Platform Housing and Worcestershire Regulatory Services outlining its concerns.

#### 08/20 Update on community response to covid-19

The chairman thanked the 83 residents who have come forward as community response volunteers and noted the good community spirit across the parish. It was suggested that next year's Great Get Together would be a good opportunity for the volunteers to meet up and their contribution to be recognised.



09/20 Finance – accounts payable

J Sharp	Rectory Wood expenditure – reimbursed	£753.31
CALC	Annual membership	£1095.39
J Barker	clerk – April	£731.40
Zurich	Insurance 2020/21	£605.80
J Barker	clerk – May	£736.00

The chairman proposed the payments be accepted, no objections or abstentions, approved unanimously.

Bank balances

Current account (at 30/04/2020)	£34,942.23
Savings account (at 30/04/2020)	£4,898.75

10/20 Reports of committees and working groups

Memorial Hall – A decision on the proposed defibrillator will be delayed until the hall is open again. The hall committee have received £10,000 in government Covid-19 funds. Mrs Oliver agreed to check if 1<sup>st</sup> Leigh scouts are eligible and have applied.

11/20 Councillor reports and items for future consideration

The parish council had received a report that the hedge opposite Suffield Close is overgrown, making it difficult for people to see the bus approaching. The landowner has agreed to cut it back in the autumn after the nesting season.

Speeding is still a problem on the A4103 between Leigh Sinton and Bransford, particularly motorbikes on Sunday mornings. The police have been informed and the clerk will follow up to say the problem is ongoing.

The grass around the bus shelter in Leigh Sinton has been cut, but it has not been edged and the cuttings have been left. The chairman agreed to ask the Lengthsman to attend to the matter.

There have been reports of drug dealing in Leigh Sinton. The police are aware of the problem and are following it up.

12/20 Date and time of next meeting

Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> July 7.00pm, to be held by conference call if the Memorial Hall remains closed.

Conference call ended at 8.25 pm

Chairman.....

*L. Barker*

Date.....

*28/7/2020*