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**Minutes of a meeting of Stirchley and Brookside Parish Council Community and Environment Committee held at The Sambrook Centre on Tuesday 4 October 2022 at 7pm.**

Present: Cllrs L Powers, A Watkin, Vaughan-Hodkinson (Chair)

Also present: M Turner - Parish Clerk (taking notes), C Maclean – Locum RFO and J Creed - Environmental Officer.

Public open session – 5 members of the pubic were present

It was decided to suspend standing orders within the meeting agenda when items relating to the members of the public were arrived at.

**CE/22/30 APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs C Lloyd G Sinclair, H Unwin and H Evans. Cllr A Watkin declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to item CE/22/33 by virtue of being an allotment holder.

**CE/22/31 MINUTES**

It was proposed by Cllr A Watkin and seconded by Cllr L Powers and unanimously **RESOLVED** - **that the minutes of the Community & Environment Committee held on 6 September 2022, be approved.**

There were no Matters arising.

**CE/22/32 CLERK’S REPORT**

The Clerk confirmed that quotes had been sought for repairs to The Sambrook Centre roof and that he was awaiting details of the scheduling of the work at the Brindleyford MUGA. Nothing had moved forward on the issues at the Beckbury Drive Play Area while, at St James’s churchyard, a meeting had been scheduled with a representative of the Churches Conservation Trust, to understand how to carry out safety checks on headstones.

**CE/22/33 ALLOTMENTS**

1. After brief discussion of the revised allotment agreement, it was decided to hold ratification over so that further review of the document could take place.
2. The Environmental Officer confirmed that there had been nine empty plots available and that all had been offered out and agreements signed. There had been some discussions with existing plot holders about their ability to maintain their plots. As a result, one plot had come free which could be considered as a Community Plot. The Autumn skip had been well used.

It was proposed by Cllr S Vaughan Hodkinson, seconded by Cllr L Powers and unanimously **RESOLVED** - **that Standing Orders be suspended.**

1. Members of the Allotment Association were pleased that longstanding matters of concern had progressed. The work both of the Environmental Officer and the Customer Service Officer was noted and thanks given to them, and the Chair of C&E, for their driving of the matter forward. It was felt that there was a bright future for a valuable asset. There was concern expressed that, over the winter, some of the good work on site might be lost. The Clerk confirmed that the ongoing work of the Environmental Officer was subject to discussion at a meeting to undertake a Strategic Review of the work of the Council but that the point made was taken seriously. It was noted that the sycamore overhanging ploy No.4 was a major problem and that, in the past, a programme of tree work had been in place. This would be looked into by the Environmental Officer and the Clerk. The Clerk noted that he was aware that thefts of produce had been taking place at the allotments and that these had been reported to the Police.

It was proposed by Cllr S Vaughan Hodkinson, seconded by Cllr L Powers and unanimously **RESOLVED** - **that Standing Orders be reinstated.**

1. The Environmental Officer confirmed that the floor of one container had been fixed, the interior repainted and shelving was being installed. Options for the repair of the second container were being considered.
2. It was noted that repairs were being undertaken to paths. However, there had been some accidents and so a formal plan for staged repair needed to be formed.
3. The Clerk confirmed that through the review of three elements, the matter of waste disposal, he felt, had been resolved. He would be working on completing work on this.

**CE/22/34 EVENTS**

1. Following the cancellation of the Family Fun Day on 17 September 2022, it was proposed by Cllr S Vaughan Hodkinson, seconded by Cllr L Powers and unanimously **RESOLVED** - **that the funds relating to the cancelled event be moved to support Christmas events.**
2. It was discussed that, further to addressing the imbalance between the events that the Parish Council presents in Stirchley against those in Brookside, it was proposed by Cllr Vaughan Hodkinson and seconded by Cllr L Powers and unanimously **RESOLVED** - **that Christmas events should be mounted/supported by the Council in both Stirchley and Brookside.**

**CE/22/35 GRANTS**

Two grant applications were considered by the meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr A Watkin and seconded by Cllr L Powers and unanimously **RESOLVED** - **that the application from the Telford Visually Impaired Group be approved.**

It was proposed by Cllr S Vaughan Hodkinson, seconded by Cllr L Powers and unanimously **RESOLVED** - **that Standing Orders be suspended.**

After discussion of the second application, for a Black History Month event, it was noted that, as the group applying had no bank account or constitution, the committee could not support it. However, it was noted that the applicant should begin to work the Council’s Community Project Officer immediately, to work through the shortcomings in the application so that a submission could be worked up for a 2023 Black History Month event.

It was proposed by Cllr S Vaughan Hodkinson, seconded by Cllr L Powers and unanimously **RESOLVED** - **that Standing Orders be reinstated.**

**CE/22/36 CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no relevant correspondence.

**CE/22/37 PLANNING APPLICATIONS.**

1. The meeting discussed application TWC/2022/0796 and asked the Clerk to submit the following objections:-
2. It is unnecessary to downgrade/close the road (a more creative solution to this matter could be found);
3. The apparent unwillingness to consider and consult on a range of alternative ideas to solve the infrastructure and related issues;
4. The impact on green, open space;
5. The concentration of traffic in one area;
6. The pollution impact of iv);
7. The impact on businesses (Riding School/Livery), due to the circuitous access route (particularly for anyone owning a horse on the proposed development).
8. To give consideration to any further planning applications, received for consultation, after publication of the agenda - None
9. To receive information of decisions taken by Telford & Wrekin Council relating to planning applications in the Parish - None

**CE/22/38 PLANTERS AT THE SAMBROOK CENTRE**

The Clerk reported that the time slot to commission the installation of planters had now closed and, therefore, the idea could not be progressed.

**CE/22/39 COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

1. Cllr S Vaughan Hodkinson reported that she had completed her ILCA
2. Cllr L Powers reported that she would be working on the provision of afternoon teas for senior citizens.

The meeting closed at 8.01pm