

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF
THE PARISH OF SHERBOURNE
HELD AT SHERBOURNE VILLAGE HALL
ON MONDAY 20 APRIL 2015 AT 7:30PM**

Mrs Antoinette Gordon (Chairman)
Cllr Les Caborn (WCC)
PCSO Paul Coleman
Ten Sherbourne Electors

Opening

- 1 The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming all present.
- 2 She obtained the meeting's approval of a change of the order of business to allow the police representative to deliver a report before returning immediately to his duties.

Police Report

- 3 PCSO Paul Coleman addressed the meeting:
 - He gave details of the composition of his team (three members) and its area of responsibility extending over more than 40 square miles
 - Crime is low in the village.
 - He encouraged the reinvigoration of Neighbourhood Watch in the village suggesting that a membership of 75% of the households was an achievable target. He explained how the police would participate by setting up an electronic (email, voicemail and telephone) reporting system to receive reports from the public and to broadcast warnings and also information by newsletter.

Minutes

- 4 The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 Apr 14 were approved as a true record.
- 5 Matters Arising: All matters arising were dealt with in the subsequent consideration of the agenda items.

Report by Chairman of Parish Meeting

- 6 Mrs Antoinette Gordon reported:

<p>1. The Parish Council: Sherbourne (145 registered electors) is represented by 3 Parish Councillors – Rachael Newsome, Tony Merrygold and AG; only these 3 names were nominated as candidates for the election 7 May 2015, thus they have been declared as duly elected. There have been 10 JPC meetings, 11 Planning Mtgs. and 2 special working group meetings; as well as WDC Mtgs and Community Forum Mtgs.</p> <p>2. JPC Planning Meetings (Sherbourne items): W/14/0130. Park Lodge Cottage – modifications & extensions. Granted, subject to alterations. W/14/0777. Poplars Farm – consider change of use from offices to dwelling. Permission needed. W/14/0875. Sherbourne Farm – app. for lawful use of barns as shoot room etc. Refused. W/14/1325. Sherbourne Farm – app. for change of use of barns to shoot room etc. Refused. W/14/1357/LB. Old Rectory - replace reception area polycarb roof. Application unacceptable. W/14/1359. Old Rectory – replace reception area polycarb roof. Withdrawn. W/14/1360/LB. Old Rectory – replace reception area polycarb roof. Withdrawn. W/14/1401. Old Rectory – install new roof covering over reception area. Granted. W/14/1402/LB. Old Rectory – install new roof covering over reception area. Granted. W/14/1608. Dovecote, The Stables – enclose open front porch. Granted. W/14/1609/LB. Dovecote, The Stables – enclose open front porch. Granted. W/15/0041. Old Rectory – change of use from B&B to single dwelling. Granted. W/15/0517. Poplars Farm – variation of earlier pl. permission, to permit use as dwelling. O/stdng. W/15/0539. Sherbourne Farm – notification of change of use of agric. bldg. to restaurant.</p>
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O/stdng.

Trees in Sherbourne Conservation Area:

TPO.485. Sherbourne House, No.T1. Californian Redwood; No.T2. Scots Pine. Approved 22.7.2014.

W/TP/14/00126. 5 The Stables – T2 – reduce branches. Permitted, 6.6.2014.

W/CA/14/00127. 5 The Stables – T1 – thin crown & remove dead branches. Permitted 28.5.2014.

W/CA/14/00214. Avonbrook - remove lower branch of weeping willow. Permitted 19.9.2014.

W/CA/14/00294. Sherbourne Priors – fell sycamore & other tree works. Permitted 7.11.2014.

3. Roads and public footpaths:

Two 'Sherbourne' road signs have been erected at the junction of Fulbrook Lane with Barford Road.

Fulbrook Lane: name plate re-painted and re-erected (TM); overhanging bushes being cut back (RD).

Footpath & cycle route from A429 across M40, has been cleared of significant overgrowth and litter.

Approach to bus-stop on A429 has been cut back and bus shelter cleared of litter and leaves.

Verge cutting along Watery Lane and along Turnpike Footpath is regularly done by TM.

Rogue HGV's are being spotted and their companies contacted, which is reducing infringements (GL).

Speeding, especially along Watery Lane, remains a serious problem.

Public Footpaths: W91C is un-walkable; W91B/W91 is blocked; SD138 is truncated.

Footway Lighting:

The new lamps are providing much improved lighting; the frequently reported outages of other lamps should be reduced by the installation of new, improved bulbs over the next few months (MB).

4. Village Assets and general maintenance:

The Village Hall and the Church have been listed on the WDC Register of Assets of Community Value.

Village Hall: JPC Grant of £1,140.00

All Saints Church: JPC Grant for Churchyard maintenance of £431.00.

5. Community involvement:

Thanks to the vigilance of our small Community the public spaces of the Village are kept in nice condition – litter is picked up, overhanging shrubbery trimmed back, spring bulbs and sapling trees planted.

Report on Sherbourne Neighbourhood Watch

7 Mrs Helen Whiter had submitted the written report below:

The Sherbourne Neighbourhood Watch Scheme started nearly a year ago. We now have clear signs indicating that this is a Neighbourhood Watch Area and 47 homes have signed up to be part of the scheme. These people receive updates on any relevant incidents in the area, a regular newsletter and the Neighbourhood Watch sticker.

If you have not joined up yet, you can still do so. Please just contact the co-ordinator for your area of the village:

Carole Fidler	01926 624533	Moat Green and Watery Lane
Amber O'Brien	01926 624732	Church Road and Fulbrook Lane
Helen Whiter	01926 624681	Vicarage Lane and courtyards
Antoinette Gordon	01926 624344	Outlying Areas

or alternatively send your name, address and e-mail address to our local PCSO, Paul Coleman (paul.coleman@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk), who will then ensure that the information is passed to your local coordinator.

A reminder

Dialing 999 - Emergency number.

Use if you see an incident whereby you believe a crime is about to be committed, is being or has been committed and the offenders are still on the scene.

Or if any situation arises whereby an individual or persons are put in a dangerous situation potentially suffering harm, injury or potentially worse.

Dialing 101 - Non emergency number.

Use if you discover a crime has been committed and it is obvious that the offender(s) have left the scene and are no longer about i.e you discover in the morning that your vehicle has been entered or your property damaged. Use this number to report the crime.

If you wish to discuss any issues with your local Warwick Rural West Team they can be contacted as follows:

Phone: 01926 684397

E-mail: wrw.snt@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

Report by Village Hall Committee

8 Mrs Peta Wilkinson had submitted the written report below:

Dear Friends and Neighbours

Isn't it lovely to see sunshine and spring flowers! Such a change from dark and cold days.

We are having our AGM on 25th April at 10.30am in the village hall, do come along, refreshments are available and you will be able to hear our exciting news.

Thanks to the support of Warwick District Council and the Joint Parish Councils of Barford, Sherbourne and Wasperton we have managed to renovate our toilet facilities which has enhanced the hall tremendously. It has helped us to secure more bookings and to offer more events and services including our very successful lunches and bookings for weddings and other community events.

In even more exciting news we have recently secured a further grant from Warwick District Council to fund the renovation of the kitchen area which will allow us to open up the hall for even further events and community use. We offer our grateful thanks to all those who supported us. A small working party is drawing up proposals as to how the work is completed and monitored and we hope to begin work in the summer months.

Thanks to Graeme we now have a beautiful curtain separating the hall from the kitchen which provides a focal point for the room and much needed sound relief.

We have had some highly successful events over the last year including:

- Community Lunches
- Harvest festival celebrations
- Winter table top sale
- Film nights

We are working with the Church on joint events so that we can be as inclusive of as many people as possible to enjoy the facilities and meet socially.

We had a meeting in the hall for all villagers last year to discuss plans for the village hall post 2022 when our current lease runs out. Our landlord explained that he would like to explore options for the future. Discussions are on-going and we will ensure that we have another meeting once we have something to discuss.

Our proposals for this year's programme of events, includes:

- Midsummer Quiz Night
- Village lunches
- Musical evening
- Information surgeries

- Film nights
- Christmas event

We look forward to welcoming you all. Do let us know if you have time to help with planning or delivering events.

Very best wishes

Peta, Vera, Nicky, Mike , Graeme, Helen and Gail

Report by the Parochial Church Council

9 Mr David Hill gave the following reports:

All Saints Church Sherbourne

2014 was a truly memorable, historic year for Sherbourne in which the community celebrated the 150th anniversary of the consecration of the present church. This culminated in a festal choral evensong on 28th September at which the preacher was the Rt Revd Christopher Cocksworth – Bishop of Coventry- with the Scholars' Choir of St Mary's, Warwick.

An evening concert with Kathryn Ellis and Friends launched the weekend's activities on Friday 26th September.

Our grateful thank to Tony Reece and Edward Alexander for their in-depth investigation into the history of the site, clergy and village resulting in a new booklet "*History Notes 679-1862*" being available (much of the early documentation had to be translated from Latin).

During the year 53 services were held (34 Holy Communion, 10 weddings, 1 funeral, 2 baptisms, 6 passion, carols etc.)

The Warwickshire Chapter of the Rose Croix Masonic Order held their annual service on 14th September led by the Provincial Choir. The preacher was the Rev Dr Vaughan Roberts (St Mary's, Warwick) and over one hundred people attended.

The Coventry Diocese Bell-ringers held their Christmas Carol service on 13th December. This was preceded with 2 hours' "Free Ringing" and followed by a Christmas picnic in the church; 40 people attended.

A local Masonic Lodge (Guy's Lodge 395 Leamington Spa) held their Christmas Carol service on 10th December and 36 people attended.

The church held its traditional candle-lit carol service on 14th December.

As part of the celebratory week-end the church and the charitable work of Louise-Anne Ryland was featured on BBC TV's "*Midlands Today*" on 25 September. We were very grateful for the cooperation of the Warwickshire Museum Service for the loan of the model of the church commissioned by George Gilbert Scott for Miss Ryland.

The Church was included in the Buildings Open as part of the English Heritage Open Days 11th-13th September 2015.

We were delighted to receive group visits from the Solihull University of the 3rd Age and the South Birmingham Ramblers Group.

We continue to receive visitors as members of the 617 Squadron Association and the Dambusters Appreciation Society who wish to view the Maudesley Memorial and the family grave. Also visitors wishing to view Scott's architecture and Pugin's designs.

We look forward to 2015 (in which we have weddings booked) and to sharing our church with many friends and visitors.

Fabric

A regular programme of gutter and drain clearing and other maintenance work has been continuing led by Ted Copson.

The tile cleaning and sealing has reaped rewards, the aisles projecting a more attractive appearance of the Minton tiles.

Two new trees have been planted in the churchyard by families wishing to remember loved ones departed.

Unfortunately the 200 year-old cedar tree had to be felled, the tree having died as a result of an infestation into the UK by migratory birds from Algeria. The cleared land cannot be replanted for two years.

It is hoped to improve and maintain the appearance of the two strips of the garden either side of the lynch-gate. After rainfall the water ran down the church path and adjacent ground and puddled over the low stone slabs of the lynch-gate floor. The slabs were lifted and the sub-soil removed and replaced with hardcore aggregate. The slabs were relayed giving a positive fall. It is hoped this will alleviate the drainage problem.

A new slate plaque has been placed on the grass verge outside the church wall and in front of the large oak tree to replace the damaged metal sign.

The organ has been regularly serviced and it has been advised that we should consider a complete overhaul (it is nearly as old as the church.)

The Quinquennial Inspection of the church and church-yard will take place on 11th May 2015.

Report by Barford, Sherbourne & Wasperton JPC

10 Cllr John Murphy (Chairman of the JPC) submitted the following written report:

2014-2015 has yet again been a busy year – 9 routine JPC meetings, numerous Planning meetings, three Annual Parish Meetings one Special Meeting, numerous Working Party meetings and several public “events”.

Difficult financial times continue and all levels of government continue strive to achieve best value and minimize service reductions. Last year we took the brave step of a 33% increase in the parish element of the Council Tax. Of course 33% of a modest amount was a very small real increase - but it has allowed us to do much of what we would wish and importantly has allowed us to produce a balanced budget this year whilst avoiding any further increase on your parish element of the Council Tax charges.

All three village halls have this year been supported by JPC grants with £1140 towards general maintenance each and the JPC also gave grant support of £432 towards maintenance of each of the three churchyards. In a new initiative the JPC also determined to financially support the Barford Scout Hut with a £570 grant in recognition of the excellent role it plays in accommodating our community well beyond its initial “uniformed groups” remit.

This has been a really, really busy year for the **Playing Fields Working Party**. A full and very professional business plan has been produced and is being used to apply for funding from many major bodies with some considerable success. We held an Open Day consultation in March, further consultation at the School Fete and later in the Memorial Hall and presented final options at Barford Village Show on August Bank Holiday. This was then followed by a “Play Drop-In” over the weekend of 6/7th December when we presented our “preferred provider’s” proposed scheme. This was greeted with near universal delight and the ever-present question of “when”. The question remains, but as funding proceeds it all gets clearer. Currently the scheme is seen in three parts and we really need to see a way of funding all three parts before we can trigger any start, but the ultimate answer must be “perhaps” in 2015 but hopefully certainly all completed before the end of 2016.

The **New Local Plan** has continued to be a major theme over the year - and after a bumpy ride over housing numbers (12900) and G&T sites the Draft Local Plan was finally adopted by WDC in January and is currently awaiting Examination In Public.

After two years of hard work and consultation the **Barford Neighbourhood Development Plan** group published the Draft Plan and this was circulated to every household and other interested parties in "Consultation Summary" format with the full version available on-line or directly to those that wished it. Minor amendments did come forward and the final "Draft Plan" has now been submitted to WDC for conformity checking and further consultation prior to going to "examination" and hopefully coming back for a Referendum, to finally become "planning law". All a very long and difficult process but thanks to the hard work of many we will end up with a useful document to control and direct any development in the parish in the future.

And, just in case that was not enough of plans - we have had to consider the tail-end stages of county wide waste proposals - and we have the return of the **County Minerals Plan** to look forward to. The former has minimal implications for us but of course the latter effectively surrounds and divides our parishes so we will be taking a very keen interest.

Affordable Housing – We continued to liaise with WRCC but as the developer pressure has become so great it would seem we will now get more Affordable Housing than is required for our parishes' immediate needs and that the extra units will be occupied by those in need across the WDC area. We are hopeful that WDC will ensure that they remain preferentially available to those with local connections in perpetuity.

The revised proposals for 58 homes on **land around Barford House** remained high profile and having been refused, on similar grounds to the original but additionally on failing to meet the mix indicated by our HNS, went to a four day Appeal at the end of September. It was further complicated by duplicate and simultaneous applications to demolish parts of the front wall on safety grounds, one of which demolition applications went to appeal at the same time. Both Appeals were dismissed and the landowner has been required to reinstate the wall. Safety fencing was erected around the wall in question, completely obstructing the pavement on the east side of Wellesbourne Road and has only recently been removed and a resolution to restore the wall put in place by WDC.

A revised proposal for 60 houses on the site of the now closed **Sherbourne Nurseries** was also the subject of a further Planning Application by Taylor Wimpey with access via demolition of the Police House. This site which had been agreed acceptable in negotiations on the WDC New Local Plan and within the development of the Draft BNDP - has now been granted permission and preliminary works are currently underway.

An application to build 32 homes on land between Wilkins Close and the river came and went - but is expected to return in the very near future, apparently with strong officer support for approval – watch this space.

The 40mph limit on Watery Lane, Sherbourne, remains controversial and the WCC has been asked to review the situation.

Having secured funding support from both Barford Community Charity and Warwick Rural West Community Forum we have taken advantage of the WDC lighting improvement scheme and replaced many of the ageing lights in both Barford and Sherbourne along with installing some much needed additional ones in Sherbourne.

We were able to agree to add an extra name to Barford War Memorial this year – Harry Conlon, who had spent time in Barford and had somehow been overlooked on previous occasions. The name will be engraved and painted as soon as weather is suitable.

Councillors have served their electors extremely well, working as a strong team with James Johnson our excellent Clerk/RFO. Over the year we have seen some changes in Barford Councillors. Early in the year Scott Coop resigned due to work conflicting with meeting times

and recently Ian Boak resigned due to work pressures. In the mid-year Richard Shotton-Oza left us due to family pressures. Meanwhile Harry Gadsden, who cut his teeth on the Playing Fields Working Party where he has done sterling work on our funding applications, joined us as a full JPC member in July. Meanwhile the bulk of the work has had to fall on the stalwarts able to make meetings and dedicate considerable amounts of extra time to pursue our various activities and other commitments. Many thanks to all for their input.

This is of course an election year and in May we all step down as parish councilors. Some, hopefully many, will stand again to serve our community. There is however a need for more members to get us up to full strength and there is of course the benefit of new blood. The job is relatively easy but it does require interest and commitment. It is definitely not just a case of turning up for a monthly meeting – there is plenty to do between meetings. Obviously plenty of background to assimilate and then we need to keep up to date with current and emerging legislation – we cannot afford to be out of date or act illegally. But if you have the interest and commitment and can dedicate some time, do come and join us – it is actually very rewarding.

Councillor attendance records:

2014-15	Meetings	Present	%
Cllr Mrs W BARLOW	10	8	80%
Cllr R CLAY	10	10	100%
Cllr Mrs J L LONGFIELD	10	9	90%
Cllr P A P MORRIS	10	6	60%
Cllr J V MURPHY	10	9	90%
Cllr A RHEAD	7	3	43%
Cllr H GADSDEN	6	6	100%
Cllr Mrs A GORDON	10	10	100%
Cllr Mrs NEWSOME	10	9	90%
Cllr M J METCALFE	10	7	70%
Cllr N F J THURLEY	10	10	100%
Cllr J T WRIGHT	10	10	100%
Cllr J M HAWKESFORD	10	8	80%
Cllr T MERRYGOLD	10	8	80%

Report by Warwickshire County Council

11 Cllr Les Caborn delivered the following report:

Budbrooke Division: Parishes of Barford, Bishops Tachbrook ,Hampton Magna, Hampton on the Hill Norton Lindsey.Sherbourne, Wasperton

Budget ---- Following on from last year's 4 year financial plan, WCC set a budget at 1.9% increase headlines within the budget put an additional £2million into safer environments around schools to be spent over the next 2 years and I will be part of the team dealing with it. This is in addition to our dangerous school routes funding and will work together. All schools will be assessed and works done in partnership with schools.

We also put £4million to changing to LED street lighting to increase savings over the £600k we have saved by turning off lights. There does not appear to be any change in crime through this measure.

The formerly money allocated by area to Districts has been divided between Councillors for highway safety works. This gives me £32k to spend on capital funding. However this is top sliced to deal with particular safety concerns in Warwick District area including Watery Lane. The balance of £26k is for my discretionary use but I have schemes and bids from residents and parishes amounting to £97k before I allocate for rural gullies additional

cleaning out to help recent road flooding.

In addition I have put £4k into the Warwick West community forum grants fund.

We have won the contract for supplying Audit services to Worcestershire County Council as part of our work to obtain outside contracts on a commercial basis.

WCC continues to increase its participation and influence in the working of the Local Enterprise Partnership to gain economic growth and funding for Warwickshire. We do not support the moves to build a large economic area based on Birmingham as our growth area based on data and facts covers from Leicester to Banbury/Oxford. We are looking at working with our Shire Neighbours as we already do with Coventry in the joint LEP.

Highways are going out to tender on a contractor for our highways work as Balfour Beatty do not wish to exercise their option to extend the existing contract

I thought I would use this opportunity to run through some of the areas I cover in my role as cabinet member for Community Safety:

- Fire and Rescue continues to spend around 60% of its time effecting rescue. This means the reorganisation going on is vital to ensure full cover to our residents and to maintain full training for our firefighters. Projects being carried out to achieve this are a new hot fire trading facility, refurbishment of HQ, Introduction of day crew plus at Alcester and Stratford .new fire delivery unit at Gaydon, all within this year.
- Trading Standards--- very successful with national recognition for fake cosmetics being imported via Coventry Airport, Wellesbourne Market goods, Holiday time share scams and prosecutions in Warwickshire for faulty garage work and unsafe used cars.
- Flooding. As WCC is now the Statutory Flood Authority(SFA) we are working with communities to help them prevent flooding by local intervention .We also are the statutory consultee with the planning authorities .We have also secured approx £6m for flood schemes from EA?
- Priority Families unit are nationally top of the results tables meaning Warwickshire has been awarded a further 4years funding to expand the service. In the past 4years we are credited with turning around 1000thousand families with major problems with crime, school attendance and unemployment. Alongside this the Youth Justice Service we provide continues to have one of the best rates of stopping reoffending nationally.
- Drugs and Alcohol teams work with people with all alcohol related problems and drug usage as well as working with Trading Standards on prosecuting retailers who break the law. 6---Road Safety operates speed cameras on WCC controlled roads working with the Police .We also carry out road safety in schools and do driver training for private companies alongside our Speed awareness work with drivers.we support villages in their own speed recording work.

Unfortunately road accidents have increased over the last year in line with national trends, including motor cyclists so we are relaunching our be-aware campaigns.

Following the Boundary commissions review of WCC for the 2017 elections this division will have added to it Hatton and Shrewley as it has been declared as overrepresented on numbers of residents per councillor.

Finally I have arranged a one to one meeting with the new Chief Constable and will be expressing to him my concerns on the above and particular rural issues about policing, speeding etc.

Any Other Business

- 12 There had been considerable interaction between the speakers and audience throughout the meeting and there were no further matters which the electors wished to raise.

Appointments

13 Representative on Village Hall Committee. Mrs Antoinette Gordon was elected unopposed.

14 Chairman of Parish Meeting for 2015-16. Tony Merrygold was elected unopposed

Closure

15 There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:48pm