**ANSLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTE 11 of 2024/2025**

**Tuesday 18th February 2025**

**The Annex, St Laurence Church Grounds**

**PRESENT: Cllr P. ARROWSMITH (Chair)**

**Cllr M. JACKSON**

**Cllr P. REES**

**Cllr A. NORGROVE**

**Cllr D. KEARNS**

**KEVIN HAYES (Clerk)**

**ALSO PRESENT: Cllr & local MP Jodie Gosling & Cllr Margaret Bell & One member of the public**

#### RULES AND PROCEDURES OF THE MEETING

The Chairman explained the procedures as this was a new venue being used and reminded everyone that the meeting was being recorded.

#### APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Barrs (Holiday) who was able to observe via a WhatsApp phone call.

#### DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA – Cllr Norgrove and Cllr Arrowsmith regarding Item 8.2

#### REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

* Cllr Bell reported that she has followed up the issue regarding the Vehicle Activation Signs (VAS) on Birmingham Road with the Senior Highways Director.
* Drains in Ansley Common have been reported and especially where it flooded recently
* There is also a request for a public crossing as near to Nursery Hill school as possible.
* 30mph signs on Tunnel Road still need to be done
* Signs near to the dropped kerb by the Post Office in Ansley still need to be installed to stop people parking across them
* Signs painted on the road in Pipers Lane to be installed and the pavements to be cleaned along Ridge Lane so people can walk to Nursery Hill School.
* Local Government Reform meeting held on 18/02/25. They need proposals by 21st March with options.
* Cllr Bell is to stand down in May as Borough councillor. Thanks, expressed by the parish councillors for her support over the years.
* Cllr Gosling spoke about the extra funding that has been made available for fixing the potholes in the area.
* The issue with the abattoir in Arley is causing a lot of concern which has recently had an arson attack This is an ongoing problem for the local community which is taking up a lot of Cllr Gosling’s time. WCC Highways have objected 3 times but as this pre-dates planning so its difficult to get a resolution.
* Cllr Jackson reported that the fly tipping drone is now in operation. If road signs and streets need to be cleaned let Cllr Jackson know if any that need cleaning
* Atherstone new Leisure Centre will be built on the same site

1. **PUBLIC SESSION**

* The member of the public raised the concern about the speed of traffic through Ansley Common. He requested that a 2nd crossing be installed and asked if more speed bumps could be installed to slow the traffic especially the large HGV’’s that travel through. Cllr Jackson reported that the children’s signs really influenced slowing the traffic and should be considered again. She also reported that she will raise a question at the next NWBC board meeting to get them to consider doing something about this issue. Herself and the local MP Cllr Gosling are due to meet the Minister in Parliament to discuss this issue too.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF January 20th, 2025.** These were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting.

1. **CLERKS REPORT** The clerk read out the items that he had actioned since the last meeting. He reported that he had asked the local window cleaner to clean the bus shelters and the village signs. The halls have been booked for parish council meetings on Tuesdays going forward. New caretaker has started working. I need to purchase a first aid kit so they can carry this with them. Cllr Gosling said we should ask Bedworth Volunteers to carry out a DBS for us. Have had a problem with a local resident parking on gras verge outside Malthouse Farm on Birmingham Road. The footpath team had installed four bollards, and the resident ripped them out. Have reported him to police but still parking there and destroying grass. Have now asked lengthsman to install new bollards with a view to stopping the vehicle parking there. We have had 18 candidates apply for the youth workers role. Four to be invited to interview on 4th March 2024 at Hood Lane Farm. Thank you to Cllr Kearns for the use of the barn for the interviews. Janet Down and clerk had a very useful ‘teams’ meeting with the Holiday Activity Fund (HAF) officer to discuss applying for funding during summer holidays for young people in the youth club. Looks very promising. I had been asked to have the grit bins refilled by a resident in Bretts Hall Estate. They have now been refilled. I objected to the planning application for the new development alongside the Bretts Hall Estate. The defibrillator has been opened, and the contents were put back. This was checked by Arley Medical who said it was ready to be used again. The Re-Treeing Group had asked me to call in another £5000 from their Green Shoots Grant as they were about to embark on another round of planting. Cllr Rees questioned some of the quality of the hedging along the Ansley Recreation Ground. Cllr Barrs informed the meeting that some of the hedge plants along the Ansley Village Recreation fence had been damaged by the grass cutters when they strimmed along the fence. The damaged plants have been removed and will be replaced in this round of planting. I have had a request from a local resident for some trees overhanging their property from the Ansley Recreation Ground. I have had one quote but need two more. Cllr Kearns and Rees offered names of two more contractors to be contacted.
2. **PLANNING MATTERS**
3. **PAP/2025/0021 Mr. Cartwright, Haunchwood Sports Junior Football Club, Ansley Hall Recreation Ground, Coleshill Road, Ansley CV10 0QG. Proposed extension and internal Refurbishment of changing rooms and clubhouse, installation of modular building and extension to car park.**  The clerk informed the councillors he had received a couple of emails from residents of Ansley Hall who have objected to the plans on several grounds. Cllr Jackson informed the meeting that Haunchwood has had a grant of £100,000 for a 25-year contract from the Football Foundation to improve the site. The councillors were supportive but had concerns about the increase in the number of vehicles entering and leaving the site. These vehicles will be joining a 50mph road. The site should only be used for football training and matches. There should also be restrictions on the time when they can use the site for football and not to be used at night.
4. **PAP/2025/0050 Mr Green, The Gables, Birmingham Road, Ansley, Nuneaton, CV10 9PS: New Detached 3-bedroom two storey dwelling and removal of hedgerow (Identical application to ref: PAP/2018/0108, previously granted concern)** The councillors were concerned that this application was not identical to previous application. The boundary was different, and they have restricted access for a local resident. Cllr Jackson and Cllr Norgrove were going to speak to the planning officer and come back to the clerk regarding any objections to the application.
5. **NEW MATTERS ARISING**
6. **Vehicle Activated Signs on Birmingham Road, Ansley Village.** Cllr Jackson said we should write to them and say they have a duty of care, and they should leave them in situ and repair them. If they want the parish council to pay for them to be repaired, then it will fall on the residents. We should let them know we are appalled by the decision of the county council. Cllr Gosling said she should also contact the County Council to object.
7. **Report from Youth Club working Group.** The clerk had covered this item in his clerk’s report.
8. **Party in the park 2025 report.** This was deferred to next meeting as the working group is due to meet on 25th February 2025.
9. **ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE**
10. **Appointment of hedge cutting contractor for next 3 years.** The councillors agreed that we should appoint the contractor for one year. Having looked at the quotes Brian Andrews quote was accepted.
11. **Quotation from NWBC for ground maintenance services 2025/26** This was approved and accepted by councillors
12. **Bank Reconciliation January 2025** This was approved and signed by the Chairman.
13. **Schedule of payments February 2025** The schedule of payments for February 2025 was approved by the Cllrs and signed by the Chairman

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| Salaries | £849.04 |
| 4 Counties Ground Maintenance | £440.00 |
| Lindsay Kearns (update website & flyers) | £150.00 |

1. **Clerks’ worksheet** This was signed by Chairman
2. **COUNCILLORS BUSINESS RELATED TO PARISH MATTERS**

* Cllr Rees spoke about people who were out ‘lamping’ last Sunday 16th February at the back of his house and they killed his cat. He has reported this to the rural crime squad. Councillors asked clerk to report this to the PCSO to see if there are other similar incidents or trends happening in the area. Cllr Rees also thanked the clerk for getting the vehicles to stop parking on the grass and pavement outside Malt House Farm. The residents are very pleased that this has now been stopped.
* Cllr Jackson asked if anyone needed a food parcel to let her know because the local Sikh community are distributing food parcels to anyone in need. They will drop off a parcel within two hours. Cllr Jackson also spoke about the increase in dog poo along the Birmingham Road. It appears we have some people who are not picking up after their dogs. The clerk will collect some new signs from the officer at NWBC. We need to start an education campaign to help people realise the impact on children especially. We could involve the local children in designing some posters and get these displayed in the parish. We also should use the Village news magazine, the Facebook pages and the Website to increase people’s awareness of the fact that people can be prosecuted and fined if they do not pick up after their dog.
* Cllr Kearns said it was very sad to hear of another death of a young person killed in a car crash on Nuthurst Lane. Cllr Gosling said that there have been discussions in Parliament about introducing ‘staged licences’ to protect new drivers who are not experienced.
* Cllr Barrs thanked the council for allowing her to listen in to the meeting. She also asked if we could add an agenda item to do a report on what the Re-treeing Group have done and are doing. They are required and have been doing annual reports to the Greenshoots team at Warwickshire County Council. The Chairman asked Cllr Rees if he would like to apologise to Cllr Barrs for his comments earlier in the meeting. Cllr Rees apologised to Cllr Barrs who thanked him for that. Cllr Gosling said she talks about the Re-Treeing project very fondly wherever she goes and can’t wait to come and see it in the spring when it’s all coming into life.
* Cllr Norgrove reported on the progress on the bus shelter in Birchley Heath. He has been trying to get 3 quotes which is taking longer than expected. The lengthsman, Handy Andy and Luke Rider have all been asked for quotes. Cllr Jackson confirmed that the funding has been made available from her councillor’s grant. The Chairman said the whole idea of setting up the working party in Birchley Heath has been to speed up getting improvements made. Its so frustrating that it takes so long to get anything done.
* Cllr Gosling asked if the council had any plans for celebrating VE Day on 8th May. Cllr Kearns said that we have the Party in the Park on 6th July and could include it in that event. The Chairman said that St Laurence Church were doing a ‘back in time’ event in August. We should put this on the agenda for the March meeting to see if we can do something in May.

**The meeting closed at 9.28pm**

**Chairman…………………………………… Date………………….**