



Fairfield Village Community Association

Saturday 6th January 2018, 10.00am

Venue: Fairfield Village Hall

Present

Averil Perks, Janice Boswell, Pat Turbutt, Robert Garvin Linda Garvin, Trevor Jones, Mary Gibbs, Pat Steward, Brenda Thomas, Conrad Palmer, Sheila Bretheron, Josh Hudson, Louisa Jeppesen, Wendy Jones

1. Welcome

Conrad welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy 2018.

2. Apologies

Carol Brogan, Ian Tisdale, Carole Morris, Carol Edwards, Rita Spence, Josie Albutt, John Coldicott, Pauline Boulton, Brenda Clarke, Simon Baldwin & Julie Baldwin

3. Approval of minutes of last meeting

A correction was required – the furniture for the bush shelter opposite the Swan Inn is being provided by the Parish Council after approval is given by the County Council. With this correction, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed by the Chair.

4. Chair's Report/Update on Issues

- **Traffic** – Email received from Adnan Ali 21st December 2017:

“Earlier this week me and the Operations Manager did the site visit for a potential enforcement location on Stourbridge Road Fairfield. We have identified a potential location and will discuss this site at the Operations Forum next month with our partners at Worcestershire County Council.

Once this forum is done, me or the Operations Manager will be in contact with you regarding the enforcement.”

- **Neighbourhood Plan** - Help drive forward the Neighbourhood Plan. An open meeting will take place on Monday 22nd January 7pm at the Bell Inn. Residents' input needed to help steer the plan forward.

- **Accumix** – Planning application decision still not been decided. Planning Officers at the District Council have asked the applicant for further information relating to continual use of the site for business purposes over the last 10 years. Applicant has returned three signed statements stating that the application site has been used continually for business purposes over the last 10 years.
- **Keep Warm, Keep Safe Advice** - Free advice on how you can save money, energy and keep warm this winter Wednesday 17th January, Bromsgrove Library, 9.30am – 1pm.
- **Recreation Ground Car Park** - At the request of the Parish Council, Ringway have looked at the Recreation Ground carpark and have offered to fill the potholes which they will look to do when weather improves and also during the coming school holidays when carpark usage is much reduced. Cost - nil - season of goodwill from Hughie and his team at Ringway.
- **Parish Council** – Council meeting Monday 8th January, Jubilee Room at Belbroughton Rec. starting at 7.30pm. There is up to 15 minutes at the start of the meeting for residents to comment on items that are on the agenda or to raise issues with their councillors.
Items that residents may be interested in:
11. Fairfield Recreation Ground: To consider actions to prevent the flooding of the footpath.
- **County Councillor Report** –
“Fairfield meeting with the Portfolio Holder Cllr Amos postponed until January due to the adverse weather, to discuss school crossing and dropped kerbs. I also have a meeting with WCC and Fairfield School to discuss a walking bus (Still looking for volunteers to help, please do get in touch).
I will be meeting with Barn (they run the BURT bus) to discuss services in the villages which they currently operate. I am also in contact at WCC regarding the 318 bus service, currently being suspended end of February. I will advise update asap.”
- **318 Bus Service Update** – Central Buses will replace Diamond to operate the 318 bus service. There will be no break in service.

- **Walking Bus Update** – Cty Cllr Webb: “The walking bus route has not been assessed as yet, our first meeting is in a couple of weeks but I have had some work done to the hedges / greenery in the layby on Stourbridge Road.”

5. Treasurer’s Report

RG provided the meeting with a financial update. Current account balance £1028.05.

6. Insurance

RG explained the need for insurance and will be obtaining quotes for consideration at February’s meeting.

7. Neighbourhood Watch News

- **Burglary** - Fairfield Rd, Bournheath: Between New Year's Eve evening and early hours New Year's Day offender(s) smashed front door to gain entry. Did you see anything suspicious? Phone the Police 101. Ref 243S010118.
- **Attempted Burglary - Mount Road:** Between 10am and 8pm on Wednesday 20th December, offender(s) have forced patio door in an attempt to gain entry to premises, leaving tool marks in the process. No entry gained. Did you see anything suspicious? Phone 101 Police Ref: 0749s201217 Crime Ref: 22/25664/17
- **Suspicious Activity – Friday 22nd December:** A “scruffy” white Transit van, possible 56 plate, was seen yesterday afternoon along Brook Road and Yew Tree Lane. The vehicle had a low roof and short wheelbase. The driver pulled up outside a property at approximately 3pm and was seen leaning out of the driver’s door looking at a resident’s garage and drive way. When the resident approached the vehicle the driver quickly drove off. It is thought that the vehicle may have also been in the vicinity earlier in the day at approximately 11am. If you spot any suspicious activity, this or other vehicles, telephone 101.
- **Garage Break-in** - Child's Rocket Electric MX Mini Motorbike Stolen from garage on Stourbridge Road between Fri 15th Dec and Sun 17th Dec. - A present from 2016, this is a child's pride and joy any info would be greatly appreciated. Have you seen any suspicious activity in Fairfield recently? If you have any

information about this incident, please call the Police on 101 quoting reference: 558s171217

- **Vehicle Crime** - Please be aware of a spike in vehicle crime in the north Bromsgrove area over recent days. Vehicles have been broken into OR entered by unknown means.
 - i. Ensure your vehicles are left locked secure with the alarm on
 - ii. Remove your valuables and TOOLS if you own a van.
 - iii. If your vehicle has a keyless entry system, consider keeping the keys in a metal money box/container preventing the system from being over-ridden this allows thieves access. There have been several reports of lead thefts from roofs in the last few days, particularly around the Finstall, (Bromsgrove) area. Thefts of this type can not only result in the cost of having to repair/replace the roof, but can also result in additional damage to the building and contents should water be allowed to get in.

- **Drugs** – Three young men smoking dope next to Club House Saturday 30th December (approx 10.30pm) asked to move on by resident, informing the men that such activity not welcome in Fairfield. Men drove off in a small white car.

- **Erratic Driving** - At approximately 8.30pm on Saturday 30th December a silver Corsa being driven erratically nearly ran into dog walkers on Dordale Road. The walkers were wearing high-viz jacket & carrying torches. Very strong lingering smell of what is believed to be cannabis as the vehicle drove past.

- **Hare Coursing** - Several cases of hare coursing have been reported to police in the Bromsgrove & Redditch area. If you see any in progress please report on 999, or 101 after the event. Any information on people/dogs/vehicles can assist the police in tackling this issue.

- **Scam** – Resident shared an experience she encountered recently in Kidderminster, where she was approached by a man who appeared very distressed, claiming that he was trying to get to his wife but had run out of petrol, requesting the loan of some money. The perpetrator of the scam gave the lady his telephone number claiming that he would repay the money borrowed. There have been several reports of this scam taking place in Kidderminster with members of the public handing over money and not having it

repaid. There may be “copy cat” incidents of this scam, residents are asked not to give anyone money and to report to the police, telephone 101.

8. Letter Received from Sajid Javid MP

Letter read out from Sajid Javid regarding Improving Rights of Way question that was asked when Sajid Javid visited Fairfield in September 2017.

9. Commemorating the end of the First World War, 11th November 2018

CP apologises that he has not submitted pre-grant application form, something that he hopes to complete in the next two weeks.

10. Community Litter Pick

The next Community Litter Pick will be on Saturday 13th January 10.30am, meet outside Village Hall. Since no litter picks have been undertaken since October the litter along Fairfield’s roads is very noticeable.

11. Floral Displays at the entrances to Fairfield on Stourbridge Road

Spring flowering plants are to be purchased for planting late February/early March. Volunteers are needed to help with the planting. See CP.

12. Fundraising & Social Activities

- a. **Festive Fairfield 2017** - All three events were enjoyed by all that attended. The Christmas Party attracted several families and approximately 35 people attended Carolling Around the Christmas Tree. Disappointing New Year’s Eve party with 9 people attending. Over next few months events will be reviewed, and planning for Festive Fairfield 2018 will begin. CP thanked everyone for their support.
- b. **Monthly Luncheon** – 15th January, Nailers Arms 12.30pm. Please contact Pat Steward (01527 832360) by Monday 8th January if you wish to attend.

- c. **Royal Wedding** – A party to celebrate the wedding of Prince Harry to Megan Markle will be held on Saturday 19th May.
- d. **Mummy Monster** – A Live & Local show will be performing at the Village Hall 10th March. Tickets on sale in February.
- e. **Wind in the Willows – A Folk Opera** – A Live & Local show will be performing at the Village Hall 14th April. Tickets on sale in March

13. How can we engage more people to support village events & activities?

CP posed this question, asking people present to speak to neighbours, feeding back responses to February's meeting.

14. Any other business

None

Date of next meeting – 3rd February, 10am