

## Berkswell Parish Council – Ordinary Meeting 11 September 2020

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council of Berkswell held virtually via Zoom on 11 September 2020 at 3:00 pm.

	Action by
<p><b>1. Attendance</b> Cllrs Drake, Edwards, Burrow, Howles &amp; Lloyd; the Clerk; Cllr D Howell (arrived at 6:10pm), Cllr Diccico (until 4:15pm) and 19 members of the public.</p> <p><b>2. Apologies for absence.</b> Cllr K Allsopp</p> <p><b>3. Acceptance of apologies for absence</b> accepted</p> <p><b>4. Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>a. Council received the following declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Lloyd – announced that he had recently been elected as a trustee of the Knowle United Charity.</li> <li>• Cllr Burrow – declared he had received a reimbursement of £12 for expenses under Item 10a.</li> <li>• Cllr Edwards – declared an interest in the grant application by Berkswell School as her son is a pupil there, and that she has an expense claim for approval under Item 10b.</li> </ul> <p>b. There were no written requests to disclose pecuniary interests</p> <p>c. There were no requests for dispensations</p> <p>d. Councillors were reminded to update their Notice of Registrable Interests’. It is a requirement that councillors update the Register within 28 days of a change to any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest. Councillors to note that the current register is available via the following link  <a href="http://eservices.solihull.gov.uk/mgInternet/mgParishCouncilDetails.aspx?ID=235&amp;LS=3">http://eservices.solihull.gov.uk/mgInternet/mgParishCouncilDetails.aspx?ID=235&amp;LS=3</a></p> <p><b>5. To approve Minutes of the following meeting:</b>  The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 18 June 2020 were approved and the Chairman indicated that, as this was a virtual meeting, he would sign the minutes remotely as soon as possible.</p> <p><b>6. Matters arising from the previous meeting requiring attention</b> – There were no matters arising</p> <p><b>7. Open Forum</b>  Parishioners of Berkswell are invited to address the Council on any relevant matter for a maximum of three minutes. No one requested the opportunity to talk</p> <p><b>8. Borough Councillor’s Report.</b> Cllr Diccico reported that the Solihull Local Plan has been further delayed and will not be published until late October</p> <p><b>9. Planning Applications</b></p> <p>a. Planning violations - Council noted that enforcement action over the alleged wood processing and chipping operation at Hawkhurst Moor Farm is in abeyance pending a possible planning application. Cllr Lloyd reported that one resident and himself are concerned about this situation. Cllr Lloyd reported his understanding that a planning application is in the pipeline.</p> <p>b. Council noted the status of correspondence the Clerk has had with SMBC on behalf of the Council during lockdown (no change to that previously circulated).</p>	RD

- c. Dumping of earth on land off Spencers Lane – Council noted that the Clerk has provided the Compliance Officer (David Wigfield) with photos of the alleged dumping. The Clerk has been advised by Mr Wigfield that the matter will be investigated but has stated *“I would be grateful if you would bear with us though – we are endeavouring to manage exceptionally high case-loads at the moment.”* Cllr Drake suggested the Clerk should chase SMBC again if he has not heard anything more by the time of our next meeting. The Clerk confirmed to Cllr Burrow that the most recent photos of the dumping had been forwarded on to the Compliance Officer.
- d. The following list of planning applications were discussed by Council together with agreed responses:

Clerk

Ref	Location	Proposal	Response Date
2020/01569	Cornets End Lane Meriden Solihull CV7 7LG	Deletion of conditions 2 and 3 of planning permission PL/2017/01907/VAR, dated 28.09.2017, for continued operation of dry silo mortar plant, NAMELY : to allow the permanent retention of the dry silo mortar plant, and the processing of sand from other than Meriden Quarry.	15/09/20
<p><u>Motion</u> In respect to application ref. 2020/01569 above, Council agreed the following motion: <i>“This Council objects to this planning application on the following basis. After the mineral extraction is finished the land is supposed to return to agriculture. Therefore, to have a structure retained is inappropriate industrial development in the greenbelt, contrary to the NPPF and hence contrary to the Parish Council’s policy on inappropriate development in the greenbelt. Accordingly, the Clerk is authorised to submit this objection.”</i></p>			
2020/01721	Land At Truggist Hill Farm, Truggist Lane, Berkswell, Solihull	Prior notification for the erection of an agricultural building to replace existing buildings lost to HS2, and in order to provide a new building for farm machinery storage, feed, hay and fertiliser storage and, for diversification, the growing of mushrooms.	15/09/20
<p><u>Motion</u> In respect to application ref. 2020/01721, Council agreed the following motion: <i>“ This Council objects to Planning Application PL/2020/01721/PNAG on the grounds that (a) the development is ineligible for Permitted Development rights, (b) replacement buildings have already been erected, (c) a suitable building has recently been converted to a dwelling, and (d) the development would contravene policies P17 and P18.</i></p>			
2020/01960	Meriden Quarry Cornets End Lane Meriden Solihull	Replacement of existing fixed ready-mix plant (RMX) and installation of a temporary mobile plant (on site for three years) to assist with the demands of supply to HS2.	24/09/20
Council agreed not to comment			

Clerk

Clerk

**10. Financial Matters**

- a. During lockdown the Council has been using the NatWest bank on-line banking App (Bankline) to make payments in accordance with a motion approved under item 14 of the 13 February 2020 meeting to test out the technology. This approval was extended by unanimous consent from the Council by email and was subsequently endorsed under Item 12b of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 16 June 2020, to avoid the Clerk and councillors being put at risk of contracting Covid-19 by having to arrange to meet to manually sign cheques. This extension was agreed on the understanding that all proposed payments were declared to all Councillors in advance of the payments being made and that a

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schedule of such payments be presented to the next formal meeting of the Council. The following list of payments made under this arrangement since the last meeting of the Council on 18 June 2020 were noted:

Payment made	Date	Approval	Payment Method	Gross Amount £	VAT £
J Hickin – works on the telephone box	14/09/20	Contract	Bank Transfer	40.00	0
J Hickin – Ad hoc works per Clerk's schedule dated 6 August 2020	02/09/20	Contract	Bank Transfer	140.00	0
J Hickin – Grounds maintenance contract August instalment	02/09/20	Contract	Bank Transfer	223.13	0
J Hickin - cost of materials used in preparation of Phone Box.	11/08/20	Ad Hoc 18/06/20 Item 27 e iv	Bank Transfer	167.10	20.43
J Hickin – Telephone box labour charge	14/08/20	Ad Hoc 18/06/20 Item 27 e iv	Bank Transfer	840.00	0
J Hickin – The Pound tidy up labour charge	14/08/20	Ad Hoc 18/06/20 Item 27 e iv	Bank Transfer	140.00	0
A Burrow – reimbursement for cost of materials re telephone box refurb	14/08/20	Ad Hoc 18/06/20 Item 27 e iv	Bank Transfer	639.69	106.89
J Hickin – hedge cutting around Berkswell village	06/08/20	Contract	Bank Transfer	260.00	0
J Hickin – Grounds maintenance contract July instalment	22/07/20	Contract	Bank Transfer	223.13	0
J Hickin – Telephone box retaining wall	22/07/20	Contract	Bank Transfer	420.00	0
R Wilson - Clerk's Salary July 2020	15/07/20	Admin	Bank Transfer	redacted	0
J Hickin – Grounds maintenance contract June instalment	15/07/20	Contract	Bank Transfer	223.13	0
R Wilson – reimbursement of admin costs (Google Play 2020/21 subscription)	15/07/20	Annual	Bank Transfer	37.13	6.18
C Joyner – Summer Planting	15/07/20	Plants	Bank Transfer	169.11	0
Open Spaces – annual subscription	17/07/20	Annual	Bank Transfer	45.00	0
GR Dawson – Churchyard maintenance April to June 2020	15/07/20	Contract	Bank Transfer	774.00	129.00
Berkswell PCC – room hire Jan to March 2020	17/07/20	Admin	Bank Transfer	100.00	0
A Burrow – Reimbursement of cost of plants for Berkswell Station planters	15/07/20	Planting Scheme	Bank Transfer	12.00	0
Hof E School – Grant	02/07/20	19/06/20 Item 12f	Bank Transfer	5,000.00	0
WJ Robinson – Internal audit fee	26/06/20	Statutory	Bank Transfer	157.00	0
Berkswell School - Grant	26/06/20	19/06/20 Item 12f	Bank Transfer	2,321.49	0
Berkswell Society – Grant planting scheme	26/06/20	19/06/20 Item 12f	Bank Transfer	500.00	0
<b>Total (excluding Clerk's salary)</b>				<b>12,431.91</b>	<b>262.50</b>

- b. The following invoice payments were approved having been examined, verified and certified by the RFO to confirm that the work, goods or services to which each invoice relates, has been received, carried out, examined and represents expenditure previously approved by the Council.

Invoices for Payment	Approval	Payment Method	Gross Amount £	VAT £
Clerk's salary – September 2020	Contract	EBP	Redacted	0
Cllrs Allowances – July to September 2020	Annual	EBP	884.75	0
HMRC – PAYE – July to September 2020	Statutory	EBP	1,010.59	0
D Edwards – Expenses claim re Zoom subscription for June, July & August 2020*	Admin	EBP	43.17	0
<b>Total (excluding Clerk's salary)</b>			<b>1,938.51</b>	<b>0</b>

Clerk

<p>* In respect of the Zoom subscription (above) it was noted that both the Clerk and the Vice- Chairman can open and host the Council’s Zoom meetings.</p> <p>c. Payments received – Council noted that the following sums had been received:</p> <p>i. £1,187.84 on 27 July 2020 from HMRC as reimbursement of VAT paid in 2019/20.</p> <p>ii. £21,799.00 on 1 September 2020 from SMBC as 2nd half payment of 2020/21 precept</p> <p>d. Bank Account balance – Council noted that the council’s bank balance as at 4 September 2020 was £57,639.</p> <p>e. Councillor Allowances – Council noted that SMBC have just released the 2020/21 Councillor Allowance rates which take effect from 1 April 2020. The new rates are as follows: Parish Basic Allowance - £731.25 p.a. and Chairman’s Allowance - £1,462.50.</p> <p>f. Grant applications – the following grant applications were considered:</p> <p>i. Berkswell School – A contribution was requested in light of extra costs and a serious loss of income to the school due to Covid-19. The grant would be used to enable the Community Mentor Service to continue. This was previously funded by another source but this funding was withdrawn in April 2020. Head Teacher, Tracey Drew gave break down of the students by parish/council areas as follows: Balsall Parish 23%; Berkswell Parish 67%; &amp; Other 10%. Cllr Drake commented that the Community Mentor Service concerns the most vulnerable people attending the school and proposed that the council should meet 50% of the cost which would be £7,000. This was seconded by Cllr Edwards and it was unanimously agreed.</p> <p>ii. Balsall &amp; Berkswell Hornets Football Club – The sum of £2,694 was requested as a contribution to the cost of replacing a set of full-size goals and a set of junior goals. A matching request was made to another Parish Council. Cllr Drake proposed that Council should award the grant of £2,694. This was seconded by Cllr Burrow and agreed unanimously</p> <p>iii. Council considered and agreed the following motion: <i>“This Council agrees that, if necessary, to meet the cost of the grants awarded in respect of the above, the Clerk is authorised to transfer the necessary funds from the general reserve into the Grants budget.</i></p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p><b>11. Councillor Allowances</b></p> <p>a. Council noted that all five councillors have declared that they wish to receive appropriate allowances for the period 1 July to 30 September 2020 based on the following annual allowances: Parish Basic Allowance (PBA) £731.25 p.a.; and Chairman’s Allowance £1,462.50 p.a.</p>	
<p><b>12. 2020/21 Management Accounts</b></p> <p>a. Council noted the management accounts for Quarter 1 of 2020/21 (available on the Council’s website).</p> <p>b. The Councillor Audit which usually takes place on a quarterly basis has not been carried out this year due to the Coronavirus restrictions. It was proposed that the Chairman and the Clerk would consider an interim form of Councillor Audit which could be conducted without any physical contact. It was agreed that this should be done and a that a recommendation would be brought back to a future meeting of the Council.</p>	<p>RD/Clerk</p>

c. These management accounts show the following adjustments to the originally approved 2020/21 budget:

Budget Heading	Adjustment	Revised Budget	Explanation
Employee Pay	+ £1,571	£12,580	to reflect Clerk's pay award agreed on 19/03/20
Cllr Allowances	- £1,598	£3,839	Reduction in number of councillors from 7 to 5 in 2020/21 & allowances not taken by RD & AB in Q1
Grants & Donations	+ 5,827	£10,827	added SMBC COVID-19 grant & unspent 2019/20 grant budget b/fwd
Heritage & Maintenance	+ £2,000	£8,974	transfer from reserves re telephone box refurbishment

**13. Guide to Risk Management**

- a. Council noted that our insurers, Zurich Insurance, have issued a ‘Guide to Risk Management’ designed to help councils identify and manage potential risks.
- b. Council considered the following motion: “This Council agrees a group of 2 or 3 councillors plus the Clerk, should review the Zurich Risk Management guide to identify areas where the Council’s processes could be improved and thereby make recommendations for change. Cllr Drake proposed the motion which was seconded by Cllr Burrow who suggest that he and the Clerk should carry out the review. This was approved unanimously.

AB/Clerk

**14. Policies and Procedures**

- a. Reserves Policy – Council agreed that the Clerk should revise the wording of the Reserves Policy to reflect the financial position at the end of the financial year 2019/20 as reported in the Annual Return.
- b. Equality and Diversity Policy
  - i. Council considered whether to adopt a policy which Parish Councils have been encouraged to do so by WALC. Cllr Edwards proposed that the Council should have one, but not necessarily the WALC one, which was agreed.
  - ii. Council considered the following motion: “*This Council considers that the policy on Equality and Diversity circulated by WALC to be well intentioned but with little practical use to a small council such Berkswell which employs a Clerk working 12 hours per week. However, the Council considers that the Council needs to treat all people with respect, without discrimination and should take positive steps, if necessary, to assist those who might be disadvantaged in their dealings with the Council.*
    - *The Council approves in principle the approach within a draft equality policy produced by Councillor Burrow and refers it to a working group comprising Councillor Howles, Councillor Edwards, Councillor Burrow and the Clerk to finalise for the next meeting with recommendations for alterations to any other policies to reflect the new Equality policy. This was agreed*
    - *Council asks the Clerk to ensure that its web site is consistent with the requirements of Accessibility Regulation 2018 <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/accessibility-requirements-for-public-sector-websites-and-apps> and authorises the Clerk to spend such reasonable monies as required to ensure compliance”* Cllr Burrow stated that the Council website does not comply with the Google App for example. Council agreed that a statement was needed by the end of September on how we intend to fix any problems. It was further agreed that Cllr Burrow

Clerk

AB/Clerk

<p>&amp; the Clerk will look into the matter. Council will need to approve their recommendations at our next meeting.</p>	
<p><b>15. Risk Management</b></p>	
<p>a. There were no new finance and risk events to discuss. The Chairman asked that, in future, Councillors should give consideration to this item when the draft meeting agenda is circulated and advise the Clerk of any new finance or risk events, they are aware of.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>b. Council noted that work has been carried out to address the risks identified by Cllrs Burrow and Howles during their physical asset inspection earlier this year. Council agreed to schedule a further physical inspection before the end of March 2021. Cllrs Edwards and Lloyd volunteered to do this provided it COVID regulation allow.</p>	<p>DE/RL</p>
<p><b>16. Actions Arising from Previous Meetings</b></p>	
<p>a. Council noted the status of agreed actions from previous meetings as circulated (a copy is available on the Council website). The chairman commented that all agreed actions were well under control.</p>	
<p><b>17. Correspondence</b> – there was nothing to report</p>	
<p><b>18. Ongoing References</b></p>	
<p>a. Review of inventory of land and assets</p>	
<p>i. Kelsey Lane Bus Shelter – the Clerk is still awaiting a response from HMLR.</p>	
<p>b. Informal visit by Saqib Bhatti - Council noted the report on the informal visit by our local MP to Berkswell Parish to discuss the Solihull Local Plan</p>	
<p><b>19. Training and Meetings</b></p>	
<p>a. Council noted the attendance of Cllr Lloyd at training on the Parish Online digital mapping system held on 19 June 2020 and to consider whether to undertake a free 90-day trial. Cllr Drake wanted to know what would be the cost and how would it be used? This was unclear so it was agreed to see how the Balsall PC trial goes before making a decision.</p>	
<p><b>20. Heritage and Community</b></p>	
<p>a. Solihull Plan – Council noted that the SMBC cabinet did not meet on 10th September to endorse the submission draft of the Solihull plan as originally planned. Cllr Diccico advised that it is now expected that the Plan will be endorsed at a meeting in October. Council agreed to setting up a working party to develop Berkswell Parish Council's response once it has been issued and where appropriate, coordinate with Balsall PC on areas of common interest (e.g. infrastructure). It was proposed that the working party should comprise those Berkswell Councillors and residents who were members of the Berkswell NDP Committee. This was agreed and Jane Edwards and Geoff Wheeler agreed to take part. It was also agreed there would be no need for the working party to meet in public. Council further agreed that, if appropriate, an Extraordinary Meeting would be arranged to agree the Council's response to the consultation. Council agreed a nominal budget of £1,000 for the Clerk to spend supporting the Working Party</p>	<p>AB/RD</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>b. WALC SAC – Council noted discussions at the WALC SAC virtual meeting held on 9 July 2020. A report was circulated in advance of the meeting. Council noted the report. Council recognised the challenge as to how to keep the people who are currently working on COVID, engaged in the longer term.</p>	
<p>c. Community Champion – Council noted that Cllr Burrow has volunteered to act as Community Champion for Berkswell Parish.</p>	

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<p>d. Balsall Common Village Centre - Council noted that the SLEP have awarded a grant of £25,000 to enable Berkswell and Balsall PCs to hire consultants to develop a vision and plan for Balsall Common centre. The grant conditions require match funding from the two PCs. Council noted that at joint PC working group has already been established. Council approved the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the establishment of a budget of £8,400 to meet Berkswell PCs share of the matching funds from reserves (one third of the £25k)</li> <li>• A transfer from the general reserve to fund the new budget required to cover this cost</li> <li>• the appointment of Vince Ritters to the working group</li> </ul>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>e. Village telephone box</p> <p>i. Informal opening – Council noted that an informal opening of the telephone box library took place on 26 August.</p> <p>ii. Cost of refurbishment – Council noted that the full net cost of the refurbishment was £1,999.90 against the agreed budget of £2,000.</p> <p>iii. Council approved the expenditure of up to £150 for turf with wild flowers from the maintenance budget for the earth area next to the Berkswell telephone box library the work to be undertaken by volunteers.</p> <p>It was agreed to write to James Hickin, who carried out the refurbishment, thanking him for all his excellent work</p>	<p>AB/Clerk</p>
<p>f. Airport Consultative Committee – Council consider a report from Cllr Lloyd on the virtual meeting held on 5 June 2020. A report was circulated in advance of the meeting. Cllr Lloyd reported that the expected meeting of the ACC had been deferred to next week and summarised that, overall, the airport is in a dire situation due to the pandemic. Cllr Lloyd was asked to prepare a report following the next scheduled meeting.</p>	<p>RL</p>
<p>g. Process to deal with travellers – given there has been significant traveller activity in Solihull reported throughout the summer, Council considered if a formal process is required in the event that Berkswell needs to take action. It was proposed that a small working party be set up to consider a suitable approach and to report back to the next meeting of the Council. After discussion, Council decided that no official Parish Council action was required.</p>	
<p>h. The Berkswell Project – Council noted that SMBC have signed the contract as Highways authority with the WMCA for the spending of a WMCA grant on the Berkswell (village traffic calming) project and SMBC have appointed a Project Engineer to move the project forward to implementation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council noted the project’s progress report</li> <li>• Council approved the setting up of a Parish Council project team to work with SMBC to deliver the project as specified in the Berkswell NDP as follows: Councillors Burrow and Edwards, Jane Edwards (for Berkswell Charities and NDP Committee member) and Graham Lock (for the Berkswell Society)</li> </ul>	<p>AB/DE</p>
<p>i. Planting programme – Council approved that the clerk spends the balance of the budget of the Balsall Common planting programme for the autumn planting of £418.89 (i.e. £600 budget less £181.11 already spent) plus £100 from the maintenance budget for compost/wood chippings for the station roundabout if that cannot be accommodated within the planting programme budget.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>j. Riddings Hill Fruit Trees - Council approved the expenditure of £100 for replacement fruit trees for Riddings Hill.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

<p>k. War Memorial – There were three motions proposed for this item. Cllr Lloyd requested for his motion (Item 20k ii 3<sup>rd</sup> bullet), to follow the advice of the War Memorials Trust to seek professional advice on repairs, be heard before discussion of specific repairs. The Chairman stated that he would take the items in the order in which they appeared on the agenda (being the order they were advised to the Clerk) in accordance with Standing Orders.</p> <p>i. Council noted the report prepared by Councillor Burrow on the war memorial roof which recommends the rapid repair/replacement of the roof waterproofing as agreed at the June 2020 meeting of the PC. It is also recommended that competitive tenders to be sought from contractors and the most suitable solution chosen taking account of cost, guarantees, committed completion dates and the appropriateness of the solution proposed. Work to include removing all plant growth and action to ensure that the sycamore and other growth does not regrow. Councillors Burrow, Drake and Howell to advise the Clerk if necessary.</p> <p>ii. Council considered the following motions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>“This Council agrees to adopt the recommendations contained in Councillor Burrow’s report to repair the roof and remove the vegetation”</i> Cllr Drake moved the motion which was seconded by Cllr Burrow. The motion was passed on a vote of 4 to 0 (Cllr Lloyd abstained)</li> <li>• <i>“This Council instructs the clerk to investigate the actual ownership of the War Memorial before it accepts any responsibility/liability for its long-term maintenance”</i>. Cllr Burrow commented that it would be dangerous to take on responsibilities we don’t understand. However, Cllr Lloyd’s view was that, if the Council carry out work on it, it will be deemed that the PC is responsible. Cllr Edwards commented that the war memorial is everybody’s so who else would own it, it is widely accepted it is the Council’s responsibility and that it wouldn’t be good if the PC stated they would not maintain it. The Clerk was asked to check the minute book around 1919/20 to see if the matter of ownership could be clarified. After discussion, Cllr Drake moved the motion which was seconded by Cllr Burrow. The motion was passed on a vote of 3 for; 2 against (DE &amp; RL).</li> <li>• <i>Council to seek professional specialist advice on curing the apparent water penetration of the structure, correcting structural defects in the block work, restoring and consolidating the surface damage caused by organic growth and efflorescence, and correcting any other deterioration that becomes apparent, in accordance with guidance from the War Memorials Trust.</i> In support of this motion, Cllr Lloyd commented that the memorial is in a “sorry state”. The block work needs to be repaired, as they have been splayed, before the roof is attended to. A structural survey would cost a few hundred pounds. Cllr Lloyd suggested this should be done regardless of the ownership issue. There was no seconder for the motion, so the motion was lost. Cllr Howles suggested the Council carry out a temporary repair initially to get us through the winter. This was supported by Cllr Lloyd</li> </ul>	Clerk
<p>l. Christmas trees – Council authorised the Clerk to purchase 8 Christmas trees for Balsall Common and one for Berkswell village plus tinsel for the Station Roundabout and Berkswell Station trees given the vandalism suffered by the Christmas baubles in 2019 plus batteries for the Christmas lights. A budget of £600 in total was agreed. (£450 + contingency of £150).</p>	Clerk



<p>m. Rights of Way</p> <p>i. Council considered the resumption of the action agreed at the January 2020 meeting of the Council about the chronic flooding of M196 near Carstins, now the pandemic restrictions are being eased, and taking account of the response from the Highway Authority to the Council's representations. The clerk would need to serve a Section 56 notice on Solihull MBC. Council agreed that Cllr Lloyd would work with the Clerk to finalise the submission.</p> <p>ii. Council considered writing to HS2 Ltd and the Highway Authority to request the early restoration of public access on the Greenway, M198, and M214 as discussed at the HS2 Implementation Advisory Group on 27 July, and as detailed in complaints to HS2 Ltd and emails to this Council from Mr S Cross, the Warden Coordinator of the Heart of England Way Association. Cllr Burrow reported that he had been invited to a meeting by David Tierney (SMBC) next week, to look at an early opening of the temporary Greenway. Council agreed to no further action until the next meeting of BPC.</p> <p>n. Footway Parking - Council approved a submission to the HM Government's consultation on footway parking on the basis that there should be a national/universal ban on parking on pavements in England, except for the categories defined in the proposals with local authorities permitted to allow pavement parking in specific circumstances to meet local needs. i.e. support for option 3. The Clerk was asked to submit the Council's response.</p>	<p>RL/Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p><b>21. Late Cllr Hitchcock</b> - Council noted that Solihull MBC has ordered a disease-resistant English Elm as a memorial to the Late Don Hitchcock. Suggested locations could be the roundabout off Dengate Drive/Kenilworth Road or the field behind Don's house. Cllr Lloyd agreed to keep councillors informed of developments. Cllr Drake reported that he has been requesting SMBC to develop the land behind Don's house in Don's memory. He had no development to report.</p>	<p>RL</p>
<p><b>22. Parish Councillors Opinion</b></p> <p>a. KH – nothing further to comment</p> <p>b. RL – suggested that Council ought to revisit the fundamentals of how it grants monies. Many charities are expert in raising funds. Cllr Lloyd would prefer to make a contribution to charities rather than to subsidise education (i.e. specific institutions). Cllr Drake agreed but the current grants to schools reflect unprecedented times. Council agreed to revisit its grants policy</p> <p>c. AB – informed the Council that he was the COVID Co-ordinator for Balsall and Berkswell. A communication will be sent out regarding the latest lockdown restrictions. Also, SMBC have allocated money to improve the junction of Hodgetts and Waste Lane (e.g. flashing signs and road markings).</p> <p>d. DE – The Berkswell Reading Rooms Committee have stated they are becoming COVID compliant and will be up and running soon.</p> <p>e. RD - nothing further to comment</p>	<p>All</p>
<p><b>23. Next Meetings</b></p> <p>The next meeting of the Council will be held on 19 November 2020 commencing at 7:00pm and will be a Zoom meeting.</p> <p>Potential future dates of meetings for the remainder of 2020/21 will be circulated to members and will be available on the Council's website</p>	<p>Clerk</p>