

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 5th FEBRUARY 2018**

Present: Parish Councillors: M Russell (Chair), M Tomlin, M Morland, L Skelton, B Fitzsimmons, R Catford, Ward Councillor K Collins, Clerk - A Whiting, 9 members of public

**Public Participation**

i) Thank you for filling in pothole, which was done 2 days after reporting

ii) Concerns regarding state of Chaul End Rd still – potholes, flooding, hedges over carriageway – Clerk reported that he had reported and re-reported to CBC Highways all these issues over the last 6 weeks (as have a number of residents) but no progress made in getting the work done apart from a small amount of aggregate swept off the road opp. the golf club. Clerk is compiling a list of issues to send again to CBC for urgent attention.

iii) Noted there is a lot of rubbish dumped on the side of the road at the top of the hill from Manshead (Dunstable Rd)

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - Apologies received from Cllrs; A Palmer, P Smith, H Palmer, CBC Cllr R Stay

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –**Cllr Russell – Payments 20, Grounds Maintenance item 13

**3. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR** – An application was received from Jack Bean. It was noted Jack has worked on a number of issues in the past and he was voted unanimously onto the council and joined the councillor’s table.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - It was RESOLVED** minutes of 8th January 2018 were a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**5.** **PROGRESS UPDATE FROM LAST MEETING**

Virgin – meeting with rep. next week to resolve issues. A new noticeboardhas been installed in Manor Rd by shops. Thanks to Angus Brewer Trust for generous grant of £4500 to install new play equipment.

**6. TO RECEIVE CHAIRMAN’S ADDRESS**

Chairman Russell welcomed both Roy Catford and Jack Bean to the council. Noted the boundary change consultation from CBC Dunstable have applied to take over the part of Caddington (Norfolk Rd) which is adjacent to Dunstable (but at present technically in Caddington Parish). It was noted that Caddington Parish Council were not spoken to by Dunstable Town Council before this request was made to CBC.

**7. VILLAGE SIGN** – Deferred to future meeting – still awaiting details.

**8. ALLOTMENT BONFIRE SCHEDULE**

John Dudley, Allotment Gardens Secretary spoke of the need to have a system whereby wood waste is removed from the allotments. It is noted that green waste is composted and other waste taken home but woody waste remained a problem from time to time. They were able to have a large fir on Bonfire weekend last year which got rid of many years accumulated wood. There were 3 options – to get skips once or twice a year at a cost of approx.. £400 each, to have possibly 2 fires per year, or to pile all the waste in a corner and let it rot over many years. The 3rd option wasn’t thought to be viable as it may attract vermin and be a safety issue to users.

The allotment committee proposed 2 dates upon which fires could be held if council agreed; 24th March (Saturday) at 6pm approx. and another near bonfire night in November. Fires would be held on Saturdays as most allotment holders work during the week. All fires would be only lit if wind in direction away from houses, would be attended at all times and extinguished before leaving, leaflets given to near neighbours to inform them what is happening and dates advertised in Villager Magazine. (Note: if weather not suitable fires might be held the week after).

**It was agreed** that this schedule was acceptable and could go ahead.

1. **RECEIVE AN UPDATE REGARDING HEATHFIELD CENTRE**

Noted Cllr Dixon is replaced by Cllr Eugene Gent – who is also behind the intention to build a replacement community centre.

1. **RECEIVE A REPORT FROM CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL**

Cllr Collins stated that he was disappointed that Dunstable had not even spoken to anyone in Caddington regarding their move to take over Norfolk Rd & Manshead school site or to Kensworth to take over part of their parish. He commended Slip End and Caddington for speaking to each other over Aley Green and noted that no formal request to move any properties there from one council to the other had been made.

**11. RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

The examiner has asked some questions of the plan which will be dealt with at a public meeting – held at Heathfield on 15th March. To be advertised in near future.

As part of the development of Caddington Woods the Heritage Greenway (path/cycleway between Caddington Woods and the Village and beyond) was an obligation of Redrow developers. It is important this happens and instead of waiting for the developers to do it on their own Cllr Collins suggested employing a consultant with experience of delivery of such schemes and funding to start the process and also set up a body to manage the project. It would be envisaged that all funding and their costs would be eventually paid for by grants but the initial set up and fees might be needed to be underwritten. **It was agreed** the parish council would consider funding the costs, which would over time be refunded. It was further agreed that the Parish Council would nominate a representative for the new body. Cllr Collins to liaise with consultants and get quotes for the council.

**12. DISCUSS CCTV PROPOSALS**

It was noted that due to the uncertainty when Heathfield may close, we will be without a base for the CCTV system. It was noted there had been problems with Wi-Fi recently, and a member of Caddington Watch pointed out that no usable pictures had been achieved by the current system resulting in prosecutions, therefore questionable whether it was worthwhile.

A scheme had been presented to the Chair and Vice Chair for flexible stand alone systems with no reliance on Wi-Fi connections – awaiting quote. Current CCTV company also asked to quote for such a system. **Agenda next meeting**.

Clerk to seek date of renewal of CCTV contract and inform CCTV Company that arrangements by necessity will have to change/be renegotiated in future, and therefore cancel current contract and that of the Wi-Fi with BT.

**13. DISCUSS REVISED GROUND MAINTENANCE CONTRACT TO BE SENT OUT TO TENDER**

It was agreed that certain duties could be removed from the contract and given to the Groundsman – those being, clearing leaves from Crosslands steps, watering of baskets and planters, removal of leaves from MUGA. It was also agreed to add pond maintenance to the contract.

**14. DISCUSS GROUNDSMAN RESPONSIBILITIES**

Clerk to talk to Groundsman to ascertain that he is able to clear leaves from Crosslands steps, water baskets and planters, remove leaves from MUGA and sweep or clear weeds from various footpaths/alleyways.

It was agreed that once Caddington woods is adopted as public highways in the future council will need consider Groundsman also sweeping/litter picking there, and so transport to site will be required.

**15. RECEIVE A REPORT FROM PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Caddington Oaks was objected to by Planning Committee. It was noted there was also much opposition from public. All expressed great concern about the development and change in system of dealing with drainage (which is a major problem) on the site from previous application. Cllr Collins has asked that CBC investigate thoroughly drainage proposals

**16. REPORT FROM POLICE**

04/01/2018 BURGLARY RESIDENTIAL x 2 - MALLARD CRESCENT, CADDINGTON WOODS

08/1/2018 23:50 THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE - HYDE ROAD

09/1/2018 06:00 THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE - HYDE ROAD

10/1/2018 07:00 CRIMINAL DAMAGE - TO VEHICLES - MANOR ROAD

11/1/2018 18:00 SENDING LETTERS ETC WITH INTENT TO CAUSE DISTRESS OR ANXIETY - UNDISCLOSED

13/1/2018 00:58 BURGLARY x 2 - ELM AVENUE

14/1/2018 00:00 HARASSMENT - UNDISCLOSED

14/1/2018 18:32 BURGLARY RESIDENTIAL - DWELLING - FAIRGREEN ROAD

17/1/2018 00:00 DOMESTIC DISPUTE/INCIDENT - UNDISCLOSED

21/1/2018 04:58 CRIMINAL DAMAGE - OTHER PROPERTY (NOT BUILDINGS) - MANOR ROAD

22/1/2018 22:25 SEXUAL - UNDISCLOSED

23/1/2018 08:00 COMMON ASSAULT - MANOR ROAD

23/1/2018 10:00 INTIMIDATING OR INTENDING TO INTIMIDATE A WITNESS - UNDISCLOSED

23/1/2018 16:15 CRIMINAL DAMAGE - TO VEHICLES - DUNSTABLE ROAD

23/1/2018 18:21 BURGLARY RESIDENTIAL - DWELLING - MANCROFT ROAD, ALEY GREEN

**17. REPORT FROM CADDINGTON WATCH**

Speed and Street Watches have been fewer in January, due poor weather and the odd bug that has been circulating. However, the highlight was the forging of links with the folk of Caddington Woods. Councillors Matthew Tomlin and Bob Fitzsimmons facilitated a meeting with residents. Signs have been erected and about 50 residents have been approached to look out for each other. They have set up a Whats App group so that they can stay in touch with each other, for anything safety related.

**18. RECEIVE A HIGHWAYS REPORT**

Apart from what had been reported earlier in the meeting it was noted that the cheque to CBC for the new Folly Lane light had been mislaid by CBC and so there is a replacement cheque to be signed this evening, which will hopefully ensure the work gets done soon.

Cllr Collins reported that part of Collings Wells Close reported on last meeting for potholes may come under CBC Assets rather than Highways. Cllr Collins to liaise with departments to help resolve issues.

Cllr Fitzsimmons reported that there were some overhanging hedge branches in Luton Rd which may be a hazard.

**19. RECEIVE GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE – *FOR INFORMATION ONLY***

1. *Resident – request to take measures to stop parking and driving on Cadia Close side of Green & complaint regarding unsightly Virgin boxes***. It was agreed** *that once the problems with speed table is sorted out by CBC Highways council will consider oak bollards. It was also agreed to again ask Virgin to disguise their boxes with hedges.*
2. *Great British Spring Clean – 2nd to 4th March – it was agreed to hold the spring clean on Saturday 3rd 12 Noon to 4pm and Sunday 4th March 10am to 2pm. Contact Highways, Scouts and Cricketers (to use a space in pub/car park)*

iii) Noted: Road closed - emergency due to Water leak, Manor Rd, Woodside

**20. AUTHORISE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT –** the following payments were agreed and cheques signed by two authorised signatories;

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cheque** | **Payable to:** | **Payment Details** | Grand Tot. |
| STO | ASK Accounting Services | Payroll service | £23.70 |
| STO | A Whiting | Clerk salary | £1,219.97 |
| STO | John Dudley | Allotment secretary allowance Feb18 | £45.00 |
| 105964 | Tesco | Printer Ink | £69.00 |
| 105965 | A Whiting | Office allow. Mileage, phone | £79.95 |
| 105966 | HMRC | Tax/NI | £299.67 |
| 105967 | Village Garden Services | Grounds Maintenance Jan 18 | £608.62 |
| 105968 | Amazon | Groundsman replacement gloves | £11.49 |
| 105969 | Beds Pension Fund | Pension Feb 18 | £412.32 |
| STO | Darren Hunter | Parish Warden Salary Jan18 | £523.03 |
| 105970 | BATPC | Membership fee 2018-19 | £815.00 |
| 105971 | Treedom-J Gotch | Tree works Churchyard and Green | £1,375.00 |
| 105972 | Central Beds Council | Replacement cheque - for Folly Lane light | £4,089.94 |
|  |  | **Page Total** | £9,572.69 |

**Public Participation**:

The information centre board could be used to publicise the Heritage Greenway

There will be a public noticeboard, as agreed at council in the information centre. Clerk to check if there is an electric supply to the shelter

Luton Rd by church pathway needs sweeping

Note: water from Folly Lane flows past allotments onto site of Caddington Oaks and beyond – extremely wet there and should be considered by planning.

Is there plan to install CCTV at Caddington Woods. A: It is an option but until we get quotes we do not have plans.

Internet connection at Caddington Woods is very poor. Virgin and BT Openreach to be contacted to see if there is anything that can be done. Note: Richard Wenham at CBC is overseeing BT contract. Residents to contact him direct.

Noted that entrance at Caddington Woods is dangerous - this has been referred to Highways engineers.

Meeting Closed at 9.15pm

Signed…………………………………………………………….Dated: ……………………………….