

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 8th OCTOBER 2018**

Present: Parish Councillors: M Russell (Chair), J Bean, R Catford, , A Palmer, H Palmer, M Morland, S Smith, Clerk - A Whiting, 16 members of public

**Public participation**

i) Request of meetings go on for long, such as last time, that we have a break. Noted.

ii) Q: Are CCTV cameras running yet? A: Not all – still awaiting some parts.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Apologies received and accepted from; Cllrs: B Fitzsimmons - leave, M Tomlin - sick.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST;** Cllr Russell – Payments item 17

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - It was RESOLVED** minutes meeting of 10th September 2018 were amended to say Cllr S Smith’s address was Meadow Way and were signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

**4. PROGRESS UPDATE FROM 10th SEPTEMBER MEETING**

**Litter/fly tipping group** – Clerk has police contact for the initiative – to arrange a meeting in next few weeks.

**Plaques** arrived for Villager and Org. of year to place on planters.

**CCTV** – still awaiting cameras and other parts to make the installation but should be done very soon.

**Grit Bins** – new bin requested at Crosslands. CBC will not place one at Caddington Woods as it is not yet adopted highway**.**

**5. RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE POTENTIAL WASTE INCINERATOR ‘LEA BANK ENERGY PLANT’ – EAST HYDE**

Cllr Russell handed councillors information from the developer Emsrayne’s website which was part of their scoping report, requested by CBC planning as part of the pre-planning process. It was noted that there is no formal planning application in yet and so in order not to prejudice the council’s position when an application does come in.

Chair of Planning Committee, Cllr A Palmer stated that we cannot pre-empt the application, but we can express concern that the scoping report was put forward and on behalf of the council we have concerns that an incinerator is to be considered.

Concern from members of public present about possible pollution and if there is going to be a public consultation.

CBC Cllr Collins answered that we have no idea what the effect of the incinerator will be until we have a planning application in. CBC Planning contacted all interested parties such as environmental groups and have their comments on what might be included on a plan and would expect planning officers to ask the applicant what they have done in lieu of a consultation if and when the plan is submitted. Agreed to await planning application.

**6. TO RECEIVE CHAIRMAN’S ADDRESS**

Concern regarding the recent crime wave. Current levels of break ins are a major concern, but we should be careful not to be too suspicious of innocent people, and also careful not to put scare-mongering material on e.g. social media.

**7. POLICE REPORT**

PC Elliot Weedon was in attendance and stated he had been with Dunstable Police for 13 years and hope to reassure residents and answer all our questions.

Concerns were expressed re.; lack of visible police presence, less ‘drive-throughs’ for the village, where seeing marked police cars could be seen as a deterrent, less visits to local businesses by PCSOs to gather information and reassure and advise them.

PC Weedon explained some of the initiatives they do but promised to hold an event in the village (by the shops) on a Saturday to talk to residents and advise them. To arrange with Clerk. PC Weedon explained the main reason there are less patrols is a resource issue with fewer and fewer police officers and PCSO’s employed by Beds Police. It was noted that previous PCC Olly Martins had asked for further funding which would have eased resource problems, but that was not successful.

Question from Cllr P Smith why was a police car left in a street in Slip End for several days – A: it was possibly left as a visible deterrent to criminals.

**It was agreed** Clerk contacts other parishes to put pressure on petition PCC and/or MPs to get more resources for the police in Bedfordshire.

Council thanked PC Weedon for answering all our questions and explaining the issues to us.

# Crime Figures 31st Aug- 29th Sept.

Interference with a motor vehicle 7

Assault without Injury - Common assault and battery 3

Theft from a motor vehicle 3

Attempted Burglary - Residential - Dwelling 2

Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000) 2

Unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle 1

Burglary - Business And Community 1

Theft if not classified elsewhere 1

Possession of offensive weapon without lawful authority 1

Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety 1

Other criminal damage, other (Under £5,000) 1

Grand Total 23

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

Hatters Way roadworks for junction changes still due sometime in 2019.

Local Plan received comments from inspector which are being addressed.

New free bus service to be introduced from Caddington Woods, through Caddington and Slip End to Luton Airport Parkway to start 15th October. 2 buses in mornings for commuters and 2 returning buses from Parkway station in evenings. We will monitor the service and, if successful, may lead to more buses.

Cllr A Palmer asked if the Neighbourhood plan could be quoted in our planning responses. A”: Yes, it does have weight re. planning.

Cllr S Smith noted that a housing needs survey that has been delivered to houses in the village. Concern that the questionnaire does not make it clear who it is from. Cllr Palmer added that these sort of surveys allow the developer to build a picture of housing need to inform their application. It is up to individuals whether they want to share information or not.

**9. FOLLY LANE LIGHT**

Cllr Bean reported that negotiations have been good with Tingdene and that a few details are to be finalised but will report on further progress again at next meeting.

**10. IMPROVEMENTS TO PLAY AREA**

Quotes were received from Kompan and Sovereign play for replacing the old and worn trim trail in Rushmore park.

It was agreed to accept Kompan quote of £4087, but ask VGS if they could quote to remove the old trail.

**11. DISCUSS GRAVE MARKER FOR DECEASED POW & ARRANGEMENTS FOR REMEMBRANCE DAY**

Clerk sending invites, has secured police presence for day and road closure has been arranged for parade.

It was agreed to accept quote for placing a stone marker on the grave of an un-named German POW buried in the Churchyard, for £255.25 from local stonemason John Slade, who has done much work in the churchyard, including renovating and painting the names on the war memorial, free of charge.

It was further agreed to ask Toddington PC where they got their metal WWII cut outs from and order one to place on Green area near Hyde Rd/Luton Rd junction.

**12. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS - QUOTES**

Quotes were received from Lamps and Tubes and Blachere. It was agreed to accept the ‘draped garland effect lights for 6 trees at c.£11k dependant on whether timescale can be met and guarantees and maintenance plan be forthcoming. Clerk to ask about lifespan of the lights and guarantee.

**13. RECEIVE REPORT FROM CADDINGTON WATCH**

Speed watch and Streetwatch are active. Still attending school in mornings, where parking has been much improved this year. Will assist at parade on Remembrance day and Fireworks display.

**14. HIGHWAYS REPORT**

Cllr Tomlin was not in attendance but stated that Highways had informed him their budget was virtually used up apart from planned works and so they could not consider any further non urgent works. Cllr Tomlin suggested several areas where we could explore match funding to get issues resolved such as a raised table Hyde Rd and Luton Rd, footpath where the new 40mph limit is in Aley Green, moving 30mph sign on Dunstable Rd around sharp bend to slow traffic there. **To agenda future meeting.**

Street light has been requested in Collings Wells Close near garages –unsure if it is CBC Housing or CBC Highways land.

**15. PLANNING REPORT**

There was an outline planning application before committee last week for 13 dwellings – mix of affordable and social housing. Committee approved it in principle with concerns regarding its location outside the village, and lack of bus stop, it being in Greenbelt, speed of traffic at the location, and ‘ribbon development’.

Wider concern that ‘affordable’ homes for 1st time buyers may not be feasible due to market rate property prices in the area.

Concern that Tingdene are again chopping trees and clearing areas in their spinney. Clerk to write to Tingdene to ask what they are doing. Cllr Bean and A Palmer to meet Tingdene.

**16. RECEIVE GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

1. invite to PC representative to Oststeinbek for Remembrance Day – Clerk to ask Cllr Tomlin, and Cllr Morland.
2. *Gardening Group – request to use Green for Plant sale May 18th 9am to 2pm - Agreed*
3. *Allotments – notice of bonfire Saturday 3rd November 6pm – (neighbours will be informed) – Council concern regarding environmental issues surrounding fires, but agreed.*

**17.TO AUTHORISE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AND INSTRUCT TWO AUTHORISED BANK SIGNATORIES TO SIGN CHEQUES –** the following accounts approved and cheques were duly signed

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Cheque** | **Payable to:** | **Payment Details** | Grand Total |
| 01/10/18 | SO | ASK Accounting Services | Payroll service | £25.56 |
| 10/10/18 | STO | John Dudley | Allotment secretary paymentOct18 | £45.00 |
| 28/10/18 | STO | A Whiting | Clerk salary Oct 2018 | £1,267.78 |
| 28/10/18 | STO | Darren Hunter | Parish Warden Salary Oct 18 | £549.12 |
| 08/10/18 | 106041 | HMRC | Tax/NI Oct 18 | £315.71 |
| 08/10/18 | 106042 | Beds Pension Fund | Pension Oct18 | £444.98 |
| 08/10/18 | 106043 | Bidwells | Rent - Recreation Ground | £100.00 |
| 08/10/18 | 106044 | Earth Anchors | 3 picnic tables for parks | £1,806.00 |
| 08/10/18 | 106045 | TT Trophies | Villager and Org. of year Plaques | £108.00 |
| 08/10/18 | 106046 | Village Garden Services | Grounds Maint Sept 18 | £608.62 |
| 08/10/18 | 106047 | The Sign Builder | 4 x No parking signs | £138.60 |
| 08/10/18 | 106048 | A Whiting | Off. allow, mileage. Internet | £127.90 |
| 08/10/18 | 106049 | Bartram Mowers | Gritter | £3,647.50 |
| 08/10/18 | 106050 | EDF | Electricity Rushmore Park | £325.81 |
| 30/10/18 | dd | O2 | PC phone | £26.40 |
|  |  |  | **Page Total** | **£9,536.98** |

***Public participation***

1. *Concern re poor parking in Manor Rd near Pharmacy and junction of Dellfield Close. Ask Highways to reassess the area and monitor illegal or poor parking.*
2. *Clarification that CBC Highways have put back (to sometime in 2019) the road alterations at Hatters Way/Chaul End Rd – ask Highways if when they next put up advisory signs to make the signs clearer and the font bigger.*

*Meeting Closed at 9.45pm*

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