

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 14th JANUARY 2019**

Present: Parish Councillors: M Russell (Chair), J Bean, R Catford, B Fitzsimmons, M Tomlin, A Palmer, H Palmer,

M Morland, S Smith, CBC Cllr R Stay, Clerk A Whiting, 30 members of public

**Public participation**

Town and Country asked for continued use of boards on Green in return for financial and community support – agreed. Council thanked Town and Country for everything they do in the village.

Overhanging tree in 85 Dunstable Rd. Town and Country to send letter to owner abroad, in order to get tree cut down. Reported to CBC under reference no. 323230

Concern that the bus shelter is a rare building and CBC seem intent on getting it removed. Item discussed in 4, below.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Apologies received and accepted from; Cllr P Smith – family bereavement, CBC Cllr K Collins

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST;** Cllr Russell – Payments item 14

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 10TH DECEMBER 2018**

**It was RESOLVED** minutes of 10h December 2018 were signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

**4. PROGRESS UPDATE FROM 10th DECEMBER 2018 MEETING**

Traffic Management Committee at CBC meeting on 18th December. CBC Committee services agreed to demolish the shelter or relocate if PC could agree a suitable location (relocation at PC’s cost)

Since the meeting the council have exchanged a series of emails with CBC Committee Services and Highways asking for clarification of their statements, and querying the ‘definitive’ map that CBC Highways used in their argument. Parish Council dispute the map as the location and size of the shelter on it appears to be inaccurate. Highways have been sent various documents showing that it was built by the Parish Council and is located on the Green.

Cllr Palmer added that he had sent a number of questions to Highways but had received no reply. The Parish Council built the shelter in 1953 with permission of the Local Authority (which was then Luton Borough Council) on part of the Village Green, and questioned that if the area concerned had changed designation from Village Green to ‘Highways’ land then we want to see proof and also ask how this has happened without our knowledge.

Cllr S Smith questioned if the Traffic Management Decision was based on misinformation would the decision be invalid? Cllr Smith stated that Cllr Collins did not speak in favour of the shelter being retained at Committee.

Cllr Russell suggested the best way forward is to have a meeting with Highways to discuss this issue. Cllr Stay stated he would be happy to attend and could facilitate the meeting if required.

Cllr Fitzsimmons stated that CBC had spent a great deal of time and money on this when there are so many other issues that we require them to be doing, but cannot because they claim to have no money.

1. **RECEIVE CHAIRMAN’S ADDRESS**

With regard to previous discussion we now need to focus on other issues that are important to the Village.

Heathfield Centre and its replacement need to be in focus and we could set up a Sub-Committee.

Fly Tipping problem is huge with various hotspots. We could extend camera coverage to catch offenders.

Security in village – further roll out of CCTV system.

Good news – upgrade to the second of our 3 parks, Rushmore, the new wooden Trim Trail being done this week

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

Cllr Stay stated that extra cameras to catch fly tippers may be an excellent idea.

i) Tony Keaveney Housing is keen to come to a parish council meeting to talk about Housing Policy. **Agreed**

ii) Timetable for works in Chaul End is now finalized (*see appendix 1*). Aware lots of requests for changes to the chicanes are being made by residents but their assessment will be done by Highways once all the works are complete. Clerk to forward any complaints to Tony Pershky, Highways.

Parish are welcome to undertake their own speed assessments in Chaul End Rd if they wish.

Cllr Russell stated that we are told the roads will remain open, as promised, throughout the works.

iii) Cllr Stay stated that the Local Plan is due to go to examination in April.

iv) CBC Gypsy and Traveller team has been expanded significantly. Eversholt Beeches has applied for planning permission for all the works it has undertaken.

v) Heathfield. The new facility is part of the Neighbourhood Plan and it is being managed by CBC Assets Team. The NP states the site will be of “Residential and mixed use and Community Facility including Health Centre”

Negotiations are ongoing with Clinical Care Group to make sure we have a fit for purpose centre, with better car park etc. Section 106 monies from Caddington Woods are ring-fenced for Health (specifically for a new surgery for Caddington). It is estimated it will be 18-24 months before any works start on the site due to the planning process.

vi) Can PC publicise contact for Environment Agency – Tel: 0800 807060

1. **RECEIVE REPORT REGARDING PROGRESS – NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Covered under item 6.

**8. HIGHWAYS REPORT**

i) Cllr Tomlin had a walkabout with Highways rep. and issues being addressed are; sinking of footway trenches (Virgin Media), broken kerbs & various road and path repairs, new grit bin on steep section at Crosslands, tarmac to replace old broken paving slabs in Elm Avenue Park. Paul Salmon of Highways is looking at works to move the 30mph signage in Dunstable Rd and associated traffic calming signage.

Q: A resident asked if the high verges either side of Caddington Woods entrance are going to be lowered to make visibility better there. A: Not at present.

ii) Discuss Chaul End Rd speeding and traffic calming concerns – *dealt with in item 6, above.*

**9. POLICE REPORT**

08/12/2018 Theft of Mail Collings Wells Close

23/12/2018 Theft from a Motor Vehicle Manor Road

17/12/2018 Theft from a Motor Vehicle Holly Farm Close

14/12/2018 Theft from a Motor Vehicle Luton Road

11/12/2018 Theft Manor Road

11/12/2018 Possession of Cannabis Hyde Road

17/12/2018 Harassment Watling Street

13/12/2018 Harassment Dunstable Road

26/12/2018 Criminal Damage to Vehicle Luton Road

19/12/2018 Criminal Damage Dunstable Road

11/12/2018 Criminal Damage Hyde Road

17/12/2018 Assault without Injury Hyde Road

03/12/2018 Assault without Injury Dunstable Road

22/12/2018 Affray Manor Road 22/12/2018 Affray Manor Road

**10. RECEIVE REPORT FROM CADDINGTON WATCH**

Still undertaking regular patrols, monitoring school parking and have received new speed cameras (hand-held).

**11. AGREE 2019-20 PRECEPT**

Noted we are estimated to spend approx. £122,000 this financial year, including projects such as refurbishment of 2 of the 3 parks, new gritter, new Christmas Lights on Green, new CCTV system. We had received £17,500 from various Grants and initiatives.

In the next year council intend to continue with roll out of Security/CCTV, refurbishment of both the Pond and Edgecote Close Park. Also need to budget for Election in May (up to £2500), 3% rise for Aley Green Cemetery precept, Litter/Fly Tipping strategy, and also to begin earmarking funds for Heathfield Community Centre.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Projected budgets 2019-20** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  Staff Cost  |  Admin  |  Allotments  |  Security  |  Highways  | Heathfield/ Community Facilities |  Sect 137  |  Parks  |  Projects  |  **TOTAL**  |
| £34,000 | £10,000 | £2,000 | £3,000 | £16,000 | £10,000 | £2,500 | £26,000 | £16,500 | **£120,000** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**It was agreed** that precept is set at £120,000 for 2019-20 financial year. This equates to a rise of £2.51 per band D property per year.

**12. PLANNING REPORT**

Major Planning application in for 200 dwelling Care Village in Millfield Lane. CBC have refused to give Cllr Palmer or the Committee all the paperwork as it is not policy to do so anymore. The difficulty it raises is that being such a large application there are 1000s of pages to analyse. Cllr Stay has asked the applicant to supply a copy for Committee.

**Agreed – Clerk requests extension of time for comments due to size of application.**

Cllr Palmer spoke of the last meeting and cited 2 of the plans discussed. One was for swimming pool cover in 171 Dunstable Rd. It was requested that if this be granted then the site be ‘closed’ to prvent any further applications or development on the site. A back garden development in Fairgreen Rd was objected to by Committee.

**13. RECEIVE GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

CBC – Budget consultation 2019-20 – handed out to all present, additional copies in Post Office

CBC – emails regarding brick shelter removal or relocation – answer reqd. by 29th January – (See above item 4)

Resident – thank you for Christmas Lights - noted

Bidwells – Lease for Rushmore needs to be renewed - noted

High Elms Tree Surgery works to Rushmore Trees on behalf of Bidwells due on 7th February – Noted (Clerk to ensure logs are removed after works)

**14. 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**  |
| 30/01/19 | dd | O2 | PC phone |  £26.40  |
| 01/01/19 | SO | ASK Accounting Services | Payroll service |  £25.56  |
| 01/01/19 | STO | John Dudley | Allotments management - Jan18 |  £45.00  |
| 28/01/19 | STO | Darren Hunter | Parish Warden Salary Jan18 |  £549.12  |
| 28/01/19 | STO | A Whiting | Salary Jan18 |  £1,267.78  |
| 14/01/19 | 106076 | HMRC | Tax/Ni Jan18 |  £315.71  |
| 14/01/19 | 106077 | Beds Pension Fund | Pension Jan18 |  £444.98  |
| 14/01/19 | 106078 | A Whiting | Clerk mileage, office allow, internet |  £106.00  |
| 14/01/19 | 106079 | Bidwells | Rent Rushmore |  £100.00  |
| 14/01/19 | 106080 | Village Garden Services | Grounds Min & Warden Cover |  £757.42  |
| 14/01/19 | 106081 | Village Garden Services | Remove trim trail - Rushmore Park |  £492.00  |
|  |  |  | **TOTAL** | **£4,129.97**  |

***Public participation***

i) Any news on the proposed Incinerator in Hyde, and has anyone met with the applicant. Answer: No. Cllr Stay stated that he imagines a lot more work would need to go into the proposal and that it may not be submitted for some months.

ii) Clarification that the lease for Rushmore Park is something that we currently pay to St Albans Diocese (through their agent, Bidwells) as it is church land

iii) Caddington Woods new resident asked if there was still plan to put a path in between the estate and the village. Answer: Yes – the Heritage Greenway is being planned and will be implemented when land issues and route are agreed. Redrow are also obliged to provide footway access which should start in autumn.

iv) Concern cars running over grass at Chaul End Rd/Luton Rd. **Agenda next meeting to consider bollards.**

*Meeting Closed at 8.50pm*

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

***Appendix1 – Highway works Chaul End Rd***

*PHASE 1 & 2 4 Feb – 11 April Maintenance bay and kerbs north of the island & northern half of road crossing. Traffic signals & ductwork and street furniture in this area.*

*Phase 3 & 6 25 April – 7 June Removal of existing island and construction new road island kerb brace only. Installation of signal & lighting ductwork. Preparation of the old island area to subbase level. Tarmac to old and new island area. Installation of road crossing 5. Installation of kerbs, signal apparatus and street furniture to Phase 3. Grub out the old kerbs in phase 5 and install new.*

*Phase 4 & 5 7 Jun – 9 Jul Construct phase 4 island kerbs, installation of signal & light ductworks. Removal of old kerbs & replace with new. Footpath preparations. Installation of street furniture and tarmac works to new footpath.*

*Phase 6a 15 Apr – 29 April Installation of ducting in grass verges*

*Phase 7 9 July - 6 Aug Installation of kerbing, bust stop and footway works*

*Phase 7A 6 Aug – 4 Sept New island, signals and streetlight ducting Resurfacing with be completed on night time closures – 13/08 – 23/08*