

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

**HELD ON MONDAY 13th FEBRUARY 2017**

Present: Parish Councillors: M Russell (Chair), M Tomlin, B Fitzsimmons, P Smith, M. Morland, L Skelton, C Smith, A Palmer, H Palmer, Ward Councillors K Collins & R Stay, Locum Clerk A Whiting, 18 members of public

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There are 3 large potholes outside Manor Court, and one Luton Rd near Hyde Rd junc./The Green. Cllr Tomlin to report to Highways CBC

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - Apologies received from Cllr: S Eacope

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST -** Cllr M Russell declared an interest in payments – item 15

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**It was RESOLVED** the minutes of 9th January 2017 were a correct record and signed by the Chairman

**4.** **PROGRESS UPDATE FROM LAST MEETING**

Rugby planning application has been withdrawn.

Item 4- Three quotes for the church trees received from High Elms £750, Goodfellers £920 and Treedom £1080

It was agreed that quote from High Elm was accepted.

Item 12(iii) – OSCAR road safety vehicle – CBC recommended this be booked on a day when other event(s) are taking place in the village. Agreed we book it for the day of the parish consultation.

**5. CHAIRMAN’S ADDRESS**

Cllr Russell reported he is talking to the Cubs on 23rd and will invite them to help with the Spring Clean, which we have booked for the morning of Sunday 5th March (meeting on the Green at 9am).

A bench and bin have been installed near the bus stop Elm Avenue. Still seeking a site for the other one.

CBC are resurfacing path in Manor Rd – they need to note that Virgin Media are soon to be digging paths up and may undo their work at this location.

There was an accident involving the school bus with a lady being hit by it and injured. Clerk to ask CBC Transport team what the duty of care is in regard to the bus company, as we would wish to not see any further incidents or accidents.

Warden has been given a work schedule seeing him at dedicated areas of the village on each of his 3 working days. We will monitor this and it is hoped it will focus his work and be beneficial for the village.

**6. CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL REPORT**

Cllr Stay reported: Council tax has been held for the last 6 years, but due to rise in costs of Adult Social Care it is expected that will mean and increase of 3% for next year plus a further 1.5% for other costs. To be discussed at CBC and agreed.

Cllr Stay stated that a retrospective planning application had been received for Statham’s yard on the A5 for a vehicle storage building. Cllr Stay has been concerned of the scale and number of developments impacting on the A5 and has called this application in to Committee.

There were 400 fly tipping reports in the ward (which includes Caddington and 5 other parishes) last year costing hundreds of thousands of pounds to deal with.

A5-M1 link nearly finished which, when complete, will mean weight restrictions placed on various villages and traffic eased to Dunstable and villages.

There may be a future planning application to develop a multi sports facility at the golf club. It may involve the Rugby club, (who withdrew their previous application for further along Chaul End Rd) but as yet formal application has not been submitted.

Skimpot Travellers illegal encampments – over 50 caravans have been making camps there on and off for the last year. The cost of moving them on and dealing with mess has been considerable.

Cllr Collins reported: Road works Chaul End Rd are to connect pipes to the huge sewer tank at Caddington Woods. The work is being done in sections so traffic lights will be moved as work progresses.

The last bit of work will be the traffic calming raised table at Luton Rd/Dunstable Rd and Chaul End Rd junction. This will be a lot of work and could take up to 8 weeks. B.T., Virgin Media and Kelly’s will all be working together to make sure disruption is kept to a minimum. Once all work is complete Streetworks will ensure no more major works take place in Caddington in the near future. 2 weeks of the closure will be over Easter holidays to hopefully lessen likely impact.

Folly Lane will be accessible to residents even when the roads are closed for the traffic calming works.

Cllr Stay added that we know this will be a major issue for Caddington whilst the works are undertaken but it has meant that the traffic calming we would have had to put in anyway will be paid for by contractors rather than tax payers.

Potholes at Brick Kiln farm area will be picked up at this time as well.

It was noted that water company works to meters are also meaning a lot of work on Caddington pavements, but that the reinstatements are actually making the paths better. Street works are aware of all the on-going works and will be keeping a close eye on the village.

Cllr Palmer added that Virgin Media have told him they will be doing their best to lessen impact of their extensive works and will reinstate to a reasonable condition.

Cllr Tomlin requested that when the raised table is put in, when there are road closures, that marshalls be put on either end of Little Green Lane as traffic will cause all sorts of problems potentially by using this route and Mancroft Rd as a cut through.

**7.NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Local Plan has paused awaiting Govt. White Paper – it is thought the White Paper will not adversely impact on what we already have on our Neighbourhood Plan so we are confident that it will progress and will be submitted this year. The white paper actually gives more power to block large developments to Neighbourhood Plans if, like ours, they have within the plan process identified housing development for the housing need in the NP area.

Cllr Russell sought assurance that Heathfield Centre would continue to be a facility once the new development was completed. Cllr Stay reiterated that it was part of the Neighbourhood Plan and would remain so. It is early days and there is a process to go through, but we want to see the site developed as a modern village facility and with accommodation for older people behind.

Both Parish and Heathfield users to be informed as developments occur and involved in the process.

1. **DISCUSS PLAY AREAS AND POSSIBLE FUNDING OPTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS**

Locum Clerk reported that he had received calls regarding the state of some of the play equipment – needing updating. Caddington Watch had also reported that the MUGA had needed a clean – a job that was done this month by Village Garden Services. It is thought that having well maintained and good play equipment would lessen anti-social behaviour.

In his previous role at Toddington parish council the Locum Clerk reported he had successfully got three lots of Lottery funding for the updating of play equipment there. **It was agreed** he apply to Lottery Awards For All for Caddington once the parks had been assessed for which pieces might need replacement and what was on offer from play equipment companies.

Cllr A Palmer stated that there is a development proposed “Caddington Oaks” where it is proposed we get a new park as part of the section 106 benefits. This would mean another park to maintain and council have to decide whether or not we want or need one, or whether some other benefit/facility might be more suitable.

**9. POLICE REPORT**

**BURGLARY IN A BUILDING OTHER THAN A DWELLING-2**

**BURGLARY IN A DWELLING-4**

**CRIMINAL DAMAGE - TO DWELLINGS-1**

**CRIMINAL DAMAGE - TO OTHER BUILDINGS-1**

**INTERFERENCE WITH MOTOR VEHICLE-1**

**OTHER MISCELLANEOUS THEFTS NOT CLASSIFIED ELSEWHERE-1**

**THEFT FROM SHOPS AND STALLS-1**

**10. RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CADDINGTON WATCH**

Cllr Tomlin reported there were 3 day-time burglaries in the last few weeks at Fairgreen Road, Folly Lane and Manor Road. Meeting with the Police tomorrow to find out if they are linked.

Interference with a vehicle Collings-Wells Close

Theft from shops - Manor Road

Theft of BMW X5 Estate from Millfield lane.

Street Watch

Out twice per week.

Supporting Leighton Buzzard this coming Saturday, as they launch their scheme.

Attended 'Conflict Management' training at Police Headquarters.

Police also offering free First Aid training.

Matthew organising basic self-defence course for volunteers.

Met with Caddington Village school

Cyber Crime

Now the most common type of acquisitive crime in the UK. John now a member Bedfordshire Police's Cyber Team as a volunteer. The plan is promote awareness via Clubs and Societies. Initial presentation to Caddington Men's Club, very well received.

Cllr Fitzsimmons stated that a second free CPR/Defrib. Training session will take place at Collings Wells Hall on 3rd March at 7pm. All welcome.

**11. HIGHWAYS REPORT**

Cllr Tomlin reported:

**Folly Lane Light**- Funding has been approved for half the light from the Angus Brewers Trust with the stipulation Tingdene take on the responsibility for upkeep and cost of power. Tingdene have requested a site plan. We are awaiting this.

**Chaul End Road**-More works have begun to fit a water mains riser along the edge of the road. Traffic lights are now in place to allow works to go ahead. There has been some issues with the layout and safe usage of the lights but this now seems to have been remedied.

**Dunstable Road Bend**-There has been a number of accidents with cars coming off the road. Highways will be fitting some bend warning signs.

**Five Oaks School**-I have been contacted with parking issues around the school at pick up and drop off times. I have had a meeting with the school and have offered training for the teachers to become Street Watch Members to help police the parking. Also I have offered them a CBC run scheme called Junior Road Safety where the children help police the parking issues and promote road safety. Our Street Watch Team have also been asked to help patrol.

**Match Funding**- My suggestions for Match Funding for the next financial year would be as follows:

Speed reduction and new signage on bend Dunstable Road (by old Wyvale site) to reduce accidents.

Additional footpath lighting.

The possibility of installing Pavement/Path from Alley Green to Little Green Lane Roundabout.

**Welcome new residents**- 2 ducks have now moved into the Duck House on the Village pond

Cllr Fitzsimmons stated that there were lots of leaf material causing a slip hazard in Manor Rd – footpath near Hillcrest. Cllr Tomlin to report to CBC.

**12. RECEIVE REPORT /MINUTES FROM PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Agreed Minutes of 24th January 2017 were circulated to Councillors.

Revised Terms of Reference document were circulated to Councillors and agreed.

Cllr Palmer informed the meeting that the Statham’s application (which Cllr Stay spoke of calling in to Committee) the Committee had discussed this evening and had strong reservations re. it being retrospective, within Greenbelt area and area of AONB, but it is a brownfield site and did not otherwise object to it.

It was noted that Jockey Farm had piles of work materials and numerous vehicles parked outside and was unsightly. It was also noted that CBC and Police were aware but do not take enforcement action.

1. **PARISH CONSULTATION**

**It was Agreed** the following issues for consultation event and responsibility for production of consultation materials as follows;

War Memorial –C Smith, P Smith, M Morland

Play areas – A Palmer

Parking – tbc

Highways – M Tomlin

New Heathfield Centre Uses – M Russell

The date for the consultation will be Saturday 22nd April from 11am to 4pm at Heathfield Centre. OSCAR to be booked the same day. Heathfield Friends to supply refreshments and be reimbursed for costs.

**14. RECEIVE GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE** – *for information only*

*CBC – Budget/precept rise* – to note. See [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/budget2017](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/budget2017)

*CBC - Housing White Paper Central Government future housing policy – to note*

*Heathfield Friends – Request to be involved in planning for new centre facility and ensure parishioners are kept up to date with any developments.*

**It was agreed** the Locum Clerk writes to Linda Newson CBC to ask when it is closing and to try to secure an 8 month notice period so that all the user groups have enough time to find alternate venues, if possible. Also, request what length of time it is anticipated between closure and reopening.

Cllr Russell stated he was meeting both the school and the Recreation Club who may be able to take some of the groups/meetings in their accommodation.

Cllr Fitzsimmons suggested Heathfield Centre is an agenda item for the PC each month. **Agreed.**

**It was agreed that Cllr Fitzsimmons also joins the Heathfield Sub-Committee.**

*Stanbridge Gypsy and Traveller Focus Group – request for Caddington PC to make Freedom of Information (FOI) request to CBC re. travellers*

*After considerable discussion,* ***It was agreed*** *that as the parish council had no requirement for this information ourselves that we should not make the FOI. It was suggested that the Focus Group themselves or any individual could make the request on their behalf.*

*The Green – skip application 3rd to 6th March – Noted and agreed*

**16. AUTHORISE PAYMENTS WITH TWO AUTHORISED BANK SIGNATORIES TO SIGN CHEQUES**

**It WAS RESOLVED** to authorise the following accounts for payment & authorise signatories to sign thecheques:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cheque** | **Payable to:** | **Payment Details** | **Total** |
| 105827 | Caddington Leisure Gardens | Allotment gate | £100.00 |
| 105828 | John Dudley | Allotment secretary allowance Feb17 | £45.00 |
| STO | ASK Accounting Services | Payroll service | £11.58 |
| STO | Darren Hunter | Parish Warden Salary Dec 16 | £500.59 |
| 105829 | A Whiting | salary Jan 17 | £1,270.23 |
| 105830 | A Whiting | Office allow. Mileage, ink paper supplies | £162.78 |
| 105831 | HMRC | Tax/NI Jan 17 | £320.19 |
| 105832 | Village Garden Services | Grounds Maintenance Jan 17 | £608.62 |
| 105833 | Village Garden Services | MUGA maintenance/cleaning MUGA & Swings area | £84.00 |
| 105834 | Village Garden Services | Gritting x 7 nights | £905.02 |
| DD | DCS Sound Vision | Phone | £11.54 |

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

1. Noted that Virgin will need to do a full width path reinstatement when they do path excavations.
2. Noted re. Jockey Farm that A5 comes under Highways England, not CBC.
3. Noted that school bus does not have enough seats for all passengers so some have to stand.
4. It was agreed to publicise [www.roadworks.org](http://www.roadworks.org) on website and Facebook which details all roadworks. It is thought Virgin will be starting in March and will do their work to the box on the Green (by hedge near Cadia Close) on 1st April. Works will coincide with BT and Kelly’s.

Meeting Closed at 9:10pm

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