

MEETING OF CAMPTON AND CHICKSANDS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in

Campton Village Hall on Wednesday 1st February 2017.

Present: Cllr C. Ash- in the chair. Cllr Baker Cllr Longson, Cllr Westgarth, Dr Willis

14/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident thanked the residents who supported the petition against the telecommunications tower and thanked the Parish Council for their support and representation at the Development and Management Committee.

The fence near the Campton Plantation remains down after the recent works were carried out; a resident questioned when it will be replaced.

Resolved: Cllr Ash will follow this up.

The problems surrounding the free flowing water in Rectory rd have been solved; however the road now needs clearing of debris.

Resolved: The Clerk will contact highways to arrange this.

15/17 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4th January 2017 were signed as a true record of the meeting.

16/17 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION:

Dr Willis declared an interest with regards to Agenda item 7 as the owners of the property are friends.

17/17 REPORT BY CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLOR:

Cllr Tony brown was unable to attend.

18/17 RECREATION GROUND MOLES:

The moles on the recreation ground are a potential hazard to the children who use the area and the footballers who play matches there.

Resolved: Cllr Westgarth will contact Pest Control at CBC for further advice.

A teacher from the school approached the Clerk and Cllr Baker with concerns over dog fouling on the recreation ground, the staff is having to check and clear the area before the children go out to play.

Resolved: The Clerk will include this in the newsletter.

19/17 INDIVIDUAL COUNCILLOR UPDATES:

STREET LIGHTING:

Cllr Westgarth presented information to the Council with regards to new street lighting. This information was gathered as a potential future project for the Council. The sodium lamps are now becoming obsolete and therefore replacements would be LED, Campton currently has 24 street lamps.

Costs:

Replacement of each head £295.00+vat all heads £7080.00+vat

All columns replaced with decorative poles £46,800+vat

One column replaced with a standard pole £1000+vat

Other villages have replaced them gradually over three years and therefore stretched the costs over three financial years. Decorative lamps can be viewed in neighbouring villages of Henlow and Clifton. The costs of the new lights will be offset by a reduction in electricity and maintenance costs.

Resolved: Cllr Westgarth will look into the costs.

Consultation for this would be essential as it involves a considerable cost but would make the poles more uniform, questions were raised over whether CBC would replace the ones they owned so that all lights were uniform? **Resolved: Clerk will investigate this and contact Henlow and Clifton Parish Council to enquire as to how they funded the project?**

Andy Muskett will attend a meeting with samples and catalogues should we require him to talk us through the various options.

A resident questioned whether there were other projects that would benefit from the money as opposed to street lighting? the Council plan to gather information on several projects before making a decision.

The Chairman requested that this be on the Agenda for the April meeting.

JOINT BURIAL BOARD:

Dr Willis attended the last Joint Burial Board meeting. They are currently looking at improving the environment of the Burial Ground. They have updated the risk assessment and financially they are looking healthy. The next meeting is due to take place on 3rd March in the Town Hall.

CAMTON UNITED CHARITIES:

Further evidence of operation has been requested by the Charities Commission and this has been submitted by Cllr Baker. The Charity still needs to raise £600-£1000 for registering the land and the committee are looking at potential ways to do this; Dr Willis suggested looking at business sponsorship for this. A loan from the Parish Council was also suggested. The Committee will meet again to discuss this.

DOCUMENT STORAGE:

Cllr Baker continues to talk to Deryck, the previous Clerk to try and obtain some of the documents back. He also thanked Trevor, a resident who has supplied files to store documents.

RECREATION GROUND ENTRANCE:

Cllr Westgarth has still been unable to find companies who are willing to carry out the works to the bushes and trees at the Recreation ground. It was agreed by all Councillors that the work would go to Grangers as we are running out of time before nesting begins.

Resolved: The Clerk will arrange for Grangers to carry out the work.

There is also an area on Greenway between the barns and the start of the housing which is over grown and making it difficult for the grass to be cut, The Clerk will arrange for Grangers to cut this as well.

The area of bushes by the underpass is also over grown and needs cutting back, this was reported to CBC some time again but the work has never been carried out. **Resolved:** Clerk will report it again.

When the work was carried out to remove trees in Rectory Rd, the plan was for them to be replaced at a suitable time.

Resolved: The Clerk will follow this up with CBC.

20/17 FARM GATES:

A resident has approached the Parish Council to ask permission to erect a sign by their farm gates warning of an entrance. The Clerk has followed this up with Highways and has received a response. The gates do however appear to come under the realms of Meppershall Parish Council.

Resolved: The Clerk will contact Meppershall Parish Council to follow this up.

21/17 STANDING ORDERS:

The Standing Orders need to be looked at thoroughly and signed and adopted by the Parish Councillors. The discussion opened with the number of Councillors required in order for the Council to be quorate? A minimum of three is legally required however an opposing view was put forward that actually we should work with a minimum of 50% in this case making it 4. **Resolved:** The Clerk will take advice on this. Further discussions concerning this document began and it became clear that in order to look at the intricate detail of the document a separate meeting should be scheduled.

22/17 PLANNING

No applications.

23/17 FINANCE:

The Clerk requested that she register for online banking, all Councillors agreed.

Resolved: Clerk will arrange this.

The report from the Internal Auditor has now been circulated to all Councillors by the Clerk.

OUTGOING PAYMENTS:

Staff salary £460.72

Internal Auditor £75.00

CBC bin payment: £174.00

Play Inspection: £60.00

Benefice: £64.00

A Muskett: £99.36

EON: £138.33

Safelincs: £131.98

Village Sign £195.00

Bank account balances:

Community account £47,083.09

Business Account £22,923.72

24/17 CONSULTATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

A grant request from an Autism Charity who currently support 3 residents in the village. This was deferred as the Campton United Charities could perhaps support this cause.

Rural England membership information.

25/17 AOB:

The Local Plan Community event is due to take place on 2nd March, Councillors agreed to attend on a rota basis, rota yet to be organised.

Currently the speed limit signs are situated prior to you entering the village in two directions, however if you enter from Gravenhurst direction you actually pass a number of residences prior to reaching the 30mph sign. It has been requested that maybe the sign could be moved further out so that drivers are able to see the sign prior to entering the village on that side.

Resolved: The Clerk will contact Highways and Cllr Brown to discuss this.

26/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The Next meeting will take place on Wednesday 1st March 2017