

## MEETING OF CAMPTON AND CHICKSANDS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in

Campton Village Hall on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

Present: Cllr C. Ash- in the chair. Cllr Baker Cllr Longson, Dr Willis, Central Bedfordshire Councillor, Cllr Brown.

Apologies: Cllr Westgarth gave his apologies for this meeting at our February meeting.

### 27/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

It was suggested by a resident that the Community Planning Event on 2<sup>nd</sup> March should be advertised on Social Media in order to reach more residents. The event has been advertised on notice boards around the area and on the website so far. **Resolved:** Dr Willis will put a statement and link on the Campton and Chicksands Face book page this evening.

### 28/17 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017 were signed as a true record of the meeting.

Matters arising from the minutes:

The cleaning of Rectory Rd has not been adequate and still needs clearing .**Resolved:** Clerk will report this

Grangers cut back the overhanging trees on Greenway, is it cut back sufficiently for them to be able to cut the grass? **Resolved:** Clerk will contact Grangers to confirm this.

It was questioned if there was any further update with regards to the 30mph speed sign being re-sited? **Resolved:** Cllr Brown will follow this up.

### 29/17 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION:

None.

### 30/17 CO-OPT NEW COUNCILLOR:

Mr Trevor Martin has sat in on recent Parish Council meetings and has written into the Council expressing an interest in joining as a Councillor. Cllr Ash proposed his nomination and it was seconded by Cllr Baker. The Clerk supplied Mr Martin with the relevant documents to be completed and he then took his seat at the table as a new Councillor.

### 31/17 REPORT BY CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLOR:

Cllr Tony brown was able to update the Parish on the following items:

- There was a consultation paper with regards to the Council Tax increase, 55% of people were in favour of a three year increase of 2%, 2%, 2% whilst 43% were in favour of 3%, 3%, 0%.

- The Birches care home in Shefford accommodates 30 residents and currently has 28 occupants. Since this home was released by Bupa it has been considered to not meet the standards as there are no en-suite facilities. In view of this CBC has arranged with owners of Castleoak care home currently being built in Shefford to have 30 of the 64 rooms reserved for Birches residents that may wish to move in. This will be carried out through a consultation process and where necessary CBC will try to facilitate residents who may wish to move to an alternative home. Castleoak is due to be open September 2017.
- There's to be a 1.75% increase in order to protect services, this equates to an average of 46p per week.
- There will be an increase of 1.99% for fire and 1.99% for Police services and the Campton and Chicksands precept.
- Community Planning Event on 2<sup>nd</sup> March at Shefford Baptist Church, we are urged to encourage as many residents as possible to attend.
- The White paper on Housing has been released and there is yet to be confirmation of exact numbers but it looks likely that there will be an increase of 4000-5000 on the housing requirements. This will be in addition to the 32,000 already stipulated. Due to the White paper there will be a delay in the draft Local Plan, which will now not be available until late summer for public consultation. The proposed dates for summer 2018 should still be applicable.
- The Police are in the process of setting up a Rural Community Area, Campton and Chicksands will be in Group 1. There will be 1 Police officer and 2 PCSOs allocated to each area. The Police officer for Group 1 will be Sally Bonham and a meeting will be organised in Biggleswade in Late March to update the Parish Council further.
- If the Parish Council wishes to change the street lights in Campton, providing they are LED lights CBC will be happy to take on the maintenance of them and the electricity for them. Once the Parish Council has a quote from a contractor with the proposed works then Cllr Brown will take it back to CBC for further discussion.
- Call for Sites has almost been completed, it has been held up due to the White paper. There will be an update from CBC in the next few days. They will issue a map with shaded areas which will be looked at further; it will not pinpoint exact sites for development.

#### 32/17 INDIVIDUAL COUNCILLOR UPDATES:

##### JOINT BURIAL BOARD:

The next meeting is due to take place on 3<sup>rd</sup> March in the Town Hall.

##### CAMTON UNITED CHARITIES:

No further update.

##### DOCUMENT STORAGE:

Cllr Baker continues to talk to Deryck, the previous Clerk to try and obtain some of the documents back. The Clerk will speak to Louise Ashmore for further advice. Councillors and the Clerk will meet on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March to start organising the paperwork that has been collected.

## RECREATION GROUND

It was suggested that another member of the Council attend the course for playground inspection, decision to be made at the next meeting.

## VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE:

Cllr Longson agreed to be the new Parish Council representative for this.

## FUTURE PROJECTS:

It was suggested that Future projects be listed as an item on the next Agenda and projects be distributed amongst the Councillors to investigate in order that the Parish Council can decide on projects for the future.

## 33/17 STANDING ORDERS:

An interim meeting took place to discuss the Standing Orders and Code of Conduct. The documents were agreed by Cllr Ash, seconded by Cllr Baker and all Councillors agreed to the content of the documents. Cllr Martin did not vote on account of not being part of the interim meeting and having only just joined the Council this evening. The Clerk provided him with both documents at the meeting.

## 34/17 PLANNING:

PLANNING APPLICATION CB/17/00458/FULL 6 The Old Dairy, Speeds Dairy Farm, Beadlow

The Parish Council considered this application and had no direct objections to it. However they would like it to be subject to a Conservation report if necessary and required confirmation that the gym would be entirely for domestic use not commercial. **Resolved:** Clerk will report this to the planning dept at CBC.

## 35/17 FINANCE:

The Clerk has completed a vat return for £1878.47 and has posted it off today.

## OUTGOING PAYMENTS:

Staff salary £460.72

Village Hall fees £144

Benefice: £64.00

Joint Burial Board £900

Bank account balances:

Community account £45,620.70

Business Account £22,923.72

### 36/17 CONSULTATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

- BLMK Leaflet advertising a public meeting to discuss health in the area.
- Cheering volunteering poster.
- Girl guiding poster.

All were agreed by the Councillors and the Clerk will put them on the notice board for the benefit of the residents.

Village signs catalogue.

### 37/17 AOB:

The Local Plan Community event is due to take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> March, Councillors agreed to attend on a rota basis, Dr Willis and Cllr Ash will start at 2.30, Cllr Longson will cover the middle section and Cllr Baker will attend the end. This ensures a Councillor will be available at all times.

Councillors have been experiencing problems accessing planning site on CBC website, it has been reported by Cllr Baker.

Cllr Longson suggested that it would be helpful for Cllr Brown to provide a brief update prior to the meeting so that Councillors were able to consider the points and be ready to ask questions.

**Resolved:** Clerk will contact Cllr Brown.

### 26/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The Next meeting will take place on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017 and will be the Annual Parish Meeting.