

MEETING OF CAMPTON AND CHICKSANDS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in

Campton Village Hall on Wednesday 5th April 2017.

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

Apologies: Central Bedfordshire Councillor Anthony Brown.

39/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

A resident in close proximity to the White Hart Public House has raised concerns over the volume of music being played and whether there is a licence to play music on the premises? **Resolved:** The Clerk will follow this up.

40/17 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1st March 2017 were signed as a true record of the meeting.

41/17 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION:

None.

42/17 CO-OPT NEW COUNCILLOR:

Mr Paul Booton 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 Booton with the relevant documents to be completed and he then took his seat at the table as a new Councillor.

43/17 REPORT BY CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLOR:

Central Bedfordshire Councillor Tony Brown was unable to attend the meeting but sent a report in order to update the Councillors and attending residents on a number of on-going matters. Progress on the New Local Plan indicates that a draft plan for public consultation will be available in June 2017. The technical assessments of the 840 sites put forward in the 'Call for Sites' exercise have now been completed by officers. The target for a fully approved plan is summer 2018.

The 5yr land supply requirement for future housing supply is very close to being achieved. Currently the figure stands at 4.88 years which equates to the need for approximately 160 more approved applications. It must be bourn in mind that the five year requirement is a running total so as completions are sold then others must be forthcoming.

Some facts from the latest survey of residents:

- 90% are satisfied with the local area as a place to live.
- 97% feel safe in the area during the day.
- 81% feel safe at other times.
- 1,387 homes have been built in the last nine months, the annual target is 1,475.

- CBC is 4.8% above the national average employment rate with 141,100 aged 16-64 yr olds employed.
- 89% of schools are rated Good or Outstanding.

The priorities from the Rural Policing Meeting were speeding, visible policing, Nuisance parking and fly tipping. The next meeting will be on 4th May 2017.

44/17 INDIVIDUAL COUNCILLOR UPDATES:

A resident suggested that when the Parish Council requires help with individual tasks then they should perhaps consider putting out a request to the residents for help.

CAMTON UNITED CHARITIES:

Representatives for Campton United Charities continue to be Cllrs Ash, Baker, Longson and Dr Willis. The Charity continues to operate despite conflicting information on the Charities website and the trustees are continuing to resolve this. Disbursements resumed in November 2016, donations were made to the residents and the food bank.

Annual Statement

- Income £143.52
- Disbursements £150.00
- Bank balance £223.43

Poor's land still needs to be registered; the trustees continue to look at funding.

WEBSITE:

The website has been receiving an increasing number of visits. An average of 88 unique visits per month and 2080 visits last year, this is supplemented by the notice board. It was suggested that more information concerning the website should be publicised **Resolved:** The Clerk will put some information in the newsletter.

JOINT BURIAL BOARD:

The Joint Burial Board is looking at possible landscaping ideas and will be applying for Section 106 money.

DOCUMENT STORAGE:

Councillors have spent a couple of daytime sessions going through documents retrieved from the previous Clerk; they have been arranged into papers that require destroying and those that need to be kept. Cllr Baker will look at the costs involved in having it professionally shredded and buying a shredder.

RECREATION GROUND

The Clerk has spoken to Mr John Westgarth with regards to the playground inspections and the repairs that are required. The Clerk will meet with John and CPM Playgrounds to discuss the repairs. John Westgarth is happy to continue inspecting the playgrounds if the Parish Council would like him to? The Clerk will look at the legalities and the correct format for this.

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE:

Cllr Longson agreed to be the new Parish Council representative for this and will attend future meetings.

FOOTBALL CLUB:

Cllr Baker and Dr Willis will make arrangements to meet with the club and refresh the agreement prior to next season.

45/17 FUTURE PROJECTS INVOLVING CAPITAL EXPENDITURE:

It was felt that the possibilities of future projects should be discussed so that the Parish Council can be in a position to apply for funding or take projects into consideration when discussing the next budget. The projects discussed so far include street lighting, pedestrian safety and speed. The Council need to look at options, costs, funding potential.

It was felt that we should be discussing these options with residents of Chicksands as well as Campton **Resolved:** The Clerk will mention it in the newsletter. The Parish Council will also look at contacting Annington Housing with regards to Chicksands.

46/17 MAY MEETING:

As Chairman Cllr Ash is happy to continue in his position or to step aside for another Councillor to take on the role of Chairman if they would like to.

47/17 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:

The Council discussed whether to look at forming a Neighbourhood plan? **Resolved:** The Clerk will approach CBC to see if a representative will attend the next meeting to discuss it further?

48/17 DEFIBRILLATOR:

The Parish Council considered the option of installing a defibrillator in the Village. The Defibrillator is usually positioned centrally in the village and there is a code to access it in an emergency. The cost would be £1249.00 (£1498.80 Inc vat). Dr Willis will look at alternative quotes and maintenance costs involved annually.

49/17 TREES IN THE RECREATION GROUND:

The tree and bushes in the Recreation ground have been cut back but some conifers on the school site need attention. The Clerk will notify CBC.

50/17 PLANNING:

CB/17/01030/REG3 PRIORY HOUSE PARKING

The Council questioned whether CBC encourages a car share scheme? And request that minimal hedging and trees are removed.

CB/17/01011/FULL 3 GREENWAY CAMPTON

Campton and Chicksands Parish Council have considered the above application and would like to object on the following grounds:

1. Currently there is a long open view to the pretty houses and the planned garage would obscure this view.
2. Timber cladding is not in fitting with the original property and is changing the character of the property without due consideration to the similar properties in close proximity.
3. The new garage will bring the building line forward and changes the symmetry of the properties, which once again is changing the character of the road, where properties are set back allowing the view to be open.
4. A listed Cottage is in close proximity and consideration has not been given to this property when changing the character of the road considerably.

CB/17/00802/FULL

Campton and Chicksands Parish Council have considered the above application and would like to object on the following grounds:

1. The proposed access road leading up to the planned properties is considered narrow and concerns were raised as to whether there would be adequate room to manoeuvre emergency vehicles if the situation required.
2. The site in question is adjacent to a commercial operation and concerns were raised for the safety aspect of this.
3. Campton is classified a 'small' rural village by Central Bedfordshire Council and back land developments are generally not acceptable. The Parish Council felt that this application constitutes an unsatisfactory form of back land development and may set a precedent for similar applications locally.

51/17 FINANCE:

OUTGOING PAYMENTS:

Staff salary £460.72

Grangers £519.30 and £361.20

Benefice: £64.00

Andy Muskett £99.36

BATPC £298

Bedford Borough Council £180

Clerk expenses £333.80

Playground Inspection £60

Precept payment £19,525.00

Bank account balances:

Community account £44,951.98

Business Account £22,923.72

The Clerk has received the paperwork from the external Auditor and will prepare the necessary paperwork. Cllr Longson will work alongside the Clerk in improving the finance sheet.

52/17 CONSULTATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

EON is increasing contract rates from 14.40p per KWh to 15.75p per KWh. **Resolved:** The Clerk will look at alternative rates.

53/17 AOB:

Cllr Longson reported that the grass opposite 40 Greenway has not been completely cut. **Resolved:** Clerk will contact the contractor.

54/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The Next meeting will take place on Wednesday 3rd May 2017.