

MEETING OF CAMPTON AND CHICKSANDS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in

Campton Village Hall on Wednesday 6th September 2017.

Present: Cllr Ash in the Chair, Cllr Baker, Dr Willis, Cllr Longson, Cllr Martin, Cllr Booton, Central Bedfordshire Cllr Tony Brown and Mark Liddiard.

94/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Prior to the meeting Cllrs Ash, Baker, Booton and Dr Willis all made personal representations to CBC with regards to the Local Plan, the responses were personal and not acting within the capacity of Councillor.

Residents had gathered to hear the discussion for the Local Plan and Call for sites. Concerns were raised that the farming of the Glebeland site would cease and the barn currently has protected species. **Resolved:** Cllr Ash will speak to the tenants and clarify the situation with both.

The Parish Council submitted an official response to Central Bedfordshire Council on behalf of the community and this was based on the draft local plan and Technical documents as published by CBC. The Consultations period unfortunately coincided with schools holidays and residents being away but the Parish Council did endeavour to advertise and encourage residents to put forward their views. Posters were displayed; information was given in the newsletter a special bulletin was delivered to each house and posted on the webpage. The PC website has seen a significant increase in new users over this period. Individuals within the village have also used their own initiatives to gather up support.

The Parish Council aimed to support the views of the majority of residents within the village. As we instigate the Neighbourhood Plan it was felt that a broader view of people's views needs to be obtained and therefore an open afternoon in the village hall will be organised. This will enable all residents to attend and comment on the future of the village.

Campaign for Protection Rural England Bedfordshire has also submitted its comments to CBC in response to the plan.

Councillors Brown and Liddiard were able to provide the following update:

- Regulation 18 has now been completed, the Consultation period has finished and there have been over 10,000 responses.
- The team will now look at all responses against the criteria, there will be no further update until this is complete, it is anticipated that this will be February.
- Regulation 19 will be the next stage, when the draft plan will go to be inspected, there will again be a Consultation period of 6-8 weeks at this stage.
- CBC will only require 6-8% of the sites identified; only the most appropriate sites will go forward to the draft plan. 23,000 houses have already been identified; 30-40,000 will be required by 2020.

- The Luton Plan has been inspected and 8,000 homes identified.

A resident questioned if a developer came forward prior to the Local Plan being completed and wished to develop one of the sites shortlisted in Call for sites what would happen? The application would be looked at by the planning department and the developer would need to prove that it was sustainable and of benefit to that community. Consideration would be given to the nature of the piece of land in terms of beauty and history and a scoring system would be used. If this development was outside the settlement envelope it would not meet the criteria for the call for sites.

A representative from All Saints' Church confirmed that the land in question is owned by the Diocese and not by All Saints church, the PCC are against the land being developed on and have communicated this to the Diocese. If the land is selected for the next stage then the Diocese will be obliged to consult with the PCC, the PCC will be prepared to stand against development. If the Diocese chooses to withdraw the land then Cllr Brown advised that CBC will not proceed with a Compulsory Purchase order.

A resident commented that the farming licence has been reduced from a five year contract to yearly.
Resolved: Cllr Ash will speak to the tenant to confirm this.

All residents agreed that both the Glebe and Greenway developments would fundamentally affect the village and would be a concern to them.

John Westgarth despite resigning as a Councillor in February 2017 still looks after the play area and Recreation ground on behalf of the Parish Council. He attended the meeting to update the PC. He raised concerns over the current state of the Pavilion; it is dilapidated and requires some attention. There is also an old lawnmower, plastic chairs, bags of rubbish and underlay that needs to be moved.
Resolved: Dr Willis has been in contact with the football club who have agreed to rectify the situation. Cllr Ash thanked John for his continued work. John questioned whether the football club continued to insure the Pavilion? **Resolved:** The Clerk will request a copy of the insurance certificate.

Concerns were raised by residents over the underpass, someone has been sleeping under there, benches have been moved from the cemetery, there's sign of fires having been lit and general rubbish and broken glass. The hedgerows and the lower branches of the trees also need to be cut back as high as the canopy of the tree. **Resolved:** The Clerk will contact Highways to discuss who is responsible for the trees and arrange for the underpass to be cleared again.

A resident commented that Wednesdays is not a good day to cut grass as the rubbish is collected that day. **Resolved:** The Clerk will notify the grass contractor.

Residents asked the Parish Council if they would consider having the hearing loop in the village hall fixed or replaced. Residents who struggle with their hearing are unable to attend activities in the hall as it is not working. Cllr Longson will investigate the possibility of getting it fixed or replaced and the financial implication of it.

Cllr Booton thanked the residents for supporting the village in responding to the Local Plan, he also thanked all of the residents who copied in the PC.

,

95/17 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5th July 2017 were signed as a true record of the meeting.

Matters arising:

- The PC confirmed that John Westgarth did resign as a Councillor in February 2017 and the monitoring officer had been notified at this time, the position remains vacant.

96/17 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION:

Councillors declared an interest at the start of the meeting with regards to the Local Plan responses.

97/17 REPORT BY CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLOR:

Cllr Tony Brown updated the Parish Council with:

- In response to a question he confirmed that residents outside the Military boundary pay Council Tax and the Military collects a lump sum from those within the boundary which is paid to CBC.
- The Leisure Team have asked all Councils to respond to an email to identify facility improvements, Cllr Liddiard will arrange for this to be sent to the clerk.

98/17 LOCAL PLAN:

Nothing further to report as the updates were given at the start of the meeting.

99/17 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:

The Chairman signed the forms to confirm the designated area and to initiate the start of the Neighbourhood Plan. The PC plan to hold a drop in session for residents in order to gather resident's views on how they see the village developing in future years. A steering group will need to be set up involving residents, employers, community groups, land owners and the Parish Council. The PC will need the support of the community when moving this forward.

The Pc need to clearly distinguish between the Parish Plan and the Neighbourhood Plan which does have a legal standing.

It has been suggested that the plan can take approximately two years but the PC hope to complete it within this time, although there are considerable processes to go through.

100 RECREATION GROUND:

The Pc has entered into a new agreement with the club, the rubbish on the ground will be removed soon and the moles are in the process of being removed. There are less games currently being played on the ground.

The repairs to the play area have now been completed. There are a number of repairs still required, there's a loose fence section, paint has eroded on the climbing frame, weeds on the protective

matting and the concord net needs re-tensioning. The clerk has a quote of £514 for the re-tensioning and will now approach CPM playgrounds for a quote; she will also obtain a quote for the painting that is required. All other repairs will be delayed until the October inspection takes place.

101/17 INDIVIDUAL COUNCILLOR UPDATES:

Defibrillator:

The Village Hall Management Committee has approved the position of the defibrillator, the cost of power and the liability will remain with the Parish Council. Quotes now need to be obtained for the fitting prior to Dr Willis and the Clerk submitting the Lottery funding application.

Campton United Charities:

Registering of the Charity is almost complete and the trustees at the next meeting will be discussing the recipients of the charity for this year and future projects.

Additional Parking:

The Village Hall Committee agreed in principal to the possibility of additional parking on the grass land outside the Village Hall, however they would like to know how the PC plan to do this? **Resolved:** Cllr Longson will obtain an estimate for the costs from CBC and another.

Nick Shaw from CBC recommended putting as many schemes as possible forward for Rural Match funding and try to complete the application early.

Street Lights:

Cllr Martin has looked at the impact of changing the lighting, it will take 18years on average to get payback for the investment made of replacing the heads, and there will be a 30% reduction in electricity costs. Cllr Martin was advised to check how much longer the sodium lights will be available and a viable option?

The light which had been an issue in Gravenhurst Rd was actually one owned by the Pc but CBC has changed it, our contractor will replace it at a cost. **Resolved:** Clerk to see if CBC will cover the cost or replace it?

Burial Ground:

The Burial Board are looking to increase the precept by 3% next financial year; the payment will amount to an increase of £52. They aim to use the additional money to repair the pathways gradually in the coming years. **Resolved:** All Councillors agreed. Next meeting is on Friday.

Good Neighbour scheme:

The Clerk has been contacted by the scheme which is not running as regularly as it had been, the PC pays a contribution to the scheme and they asked for confirmation that the scheme should continue? **Resolved:** All Councillors in agreement that the scheme should continue. Dr Willis suggested that maybe once the defibrillator is installed that the scheme could take on responsibility of collecting it from the hospital if required?

School:

There is a new Head teacher at the school and it was suggested that the Chairman go along and introduce himself on behalf of the PC and to find out her priorities.

Village in Bloom:

Cllr Booton suggested that the PC consider entering the Village in Bloom competition in 2019, the gardening club are also keen for this to go ahead. It would involve front gardens, lampposts, perhaps flowers near the church? The Gardening club will look at it and then the PC can look at the funding.

102/17 PLANNING:

PLANNING APPLICATION CB/17/03030/FULL has been called before the Development Management Committee. The Parish Council considered the application and feel there is no need to attend.

A resident stated that airplanes are flying over Campton and how this relates to the planning application at the airfield some months ago? **Resolved:** The Clerk will contact the planning officer and inform them that aircraft are passing over the village.

103/17 FINANCE:

Outgoing for July:

Benefice £64

Grangers £509.58

EON £149.66

Play Inspection Company £60

Salary £460.72

September:

Campton Village Hall £170

C&R Pest Management £60

Grangers £1205.16 & £58.38

CPM Playgrounds £4248.00

D Baker (newsletter printing) £41.66

Bank account balances:

Community account £58337.87

Business Account £22,923.72

104/17 CONSULTATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

Gardening catalogue.

Flyer from Reynolds Landscaping services.

105/17 AOB:

The Clerk requested a change of meeting date in December. **Resolved:** All Councillors agreed and the Clerk will distribute some new dates for Councillors to consider.

106/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The Next meeting will take place on Wednesday 4th October 2017.