

Minutes of Parish Council meeting 11/12/17

Present: Charles Ash, David Baker, Paul Booton, Jacqueline Willis.

Apologies: Tammy Medley

Absent: Joe Longson, Trevor

The Chair explained that the meeting would be dealing with public participation and any urgent business as the Clerk was unable to attend.

Public Participation

Mr and Mrs Ife raised their complaint regarding the extension of license of pub. Support sought from the PC. No notice on front of pub regarding application seen by residents including those who frequent the pub. Biggleswade Chronicle notice thought seen by one resident but could not confirm. Complaint raised to CBC by PC asking for clarification of the protocol as unsure whether the PC should have been informed about the application. Residents living near to pub distressed by light and noise. In addition foul language and noise of attendees of pub. Original complaint by resident dropped as noted some improvement but the noise has again been escalated since the licence granted. CBC providing recording equipment through the noise pollution team.

Mr and Mrs Curtis spoke on behalf of the residents' action group – wrote to 32 Council members regarding call for sites, some received very positive responses. Protocols explained, 2 sites shortlisted unlikely to be supported. All Local Plan subcommittee emailed, impress level of feeling regarding applications. Chair thanked the group for feedback. Cllr Baker gave details of the analysis of the responses to the Local Plan demonstrating that even for a small community there were a significant number of objections compared with larger settlements locally. Residents expressed their intentions to continue further communications as there was no guarantee that the final Local Plan would be accepted and CBC could be back to square one in April.

Confirmation of Minutes

November minutes agreed but October minutes require handwritten amendment to make a correction so these will be amended and signed off in January 2018.

Declarations of Interest

None

Reports by CBC councillors

Absent

Parish Councillor Conference – notes were circulated by Cllr Booton.

Neighbourhood Plan Drop In sessions

47 people registered but some didn't sign in. 4 people offered to assist with steering group. Comments will be typed up. Response to survey less encouraging despite heavy promotion. Push again with close date 31/12. Propose hard copy of the questionnaire circulated with newsletter. Info also through Welfare office at JFC for electronic circulation. Engagement difficult as some officers and families on the base transient. Request volunteers to collect questionnaires councillors and/or distributors of newsletter. Important to demonstrate engagement.

Individual Councillor Updates – deferred to January 2018

Planning applications - none

Finance - Agree invoices at January meeting. Next newsletter will be in B&W so cost lower.

Budget and Precept – for discussion at January meeting.

Consultations and Correspondence – deferred to January 2018

AOB – Cllr Booton confirmed Data Protection Officer required. CBC no plan to have officer to cover parishes. Need to identify officer. Clarity on whether Clerk is able to fulfil role or must be a councillor. Deferred to January meeting to discuss.

Also for discussion, size of parishes, amalgamation – any proposals to change?

To note Local Plan published on 3/1, same date as next meeting.

CBC announced new system of reporting e.g. streetlight, potholes (and feedback on progress).

Rec ground – pavilion panels require repair but no response from FC. 10 fixtures played invoice. Need to arrange meeting with FC to discuss.

Request for Rectory Road for drains to be cleaned – dates when school on Christmas leave provided.

Defibrillator unit – Lottery funding awarded, should now be ordered. Training- further details required from the Ambulance Service and volunteers have expressed an interest from the Good Neighbour Group.

Date of next meeting 3/1/18