

MEETING OF CAMPTON AND CHICKSANDS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in

Campton Village Hall on Wednesday 2nd January 2019.

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

Apologies: Cllr Longson.

01/19 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

02/19 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2018 were signed as a true record of the meeting.

03/19 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION:

None

04/19 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR:

The Parish Council were pleased to Co-opt on a new Councillor this evening, Mrs Jane Fradd was proposed by Dr Willis and supported by Cllr Booton and all other Councillors agreed. The Chairman welcomed Jane, it will be extremely beneficial to have a representative from Chicksands on the Parish Council.

05/19 REPORT BY CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLOR:

- Executive to meet on 08/01/19. The Draft Budget for 2019/20 indicates a 1% rise in Council tax in order to invest in the front-line services. Savings of £14.8 Million will need to be achieved in order to meet this target, these efficiencies have been identified. Since the inception of the new Council in 2009, efficiencies of £135 million have been delivered.
- Reviews of the A509 are ongoing, further information from Highways will be expected soon.
- More information on the Local Plan can be found online.

06/19 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:

The Steering group are continuing to progress with the Draft Plan and policies. The Parish Councillors and Clerk have been invited to the next meeting on 23rd January 2019 to discuss the plan and policies prior to Public Consultation on 9th February 2019.

The steering group would like to encourage residents from Chicksands and children to participate in the Consultation. The Greensand Trust will be seeking views from residents on any additional green spaces, these will need to be measured against the criteria. The trust will also offer a mapping activity for children as part of the consultation, this will cost in the region of £150 and will not be recoverable from the grant, the PC agreed to cover the costs. Dr Willis will confirm the actual cost via email.

The current budget for the Plan expires in March 2019, the steering group anticipates that there may be further costs of approximately £500 for additional sessions at the village hall and photocopying. The PC have agreed to cover the shortfall if required.

In finalising the draft plan, the foreword is usually written by the Chairman, outlining why it is important and acknowledging the hard work of the volunteers. Cllr Ash agreed to write this by the deadline on 1/3/19. Dr Willis will forward some information to him and will be able to answer any queries.

07/19 LIGHTING:

The Draft Village Statement indicates that 'Streetlighting meets all national guidelines and is appropriate to the setting and uses the latest form of light (LED).' All Cllrs agreed to this statement, further discussions concerning street lighting deferred to the next meeting.

08/19 COUNTRYSIDE OFFICER:

Dr Willis and the Clerk met with Steve Halton, the Central Bedfordshire Council Countryside officer to discuss the P3 scheme and volunteers within the community. The P3 scheme provides third party insurance to all volunteers undertaking work within the scheme. The scheme provides small pieces of equipment and high viz jackets for volunteers, they will also accept requests for larger equipment and the appropriate training in required.

It was suggested that the first project may be clearing the Himalayan Balsam from the woods as well as some path maintenance.

Most groups call themselves 'The friends of.....', it was agreed that this would be a good name for the group. Dr Willis will place an advertisement in the Parish Newsletter requesting any additional volunteers. The Clerk and Dr Willis will arrange a meeting at the beginning of March with Steve Halton and the volunteers.

09/19 JOINT BURIAL BOARD:

The Clerk has been researching the Churchyard in Campton and the responsibilities of the Joint Burial Board. It appears that part of the Churchyard was deemed closed on 25/06/84. The remaining site which remains opened was granted to the Joint Burial Board, however the land is currently registered with the Diocese. The Clerk will research the Archives for documents relating to this in the hope that the land can be registered to the Joint Burial Board, who can in turn apply for the church yard to be closed.

The Clerk has met with the Internal Auditor to discuss the finances and is in turn now discussing the issues with SLCC. Payment to both Clerks for the hours spent on the Joint Burial Board work is to be agreed.

10/19 INDIVIDUAL COUNCILLOR UPDATES:

FOOTBALL CLUB:

A draft letter to the proprietor of The White Hart has been drafted and agreed, the Clerk will send it out. Any decision with regards to additional football being played will take into account the history of the situation and the views put forward by residents.

RECREATION GROUND:

The Pavilion has now been made secure.

The grass is growing through the matting under the climbing frame and the matting surrounding the roundabout is slippery. Cllr Booton will sweep it all, but we may have to take professional advice on this.

11/19 PLANNING:

CB/18/04389/FULL- The Manor. Extension to the rear of existing garage building.

The Councillors are concerned with the encroachment on the surrounding houses, the extension is in close proximity to neighbouring gardens in Gravenhurst Rd and Grange Gardens. They are also concerned with the impact the extension will have on a Grade two listed building.

CB/18/04621/FULL- The Manor. Change of use of Agricultural land to residential garden.

The Clerk received the application today and the plans are not yet available online, the Clerk will seek an extension to the deadline.

20/19 FINANCE:

Outgoing January:

Benefice £64

A Muskett £99.36

Grangers £114

Clerk Salary £488.63

Community account £53,199.64

Business Account £22,973.50

The precept has been submitted to CBC.

21/19 CONSULTATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

- EON, deemed changes in energy prices. Clerk will look at new rates.
- Becoming a Cllr flyer.

22/19 AOB:

- The Clerk will be requiring an operation, she will update Cllrs when she has more news concerning the dates and impact of the surgery.

23/19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The Next meeting will take place on Wednesday 6th February 2019.

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