

MEETING OF CAMPTON AND CHICKSANDS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held via Zoom on Wednesday 3rd March 2021.

Present: Cllr Ash in the Chair, Cllr Baker, Cllr Longson, Cllr Booton, Cllr Barnard, Cllr Martin, Central Bedfordshire Cllrs Mark Liddiard and Tony Brown

Apologies:

27/21 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd February 2021 were signed as a true record of the meeting and it was agreed that the Zoom recording could be deleted.

Unfortunately, Councillor Linda Garton has stepped down from her position on the Council, Clerk has completed the relevant paperwork.

Cllr Martin apologised for not attending the last meeting.

28/21 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION:

None.

29/21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

- Cllr Ash has looked at the trees surrounding the electricity sub station and will discuss what needs to be done.
- The Llandai at the school have been inspected, they require cutting back as well as reducing its height, with the uncertainty around the site it was agreed to delay the work. The Llandai are not causing obstructing the passageway at all. It will be a decision for CBC and the Academy as what the next stage for the school will be.

30/21 UPDATE BY CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLORS:

- The outcome of the recent Budget meeting confirmed a rise of 4.95% in Council tax, this includes a 3% increase for Adult Social care. Weekly increase to a Band D property is £1.48. The Fire and Police services and local precept will be added to this.
- Green waste collection will commence from next week.
- Fix My Street is working well and is available for Cllrs and residents to report Highways issues. Clerk did mention it in the newsletter.
- A meeting to discuss 'Schools for the future' will take place next week, Campton and Chicksands are in the Shefford/Stotfold group.
- No further update on the Local Plan.
- Additional Business grant scheme has been launched by CBC; Grants are being distributed on behalf of the Government. CBC are working on a phased approach; a set amount has been granted and any shortfall will need to be made up by CBC. CBC aim to reach as many businesses as they can.
- Cllr Liddiard confirmed that the new School in Shefford will be opened in 2023 and the DFE are referring to this as a relocation from Campton School. The Councillors disagreed with

this, they feel that the school will be closed, and pupils will need to apply to one of the schools in Shefford. The existing site is owned by CBC, once the school has closed, they will look to go through a disposal strategy and will sell or redevelop the site. In terms of distance, it would make sense for Campton and Chicksands children to be allocated places at the old school to ensure they can walk to school, this is yet to be decided.

- Cllr Ash and Cllr Liddiard will chase Lisa White regarding Hanlon.

31/21 RECREATION GROUND:

Weekly inspection report has been sent to the Clerk.

Cllr Booton and Cllr Baker met with Play force and have confirmed the replacement of the surface at the play area. It is hoped that work will commence 24th March-7th April 2021. The Health and Safety and insurance documents will be forwarded to Clerk. The deposit for the works has been paid.

32/21 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:

The Steering Group have completed the write up of the plan, including the Consultation, appendices, Design statement and Green Infrastructure plan. Cllr Baker is hoping that the documents will be emailed to the Cllrs shortly and it will be accessed via a passcode. All Cllrs will need to review the plan and be comfortable with all of the evidence. The PC may need to arrange an interim meeting to discuss the plan further. Once agreed by the PC then the plan will proceed to Regulation 16, the external examiner will go back to the Steering group with issues or questions raised. Cllr Baker will indicate the major amendments and will aim to ask any questions from Cllrs.

33/21 GRANTS, NOTICEBOARD AND TREES:

Cllr Booton has submitted an application for funding to Ford Community Trust for £200 towards the noticeboard.

Contact was made with CBC regarding the Tree grants and a member of the team met Cllr Booton to discuss the proposed areas, some of which were suitable. The plans and documents required were quite in depth and unfortunately there was not enough time prior to the deadline. There was also difficulty in sourcing trees as they were unavailable. PC will look to apply in the October 2021 round.

A resident has treated both the Parish noticeboards and has offered to paint the entrance gates to the Recreation ground, the PC are very grateful to the volunteer and would like him to carry out the paint work, it was agreed black would remain the appropriate colour.

34/21 PLANNING:

CB/21/00487/FULL 3 Greenway, single storey side, part 2 storey side and single storey rear extensions. The Cllrs were concerned for the close proximity to the adjacent property.

35/21 FINANCES:

Payments for March:
£664.04 Bedford Borough
£3,350.75 Play force

Account balances:

£45,228.66

£23,037.37

Bedford Borough will cease their payroll services as of 1st April 2021, Cllr Ash has found an alternative and has made arrangements.

36/21 CONSULTATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

- A resident had emailed regarding a response from planning, the Cllrs discussed the response and were grateful to be made aware.
- Clerk has emailed updates from CBC as they are received.

37/21 AOB:

- Clerk asked the Cllrs to consider positions for next year and to let her know asap.
- Cllrs agreed that they feel that Campton school is being closed down and not relocated.
- Cllr Longson has been looking at parking by the village hall. He has contacted Grand Union Housing, who own the site to see if they would consider passing ownership to the PC. He has also requesting an updated quote for the works.
- The assets list has been updated; no depreciation was required by the auditors.
- PC thanked all the volunteers who recently carried out maintenance in the Church grounds, their help was really appreciated.
- The PC agreed that they would like to investigate the possibility of an Asset of Community Value for the school building, Clerk will look into this.
- Clerk is investigating insurance for the Campton United Charities land.
- Cllr Liddiard and Cllr Ash will contact Lisa White regarding Hanlon.
- There was a recent break in in Greenway, to outer buildings, the Police did attend and investigate.
- Next meeting is the Annual Village meeting followed by the normal meeting. Report required by Chairman, if any other Cllr would like to provide an update please email Clerk.

38/21 DATE of next meeting:

Wednesday 7th April 2021 via Zoom.