

MEETING OF CAMPTON AND CHICKSANDS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in Campton Village Hall on Wednesday 1st December 2021.

Present: Cllr Ash in the Chair, Cllr Baker, Cllr Booton, Cllr Longson, Central Bedfordshire Councillor Mark Liddiard

Apologies: Central Bedfordshire Councillor Tony Brown.

145/21 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd November 2021 were signed as a true record of the meetings.

Unfortunately, Cllr Sue Barnard has resigned from her position on the PC, the Cllrs would like to thank her for all her work.

146/21 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION:

None

147/21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

A resident thanked Cllr Baker and the Steering group for all of their hard work with the Neighbourhood Plan.

A resident raised concerns over the parked cars at the junction of Rectory Road and Gravenhurst Road and opposite the church on the bend. Cllr Liddiard advised Clerk to contact Lisa White who is the Highways custodian for the area. She will ask for evidence and discuss the possibility of parking bays or double yellow lines. He also suggested Clerk contact CBC regarding the parking at the pub, to see if the car parking could be reinstated so as to ease the parking on the roads?

148/21 UPDATE BY CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLOR:

- Funding of £1.5 million has been agreed for a household support fund, helping vulnerable families over winter. Some of the funding will be given via supermarket vouchers and some via free school meals over the holidays. Support is available via the website.
- Highways have a plan for gritting this winter, they are trying out a new type of grit, which defrost the grit quicker.
- The University of Bedfordshire are researching the Arts and culture provisions across Central Bedfordshire.
- Cllrs have attended Personal safety briefings and have been advised not to attend surgeries with residents.
- CBC are running a consultation on supported housing and looking at the Housing association strategy. The Consultation is open till 19th January 2022, PC may wish to respond.
- There is currently a consultation running with BRCC regarding village halls and community buildings.

- Football parking in the village has become an issue, Cllr Liddiard confirmed that members of the FC can park in the CBC car park at Chicksands whilst attending matches. All Cllrs happy for Cllr baker to discuss this proposal with the FC.

149/21 BUSINESS DIRECTORY:

One of the non-policy actions from the Neighbourhood Plan was to create a Business Directory for the Parish. Mrs Bishop, who is editor of the Parish newsletter has offered to create the Directory, the PC agreed to printing costs of up to £100. This year will be purely a Directory with the view to perhaps extending it to Business adverts next year at a cost to the business. The Directory will be available to all business, Mrs Bishop will advertise in the newsletter.

150/21 NEW CLLRS:

The current number of Cllrs on the PC is now 4, with 3 vacancies. Cllr Ash will write an article for the newsletter, Cllr Booton will arrange leaflets for the village celebrations at the weekend.

151/21 INFORMATION BOARDS:

A presentation was given by John Ayers and on the guided walks that they have prepared for the Parish. Each walk has a QR code for directions whilst walking. The walks will be on the website and on a noticeboard by the church. Ward Councillor funding has provided £500 towards the notice board, Cllr Booton has looked at possible sources of funding for the remaining £850 and none is available, Cllrs agreed for the PC to cover the remaining costs.

152/21 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:

A Project closing meeting has taken place and the final invoices have now been agreed, there will be some funding that needs to be repaid. The Planning Consultation data needs to be retained for 15 years. The plan will be reviewed in 3-5 years, the group have agreed to look at the non-policy actions more regularly.

153/21 JOINT BURIAL BOARD:

The Minutes from the last JBB meeting have been distributed to all Cllrs prior to the meeting. The budget has now been agreed for the next financial year, Items to be agreed were:

- Topple testing has now taken place, 6 memorials have been laid flat as they are dangerous, a total of 25 need to be made safe. The Clerks are trying to contact grave owners but due to a lack of paperwork this is proving difficult. The total costs for repairs will be in the region of £2,500, all Cllrs agreed to this expenditure.
- Fees for the cemetery will be reviewed at the next meeting in February 2022.
- An increase in the precept has been agreed, the 19.5% share for Campton and Chicksands will be £3,589.95 and this will be used to cover expenditure.
- A quote for Painting and cleaning of the gates has been received at a cost of £235 plus a little extra for the bollards. All agreed
- Edging, a quote has been received for £1200. All Cllrs agreed.

- Supply, lay, roll and level aggregate to the car park and around the chapel, a quote for £1200 has been received, all Cllrs agreed.
- The Clerks would like to create a quiet seating area on the area to the right of the entrance, a quote for steps has been received for £320, all agreed.
- Hedge cutting for next year has been quoted at £855, all agreed.
- A quote for Grounds maintenance for the next two years has been received for £940, to cut grass, empty bins, remove spent wreaths and flowers, strimming, weed kill, edging and removal of pine needles, additional grass cuts will be £395. All agreed.
- Tree inspection costing £390 was also agreed.

Cllr Booton will write to Central Government regarding the closure of the cemetery in Campton.

154/21 JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS:

Cllr Booton has agreed to look at organising events.

155/21 PLAY EQUIPMENT:

It was agreed that a climbing wall for children should be fitted at the play area on the recreation ground, this will be funded by S106 money. Cllr Booton will look at quotes for the wall and he and Clerk will speak to CPM regarding positioning of the equipment and installation.

There are two broken posts that will need fixing, it was suggested these were broken as the footballers climb over to retrieve the ball. Cllr Baker and Cllr Booton will speak to the FC.

156/21 PLANNING:

None

157/21 FINANCES:

Payments:

Cloud Next (T Medley) £227.98
 T Medley expenses £192.67
 Play Inspection company £80.40
 C J Bain £45
 Leena Baines £475
 D Baker NP expenses £113.16
 Village hall (NP) £30

Shefford Town Council (JBB account) It was agreed that whilst the PC had budgeted £1854 and increase was agreed to cover expenditure, the extra will be taken from the reserves. Clerk will confirm the actual amount, but it should be 19.5% of £15,500, £3022.20

Account balances:

Community account £36,098.36
 Business account £23,039.08

Clerk has worked additional hours on the budget, interim audit and the Joint Burial Board an extra 20 hours were agreed.

The budget for the next financial year has been agreed and the Cllrs agreed to an £11.9% increase to the precept, making the income £24,459. The 11.9% increase will be an increase of £4 per annum to the average band D property.

Clerk has completed the interim audit.

158/21 CONSULTATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

- Clinical commissioning group have a consultation open on fertility, pharmacy and gluten free food; notices have been displayed on the noticeboards.
- War memorials trust bulletin

159/21 AOB:

- Clerk has arranged a P3 meeting for Saturday 19th February in the village hall at 11am to discuss the programme.
- Clerk asked for information on the land owned by Campton United Charities, so that she is able to share it with Shefford Town Council
- 4 Residents have expressed a preference for meetings to be held both Face to face and via Zoom, the PC will consider this.
- The PC are now in a position to take on the land to the side of the village hall free of charge, just the legal fees will need to be covered, Cllr Longson will make the arrangements.
- Cllr Ash thanked Cllr Booton for laying the wreath on Remembrance Sunday.

160/21 DATE of next meeting:

Wednesday 5th January 2022 7.30pm in the Campton Village Hall.