

MEETING OF CAMPTON AND CHICKSANDS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in Campton Village Hall on Wednesday 2nd March 2022

Present: Cllr Baker in the Chair, Cllr Booton, Cllr Longson.

Apologies: Central Bedfordshire Councillor Tony Brown, Central Bedfordshire Councillor Mark Liddiard, Cllr Ash.

16/22 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd February 2022 were signed as a true record of the meeting.

In reference to the Parliamentary Boundary, the commission have expressed their concerns and will keep pushing with it.

A meeting took place with D Granger, grass and maintenance contractor. It was agreed that he would carry out 14-16 cuts in the next financial year and would continue to cut the nettles at the Recreation ground. The Cllrs also asked that the contractor refrain from cutting if there is a dry patch, this will spread out the cuts for the autumn. If the grass gets too long it requires different equipment and takes longer meaning is more costly.

17/22 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION:

None

18/22 CO-OPTION OF A NEW COUNCILLOR:

Daniel Sibley, a resident of Campton would like to join the Parish Council as a Councillor, Daniel has attended a previous meeting and has had Zoom meetings with Clerk to experience the workings of the PC. This was proposed by Cllr Booton and seconded by Cllr Baker. Daniel will compete the Declaration of interest for CBC.

19/22 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None

20/22 UPDATE BY CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLOR:

- The main item is the approval of the council tax recommendation at the Full Council meeting last Thursday with the following effect.
Based on a band 'D' rated property the figures are.

CBC	1.95% which includes 1% for adult social care and 0.95% for front line services.
FIRE	1.99%
POLICE	4.00% which is equal to £10 on a band 'D' property
Plus, the VILLAGE PRECEPT	

- Within the budget £240 million has been allocated for major capital projects. £470 million for revenue covering services and operations within CBC. It also requires £9.6 million efficiency savings to be achieved to provide a balanced budget.
- Funding has been forthcoming to make modifications to the Clophill roundabout and detail plans will be sent out to all local towns and villages for their comments very shortly. The current thinking is to widen all 4 entry points to increase the flow but to have Toucan Crossings at each leg of the roundabout, removing the pedestrian bridge and improving the bridges over the river Flit.
- There is to be a Community Action Day in Shefford on 22nd April and this will be supported by all the major services so if you have a problem then someone should be able to help you.
- CBC have joined up with BP PULSE to provide vehicle charging units throughout CBC and by next month we should know where the unit's proposed locations are.
- There has been no further progress on the programme for 'Schools for the Future' or the proposed development in 'Greenway'

Cllr Booton has contacted CBC regarding planning a notice in Greenway, it is a statutory notice requesting comments by 11th March, no plans have yet been received and this will therefore be extended.

There is rumour that Beadlow Manor has been sold; Cllr Booton will contact Cllr Liddiard for confirmation.

21/22 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING:

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Thursday 7th April at 7pm. The meeting will be followed by the usual PC monthly meeting with a smaller Agenda.

22/22 P3 SCHEME:

Clerk held a meeting in the Village Hall on 19th February to launch the new P3 Scheme. Six residents are keen to be involved and one resident has agreed to lead the group forward. Some training and equipment will be offered by CBC. The group will plan and work on tasks throughout the Parish and will advertise some in the newsletter so additional volunteers may join the group. They would like to start with some litter picking, Clerk asked if the PC would consider funding litter pickers and high-viz vests that could be permanently stored in the village for use by the group? All Cllrs agreed. Clerk will order them.

Clerk will also draft a letter to thank all residents which will be signed by Vice Chairman.

23/22 PC MEETINGS:

The dance teacher who uses the hall prior to the PC meetings has requested a slightly later finish and asked if the PC would consider moving meetings to a 7.45pm start? It was agreed that the PC would trial moving the monthly meetings to the first Thursday of the month at 7pm, Clerk will check with the Cllrs who have sent apologies to this meeting to ensure its convenient and then change the hall bookings from April onwards.

24/22 RURAL MATCH FUNDING:

Clerk sent all the Councillors details of the Rural Match Funding scheme for this year and asked if they would like to consider applying for any funding? There will be no application this year.

25/22 PARKING IN THE VILLAGE:

A number of residents have reported to Clerk on several occasions the inconsiderate and unsafe parking of spectators and players during Saturday football matches. Cllr Baker has contacted the FC to discuss this, the FC have agreed its unacceptable and will endeavour to resolve the situation. The FC did suggest putting out traffic cones, but this requires a permit from the Local authority. Cllr Baker will update them on the planned roadworks due to commence April 2022.

26/22 JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS:

Some residents have agreed to assist with the planning of Jubilee celebrations, various activities are being arranged including:

Bell ringing and flower displays in the church

Arts, crafts and pastimes

Photograph display

Campton still has got talent

Big Picnic on the Recreation ground with events for little ones and prizes

There is £1241.02 in an account from a previous celebration, Cllr Booton is arranging for a change in mandate so as to access the money. He proposed that the PC could lend the money to the Jubilee committee until the funds are agreed. All agreed.

Cllr Booton also asked for an additional £300 to fund the activities, all Cllrs agreed.

It was agreed that the event will be a Parish Council event and therefore will be covered by insurance.

The PC thanked the Committee for all of their work.

27/22 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

Planning appeal: APP/P0240/D/21/3284941 31 Gravenhurst Road, Campton. There is no opportunity to submit further documentation, but representations may be withdrawn. All Cllrs agreed not to withdraw previous comments.

28/22 FINANCES:

Payments:

£66 Play inspection company

£95 SPC Print and design

£45 C J Bain

Account balances:

Community account £32,810.20
Business account £23,039.08

Clerk will set up payments to be approved by Cllr Baker.
Clerk will also check if Cllr Ash is now able to access online banking?

29/22 CONSULTATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

- Consultation from Luton Airport, regarding the proposed new terminal. Cllrs will decide via email whether the PC should comment?
- Information regarding funding for football pitches.

30/22 AOB:

The JBB meeting took place on 2nd March 2022 and a number of items were agreed, Clerk sought agreement from the Cllrs on the following points:

- The electricity charges are minimal and the cost to pay the invoice is higher than paying the charges themselves, it was suggested that £10 be paid to Eon and this would mean the JBB are in constant credit and will therefore not incur bank charges. All agreed.
- Approval sought to limit the ownership of a grave to three joint owners, all agreed.
- Central Bedfordshire Council Officers have identified the end of the cul-de-sac in Campton Road as a potential area for use as an illegal encampment. Approval is sought from the Committee to instruct a contractor to configure the drop down post on the left-hand side gate at the main entrance to allow for the post to be locked with a padlock, thus preventing unauthorised vehicular access but still allowing pedestrian and wheelchair access. Contractors, Funeral Directors and users with mobility problems will be issued with a key to the padlock. The gate will be unlocked prior to funerals and locked up afterwards. All Cllrs agreed.
- What we believed to be a tree at far-left corner of the boundary wall is a pillar covered in ivy! 2 Elms of Shefford Gardening Services have removed the ivy before any/further damage was done to the brickwork on the pillar. The gap in the hedge by this pillar has become an unauthorised path into the adjacent field. Approval was sought from the Committee to block this gap and secure the boundary by recycling a section of galvanised bow top fencing/ The cost for installing the fencing is £380; there will be an additional cost to prepare the metalwork and paint the railings (a summer job). It is proposed to remove the overhanging tree branches and gap up this hedge with bare-rooted privet whips next winter. All Cllrs agreed to expenditure.
- Following topping up and seeding, the grass in the 'R' section has established well and the area is looking great. As funding allows, approval was sought from the Committee for another section/row of the cemetery to be topped up, together with individual graves when the weather warms up enough for the grass seed to germinate. All agreed.
- A request from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission has been received, they would like to place a sign on the wall at the cemetery. All agreed.

- We have received complaints regarding the large number of mole hills in the cemetery, Clerks have sought advice and would like to monitor the situation and not go down the route of pest control for the moment. All agreed.
- The JBB have carried out a review of charges, Clerk outlined the proposed new charges, all Cllrs agreed.
- Clerks are due to visit the Archives on 15th March to retrieve the documents.
- Cllr Booton received a response from the Ministry of Justice, and it has been confirmed that the JBB are responsible for the upkeep of the burial ground in Campton. Clerk will arrange a meeting with Shefford Clerk and Cllr Booton to assess works required at the burial ground.

Cllr Booton has sent Clerk the play inspections for this month, there is a tree o the Recreation ground that has come down, Clerk will ask D Granger to remove it and quote for the damaged fencing and posts.

The PC agreed to the proposed climbing walls at the Recreation ground, Clerk will ask CPM to quote for installation, Cllr Longson will also look for a quote.

Village hall parking is plans are ongoing, Cllr Longson is struggling to obtain confirmation of land ownership, he will ask Cllr Ash, as Chairman to follow it up.

A meeting of Campton United Charities is due to take place in the next few weeks, they will discuss options for the land.

Welcome leaflets are now printed, Cllr Baker will arrange distribution of them.

Cllr Booton will chase up the noticeboard that will display the walks.

Clerk asked Cllrs to prepare reports for the next meeting.

31/22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Thursday 7th April 2022 7pm in the Campton Village Hall.