

MEETING OF CAMPTON AND CHICKSANDS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in Campton Village Hall on Thursday 1st December 2022

Present: Cllr Baker as Chairman, Cllr Booton, Cllr Ash, Cllr Turton, Cllr Sibley and Cllr Longson, Central Bedfordshire Councillor Mark Liddiard.

Apologies: CBC Cllr Tony Brown.

107/22 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th November 2022 were signed as a true record of the meeting.

Matters arising:

Cllr Booton confirmed he had contacted those residents he could regarding the memorials laid flat in the burial ground for safety reasons.

The online planning application for Greenway still does not state that it has been approved. Cllr Liddiard explained that sometimes it is not approved until after the S106 money has been agreed, this would need to be agreed by both legal teams. The PC can contact the planning officer to ask when it will be agreed and the amount of S106 that will be available as well as the deadline?

108/22 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION:

None

109/22 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None

110/22 UPDATE BY CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLOR:

- There is a new Director of Social care, Health and housing, Andy Sharpe will be taking over from Julie Ogley shortly.
- CBC have been awarded £2.9million to improve energy efficiency in homes, money will be available to those on an income of less than £30,000 and to those on Income support or benefits.
- The CBC website has been restructured to make it more user friendly and to allow residents to access a wider range of services. The website also highlights support available households struggling with the rise in the cost of living. CBC will continue to offer meals out of term time to those children eligible to free school meals. £400,000 is available to support the food banks across CBC. Additional funding has also been made available to the Citizens advice bureau.
- The New Homes grant funding has been set aside from the main baseline budget as is being used to support those struggling with the cost of living.
- CBC have been selected by Government to be involved with a Pathway project with Community Energy south. CBC are now looking at ways to engage with Communities to identify projects.

- Following the sad case in Rochdale of a young boy who died as a consequence of mould and damp in 2020, the coroner's report has been released and is damning. CBC have provided an update of council properties and how they respond to maintenance, they confirmed none of the properties they have are like the case in Rochdale. There is a private housing sector scheme which deals with council properties and housing association properties, they will review the time given to respond to repairs. Private sector team also have the ability to enter private rental properties if they believe something is unsafe or uninhabitable? EHO's are also available to ensure landlords fulfil their requirements in terms of maintenance including pest issues and hedges.
- Cllr Liddiard confirmed that Ward Councillor funding could be made available for the climbing wall, P3 equipment and possible equipment to allow Zoom meetings in the village hall.
- Cllr Booton asked if there had been any update to the government White paper on housing? No further update, although CBC are delivering the Local plan and are not focusing on future allocations. They are fulfilling the 5-year housing plan and are winning most appeals.
- Cllr Liddiard confirmed that CBC will be looking at a minimal increase to the precept, Cllr Booton asked how they were managing to keep it to a small amount with, hopefully 2% with the rising costs on social care. Cllr Liddiard explained the care packages available and how CBC are managing to follow a strict budgeting process.
- Cllr Booton thanked CBC for providing funds to the Citizens advice bureau.
- There is a notice on the telephone box regarding removal, there has been previous objections to this, Cllr Liddiard will investigate.
- Cllr Baker asked if there was any feedback from the solar panel roll out? Cllr Liddiard confirmed that over 4,000 residents had applied and 750 have paid the £150 for the survey and report, some residents have had it all fitted, others may still be considering.
- The planning application for the White Hart was refused, the applicant has the right to appeal or resubmit an application.

110/22 FINANCES:

Payments: December 2022

CJ Bain Bookkeeping and payroll £55

David Granger £63.72

JBB £3,589.95

Community account £35,480.79

Business account £23,041.06

As on 30/11/22

Clerk will set up payments to be approved by Cllr Baker.

The Parish Council discussed and agreed the budget in for the following financial year. Due to an increase in charges by a number of our suppliers the Councillors have agreed that an increase in the Precept paid is inevitable. The budget total for 2023/24 is £33,031.59, an increase of 12%, some of the hall fees maybe off set by the installation of Wi-Fi bringing the increase down to 10.6%. Clerk

shared a link with Cllrs prior to the meeting highlighting the CACS have one of the lowest charges across CBC for precept. Cllr Baker proposed a 10.6% increase to cover the budget, this was seconded by Cllr Ash, all agreed.

The PC also expressed concerns for the residents of Chicksands who receive very little benefit from the precept. Cllr Turton suggested the street lighting between Chicksands private running alongside Priory house to the roundabout remain lit during dark hours? Once Priory house is closed all lighting goes out and remains out until the next morning. The PC will contact CBC regarding this.

Greensand Trust are appealing for donations, which will be match funded for their project to develop the Clophill lakes leisure park and nature reserve. Cllr Sibley proposed donating the remaining donations from the budget £120, seconded by Cllr Turton, all agreed.

111/22 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

None

112/22 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

JOINT BURIAL BOARD:

JBB will meet on December 8th at 10.30am to plan the works to the wall. Clerk urged all Councillors to have their research ready to present. Next full meeting will be on 16th February 2023. Clerk has been in contact with the conservation officer and the Diocese regarding work to the wall. The surveyor's report has just been received. Cllr Longson spoke to a builder and will report this at the JBB meeting. Cllr Booton has spoken to the resident, who would like to see a wall remain and for it not too be reduced as this will prove to be a security issue for their property.

CAMPTON UNITED CHARITIES:

No update. Land registry=try should confirm early 2023.

P3 GROUP:

One of the group has now attended bush cutter training with CBC so will be able to carry out additional works in the village. CBC no longer hire equipment so the P3 group are considering a strimmer and possible funding for it. They will also speak to the Shefford P£ group.

Cllr Baker raised a concern voiced by one of the P3 team that larger metal waste collected by the volunteers was not being removed by CBC from collection points. Clerk raised this with the P3 contact and has reported it to CBC.

113/22 PROJECTS/ONGOING ISSUES:

1. Hedgehog highways, these have been advertised in the newsletter, FB and website. Collection to be arranged.
2. Coronation, request for volunteers went out in the newsletter. Deferred till next meeting.
3. Clerk attended the CBC training for the Emergency plan and will start looking at the plan for the Parish in the new year.

4. Projects for next year: The Cllrs identified key projects for the next financial year, current workings information on the last page of the Minutes.

Clerk will speak to Mazars re the total reserves and the seed funding allocation.

Clerk will also obtain alternative quotes for street lighting

Cllr Booton is assessing the tree needs for the Parish in time for the CBC grant deadline in March 2023.

It has been proposed that the PC look at internet access for the village hall to enable Zoom meetings for those residents wishing to join. Cllr Turton and Cllr Sibley are preparing quotes, but the total cost will range between £250 and £1200, external funding will be sought.

114/22 CONSULTATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

- A resident has asked to advertise Carers for Bedfordshire in the newsletter, all Cllrs agreed, a piece will be agreed to include.
- There is a topic session on Parking Standards for new developments on 7th December 6-7pm, Cllr Booton will attend and then prepare a piece to be agreed via email and submitted prior to the consultation deadline of 5th January 2023.
- BATPC training available.

115/22 AOB:

Clerk will issue Agenda on 20th December 2022 for the January meeting due to bank holidays, all items to be with Clerk prior to this date. Apologies from Cllr Baker and Cllr Ash, Cllr Booton will chair.

There is a new bike repair centre at Priory House, Clerk will include in newsletter.

116/22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Thursday 5th January 2023 7pm in the Campton Village Hall.

2022-2024 Project Options	Cllr Notes	Cost to PC (Exc VAT)	Quote or Estimate	Committed Funds	Holding Account
Village Hall Car Park (Full)	Recent quote acquired by Cllr Longson from DJT Surfacing Ltd	16,501.57	Quote (17.11.2022)		Community Account
Village Hall Car Park (3 Sapces Only)	Estimate (DB) based on reducing the parking spaces from Approx. 9 to just 3 spaces	6,000.00	Estimate (DB)	£6,000.00	Community Account
Climbing Wall at Rec	4.5 m double sided climbing wall (NB £1330.71 S106 Monies) - Installation extra ?	3,383.62	Recent Quote	£3,383.62	Community Account
Village Gateway Signs	Proposal from Cllr Baker for 2 no. Gateways + Signs (Greenway & Priory Road)	2,173.76	Quote (Inst Est £1,000)		Community Account
Vehicle Activated Speed Signs	Via CBC costs are £5500 inc. survey, purchase & installation per unit	5,500.00	CBC Highways info.		Community Account
Streetlighting (LED Upgrade)	Quote acquired by T Medley from A Muskett - Upgrade to LED Halothane Lanterns)	7,084.00	Quote (09.11.2022)	£7,084.00	Community Account
Streetlighting (Std Replacement)	Estimate from A Muskett - Standard column & LED Lantern replacement (£1350 each)	32,400.00	Estimate (DB)		Community Account
Streetlighting (Heritage Replacement)	Estimate from A Muskett - Heritage column & LED Lantern replacement (£2000 each)	48,000.00	Estimate (DB)		Community Account
Recreation Gmd Pitch (Feed & Weed)	Partial Quote/Estimate from D Granger	660.00	Quote	£660.00	Community Account
Seed Funding Fund for Projects	Proposal from Cllr Booton in order to seed fund other PC Projects e.g. Picnic Area	10,000.00	Estimate	£10,000.00	Business Account
WiFi & Comms Equip at the Village Ha	Cllrs Sibley & Turton working on a costed proposal		In progress		Community Account
JBB Graveyard Wall Works	Awaiting full JBB consideration of options & quotes	6,000.00	Based on 20% of 30K	£6,000.00	Community Account
Legal Fees - Poor's Field & VH land	Total based on likely max of solicitor fees to cover both actions	2,000.00	Solicitor Estimates	£2,000.00	Community Account
JBB Data Project - Clerks Fees	Fees for Clerk's work on JBB data upload project	1,000.00	Budget Estimate	£1,000.00	Community Account
PC Agreed Reserves	The amount of money PC agree is the bottom line on reserves	15,000.00	To be agreed	£15,000.00	Business Account
			TOTAL (Approx. 50k)	£51,127.62	