

MEETING OF CAMPTON AND CHICKSANDS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in Campton Village Hall on Thursday 5th October 2023

Present: Cllr Baker as Chairman, Cllr Longson, Cllr Ash acting also as Clerk and Cllr Booton. Central Bedfordshire Councillor Tony Brown, Central Bedfordshire Councillor Mark Liddiard.

Apologies: Cllr Turton, Cllr Sibley, Cllr Wooton, Clerk T Medley

94/23 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th Sept 2023 were signed as a true record of the meeting.

Matters arising: None.

95/23 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION:

None.

96/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

A resident recounted an event on 31st August, which may have benefited from a local first responder being on hand. A discussion followed about the merits and uses of local first responders and the role of the emergency services. The PC agreed to write to the NHS and the Police, expressing concern about local emergency response and requesting advice on how parishioners should ask for help in worrying situations.

A resident pointed out the need for 30mph signs further towards Gravenhurst and Meppershall. Ward Councillors agreed on this need and have already discussed this with CBC Highways.

97/23 UPDATE BY CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLORS:

Councillors Brown and Liddiard jointly updated the meeting:

Schools for the Future is still frozen and Campton Academy will operate for the foreseeable future.

The proposed housing development (reserved matters application) on Greenway has not progressed (awaiting decision). To aid in commenting on future highway matters relating to the proposed development the PC again asked for the results of the traffic data collection which took place last year.

Ward councillors discussed establishing consistency in Central Bedfordshire's response to highway concerns.

Highways has offered to deliver salt for roads to parishes for those roads not covered by gritting lorries.

BT has agreed to close the Campton public telephone box. CBC surveying local opinion.

Councillor Booton asked for an update on the status of Central Bedfordshire's responsibility for the churchyard. Ward Councillors are to update the PC in the future.

A planning application in Meppershall was discussed as being rejected on the basis of not being part of the local plan.

A general discussion took place on how Central Bedfordshire Council is adapting to the change in political control.

Councillor Booton discussed with Ward Councillors how the PC may fund any purchase of land for the preservation of green space and for recreational purposes. Ward Councillors offered encouragement and some advice on local and national funding support for such purchases. The PC discussed further the desirability of such a purchase and how land may be put to use. The PC voted unanimously to purchase local land which could be enjoyed as a green space, or as a recreational space, where possible.

98/23 FINANCES:

Payments agreed: October 2023

C Bain (Payroll)	£58.00 (Already actioned)
NPOWER COMMERCIAL	£169.06
CLOUD NEXT LIMITED	£132.00
ANDY MUSKETT street lighting	£104.40
DJ GRANGER grass cutting	£700.39

Community account £26,652.03

Business account £23,200.67

As on 5/10/23

Chair will set up payments for Cllr Ash to authorise.

99/23 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

CB/TRE/00354 Councillors agreed to necessary work on potentially dangerous trees in the parish by CBC.

Proposed Greenway development: some issues have been identified by CBC on the recent reserved matters application not complying with CBC development guidelines. CBC are discussing these with the developer.

100/23 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

JOINT BURIAL BOARD:

Next meeting 2nd November 2023.

CAMPTON UNITED CHARITIES:

Land registry solicitor being pursued by Councillor Ash

P3 GROUP: No updates.

101/23 PROJECTS/ONGOING ISSUES:

First responders: as discussed in Public Participation.

Defibrillator training 11am 28th October: Councillors will ask residents for further volunteers.

Campton Church Yard: as discussed with Ward Councillors.

Recreation Ground: parking for all user groups was discussed.

Review of PC projects: deferred to next meeting.

Overgrown foliage: some being pursued by Parish Councillors, one by CBC via clerk.

Wi-fi at the village hall: Talk Talk's quote for wi-fi provision was agreed.

102/23 CONSULTATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was received:

1. Topic session Sustainability 4 th October 6pm-7pm... To be rearranged early November
2. Sustainability information sheet
3. Topic session UKSPF and REPF 10 th October 6pm-7pm via Teams.
4. PCC Annual Parish meeting 11 th October 2023, Forest Centre Marston Moretaine.
5. Safer Communities Events – decided not suitable for the parish as a large footfall is required. Respond via clerk.
6. Polehanger River Woodland & request for letter of support re: potential funding applications. Agreed to send a letter of support. Chair to action with clerk.

103/23 AOB:

The Council voted to donate £50 to the Royal British Legion.

Councillor Longson reported no move on acquiring the land at the side of the village hall.

104/23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be:

Thursday 2nd November 2023 7pm in the Campton Village Hall.