

MEETING OF CAMPTON AND CHICKSANDS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in Campton Village Hall on Thursday 9th May 2024.

Present: Cllr Baker, Cllr Booton, Cllr Sibley, Cllr Longson, Cllr Wootton, Cllr Turton.

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

172/24 ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE BY COUNCILLORS AND DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:

All Cllrs will remain in Office for the next year, Clerk will arrange Acceptance of Office, Clerk also reminded Cllrs to update their Declaration of Interests if needed.

173/24 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR:

Cllr baker stepped down from his role of Chair to the Parish Council, Cllrs thanked him for his work.

Cllr Booton proposed Cllr Baker as Vice-Chair, seconded by Cllr Sibley.

Cllr Baker proposed Cllr Booton as Chair, seconded by Cllr Sibley.

174/24 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4th April 2024 were signed as a true record of the meeting.

Matters arising:

Anglian water has carried our works to the sewage pipe and have left the thresholds to drives raised which is causing some driveways to flood. The natural water drainage has also been affected causing some areas that prone to minor puddles to have larger puddles lasting longer. Cllr Booton will contact Anglian water.

175/24 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION:

None

176/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None.

177/24 UPDATE BY CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLORS:

- Apologies sent.
- Cllr Brown provided a press release from CBC regarding enhanced Bereavement services starting at the new Crematorium.
- Cllr Liddiard provided details of a new Highways officer.

178/24 FINANCES:

Payments agreed: April 2024

C Bain payroll £58

D Granger £1,772.40

Talk Talk £55.76

N Power £287.89

Internal auditor £275.00
Gallagher Insurance £1605.19

Community account £38,726.42
Business account £23,368.52
As on 7/5/24

Payments agreed, proposed by Cllr Booton, seconded by Cllr Baker, all agreed.

Clerk will set up payments for Cllrs to authorise.

Internal auditor's report has been received, she suggested an additional column on the cashbook to explain purpose of transaction, otherwise the Internal audit is complete.

Agree Exercise of public rights dates were agreed as 17th June until 25th July.

Agree AGAR was agreed and presented signed by Clerk to the Cllrs in preparation for the External auditor. Cllr Booton signed as Chair and clerk will now send it to the External auditor.

S101 Local Government Act 1972 permits the Councillors to delegate the power of decision making to two members of the Council, usually the Clerk/responsible Finance Officer and one other. Cllr Sibley proposed Cllr Booton and Clerk, seconded by Cllr Turton, all agreed.

179/24 REVIEW OF POLICIES:

Clerk emailed the Policies to Cllrs prior to the meeting highlighting any changes. Cllr Turton agreed adoption of the policies. Seconded by Cllr Sibley, all agreed. Policies:

Standing orders and Code of conduct

Risk Assessment

Cllr Co-option

Complaints procedure

Equality and Diversity

Financial Regulations

Death of a National figure

Privacy Notice

Habitual/vexatious complaint

Social media

Freedom of Information

Emergency plan.

180 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE FORTHCOMING YEAR:

Cllrs agreed their roles and responsibilities, clerk will amend the list and email to all Cllrs.

181/24 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

CB/24/ 00573/LB 43 Rectory Rd. LB repair of damaged render to the gable wall and the return to the side entrance door. No objections.

182/23 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

JOINT BURIAL BOARD:

Works to the Church wall in Campton have been delayed due to the weather, it is now anticipated that they will start at the end of May. Repair works to the paths in the cemetery in Shefford have now been carried out.

CAMPTON UNITED CHARITIES:

No update.

P3 GROUP:

Cllr Wooton reported that things are starting to grow and therefore now need cutting back.

183/24 PROJECTS/ONGOING ISSUES:

June meeting date:

Due to D Day, the next PC meeting will be 7.45pm on 5th June 2024.

Recreation ground:

Cllr Booton continues to check the play area.

Village Hall additional land:

Clerk has spoken with Pelly's Solicitors to establish what is required for the conveyance of the land.

The Parish Council agreed to pass a resolution to approve Cllr Joe Longson to sign Land Registry documents on behalf of the Parish Council for land to be transferred from Paradigm Housing to Campton and Chicksands Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr Booton, seconded by Cllr Baker, all agreed.

Cllr Longson will provide ID and proof of address for the Solicitors.

Village hedges:

Highways have inspected the overgrown hedges in the village and have agreed to write to residents if instructed to do so by the PC, Cllr Wooton proposed the PC request letters. Cllrs agreed to find out what the request from CBC will be.

Good Neighbour scheme:

Clerk has obtained some further information on what services can be offered; she will compile a leaflet to be delivered to residents requesting volunteers.

Settlement Information:

Cllr Baker has prepared a response, he proposed that it be submitted to CBC, seconded by Cllr Booton, all agreed. Clerk will submit response.

Nature Recovery Strategy:

Cllr Baker has prepared a response, he proposed that it be submitted to CBC, seconded by Cllr Sibley, all agreed. Clerk will submit response. Cllr Booton thanked Cllr Baker for all of the time that he has spent on the two documents.

Email addresses:

Cllr Baker has set up separate email addresses for Cllrs, purely for Council business. All Cllrs have access and will start using the emails from 1st June 2024.

Village Hall WiFi:

Clerk has received the CBC Ward Cllr funding for IT equipment. Cllr Turton, Cllr Sibley and Cllr Baker will agree the equipment required and arrange the purchase up to a value of £900.

184/24 CONSULTATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was received:

- CBC Topic session 8/5/24 Tree planting.
- CBC topic session 13/5/24 Libraries.
- CBC Topic feedback on Local Transport Plan.
- Chairman training.

185/25 AOB:

- A resident asked if the grass outside 1-8 The Glebe could be added to the grass cutting schedule? It can't be as it is maintained by the Housing Association.
- A resident thanked the Cllrs for all of their hard work.
- Graffiti is once again on the substation.
- Bollards by the underpass have been replaced.
- The timings on the A507 crossing need to be amended, cars are left waiting for 18 seconds after the crossing time. Cllr Wooton will follow this up.

186/23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday 5th June 7.45pm.