

MEETING OF CAMPTON AND CHICKSANDS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in Campton Village Hall on Thursday 6th March 2025.

Present: Cllr Booton as Chairman, Cllr Turton, Cllr Baker, Cllr Wooton, Cllr Longson, Cllr Ash.
CBC Ward Cllr Tony Brown.

Apologies: Cllr Sibley, CBC Ward Cllr Mark Liddiard.

23/25MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6th February 2025 were signed as a true record of the meeting, proposed by Cllr Booton, seconded by Cllr Ash, all agreed.

Matters arising:

24/25 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION:

Clerk has checked the CBC website and cannot see either Cllr Wooton or Cllr Booton's Declaration of interest, clerk and Cllrs will follow this up.

Cllr Baker declared an interest relating to the Click on nature invoice.

25/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

- Residents attended to enquire what the PC plan to do with the land they have obtained by the village hall? A meeting will be arranged to discuss this with residents, the meeting will likely be a Sunday in March.

26/25 UPDATE BY CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLORS:

- The tree on Elm close has been felled, Cllrs thanked Tony for following this up so many times.
- River footpath is closed from 24th February through to 23rd August, there should be a schedule for the works to be completed in the new financial year, repairs will be during the period of closure. Cllrs requested further signage or for the bridge to be cordoned off to prevent residents accessing it. Cllr Brown will follow this up.
- Changes to the 30mph zone are scheduled for 7/3/25.
- Cllr Brown will attend a Highways meeting on 13/3/25 and will once again request work to Mill Lane.
- Budget has been confirmed with a 5% increase to residents. Household waste centres will remain open 7 days, rather than being restricted to 5 and there will be no requirement to book. The finance portfolio holder has earmarked an additional £150,000 to ensure drains are cleaned annually rather than 3 yearly. Ward Cllr grants have been retained. Dunstable library will stay open 7 days a week and a survey will be carried out of other libraries.
- Cllr Longson raised concerns for the Rd going from the Esso station to Morrisons in Shefford, there are a large number of deep potholes. The road was privately owned and due to bankruptcy, it is now the responsibility of The Crown. Clerk will write to the Local MP expressing concerns.

- The zebra crossing markings are virtually non-existent at Chicksands and need repainting.
- Highways have confirmed it is not their responsibility and passed the issue to Assets. Cllr Brown will follow this up with assets.
- Cllr Booton has had no response to his emails regarding the handover of the church yard, Cllr Brown will chase this with assets.
- The CBC contributions for grass cutting have remained the same since 2018, despite inflation. Cllrs feel that this should be addressed with CBC, Cllr Booton will approach other PCs to gain support for this.

27/25 FINANCES:

Payments agreed: March 2025

C Bain payroll £62

D Granger £264.00

Talk Talk Wi-Fi £31.14

Click on nature £250

HRJ Foreman solicitors £58.56

Proludic £733.70

Wrighton and Barker £180.00

Community account £27,671.86

Business account £23,631.68

As on 27/02/25

Payments agreed proposed by Cllr Baker, seconded by Cllr Turton all agreed. Clerk will set up payments.

28/25 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

None.

The Greenway application is still to be confirmed, some conditions remain outstanding.

29/25 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

JOINT BURIAL BOARD:

No update

CAMPTON UNITED CHARITIES:

No update

P3 GROUP:

No update

30/25 PROJECTS/ONGOING ISSUES:

Good Neighbour scheme:

Clerk has arranged a meeting for volunteers on Wednesday 9th April 2025.

Dignity policy:

The clerk sent out the Dignity policy, adoption proposed by Cllr Booton, seconded by Cllr Baker, all approved.

Churchyard:

Discussed under 26/25

Zebra crossing, Chicksands.

Discussed under 26/25

Grass within the village:

Discussed under 26/25

Meet the village:

The Village Hall committee would like to arrange an evening for residents to come and meet one another and groups within the village. The Cllrs are supportive of this and would happily have a table for the PC to be represented, depending on the day. The PC are considering a similar event for the Annual Parish meeting next year.

Motor Neurone village event.

A recent charity event took place in the village hall to raise money for the Motor Neurone charity, over £2000 was raised. Cllrs thanked all of the residents involved in organising the event.

Footpath closure:

Discussed under 26/25

Older people's network group:

Information has been shared with Cllrs for them to join in with this if they would like to get involved.

31/25 CONSULTATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received:

- Crime statistics
- BATPC New Cllr training
- BLMK ICB Winter Communication and engagement
- BATPC responding to planning applications training.
- Budget briefing.

- CBC Consultation on proposed changes to music centres.
- Elan City road safety information
- Community Governance review
- Wonder bus excursions
- Greensand trust Clophill lakes nature reserve review invitation. Cllr Baker to attend.
- Insurance questionnaire, Clerk will reduce the wall value by 50% and asked if a Cllr could provide details of the size of the land next to the village hall?

32/25 AOB:

- Clerk requested that the July meeting be moved to 17th July, all Cllrs agreed.

33/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be:

Thursday 3rd April 7pm.