

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th June 2021 at Silsoe Village Hall.

Present:

Cllr Kelly in the Chair

Cllr. L Mann, Cllr McGrory, Cllr Kevan, Cllr Willard, Central Bedfordshire Councillor Alison Graham.

Apologies Cllr Offer, Cllr Tierney

53/21 Public participation:

54/21 Confirm the Minutes/ Matter Arising:

- The Minutes of the meetings held on 7th May 2021 were agreed.

55/21 Declaration of interest/ Request for dispensation:

None

56/21 Report by Central Bedfordshire Councillor:

- Cllr Graham attended the last Police and Crime panel meeting and met the new Commissioner. The lack of rural policing issue was raised as was the huge problem of retention of officers. Cllr Graham suggested Police Specials devoted to a village may improve the job satisfaction and improve retention as well as being reassuring to residents. The Chief constable agrees with this, and it will be pursued. The topic will be discussed at the next Town and Parish meeting.
- The planning officer Debbie Quinn has too many large applications to deal with, so a Stuart Kemp has been assigned the Taymer Park development.
- Greenwood's meetings continue and all Parishes are preparing to submit responses.
- Vandalism has become an increasing issue in Silsoe alongside anti-social behaviour, particularly at the Sports centre, Cllr Graham will follow this up.

57/21 Review and agree Asset's list:

The Assets list was agreed by all Councillors and the new value has been included in the AGAR.

58/21 Finances:

Cllr Kevan provided a Financial Report which included.

OUTING GOING PAYMENTS FOR JUNE:

David Granger £4020.85

Aurora £150

ICO £40
Eon £49.72
CPM £288
J Robinson expenses £41.76
SSG £12,600
All payments agreed.

Account balances on 9th June 2021

Current a/c £30,786.30	£58,676.65
Deposit a/c £200,940.56	£200,940.57
Nationwide £81,257.39	£81,475.34

The major change to the finances is due to the grass cutting costs, almost one third of the budget has now been spent. The cricket club are now cutting the football pitches and cricket pitch as the mower has been fixed.

Holiday Activities

It has been agreed that the PC will provide activities during the summer holidays for the young people in the village. The Parish Council felt that the effects of the lockdowns and the increase in vandalism that the PC should provide some activities for the young people in the Village.

A total of twenty sessions for up to 600 places will be run by SSG and will take place at the sports centre. The total cost for the sessions is £12,500 (inc vat). Clerk has applied for Police funding and the PC have been awarded £3,155. The PC will ask for a contribution of £5 from each child attending.

AGAR Audit

Clerk has now prepared the audit, the AGAR has been viewed by all Councillors and agreed, Clerk will now submit it to the auditor.

59/21 Planning:

The PC considered the following applications:

1. CB/21/01877/FULL Maple House, Two storey side/rear extension with garage conversion. No objection.
2. CB/21/02203/FULL 74 Newbury Lane, single storey rear extension. No objections.
3. CB/21//02292/FULL 7 Silbury Ct, single storey front extension and new detached garage.
4. CB/21/02438/FULL, 3 The Laurels, loft conversion with dormer extensions to front and rear.
5. CB/21/02490/DOC 24 High St, discharge of condition 1.2.3.4.and 5 to application CB/19/03857/FULL. No objections.
6. CB/21/02410/PAAD, Barn to the north of Road Farm. Change of use from agricultural to dwelling. No objections.

7. CB/21/02232/LDCP 1 Ash Tree Covert, loft conversion, no objections.
8. CB/21/02248/FULL 56 Alder Wynd, single storey rear extension, no objections.
9. CB/21/02249/DOC Red House, discharge of conditions 4,5,6 and 7 against planning application CB/21/007931/FULL. No objections.

Taymer Park Retirement Development:

Following the meeting with the consultants the PC have responded outlining their main concerns. There has been no further contact.

Bloor Homes – Amenity Land

The PC are in contact with a Principal Planning Officer Mr Stuart Kemp appointed by the CEO CBC. Both the PC and Bloor Homes have met with him to discuss the situation. It appears that the S106 Agreement has not been fully complied with. The PC are currently awaiting further information.

Greenwood proposed development:

A group of Clerks and Councillors have been meeting to discuss the proposed development East of the A6 Bedford Rd, Barton. Two residents within the group have compiled a thorough document objecting to the proposed development, which will be submitted by Gravenhurst PC. It has been suggested that all Councils involved support the Gravenhurst submission as well as submitting their own. All Councillors agreed to support the document. Clerk will send out information as before, to remind residents to submit their objections.

Whitebeam Close:

Cllr Offer is still chasing CBC.

60/21 Projects:

Park Avenue Footpath:

- CBC are still awaiting a response from WPE.

Footpath - Newbury Lane to A6

- A meeting has been requested to discuss the Newbury Lane – A6 path, Cllr Kelly will coordinate.

Website:

- Cllr Willard received and collated the information he then met with Aurora, Clerk, and some Cllrs to discuss the next stage.

The Cage:

- The Interpretation board was discussed, and it was agreed that information on The Church and The Cage should be included alongside a map and perhaps a timeline? Cllr Kelly will look at some examples before the final design is agreed.
- The deadline for the works being carried out is July 2021, but there is some flexibility in extending this. Cllr offer has contacted Michael Dales for quotes, the PC have agreed to match fund and have earmarked £5000. There has been more concrete falling from it.
- Cllr Kelly will seek permission from both residents for the works to be completed.

Traffic Survey:

Two companies have responded and offered quotes. Road Data Services have quoted £1040 to carry out a 2-week survey with equipment placed in 4 locations, this includes applying for licensing and installation of the equipment. Once the data is collected it would need to be passed to another company for analysis and interpretation. It was agreed the survey should be carried out, but the PC were undecided as to the most appropriate time to get a full reflection on the number of vehicles it was agreed to defer the decision to the next meeting when we would know if the restrictions would be lifted on 21st June 2021.

Vandalism:

There has been further anti-social behaviour within the village, 3 more incidents at the Silsoe Community Sports Centre, whereby young people have blocked the entrance and tried to intimidate Customers. Cllr McGrory will contact the PCHO. Cllr Kelly will look at the CCTV.

Cricket club:

The lawnmower is fixed, and the cricket club have started to mow the football pitches but had not started the Cricket Outfield. Cllrs commented on how lovely it is to see young children involved and parents out spectating.

61/21 Consultations and correspondence:

- Magpas letter, appealing for donations, £50 agreed.
- CPRE magazine.
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63/21 AOB:

- The allotment management team are looking at quotation for moving the chippings around the tracks, the PC await their proposal.
- A window broken was reported damaged in Schoolhouse Mews thought to have been caused by the grass cutting contractor, Clerk is following this up. The contractor has asked if some of the stones could be cleared from the village hall car park to avoid this happening again, Clerk will follow up.
- Clerk has contacted the garage owners in Holly walk and they have agreed to carry out repairs to the garages.

- Jo Kevan has been appointed as the new Group Scout leader which is great news. The Scouts have continued to meet at the Village Hall. The cubs meet, at the Silsoe Community Sports Centre meeting outside until September and then meetings will resume indoors on Tuesday evenings. They are currently recruiting new leaders and hope to have Beavers up and running soon.
- Filming will take place at Wrest Park 14th-18th June 2021 for a period drama.
- It was felt that the new signage at Wrest Park is inadequate, Clerk and Chairman will raise this at a meeting with English Heritage on Tuesday.

52/21 Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th July 2021 if via Zoom or Thursday 15th July if face – to – face, to be confirmed.