

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2020 via Zoom

### Present:

Cllr Kelly in the Chair

Cllrs. L Mann, Cllr Kevan, Cllr McGrory, Cllr Offer and Cllr Bache.

Apologies: CBC Councillor Alison Graham.

### 101/20 Confirm the Minutes/ Matter Arising:

- The Minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2020 were agreed.
- The deletion of the previous meeting recording was agreed.

### 102/20 Declaration of interest/ Request for dispensation:

- One of the residents to be Co-opted declared an interest in relation to discussions regarding the Cage.

### 103/20 Co-option of new Councillors:

- The two prospective Councillors from the last meeting Andrew Williard and Keith Tierney would like to join the PC, Cllr Proposed this, Cllr Kevan supported this, and all Councillors were in favour. Clerk has provided them with the Code of Conduct and Financial Regulations, which they have both read. She has also emailed them the personal details and acceptance which will need to be completed and returned and the link to Declare interests with CBC. Both were welcomed to the Council.

### 104/20 Public participation:

- None

### 105/20 Finances:

The AGAR is now completed, has been signed and submitted to the external auditor.

Cllr Kevan presented his latest Financial Report which included

- Current Account = £35,793.71
- Deposit Account = £200,877.43
- National wide = 81,257.39

Outgoing payments for August 2020:

- David Granger £3355.24 and £60
- Website/social media £150 and £400, first instalment for new website.
- David Swain Land registry fees £16

- Eon £49
- Anglian water £12
- RJW Machinery £156

All payments agreed, Clerk will set up online payments to be authorised by Cllr Kevan.

- Clerk submitted a vat return, £2245.34 has now been credited to the account.

## **106/20 Bloor Homes:**

There was a meeting held between the Trust and Bloor Homes at their Head Office. Bloor have agreed to re-cost the contract with Chamonix, they have agreed that some areas have not been included in the original contract. A list of these areas has been emailed through today. Some of these areas have their private drives and sewers and these will not be included in the adoption. Bloor have agreed to carry out all remedial works, which include tarmacking the pathway to the play area, the issue with the swale, tree works. Negotiations will continue between both parties.

The Trust asked Bloor's intentions regarding the reopening of the play area? The trust offered to assist in the preparation of the play areas and the signs required, no further update from Bloor.

The pavements, roads and some of the lighting will be the responsibility of CBC, the remaining lighting will be maintained by Chamonix.

Some residents are maintaining the land opposite their houses rather than leaving it to Chamonix.

## **107/20 Play Areas:**

- The Inspections of the play areas have now been carried out; a number of repairs are required. CPM will carry out the repairs and will fit the Covid-19 signs that have now been delivered. The Covid-19 risk assessment is complete and once the signs are fitted the play areas can reopen. Clerk will arrange for posts on social media updating the residents that they can use play areas from Saturday, the update will also advise residents to contact Bloor for the plantation play area.

## **108/20 Police matters/ Community Safety Project:**

- Clerk received an email from the new Community safety team, which was emailed to all Councillors. She contacted the Community Safety team to if they could help within the village, in particular with reference to the issues with young people. They are a new team, formed as a response to a safety in the community survey, their role is to support the community and make residents feel safer, they will be in uniform and have police issued numbers and they will have a marked car. A meeting was arranged with the team last Thursday with Cllr Kelly, Cllr McGrory and Clerk and it was incredibly positive. Cllr McGrory will meet with Julia from the team to walk the village and highlight a number of issues. This issue will include young people, vandalism, traffic issues.
- There have been teams using football pitches in the village, the pitches at the sports centre are restricted to just the teams who play there. There was a recent incident at Wrest Park

involving a group of young boys being moved on by security. One of the boy's mother contacted clerk to ask if they were allowed to play. English Heritage have confirmed that the pitches are available for use by residents within the village, security have been asked to move along any teams that wish to use the ground. Clerk and Cllr McGrory will arrange a social media update.

- A resident held a BBQ on the cricket pitch recently, there have been no subsequent get togethers, but it will be monitored.

## 109/20 Communications:

**Website:** Clerk arranged a meeting with Aurora, Cllr Kelly, Cllr McGrory, and Clerk to finalise the requirements for the website. Aurora will now start to work on it, she will consult with the PC at various stages so that you will all be able to influence the final site. The aim is to have it completed by December 20. Aurora has also agreed to discuss the filing and sharing of document system with the PC.

## 110/20 Planning

- **CB/20/00661/FULL 4** The Gateway, Blackthorn Place. Planning have approved the application and imposed conditions regarding noise and odour, these are more restrictive in relation to noise. There was very little mention of parking and no mention of the pedestrian access. The café is to be closed by 1800 hours and take away by 2100 hours.
- **CB/20/02244/FULL 49** West End Rd. No objections.
- **CB/TCA/20/00343** Red House, 16 Amphill Rd. No objections
- **CB/TRE/20/00349** 1d West End Rd, no objections.
- **CB/TRE/20/00395** Wrest Park, no objections.
- **CB/TCA/20/00403** Silsoe Village Hall, no objections.
- **Hayfields-Highways lighting:** The PC should have been consulted on the type of lighting and position; the Neighbourhood Plan stipulates the lighting in the Design Statement for the village. The PC are already in talks with CBC over amenity lighting on this section of road. Cllr Offer will follow it up.
- **Affordable Housing:** Cllr Offer is communicating with a Customer Service Improvement Manager at CBC. The issue is being referred to senior management and CBC are seeking legal advice.

## 111/20 Projects:

- i) **Park avenue:** The draft legal document is being reviewed by the Wrest Park Enterprises legal team. We need this to be agreed before we can move to the next stage. Cllr Kelly mentioned the possibility of charges being introduced for permissive pathways. A fee of £1600 could be charged by the landowner. Chris Dorow, Rights of Way Officer at CBC was not aware of this. There are two permissive pathways in the village, one by Wardhedges, one by Thrift Farm, Clerk will check. Cllr Tierney will look at pathway 16
- ii) **The Cage:** Everything has been submitted to Greensand Trust, they have all the quotes. They are just awaiting approval.

## 112/20 Consultations & Correspondence:

- A resident emailed regarding a serious situation at the bottom of Newbury Lane concerning parked cars parked on the corner and requesting double yellow lines. Cllr McGrory will discuss this with the Community safety team. Resident advised to contact CBC as well.
- The owner of the Barbers shop emailed requesting that her shop be included on the website as all other businesses were, Clerk has arranged for Aurora to do this.
- A resident contacted clerk regarding her son and 5 friends playing football on the pitches within Wrest Park, security guards moved them along informing them they were not able to use the pitches. I have contacted EH and the boys should not have been moved on, they will address the issue with security.
- Thank you letter from Magpas Air Ambulance for the PC donation.
- CPRE magazine.
- Email from resident regarding the bottle bank, there is a large number of visits to the bottle bank during the day and also night-time visits, plus several collections emptying the bins. The resident is finding it increasingly difficult to work from home with the increasing noise. Some local bottle banks have been removed which is possibly increasing the visits from non-residents. Cllr Mann will check the signage at the bottle bank, Clerk will discuss this with Cllr Graham, mainly to establish when glass collections will be introduced.
- The Green pantry request, Lauren Hardy email. The PC declined this idea, Clerk will advise Lauren that she may need to apply to Highways for a licence.
- Clerk has received a complaint from a resident regarding the dumping of oil and oil drums near the layby, Clerk has arranged for an Environmental officer to look into this.
- Clerk received an email from the Village hall committee, they are happy for us to have a filing cabinet in the hall for document storage, providing the PC insurance covers it. They have also requested that they be involved in the Community Emergency Plan, I have said I would arrange a meeting once we have a timeframe in mind. They would still like the PC to consider the Post Office contribution.

## 113/20 Any Other Business:

- Clerk has followed up with CBC the discussions concerning the pathway that runs between Newbury Lane up to the A6. They visited the site with a ground penetrating radar machine

to see if they could detect the missing path, without success. They propose to keep the grass cut as the best possible solution, this would enable residents to use it and would also show evidence of use. The path seems to go alongside the ditch where it is lower, if the topsoil were removed from the path it would be unusable in wet weather due to flooding and mud. It will be the responsibility of the PC to maintain the grass within the 30mph. Cllr Mann agreed to meet Highways on site as he knows where the original footpath was located. Cllr Tierney will also attend.

- Clerk has contacted CBC regarding the bonfires, I have an Environmental Protection officer looking into it.
- The Garages in Holly walk are looking unsightly and in need of repair, they are individually owned and used. Deeds show front area is the responsibility of Cranfield University, Cllr Kelly will write to Cranfield for advice.
- Wendy Allford will be taking on responsibility for The Star and Garter, she put an announcement on FB to introduce herself to the residents. Cllr Offer messaged her on behalf of SPC to welcome her to the village, wishing her well and offering any help. There may need to be works to the premises including installation of a disabled toilet.
- Cllr Bache enquired what the timescale for Park Avenue is? Cllr Kelly would like to see trees planted in November 2020.
- Clerk will write to CBC regarding the cycle path running from the village to Barton, the hedging is overgrown.

### **114/20 NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on

**9<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 7pm via Zoom.**