

SILSOE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in

Silsoe Village Hall on Wednesday 8th February 2017.

Present: Cllr Jarrard in the Chair

Cllrs. P Kevan, L Mann, E Owen, J Foolkes, H Flack, J McGrory and A Webb, R Vass Central Bedfordshire Councillor Alison Graham.

Apologies: Cllr Kelly.

11/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

A resident attended the meeting to discuss the greenspace and footpaths currently by the Sports centre. The Parish Council were able to update the resident that a meeting to determine the ownership of the land had taken place last week and the Parish Council plan to take ownership in two years time when the drainage has been installed and any problems resolved. The long term plan is to have it designated as a woodland area.

Issues over the speed limit in Church Rd and Vicarage Rd were raised and the Parish Council confirmed that both of these roads will be in the new 20mph speed zone and new signs will be erected.

12/17 MINUTES:

Minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2016 were presented, however a couple of changes were required to Cllr Graham's report, the minutes will be signed at the next meeting.

The Minutes of an Interim meeting at Wrest Park were distributed to all Councillors having been agreed in advance by Cllr Jarrard, these will also be signed at the next meeting. Cllr Graham agreed that the future vision of a medical centre fits with BLMK Sustainable Transference Plan, where the ethos is to try and keep people out of hospital, she will orchestrate a meeting with herself, Julie Ogley at CBC and Silsoe Parish Council to discuss this further.

13/17 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:

None.

14/17 REPORT BY CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLOR:

Cllr Alison Graham attended the meeting and provided the following update:

- Central Bedfordshire Council have listened to the Precept Consultation and plans to reduce the initial predicted 1.75% increase to 1.05%.
- Gladman second application has been refused.
- Noise abatement report now available in respect of The George. Cllr Graham has spoken to Donna Lavender and planning have found this a difficult application. She referred to Paragraphs 28 and 70 of the NPPF and CS11 from CBC's Core strategy referring to Rural

Economic Tourism. The George has been listed as a hotel and the order once activated lasts for 5yrs. Cllr Jarrard suggested contacting the advisors based in Aspey Guise, however with the discussions being confidential they would not be obliged to offer additional information. The Management and Development meeting is scheduled for 29th March, Cllr Graham, Flack and Owen will meet prior to this to discuss the options. The Parish Council agreed that the document prepared by Cllr Flack was appropriate and ready to submit to CBC.

- Cllr Graham has heard from Nick Dolan at CBC that the planned traffic lights has been reduced from 5 days to 2 days. A diversion will be in place, schools have been notified.
- Ampthill Rd application has been refused.
- Aaron Dagley has been appointed as Rural Police Constable for Silsoe and 14 other areas including Ampthill and Flitwick. Aaron recently set up an event in the village to deal with the on-going anti social behaviour and crime which was a great success.
- Cllr Graham is to attend a meeting with Police Crime Commissioner Katherine Holloway. Primarily to discuss how a village should assimilate a large number of people from an urban area into a rural village? Questions were raised over whether this applied to all new residents or just a minority?
- Cllr Graham was asked if there was any further update with regards to The George

15/17 PLAY AREAS:

It was decided that it would be appropriate for the Parish Council to take on responsibility of the play area and surrounding land in two years time. Hopefully by then the current management company will have rectified the drainage problem and other outstanding issues.

Some residents are not keen for the new play area to be installed but the builders are obliged to supply such areas for population density. It was agreed at the last meeting that the planned play area should not be re-sited. A vote revealed a majority in favour of the play area remaining in the planned location.

Cllr Mann reported that the works to the Northern Play area is now complete and the Parish Council will be invoiced soon.

The Clerk reported the overflowing bottle bank and it has once again been cleared and tidied. Someone is dumping garden waste over the fence and bottles are often found in the shrubbery.

The bin in Holly Walk has been pushed over, Cllr Kevan reported its back in position.

More waste bins are required on the High Street and perhaps by the bus shelters. **Resolved:**Cllr Foolkes will investigate this.

Faulty street lights have been reported by the Clerk.

16/17 PLANNING:

CB/17/00338/VOC

It was felt that the impact of the extension could not be decided from the plans submitted, the original plans were not available to compare the planned changes. **Resolved:** Cllr Jarrard will request further information.

CB/16/03497/PAAD

It was agreed by the Councillors that additional legal advice should be sought with regards to this application and whether the Parish Council should appeal the decision made by CBC? **Resolved:** Cllr Jarrard will contact Roger Shrimplin for advice.

Tree works. Cllr Foolkes will look into this.

With regards to the Old School site Cllr Graham confirmed that two directives were given, all properties should be equipped for long-term living and a reasonable proportion should be bungalows.

17/7 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:

The Neighbourhood plan sub-committee are still holding meetings and have started to prepare a rough draft document. Next meeting due to take place on 9th February 2017. The Plans will be presented to the Parish Council when the draft is complete.

18/17 FINANCE:

Cllr Kevan reported the finances to the Council. Grangers have now been paid, minus the amounts from the previous financial year. The money for the hedges have been set aside. An invoice for CBC which was queried by the Clerk is still outstanding.

The Parish Council thanked Cllr Foolkes for organising the new bus shelter.

Invoices and Land Registry documents are still outstanding from David Swain **Resolved:** The Clerk will speak to him.

The new seat was ordered by Cllr Kelly however due to a number of issues it has yet to be delivered, Cllr Kelly will continue to arrange this. The Clerk has been in contact with Silsoe SOS who have agreed to donate £200 towards the bench.

Allotment rents of £900 have been paid into the accounts.

J Robinson will submit S106 funding applications to CBC, the Clerk will provide copies of the relevant invoices.

Cllr Kevan and the Clerk are looking into the vat claim, more invoices are still required from Deryck.

Payments:

Village Hall Fees £73

Wrest Park room hire £15

Shelter solutions £3,246.00

Sportsdale uk £2216.40

R O'Dell £1800

T Medley £932.19

Bank Balances: Community Account £44,851.21 Business Account £130,455.67

19/17 CONSULTATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

Rural England membership information. **Resolved:** The Councillors agreed that this would be beneficial, the Clerk will make the arrangements at the cost of £36 for the year.

Grant request from Autism Bedfordshire. The Councillors agreed that a donation of £50 should be made. **Resolved:** Clerk will arrange.

Anglian Water update.

Central Bedfordshire Together Cheering Volunteering poster, Cllr Jarrard will display this.

20/17 AOB:

- The organiser of Silsoe Neighbourhood Watch is resigning for personal reasons, Neighbourhood Watch are recruiting more people. Bedfordshire Police run a Street Watch scheme which is very similar but the police offer training to all members and high viz jackets. A representative from Street Watch will attend a meeting and offer advice to residents interested in joining.
- Cllr Foolkes requested information on the emergency planning conference. **Resolved:** Clerk to forward this information.
- Cllr Vass reminded Councillors that the two dumped cars have still not been removed. **Resolved:** Clerk will chase this up.
- Nearly 30 children have now signed up for football and are attending regularly. They have started to charge a small amount to cover the cost of the hall as they are currently playing inside. There are 3 coaches who wish to do their training, the club may join with Westoning who are looking likely to fold.
- An email requesting support for a disabled play area in Marston Moretaine was distributed by the Clerk. Councillors agreed rather than subsidising this project maybe it would be better to adapt the design of the play area currently being planned to incorporate disabled equipment. **Resolved:** Cllr Mann will look at the available equipment.
- A question was asked if now that Gladman have lost their planning application, could they appeal?, they can appeal and resubmit an alternative planning application.
- It was reported that a staff working at the residential home situated next to the old post office have been experiencing problems with a neighbour, mainly intimidating behaviour. The PC are unable to get involved with neighbour disputes however can provide information on where to source help with ASB. **Resolved:** Cllr Webb will pass on this information.
- Cllr Kevan gave an update on the sports centre. There has been a significant loss as anticipated but currently financially the sports club is as predicted. There are currently 400 members and this needs to increase to 500, analysis is taking place for future advertising areas to be targeted. The sports hall income has improved and the café is now serving hot snacks. A meeting of interested users will be arranged for April.
- The Annual Village meeting will take place at 7.30 on Thursday 27th April.

- Pancake Race will take place on Sunday 26th February.

21/17 NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Wednesday 8th March 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.