

SILSOE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in

Silsoe Village Hall on Wednesday 14th September 2016.

Present: Cllr Jarrard in the Chair

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

238/16 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None.

239/16 MINUTES:

Minutes of the meeting held on 14th July 2016 were signed as a correct record of the meeting.

230/16 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:

Cllr Vass and Cllr Mann declared an interest in respect of discussions involving the football club.

231/16 REPORT BY CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Councillor A Graham attended the meeting to update the Parish Council on the following matters:

- Cllr Graham attended the recent Police seminar presented by the new commissioner and was pleased to announce that Rural Crime monitoring is to be restored. Each Parish will be allocated a named officer and will be asked to report the top three priorities as a Parish in respect of policing; the Rural Liaison officer will collect evidence and report back to the commissioner.
- No decisions have been made in respect of public transport. A meeting will be arranged in the coming months as this progresses.
- A Sustainable Committee has been formed to discuss School parking, there will be further updates. Cllr Kelly reported that a gateway has now been made next to 14 Mander Farm Rd as planned for the safe walk to school.
- There are no further updates on the Gladman proposal; it is likely to appear on the October/November Agenda.
- No further updates on the Planning Enforcement notices.

232/16 PLAYGROUNDS:

ROSPA inspections have now been carried out on all three playgrounds. A number of recommendations were made in terms of repairs and maintenance at the North Playground. Total repairs amount to approx £8,500. The Council discussed the possibility of using S106 money and whether the repairs were a priority. The three main priorities are the ground surfaces, swing baskets and flooring under 2 new pieces of equipment.

RESOLVED:

Clerk will contact Play dale as the flooring under the new equipment should still be under warranty.

Cllr Mann will arrange quotes for new equipment for next meeting.

The budget can be adjusted as £500 is budgeted for street lighting which the Council do not anticipate using.

No details are available for the new play area, dog disposal bins have been fitted but no equipment yet.

RESOLVED:

Cllr Kelly will investigate what equipment is planned and when it will be installed.

233/16 MANDER FARM RD:

The Clerk reported that she had been in contact with the developer who claims that a sign at the entrance to Mander Farm Rd was never on the original plans. Cllr Vass will follow this up.

The problem of vehicles turning in West End Rd is still an issue. Cllr Graham reported that as the issue will be resolved once the developers have finished no sign will be erected to warn traffic that there is no way through.

RESOLVED:

Cllr Flack will look into this further.

Questions were raised over a new Rd name; Spruce Rd was not a name that was originally agreed.

Cllr Kelly reported that the Rd signs have now all been cleaned; one sign is damaged but is not a priority to replace.

234/16 SOCIAL MEDIA, BLACK PANTHER

Social Media has been very active with over 16,000 interactions. The sightings of the Black Panther were reported to the police and RSPCA and then reported on the radio and in the newspaper.

The Village Hall committee requested the help of Cllr Flack with setting up their social media.

Cllr Flack and McGrory will continue to deal with the messages arising from social media.

235/16 BENCH/NOTICEBOARD:

The notice board has been agreed and the SOS has donated £400 towards the notice board and will have a plaque engraved on it. Bloor homes will fit the notice board once CBC has approved it.

RESOLVED:

Cllr Kelly will chase up the approval from CBC.

The bench to be fitted outside The George has been agreed, at the moment Cllr Kelly is arranging quotes for fitting it and the associated works to make the curb level.

RESOLVED: Cllr Kelly will report back.

Cllr Foolkes presented two quotes for a new bus shelter to the Council. One for £2705.00+vat and one for £2060.00+vat. The Council agreed to the first quote.

RESOLVED:

Cllr Foolkes will arrange the order.

236/16 GLADMAN:

As previously reported there has been no further update. The Parish Council do need to consider possible funding if the development goes ahead.

237/16 SILSOE COMMUNITY FOOTBALL CLUB:

A Committee has been set up in order to satisfy the requirements of the FA, four members are on the committee and a number of coaches are now part of the club. The football club are currently using the Millennium pitch. There are various set up costs including a welfare course and CRB checks etc. The football club asked the Parish Council if they would be willing to make a donation towards the club as it is to benefit the residents of Silsoe. The club are also looking at holding an open day and to look at potential sponsors. The Chairman and the Councillors were in agreement that the Parish Council would make a donation to the club, an initial payment will be made to the club of £200, a further £300 is available should the club need it.

Resolved:

Once the bank account is set up the payment will be made.

238/16 PLANNING:

Planning application CB/16/03966/FULL was considered by the Parish Council and the Council felt that there should be no objections subject to neighbour considerations.

Planning application CB/16/03862/ADV the Council considered this application and whilst in principal the sign appeared to be in keeping with the village and the size was not a consideration. However the council were very concerned about the illumination of the sign, any illumination would be required to be subtle and it was felt that in this case the lighting may not be appropriate.

RESOLVED:

The Clerk will submit the views to the planning department at CBC.

239/16 FINANCE UPDATE:

Payments to be made:

Grangers £1394.84

Grangers £524.66

Anglia Water £12.88

Anglia Water £61.92

Village Hall fees £433

Stationary and stamps £25.74

Rural Communities Charity £2239.37

Fence installation £755.86

Play safety £285.60

Maudesport £153.58

Down to Earth £248

Clerk hours and expenses £2066.60

BDO have requested further information for the Audit.

Resolved:

Cllr Jarrard will speak to Deryck Irons and arrange for the relevant information to be provided by the deadline of 19th September.

The internal Auditor for next year's audit has suggested an interim audit. The Council agreed and the Clerk will make arrangements for end of January/February.

Cllr Foolkes has offered to have a look at the Village Cage and assess it for repairs.

240/16 CORRESPONDENCE:

- HAGS flyer
- Citizens advice annual report
- Came & Co change of trading style.
- Eon increase to rates from 12.40 per kwh to 14.40 per kwh

241/16 AOB:

The Clerk will look at the risk assessments required by the council.

The Roles and responsibilities draft was amended; the Clerk will distribute it to Councillors.

Cllr Foolkes has looked at the hedges at the Millennium green and allotments and will speak to John Robinson to clarify this. He will obtain quotes for the work and speak to the Millennium Committee about the distribution of costs.

It was suggested that a new waste bin be fitted by the bus stop, Cllr Foolkes will look into this when he makes arrangements for the new bus shelter.

Cllr Owen has emailed around an update on the High Street plans, further information will follow when CBC provide more information.

There has been a complaint about the condition of the path by the old conference centre, Bloor will be carrying out the works, and Cllr Kelly will speak to Bloor concerning a possible closure of the path until the repairs are completed.

The Clerk will contact Grangers about the current contract and when a renewal is required.

242 /16 NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Wednesday 12th October at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.