

SILSOE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in

Silsoe Village Hall on Wednesday 8th March 2017.

Present: Cllr Jarrard in the Chair

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

Apologies: Cllr JMcGrory.

Advanced apologies for the next meeting received from Cllrs Flack, McGrory, Vass and Kevan.

22/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

A resident attended the meeting to discuss the Traffic Consultation and whether it would be possible to extend the 20mph zone onto Ampthill Rd. Nick Shaw from Central Bedfordshire Council had mentioned the use of Rural Match funding to fund the scheme. It will be something the Council discusses for the next round of funding.

The abandoned car should be moved in the near future. The DVLA have now issued an enforcement notice for it.

23/17 MINUTES:

Minutes of 8th February were agreed and signed as correct record of the meeting.

Minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2016 were presented, the relevant changes having been made and were signed as a correct record of the meeting.

The letter to Mr Shrimplin has been sent along with the relevant legal documents and details of the case and Cllr Jarrard is awaiting a response. **Resolved:** Cllr Jarrard will follow this up.

Cllr Jarrard read out a letter he had received from Cllr Owen, it stated that for personal reasons he would be resigning from the Parish Council. Cllr Jarrard and the Clerk have both spoken to Cllr Owen. Cllr Jarrard thanked Cllr Owen for his services to the community and the considerable amount of his time he had given. The Parish Council will miss him and wish him well. **Resolved:** The Clerk will write a formal letter of thanks.

24/17 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:

None.

25/17 REPORT BY CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLOR:

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

- Cllr Owen attended the Traffic Management meeting and all changes to the High St were confirmed and the work should be carried out in this financial year.

- Cllr Graham outlined the Rural Match Funding scheme. The Parish Council pay £2000 to assess the proposed project, if the Parish Council do not like the proposal put forward they lose the £2000, if they decide to go ahead the £2000 is deducted from the final amount and the Parish Council and CBC split the costs 50:50. Advice can be taken prior to submitting the application.
- No change with regards to the A6, the court case is still outstanding. Mr Mike Duffet is dealing with the site and whether it used to be used for agricultural purposes? If any Councillors have any evidence or information concerning this please forward it to Mr Duffet.
- Trees have been cut back in West End Rd, Cllr Graham advised that as the trees are not on the verge it would not be a footways issue, they are in a field so therefore the residents would need to raise their concerns.
- 53 West End Lane, a legitimate application has been submitted to turn the double garage into residential accommodation.
- Culvert is blocked;**Resolved:** Cllr Kelly is looking into it.
- A Gladman application in Potten has been rejected by Central Bedfordshire Council.
- Latest figures for the 5 year plan are: 9337 houses required, 9107 confirmed so far leaving a current shortfall of 231.
- Cllr Graham has requested that the Head of Public transport issue a statement to confirm the bus situation to concerned residents. It looks as though from 1st April CBC will probably stop funding to commercial routes after 6.30pm and after 3pm on a Saturday; this is yet to be confirmed.
- There will be a formal opening of the School in May.
- No further update on The George, Cllr Graham will confirm the date it is due to be heard. Windows have been broken and may be a potential risk in terms of fire and vandalism, **Resolved:** Cllr Flack will speak to the planning dept.

26/17 PLAY AREAS AND BOTTLE BANK:

Cllr Mann reported the overflowing bottle bank and it has once again been cleared and tidied.

Resolved: The Clerk will report this. The black bin is always full, it was questioned whether a larger bin would be more appropriate? And if the area should be fenced off?

Faulty street lights have been reported by the Clerk, the one outside the school is without a lantern and the Giveway sign is still not illuminated, **Resolved:** the Clerk will follow this up.

The goal net has been burnt off and it was decided not to replace it. Cllr Vass will be looking at new goals for the football club, the Parish Council agreed to assist with the purchase of these. **Resolved:** Cllr Vass will come back to the Council with a proposition and costs.

Play areas have all been checked.

Cllr Mann has some brochures for wheelchair friendly play equipment, Cllr Kelly provided information on the wheelchair swings and advised against their purchase as supervision is required at all times.

27/17 PLANNING:

CB/TCA/17/00052 AND CB/TCA/17/00040

Tree works. Cllr Foolkes will look into these.

Both the following applications are for a property, 57A Newbury Lane.

CB/17/00502/FULL- CONSERVATORY

CB/16/05487 – GARAGE CONVERSION

The Parish Council discussed the applications and have no objections to the conservatory but would like to raise the following issues with the garage conversion:

- The plans state that there will be no change in parking; however by removing the garage being used as a garage, there will be a change in parking.
- The plans do not state how many bedrooms the property has to look at the ratio of parking spaces available.
- Parking can already be an issue in this area.

Resolved: Clerk will submit these comments to the planning department.

28/7 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:

The Neighbourhood plan sub-committee are meeting with the Greensand Ridge Trust next week. They are also looking at gaining assistance with compiling the plan and are awaiting a quote.

There was lots of positive feedback from the pancake race, lots of people expressing an interest and people who would like to volunteer. The sub-committee also plan to go along to the SOS and WI with information on the plan. It is also intended for the group to attend the Silsoe Stride to raise further awareness.

29/17 FINANCE:

S106 funding applications have been submitted to CBC.

Cllr Kevan and the Clerk are looking into the vat claim; more invoices are still required from Deryck. Cllr Jarrard will follow this up again.

Cllr Kevan has received a finance update from the Silsoe News, their income and grants have increased. They have agreed to now have a minimum bank balance of £2000 rather than £1500; this is just raising the bar slightly and will not impact on the Parish Council or PCC until the bank balances drop to this level. Their current balance is £3600.

Cllr Kevan thanked Mrs Jarrard for collecting all the allotments rents.

Cheques yet to be cleared: village Hall and and O'Dell. Mr O'Dell has lost the cheque, the Clerk has cancelled the cheque with the bank and Mr O'Dell has agreed to cover this cost, a new cheque will be issued this evening in replacement.

Works start to the trees and bushes on Monday.

Cllr Kevan and the Clerk will set up an appointment with the Internal Auditor.

Payments:

Anglian Water £11.97

CPM Playgrounds £9535.80

Glasdon. Uk. £1250.50

Eon £24.35, £16.62

MJT Electrical £288

R O'Dell £1787.50

T Medley £464.19

J.Robinson £1167.06

Bank Balances: Community Account £33,420.06 Business Account £130,455.67

30/17 CONSULTATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

Rural England membership information. **Resolved:** The Councillors agreed that Cllr Flack will hold this information.

BLMK advertising open days for the public to attend.

EON, notification of increase in rates.

Catalogue of signs, Cllr Kelly will hold this.

31/17 AOB:

- Hedge cutting to start Monday, Cllr Mann will arrange for Cllr Foolkes to have the key to the green.
- Cllr Foolkes has emailed waste disposal for costs of the new bin.
- Emergency planning is ongoing, Cllr Foolkes has got a template and some ideas so will draw up a draft plan.
- Cllr Flack asked whether the PC would consider looking into Christmas lights this year? Cllr Flack and the Clerk will look at costs.
- Telecommunications tower application was denied.
- The sign at the sports centre needs repairing; the 'I' is in the office.
- The APM is 27th April, as quite a few can't make 12th April meeting, should it be re-arranged? **Resolved:** Cllr Jarrard will email everyone.
- Kiren Raj is holding a wedding at Wrest Park in August 2018 and asked the Parish Council if photographs would be permitted in the village?, the Parish Council has no objections. **Resolved:** Cllr Jarrard will confirm with them.

- Police report, 1 burglary.
- There has been a Highways England Update on M1 and A1.
- Woodland area and cricket pitch, Cllr Kelly has a contract for maintenance work for whole of the Bloor development. He met with the drainage officer from Central Bedfordshire Council and has requested full civil engineering reports for drainage in the area. Cllr Jarrard will contact Chris Pattison for further advice. The deep of water is an issue; it is meant to be 1m but is actually closer to 4m, cllr Kelly is looking into this.
- The Minutes of the Play ground meeting at CBC did not include the discussions of flooding, cllr Kelly will contact them to have the minutes changed.

32/17 NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Wednesday 12th April 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.