

SILSOE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in

Silsoe Village Hall on Wednesday 13th July 2016.

Present: Cllr I Kelly- in the chair.

Cllrs. P Kevan, L Mann, E Owen, J McGrory, J Foolkes.

Apologies: Cllr Jarrard, Cllr Flack, Cllr Vass, Cllr Webb and Central Bedfordshire Councillor Alison Graham.

219/16 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None.

220/16 MINUTES:

Minutes of the meeting held on 8th June 2016 and the interim meeting on the 20th June 2016 were signed as a correct record of the meeting.

221/16 DECLARATION OF INTEREST, REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION, DECLARING AN INTEREST WITH REGARDS TO THE GEORGE.

Councillors Mann, McGrory ,Foolkes and Kevan raised the issue of declaring shares in The George. The Clerk was able to confirm that shares in excess of £25,000 are required to be declared in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

222/16 REPORT BY CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLOR:

In her absence Cllr Graham sent a report for the Parish Council meeting.

1. The A6/Gravenhurst Rd enforcement: The squatters did not move off the site by 23rd June 2016 and therefore solicitors may take County Court proceedings. CBC may prosecute for non compliance with a S205 notice to clear the site. All work carried out by the squatters is at their own risk.
2. Verges: Cllr Wells has stated that a complete cut, giving priority to visibility splays needs to be carried out by mid July. Please inform Cllr Wells if there are still any uncut dangerous areas after this.
3. There has been a recent spate of 'unlawful incursions' by Gypsies and Travellers. CBC has created a post of enforcement co-ordinator to deal with this and is looking to provide a temporary site.
4. A police display to CBC has indicated that there will be a new structure with a split between north and south. Although crime in Bedfordshire has decreased it has increased in Central Bedfordshire. The Head of Community Policing is C.I Nick Lyall. The teams will include PCs and PCSOs and there will be a local liaison officer for outlying areas.
5. The Ampthill waste tip opens on 18th July 2016.

6. Residents have complained again about the bottle bank, they have been referred to the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: Cllr McGrory will discuss possible options with Cllr Graham.

7. Nick Shaw is circulating plans for yellow lines around the school. Cllr Graham will be looking into CBC's school parking policy.

Cllr Owen had a meeting with Nick Shaw to discuss the yellow lines outside the school. He was led to believe that the school may not be open on time?

223/16 PLAYGROUND INSPECTION:

The Play areas are due to be inspected.

RESOLVED: It was agreed that the Clerk will arrange ROSPA playground inspections and risk assessments for all 3 play areas. Cllr Kelly will forward the address and postcodes of the play areas to the Clerk.

Glass has been reported on the Fire Engine play frame.

RESOLVED: Cllr Mann will look to ensure it has been cleared and is safe.

224/16 MANDER FARM ROAD SIGN:

A resident approached the Clerk with a request to have a sign fitted at the Obelisk end of Mander Farm Rd; the residents have been requesting it for several years.

RESOLVED: Cllr Kelly will forward the Clerk the contact details for Bloor Homes for her to follow this up. Also the Clerk will discuss the finishing of West End Rd with Bloor, signs are leaning against the wall and the resurfacing has not been completed.

225/16 CLEANING OF ROAD SIGNS:

A resident has reported to the Clerk that the road signs within Silsoe require cleaning.

RESOLVED: Cllr Kelly will look into having someone clean the signs.

226/16 CONTRACT FOR STREET LIGHTING:

The Clerk has spoken with Andy Muskett who has forwarded her the previous year's worth of invoices that have not been paid and he has agreed to renew the contract with Silsoe.

RESOLVED: The Councillors all agreed to enter into a three year contract with Andy Muskett.

227/16 POSTERS ON VILLAGE HALL:

Concerns have been raised over posters being fitted to the Village Hall, which include drilling into the wall.

RESOLVED: Cllr Mann will speak to the Village Hall Committee to ensure this does not happen.

228/16 JAMES ELLIS MEMORIAL BENCH:

Sadly a young resident of Silsoe, James Ellis has recently passed away. James worked at ATG as an apprentice, his family, other apprentices and ATG are all keen to have a memorial bench within the Village in memory of him. The land on The Rowans where they would like the bench to be placed is land owned by Wrest Park, they are happy to have the bench placed on their land and will now have the relevant utility checks and will take the responsibility of the bench. The Parish Council are in support of this.

229/16 PHOTOGRAPHS FOR WEBSITE:

Cllr Flack has now uploaded photographs onto the webpage, if you would rather have an alternative photograph displayed please forward it to her.

230/16 TEMPORARY ELECTRICAL SUPPLY CONTRACT:

Cllr Kelly has been negotiating EON the costs for electricity being supplied from the Community Sports centre to the site office; the electricity is measured separately so it is just a matter of calculating the costs. An invoice has also been received from British Gas; Cllr Kelly will look into the invoice and will notify British gas that future correspondence should go through the Clerk.

231/16 BOTTLE BANKS:

Discussed earlier.

232/16 NEW BENCH/NOTICEBOARD:

It was agreed by Councillors that a vandal proof bench outside The George would be the best choice (measuring 1800), fitted on a concrete slab. The notice board will be fitted on the newer part of the Village by the roundabout and should be a 2 panel notice board.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will speak to Silsoe SOS to confirm the donation amount and will then go ahead and order the notice board and if budget allows the bench as well.

233/16 PLANNING:

CB/03539/F APPLETREE CLOSE:

All Councillors agreed in principal with the proposal however several issues were raised.

- Moving the WC upstairs from its current position downstairs may make the property less desirable for future sale, especially to older people.
- Very little storage space.
- Lack of fire separation between the first floor and ground floor.
- Inadequate access for wheelie bins.

CB/16/02577/FULL 1A WEST END LANE:

No objections, although concerns over the lack of access from the drive to the rear garden for bins etc.

Councillor Kelly felt that as a Council we should perhaps look at the responses to planning permission and perhaps have standard responses drawn up.

234/16 FINANCE INCLUDING AUDIT:

At the last meeting it was agreed that the finances as prepared by Mr Irons were ready for Internal Audit. Cllr Jarred and Cllr Kevan have both seen the prepared draft documents and are happy with the governance statement and that all appropriate controls are in place.

RESOLVED: All Councillors are happy for the Audit documents to go to the Internal Auditor prior to being submitted to BDO, Mr Irons (the previous Clerk) and Cllr Jarrard (chair) will sign the documents.

There are a number of payments still outstanding on the account and S106 money and VAT needs to be claimed.

RESOLVED: Cllr Jarrard is looking into claiming back S106 money and obtaining invoices from the previous Clerk to enable a VAT return to be completed.

PAYMENTS BEING MADE THIS MONTH:

AIRSPACE SOLUTIONS £3,600.00

EON £3,255.56

GRANGERS £625.46 and £211.12

ANGLIAN WATER £39.77 and £27.61

CBC £44.30 (Hire of the Horticultural Centre)

A.MUSKETT £535.68

H.FLACK £127.92 (Printing costs for Gladman)

DR. PRICE £220.00

I.KELLY £93.90 (Community sports centre expenses)

All payments agreed by all Councillors.

235/16 CORRESPONDENCE:

CBC update booklet.

Clerk and Council Direct

Hag's flyer.

Gladson Catalogue.

Susan Childerhouse has put forward a transport proposal which will have a detrimental effect on the flittabus service.

RESOLVED: The Clerk has communicated with the chairman and will respond on behalf of the Parish Council.

A resident has raised concerns over a large hole that has appeared on the new development.

RESOLVED: Cllr Owen will forward it to Cllr Vass to query.

236/16 AOB:

Cllr Owen had a meeting with Nick Shaw to discuss yellow lines as part of the new high street plans, whether we would like double or single lines?, single lines was the agreement. Primrose yellow, which is a heritage yellow, was agreed.

There are various works that need to be carried out to trees and bushes in the village. Cllr Foolkes will walk around and make a list and then obtain 3 quotes for the works to be carried out. If properties require work Cllr Foolkes will list them and the Clerk will write to the residents requesting they carry out the work listed or agree to cover the costs. This will all form part of the school travel plan.

Cllr Kelly will meet with Came and Co to discuss the Community Sports centre insurance which will be ready for renewal in October 2016. The meeting will be on Friday 15th July at 10.30 am.

172/16 NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Wednesday 14th September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.