

**Minutes of the Meeting of Hanslope Parish Council, held on 14th March
2022 at 7pm
at the Community Hall, Recreation Ground, Hanslope.**

Present:

Parish Councillors: -

M Palmer (Chairman)

R Simpkins

E Price

D Courtman

J Cass

J Gregory

C Wardle (Ward Cllr, MKC)

Clerk: G Merry

6 Members of Public

22.020 Apologies for Absence: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Andrew, Proctor and Duffield.

22.021 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14th February 2022:

The minutes had previously been circulated and were PROPOSED by Cllr Simpkins SECONDED by Cllr Courtman and AGREED.

22.022 Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Gregory declared an interest in any football club related items.

22.023 Public Participation

- i. A member of the football club expressed disappointment that the football charges were to remain and requested clarity on how these had been reached and an explanation as to why the Hornets charges were disproportionately lower than the adult team. Cllr Palmer explained that the request for lower charges had been considered at the last meeting and it had been agreed to keep the original approved levels. Once resolved, an item may not be brought back to an agenda until 6 months has elapsed. However, a councillor can request a matter to be put back on the agenda and standing orders would need to be set aside re. the 6-month rule. The clerk offered to find the original process used to reach the figures.
- ii. A group introduced themselves as a Community Orchard group and circulated a document detailing the social, emotional, physical and mental health benefits of this. A member of the group read from the document. Cllr Palmer advised the matter would be discussed later and invited the group to stay.

22.024 Council

- i. **Clerk's Report:** February closed with income at £372,811 and expenditure at £398,736. Both are over budget due to the almost £200K in S106 payments out and in. The large VAT refund of £31,672 had been received, so the projected outcome for the year will be approx. as given at the last meeting – in the region of around £45-£50,000. There is a need to be mindful that this will add to general reserves. Looking at insurance values, the clerk advised erring on the side of comprehensive cover, to reduce risk, as activities have increased e.g. use of the buildings, rec ground etc. Year-end close down takes place on April 11th - the same date as the next PC meeting. There are 2 statutory meetings that must be held annually. One is in April and is the Annual Parish Meeting (formerly known as the Open Meeting). It will be publicised as a meeting that members of the public can attend, to raise any issues, but the council should also give reports to highlight what had been achieved for the year. The one in May is the Annual Meeting of the Parish

- Council and amongst other things, will elect the chair and vice chair for the year and re-ratify all policies etc.
- ii. **Litter Picker:** The clerk apologised and stated that a 'Motion to Exclude the Public' should have been called for this item, as it concerns a staffing matter. Cllr Palmer called for a vote, and it was AGREED to take the item at the end of the meeting and exclude the public (Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960)
 - iii. **Traffic, Speeding, Highways and Road Closures:** Cllr Courtman reported the SID results: Forest Road coming into the village: 8310 cars were above the limit with the top recorded speed of 70mph. 177 were above 60mph. Park Road going out of the village: the maximum speed recorded was 62mph in a 30 limit with 62.5% of vehicles above the limit. Park Road into the village: maximum recorded speed of 75mph in a 30 limit (by the village pond). Cllr Palmer stated the council's disappointment that the speed humps for Long Street and the now 3-year delayed zebra crossing, appeared to be delayed again. He asked Cllr Wardle to find out about this from Highways, before the Annual Meeting in April, if possible. Cllr Cass followed up from the last meeting re. horses/riders that are now regularly being passed too close and too fast. TVP had agreed that members of the Mounted Branch would spend a day in the village, monitoring how motorists passed riders and pulling over any offenders to talk to them about the new Highway Code rules. This would take place in May and was supported by all members. Cllr Wardle had spoken to the MKC Head of Highways re. the continued road closures in Hanslope. However, there was nothing that could be done. Gigaclear had permits from MKC which allowed them to install the cabling without any need to consult with the PC.
 - iv. **White Gates:** MKC Highways officers had agreed to these in principle and required answers to various queries. It was agreed that a working party of Cllrs Palmer, Simpkins and Proctor would obtain the answers and feedback via the clerk.
 - v. **Crime Figures:** PCSO Huckle had sent in the crime figures and Cllr Palmer read from this. It was agreed these would be published on the noticeboard and website. He is holding an open Q&A session at the Rec. Ground on Saturday 26th March from 10-11am and members of the public are invited to attend and ask questions. (After note: now postponed until 15/4/22 at 17.15)
 - vi. **Training and reports from outside courses etc:** Cllr Price had attended a MKC session on Assessing Land Availability. MK are conducting borough-wide suitability of land assessments, and this will be very relevant to the planned revision of the Hanslope Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Price agreed to circulate the information.

22.025 Planning:

- i. **Update on planning applications** – Cllr Cass updated from the working group as follows:
 - 22/00510/FUL - 7 Keswick Road, MK19 7NX- Single storey rear/side extension. NO OBJECTION was discussed and agreed. However, the clerk would send the standard letter for smaller applications, requesting a condition that footways ,must not be blocked with building materials or vehicles.
 - 22/00340/FUL - Leamington Farm Bullington End, MK19 7ET - Change of Use from agricultural to dog training area with associated planting (fir trees). NO OBJECTION was discussed and agreed.
 - 20/03339/FUL – 'The Globe' appeal. The appeal is with the inspector and the PC's objection letter has been published, with one other. The deadline for written representations is 15/3/22 and decision will be approx. 8 weeks later.

MOTION: To agree the parish council's response to any new applications as above – PROPOSED by Cllr Cass SECONDED by Cllr Courtman and AGREED
- ii. **Enforcement:** No updates
- iii. **Revision of Neighbourhood Plan:** The working party had not yet been able to meet. However, Cllrs Cass and Price had begun working on what revisions/modifications may

be needed. Walton PC had recently published their revised plan, and this had some useful approaches which may be applied.

22.026 Finance:

- i. **Reconciliations and financial situation report to 28/02/22:** Receipts/payments as stated at 22.024 i. The clerk circulated the accounts and stated these were misleading at this point in the financial year, due to S106 payments out and in. Cllr Price had carried out the reconciliations of invoices to payments, and account balance reconciliations for February. Internal controls had been completed for the month.
- ii. **Insurance Renewal and Asset Register:** The clerk had circulated an updated Asset Register, adding in new purchases for the year and the figures were agreed. She advised obtaining comprehensive cover to lessen liability now that there are increased activities. This was agreed and the clerk agreed to obtain renewal quotes.
- iii. **Approval of Payments:** The list as follows had been circulated and there were no questions:

Date	Invoice from	For	Net	Vat	Total
07/02/2022	Mole Valley Ltd	Allotment fencing material and stakes	£ 575.42	£ 115.08	£ 690.50
28/02/2022	RTM Landscaping	Feb Landscaping	£ 979.17	£ 195.83	£ 1,175.00
01/03/2022	Anne Washington	Feb Litter picking etc			£ 450.00
01/03/2022	Marcus Young Environmental	Feb bins and dog bins	£ 472.00	£ 94.40	£ 566.40
02/03/2022	SWCAA	Allotments memberships - annual x 82			£ 287.00
08/01/2022	G Merry	Expenses reimbursement			£ 40.71
08/02/2022	Tove Landscapes (Lotte)	Feb Rec Ground Maintenance	£ 788.33	£ 157.67	£ 946.00
04/03/2022	Sign Wizzard	2 x MUGA signs	£ 96.36	£ 19.27	£ 115.63
10/03/2022	Tanstech	IT Support and subscription 2019 - 2022 (34 months)	£ 340.00	£ 68.00	£ 408.00
11/03/2022	Propertycare Bucks	Hall boiler service and replace guttering at pavilion	£ 90.00	£ 18.00	£ 108.00
12/02/2022	All Round Property Maintenance	Installation of boot scrapers (Rec) and balance on allotments	Expected		
PAID					
Feb	Locked and Secure Ltd	Balance on MUGA CCTV	£ 987.00	£ 197.40	£ 1,184.40
10/02/2022	Zoom	Monthly subs	£ 12.64	£ 1.75	£ 14.39
20/02/2022	Adobe	Monthly subs	£ 12.64	£ 2.63	£ 15.27
27/02/2021	G Merry	Feb Salary	£ 1,230.26	£ -	£ 1,230.26
27/02/2021	HMRC	Feb Tax and NI	£ 216.00	£ -	£ 216.00
27/02/2021	Bucks CC	LGPS - Feb pension contribution	£ 405.76	£ -	£ 405.76
02/03/2022	British Gas	Pavilion Gas - Jan-Feb	£ 338.20	£ 16.90	£ 355.10
11/03/2022	British Gas	Pavilion Elec - Feb	£ 32.24	£ 1.61	£ 33.85
11/03/2022	British Gas	Pavilion Elec - Feb	£ 36.27	£ 1.81	£ 38.08
03/03/2022	Tara Davies	Pavilion & Hall cleaning February			£ 165.00
13/03/2022	Microsoft	Annual subscription & licenses	£ 540.00	£ 108.00	£ 648.00
22/03/2022	EON - pending DD	Hall - Gas	£ 150.82	£ 7.54	£ 158.36
22/03/2022	EON - pending DD	Hall - Elec	£ 37.09	£ 1.85	£ 38.94

MOTION: To approve the invoices as presented, PROPOSED by Cllr Price SECONDED by Cllr Cass and AGREED.

22.027 Recreation Ground

- i. **Outdoor Gym Update:** Tenders had started to come in and the closing date was 22/3/22. A team of Cllrs Palmer, Gregory and Andrew would evaluate these on 30/3/22, prior to making a recommendation.
- ii. **CCTV Uninterrupted Power Supply:** Cllr Palmer reported that the power supply to the cameras had been disrupted during the February storms and this had resulted in an incident not being recorded. The clerk had obtained advice and quotes for the installation of uninterrupted power supply (UPS) equipment. However, this would only give 4 or 8 hours of supply and due to the Pavilion not always being occupied, this would not be enough to solve the problem. It was agreed to pursue installation of Broadband to both buildings, so that email alerts could be received if the power went down.
- iii. **MK Play Association Summer Events:** The clerk explained that in addition to the £3,200 agreed at the last meeting in support of 7 events, the 2 events for older children also required extra staffing costs of £227.08 each. This brought the total to £3,654.15 just over the £3,500 budget. It was discussed and agreed to fund the events to the full amount

MOTION: To agree the additional expenditure for the summer play session @ £454.16 PROPOSED by Cllr Gregory SECONDED by Cllr Cass and AGREED.

22.028 Village Projects:

- i. **Fingerpost** – The blacksmith will have the finger post ready to bring back in the coming week and is currently painting it.
- ii. **Village Pond:** Cllr Simpkins was developing ideas to improve the banks but was waiting for a guide price and should be able to report on this at the April meeting.
- iii. **Williams Close Hedge:** The contractor had advised that behind the houses where regular clearance had taken place, there was no current need for further clearance. However, where residents had refused the service, there was significant overgrowth in need of clearance. The contractor was now able to access this without going through resident's gardens and the clerk and Cllr Cass had agreed he should do this as a matter of urgency, due to the nesting season starting. A resident of Mackay Close had enquired re. the growth behind their property and had offered to do some clearance themselves. However, this was not agreed at this stage.
- iv. **Jubilee Event:** The clerk advised that for the Street Party event on 5/6/22, MKC Safety Advisory Group (SAG) required certain documents to be in place: A Risk Assessment, Public Liability cover from the event organisers, traffic management plans, licenses for road closure, music and alcohol/food. Concern was expressed that as the PC was underwriting the event, it could be seen as liable if anything happened. It was agreed the PC would document that it is not liable and will request the required documents from the organising group. Cllr Gregory offered to send the clerk a template non-liability document.
- v. **Footpath Maintenance:** Cllr Courtman had met the clerk of works from MKC re. drain issues but unfortunately there was no funding for drain clearance. He had requested Hayfield Homes to carry out gully clearance on Castlethorpe Road. The clerk requested clarity on the hedge trimming needed at Higham Cross Road/Long Street and it was agreed this was more of an ad hoc job that could be given to the local contractor. A request had been received from a resident to plant flowers on a small section of verge on Castlethorpe Road, adjacent to Cuckoo Hill Rise. This would entail the contractors putting this section on the same reduced mowing schedule as Newport Road, and this was agreed.

- vi. **Community Orchard:** It was discussed and agreed that the council is generally supportive of this idea but there is no clear location at the moment. There were potentially some areas off the Bloor estate, but these would not be transferred to the PC for a couple of years. The land adjacent to Lincoln Court does not belong to the PC and it was suggested the group could approach Mk council about this. Cllr Wardle offered to find out who to approach.
- vii. **Skatepark:** There was no update at present, and it was agreed the working party would aim to present a report at the May PC meeting.
- viii. **Defibrillator:** Cllr Courtman reported that the owners of the Mission Hall on Long Street had agreed to the new defibrillator being installed on its outer wall. The clerk reported that the cost of the same make & model as the one at the Rec. ground would be £725 plus installation and this was discussed and agreed.
- ix. **Great British Spring Clean:** The clerk asked whether the council wished to run this event again this year and it was agreed to hold it in June. Preferably the week after the Jubilee celebrations.

22.029 S106 Projects

- i. **Car Park Surfacing:** The chosen surfacing contractor had requoted as expected, at £13,343 for the Rec. ground car park. Although this was approved in principle, it was reported that there were issues with drainage from the Doctor's Surgery car park, installed by the same contractor. They had been asked to address this and as yet, there had been no response. Until the outcome of this is known, the Rec ground surfacing would not be approved.
- ii. **MUGA:** Cllr Palmer and the clerk had inspected the surface following reports of slight depressions. It was agreed that the clerk would ask Play Innovation to meet with the committee on site, to discuss this matter ASAP. Until this is resolved, the MUGA cannot be opened to the public. The clerk asked whether the seeding and top soiling could take place yet where the trackway had been, and also around the MUGA. It was agreed the ground was now sufficiently dried out and this could go ahead. The final section of drainage work for the football pitch was discussed and it was agreed this should, be done at the end of April, when the football season ends.
- iii. **Doctor's Surgery:** Details of the equipment and renovations needed have gone to the architect for costing and the outcome is awaited.

22.024 ii. (Item taken at the end of the meeting without public in attendance): The clerk reported the new litter picker is working out well and had circulated a report recommending the caretaker's job is offered to her from April, if she would be interested. The list of tasks was discussed, and it was agreed that any heavy fixing jobs could be saved up and given to a local contractor separately, to do once a month. It was agreed the clerk would discuss the expanded role with the litter picker.

20.030 Date of Next Meeting: Monday April 11th 2022, at 7pm.

The Annual Parish Meeting (Open Meeting) will also be on April 11th at 8pm.

Signed Date 11 April 2022.