

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Hanslope Parish Council held on Monday 8th March 2021 at 7.00pm - remotely.

(in accordance with the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020).

Present:

Parish Councillors: -

M Palmer (Chair)

J Cass

R Simpkins

D Courtman

S Proctor

E Price

A Geary (Ward Cllr – MKC)

Clerk: G Merry

J Richardson – Local PCSO

2 Members of the Public

21.029 Apologies

Cllrs Hogg and Gregory were absent

21.030 To Approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on 8th and 15th February 2021:

Both sets of minutes had been circulated and were PROPOSED by Cllr Simpkins, SECONDED by Cllr Courtman, AGREED and SIGNED.

21.031 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

21.032 Public Time:

A member of the public proposed holding a celebratory event on the Recreation Ground once all lockdown restrictions are lifted. This would take the form of a family picnic and disco. The potential arrangements were discussed, and it was advised the council would make a formal decision at its next meeting.

21.033 Council:

- i. **Clerk's Report:** The month had been characterised by waiting for information from organisations and this had held things up. The imminent return to activities hosted in parish council venues would mean careful management. However, the guttering and roof work was complete on both buildings and the bench for the Dr's surgery ordered, as well as submission of planning applications for the MUGA and the allotment project. The financial situation is healthy with income at £156,019 (116%) and expenditure at £117,025 (91%). The year should finish with a small surplus to add to reserves. The timeframe for the Annual Return and external audit, is likely to revert to pre-Covid timeframe of 30th June for the submission of AGAR and 30th September for the accounts to be published.
- ii. **6 Month Rule and Casual Vacancy:** It was discussed and agreed that the reason of exceptional circumstances could no longer be extended for councillor's non-attendance and the 6-month rule had been invoked. This resulted in the need for a vacancy to be advertised and the clerk agreed to make the arrangements. Outgoing councillors would be thanked for all their work on this council.
- iii. **Format for April Meeting and Minimising Non-Applicable Discussions:** The Annual Parish Meeting would be held on April 12th at 6.30pm. The clerk felt that last time, there had been a disproportionate number of reports on matters the PC has no power to address. She had published on the website, a guide to which authority deals with

which issue, with useful contact details, in attempt to minimise these types of enquiry. This was discussed; however, it was felt that to over-emphasise this might put people off from contacting the PC altogether and a friendly approach should be retained. PCSO Richardson was invited to attend the APM.

iv. **COVID 19** – Steps out of lockdown: Following the Government’s recent announcements, the clerk had circulated the guidance for the steps out of lockdown and advised of the need to consider the implications for the venues and activities hosted by the PC. Additionally, the legislation brought in a year ago to allow for remote meetings would come to an end in May and the May meeting would need to be face-to-face, with social distancing and other measures in place.
(Cllr Geary arrived at 19.34)

v. **Highways and Traffic Updates:** Cllr Cass had heard from Hanslope Park, that they have reduced the size of the buses bringing employees from Milton Keynes. This was now a 16-seat minibus which had reduced collision risk on the small village roads. Cllr Cass also expressed concern at the amount of litter between Hanslope and Castlethorpe. Measures to address this were discussed, however, there were risks involved with volunteers on a public highway with no pavements. Cllr Proctor reminded all, of the Keep Britain Tidy’s National Spring Clean initiative, which may provide signage, PPE etc and offered to send the clerk some details. Cllr Courtman reported speeding is once again increasing and a 5th SID pole had now been lost. PCSO Richardson added that the mobile speed camera had been on hold due to lockdown but would be in use again soon. It had produced data showing that much of the speeding came from those living in or near the village. The proposed zebra crossing installation was discussed and MK Highways had offered S106 money. It was discussed and agreed to accept this allocation of the sum. There would be a meeting with MK Council on 17/3/2021 to discuss the new Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) in the borough and Cllr Simpkins offered to attend.

vi. **Flooding:** Cllrs Palmer, Courtman and Geary had viewed the issues particularly at Tathall End and had formulated ideas to propose to Mk Council’s officers. Cllr Geary advised putting this to MK Council’s Client Service Manager in the first instance and awaiting his response. Cllr Courtman advised the need for the PC to potentially pay for ditch/ gully clearance and that money may need to be found from PC reserves.

vii. **School Land Transfer:** Cllr Proctor had suggested proposing as follows to MKC, via the PC’s solicitor:

- Acceptance of the right to construct the new All-Weather pitch(es) on the school land
- Reserving the right to request MKC removes the pitches at the end of any lease and return the and to its original state
- That the PC should not agree to the granting of licences, commercial hires, underletting etc without landlord’s consent. However, the PC should allow short-term licenses/lettings.
- The PC should agree to grant a license to MKC to allow construction of the car park, if it is transferred to the PC prior to completion of the works to the expansion land.
- The PC to agree to a tenant-only rolling break, allowing MKC to determine and return the site to PC, and as such would require compliance with the terms of the lease.

These proposals were agreed.

- viii. **Reports from Outside Bodies:** Cllrs Cass and Price had attended a webinar on the new Planning Reforms, hosted by the Town and Country Planning Association. This had generated some concerns and Cllr Cass offered to circulate the information by email.

21.034 Planning:

- i. **Update:** Cllr Cass reported on the following applications:
- 20/02959/OUT - 65 Newport Road, MK19 7ND - 9 new dwellings plus access rd. and associated works. Decision now due on 12/3/21.
 - 20/03300/FUL - 9 Long Street, Mk19 7BL - Removal conservatory & store - replace with single-storey extension. Had been permitted.
 - 20/03339/FUL - The Globe, Hartwell Road (re-submission of 20/01282/FUL) - Entry-level housing exception scheme - 30 dwellings. Decision due on 23/3/21.
 - 21/00105/FUL - 14 Mauduit Road, MK19 7NJ - 2 story side and single storey front extension. Approved on 5/3/21.
 - 21/00243/ADV Cuckoo Hill Farm (land south of Cuckoo Hill Bungalow) - Advertising – various – decision due 23/3/21.
 - 21/00262/FUL - Eventing Centre, Malt Mill Farm, Castlethorpe Rd (re-sub 20/01693/FUL) - Outdoor menage, replacement clubhouse, access track. Decision due 26/3/21.
 - 21/00455/FUL - Cuckoo Hill Farm, MK19 7HQ - 2 new commercial buildings – Cllr Cass expressed concern these are now class E and as such, have been affected by the new planning reforms, meaning potentially permitted development rights would be granted once built. However, the Hanslope NP states employment in the village will be supported, so the PC’s response needed to be weighed-up. Cllr Proctor stated the applicant would not be able to change to residential without submitting a planning application. It was stated the PC may not have grounds to object to the application. However, it was agreed that an outline of the proposal should be forwarded to council members and a draft response agreed by email for submission.
 - 21/00461/FUL - Hanslope Allotments, Newport Road MK19 7ND - as the PC’s own application, this would be supported.
 - 21/00612/FUL - 1 Hartwell Road, Mk19 7BY - Single storey rear and side ext. replace garage with 1st floor annex study. No objection agreed.
 - 21/00435/NMA - 63 Hartwell Road, MK19 7BY - NMA to 19/00446/FUL - Reposition dwelling, increase in length by 300mm on the south east wing, alterations to the window designs, lowering of the roof and removal of the chimney. The NMA has been refused, meaning the applicant will now need to submit an application.
- ii. **Enforcement:** No items.

21.035: Finance:

- i. **Reconciliations and Financial Situation Report:** Reconciliation checks had been carried out by Cllr Price. The clerk circulated accounts to February 28th 2021, with payments and receipts reported as per 21.033 i. There were no questions.
- ii. **Year-end Projection:** The clerk had circulated a year-end projection showing a small projected underspend on budget which, when added to the income-over-budget, amounted to a surplus of around £ £24,295.95. This would be added to reserves and the clerk advised continuing to earmark reserves for identified projects. She had circulated a suggested update for EMR’s and this was agreed.
- iii. **Approval of Payments:** The clerk had circulated the list of payments to be agreed for Feb/Mar (below) and these were reviewed.

Date	Invoice from	For	Net	Vat	Total
15/02/2021	EON	Elec - Scout Hall	£ 64.24	£ 3.21	£ 67.45

23/02/2021	All Round Property Maintenance	Williams Close Hedges	£ 1,050.00		£ 1,050.00
31/02/2020	RTM Landscapes Ltd	Landscaping - Feb	£ 979.17	£ 195.83	£ 1,175.00
31/02/2020	John Sharpe	Feb Caretaking	£ 295.00		£ 295.00
01/03/2021	Marcus Young Environmental Services	Bins and dog Bins - Feb	£ 607.00	£ 121.40	£ 728.40
05/03/2021	Tove Landscapes (Lotte)	Feb Rec Ground Maintenance	£ 788.33	£ 157.67	£ 946.00
04/03/2021	Simon Bates	Facsias & Soffits, guttering - Scout Hall	£ 1,840.00	£ -	£ 1,840.00
04/03/2021	Simon Bates	Roof Repairs to corners - Pavilion and Scout Hall	£ 720.00		£ 720.00
04/03/2021	Simon Bates	Gutter repair and replacement - Pavilion	£ 510.00		£ 510.00
08/03/2021	G Merry	Expense's reimbursement			£ 117.32
PAID					
12/02/2021	Almars	Printing of Planning Documents	£ 56.86	£ -	£ 56.86
12/02/2021	Portal Plan Quest	Submission Planning Application - Allotment Project	£ 254.83	£ 4.17	£ 259.00
12/02/2021	Town & Country Planning Association	Training Webinar x 2	£ 90.00	£ 18.00	£ 108.00
18/02/2021	Portal Plan Quest	Submission Planning Application - MUGA Project	£ 254.83	£ 4.17	£ 259.00
22/02/2021	Glasdon Ltd	Bench	£ 539.02	£ 107.80	£ 646.82
24/02/2021	EON	Scout Hall - Gas	£ 115.36	£ 5.77	£ 121.13
24/02/2021	G Merry	Feb Salary	████████	████████	████████
24/02/2021	HMRC	Feb Tax and NI	████████	████████	████████
24/02/2021	Bucks CC	LGPS - Feb pension contribution	████████	████████	████████
24/02/2021	British Gas	Pavilion Electricity AC 1 Jan-Feb	£ 1.89	£ 0.10	£ 1.99
25/02/2021	Ink Jungle	Printer Ink	£ 41.62	£ 8.33	£ 49.95
01/03/2021	British Gas	Pavilion Electricity AC 2 Jan-Feb	£ 34.61	£ 1.82	£ 36.43
01/03/2021	British Gas	Pavilion Gas Jan-Feb	£ 25.82	£ 1.36	£ 27.18
03/03/2021	IDNet	License admin (.gov)	£ 30.00	£ 6.00	£ 36.00

MOTION: to agree the payments for Jan/Feb as above, PROPOSED by Cllr Price SECONDED by Cllr Courtman and AGREED.

21.036 Recreation Ground:

- i **Pavilion Updates:** The clerk advised that with sports due to resume in early April, she would update the Pavilion risk assessment and asked to implement a deep clean of both sides of the building. This was agreed.

- ii **Football:** Football was due to resume from 12th April and the season would be extended to replace lost matches. This may clash with the start of the cricket season and the 2 clubs were discussing this. However, the clerk expressed the need for the PC to be kept informed, as it may be hosting events itself. It was agreed the clubs must operate via the clerk before making arrangements and the clerk would write to request clarity on fixtures etc. A request had been received from another football team for potential pitch hire. It was discussed and agreed that there was no capacity either for usage of the ground, or for arrangements to be made.
- iii **Community Hall lettings, risk assessments and roadmap for re-opening:** Although there was no clear re-start date for scouts and guides, the clerk was concerned that the hall was currently not safe to be used. A risk assessment and deep clean needed to be carried out first and there was concern over the number of items stored in the hall, some of which were unhygienic. The scouts and guides were not responding to requests to clear these items. It was discussed and agreed that the hall could not be used until a full clean had taken place and the clearance work must take place first. Although clubs could resume without the renovations being complete, the clearance, deep-clean and risk assessment were essential. The 2 clubs would be written to formally, countersigned by the chairman, stating that no meetings could take place until these matters were resolved and a deadline would be set for the clearance work. The clerk asked if charges for lettings were planned and it was agreed to investigate what comparable venues charged and discuss at the next meeting.
- iv **Community Hall Renovations:** The clerk advised that not enough quotes had been received in time, so the **Motion** could not be voted on. It was agreed she would advise the council as soon as all quotes were in, so that an extraordinary meeting could be called.
MOTION: To agree the quotes and contractor for the community hall work – MOTION NOT CALLED.

21.037 Village Projects

- i. **Long Street/Gold Street Sign:** Cllr Palmer reported that the sign is still with the blacksmith and offered to chase this up.
- ii. **Pop-up Library:** Cllr Palmer stated the village hall may be interested as a potential location and would follow this up.
- iii. **Bins and Dog Bins:** Cllr Simpkins had circulated the list of bins in the village and is arranging a walk/drive around with the contractor to assess future needs and costs.
- iv. **Bench for Doctor's Surgery:** Installation would be £500 which the clerk had authorised, and Cllr Simpkins described the proposed siting. This was discussed and agreed.
- v. **Public Rights of Way:** Cllrs Courtman and Hogg would be liaising to discuss repair needs etc. Cllr Courtman reported that due to the exceptionally wet winter, some of the PRoW were not yet accessible. Cllr Palmer enquired re. Hanslope Jubilee Walk and it was advised that this is still operative, and the route is published on the village website.
- vi. **Adoption of Landscape Maintenance on Bloor's estate and issue with piece of unused ground:** Complaints had been received re. a piece of ground on the Bloors estate. Bloor had previously offered to implement a 10m buffer. However, residents had instead opted to have the houses moved further away. Vehicle activity was now causing disruption and significant light spill to adjacent properties. The clerk asked what could be done and expressed concern over who would be responsible for maintaining the area, prior to the PC adopting it in 2 years' time. Bloors had subsequently contacted the clerk and offered to replace the current knee rail with a fence. Cllr Cass showed images of the area and it was agreed to find out where the proposed fence would go before making a decision. Cllr Palmer offered to view the site to assess any potential issues with this suggestion.

21.038 S106 Projects

- i. **Allotment Project:** Cllr Cass confirmed the planning application had now been validated and determination should be on 23/4/21. Nothing could be implemented until then.
- ii. **MUGA Project:** Validation of the planning application was awaited, and it was predicted approval would not be until May. This would put installation back to possible July/August, but it was hoped the new MUGA would be installed in time for some usage in the school holidays. The contractor had offered to work as neatly as possible behind Heras fencing so that Rec. Ground activities could still take place. Quotes for the extra items requested: new hut design trenching for CCTV cabling and an extra cricket game on the unused strip (formerly used for 'nets'), had not been received in time for the meeting.
MOTION: To agree the cost of extra items as above MOTION NOT CALLED.
- iii. **Future projects and overall S106 Picture:** The clerk had not had a reply from MK Council re. remaining S106 amounts.

21.039 Allotments

- i. **Update:** There was no report

21.040 Date of Next Meeting: The Annual Parish Meeting remotely on 12th April, with the 1st hour being 'Open' for public questions from 6.30pm.

Signed Date