

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Hanslope Parish Council, held on 14th
October 2019 at 7.00pm
at Hanslope Village Hall, Newport Road, Hanslope.

Present:

Parish Councillors: -

M Palmer (Chair)

D Courtman

E Price

R Simpkins

S Proctor

J Cass

R Green

B Green (Ward Cllr)

A Geary (MKC)

Clerk: G Merry

0 Members of Public

19.105 Apologies for Absence:

There were no Apologies.

19.106 Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations

19.107 To Approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9th September 2019:

The minutes had been previously circulated and were PROPOSED by Cllr Cass, SECONDED by Cllr Simpkins, AGREED and SIGNED.

19.108 Public Time:

Item deferred due to the public meeting scheduled for 8pm.

19.109 Council:

- i. **Neighbourhood Plan:** This had been approved at referendum and would now form material consideration in MKC planning. Cllr Price pointed out several people who had helped get the plan to this stage, over the 3 years and it was agreed the clerk would arrange for suitable cards to be sent. Cllr Price also stated that the grant awarded for the NHP may not all have been used up and agreed to discuss this with the clerk, as some costs may be offset against the grant.
- ii. **Clerk's Report:** *The clerk had been in post for 5 months and thanked the council for supporting some of the changes necessary to become more compliant. This included moving towards making sure everything was being discussed & minuted, introducing a few more policies and implementing some training. In the meantime, the finances are healthy, and the NHP is in place. A productive tendering process was carried out for Landscaping contract and will be discussed later. Cllrs were asked to complete consent for the publishing of contact details. Next month, a first draft of next year's budget will be presented, ready for precepting in January. The clerk asked councillors to consider their plans for the year ahead, so that any increased costs could be budgeted-for. It is known that more services will be devolved to the parish councils, as MKC have already warned of this. Some existing costs will also increase, so it may be necessary to look at a gradual increase over several years rather than a large one.*
- iii. **Cllr Email Addresses:** This was still in progress and the clerk would report back.
- iv. **Councillor Vacancy:** The clerk had started to publicise the vacancy but there had not been any interest yet.

- v. **Land Transfers:** Cllr Proctor confirmed that the Recreation Ground was owned by the PC but had not been transferred yet. This is now underway and Cllr Courtman had signed the Statutory Declaration. The matter was with the solicitors. The land to be transferred from Bloors to the school is also being dealt with by the solicitor. Cllr Proctor is in the process of detailing other sections of land owned by the PC, for the Asset Register. Cllr Palmer asked that this document be circulated before the next meeting and then brought to and updated at subsequent meetings.
- vi. **Reports from Outside Organisations:** Cllr Courtman reported from the Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG). It had been reported that crime in the parish was low but there had been occasional thefts from cars. She also reported from the Parish's Forum, where the Community Infrastructure Fund was discussed. It was agreed that applications for funding from this, would be useful in the future.

19.110 Planning:

- i. **Update on New Planning Applications:** The clerk had circulated the updated planning applications log. Re. 19/00043/REF - Cuckoo Hill Farm, Castlethorpe Road - Erection of 4 dwellings - APPEAL (originally 18/03019). It was discussed whether to write to the Inspectorate with any objections to this appeal. However, after discussion it was agreed not to comment.

Recent Appeal Decision: Cllr Geary advised following the recent appeal decisions from the Inspectorate re:

- 18/01968/FUL - The Globe, 50 Hartwell Road - 13 dwellings
- 18/00724/FUL - Malt Mill Farm (Equestrian Centre), Castlethorpe Road - 51 dwellings
- 18/01625/OUT - Cuckoo Hill Farm - 50 dwellings

The appeal for 18/01968/FUL had taken place later than the other 2 and therefore MKC were considering that decision to be the factually correct one, based on MK having a demonstrable 5-year land supply. MKC was currently seeking legal advice re. the outcome of the decisions on the other 2 applications, with the intention of seeking a judicial review. It was clarified that the 2 appeals are on hold until the outcome of the proposed legal action is known. Cllr Geary stated the PC may seek to engage its own legal counsel in respect of this legal challenge and it was agreed this could be discussed at the next meeting. Individuals can write to their MP and ask that he lends his support for the judicial review, via the Secretary of State.

- ii. **Meeting with MK Highways:** A meeting had been held between Hanslope and Castlethorpe councillors and MK Highways, where the proposed changes to the Forest Road/Hartwell Road junction were presented as a fait accompli. Mitigating measures had been suggested by Hanslope councillors and the Head of Highways was to respond in time for this meeting. However, there had been no response yet. Copies of the meeting notes had been circulated and are available on request.

19.111: Finance:

- i. **Financial Situation Report:** Reconciliation checks had been signed off by Cllr Price. The clerk had circulated accounts to Sept 30th. These showed total Income to-date at £132,287 and total expenditure at £33,524 (27%) of budget. Cllr R Green stated that a further invoice was still due, for the Pavilion refurbishments from 2018. The clerk asked for the details as this should have been accounted for in Creditors provisions.
- ii. **VAT Situation:** A preliminary report had just been received from the VAT advisor re. 2018-19 and the clerk would report in this at the next meeting. Cllr Price was almost ready with the 2017-18 figures. The clerk had reclaimed the first 6 months of the current year.
- iii. **Grant Applications:** 5 applications had been received and were discussed. The Village Hall committee and the Christmas Santa Run would receive their grants as applied-for and as

earmarked in the budget. An application from the new Hanslope Youth Club was discussed and it was agreed to award a £1000 funding for start-up costs, training, safe-guarding and equipment. An application from Men's Own Rugby club was deferred until further details could be obtained. It was agreed that the parish council must take over the village Christmas lights, for health & safety reasons and to ensure proper practice. A suitably insured electrician must be engaged and it was agreed the clerk would contact Stony Stratford and Newport Pagnell Town Councils, for advice on how they organise the procurement.

iv **Community Infrastructure Fund:** The clerk stated the deadline for feedback to the consultation is 8/11/19 and had circulated suggestions from the chair of Castlethorpe PC. It was discussed and agreed that the clerk would send a letter in agreement with these points. It was discussed whether the PC should consider applying for a grant. However, Cllr Palmer stated the PC needs to consider its long-term planning and what projects are needed. From this, projects can be costed-in to future budgets.

v **Payments to be Agreed:** The clerk circulated the list of payments to be approved, as follows:

Date	Invoice from	For	Net	Vat	Total	Chq No
22/07/2019	R Simpkins	Reimburse copies of maps - Philips Print	£ 30.00		£ 30.00	3077
10/09/2010	Marcus Young Landscapes Ltd	August Bin empties	£ 540.00	£ 108.00	£ 648.00	3078
10/09/2010	PKF Littlejohn LLP	Professional Fees - External audit	£ 600.00	£ 120.00	£ 720.00	3079
30/09/2019	Barbara Osborne Business Services	Payroll admin July-Sept	£ 64.50		£ 64.50	3080
25/09/2019	Rubbish2Go	Skip and clearance Allotments	£ 318.00		£ 318.00	3081
25/09/2019	All Round Property Maintenance	Barrier, bin installation. Gutter clearance	£ 400.00		£ 400.00	3082
30/09/2019	John Sharpe	Caretaking - Sept	£ 295.00		£ 295.00	3083
01/10/2019	Roy Courtman	Document storage	£ 45.00	£ 9.00	£ 54.00	3084
01/10/2019	Roy Courtman	Operation of SID	£ 240.00	£ 48.00	£ 288.00	3084
01/10/2019	Simon Bates	Herbicide application - 2nd	£ 300.00		£ 300.00	3085
01/10/2019	Lotte Landscapes Ltd	Work on Harkness Court Pond - as Quote	£ 980.00	£ 196.00	£ 1,176.00	3086
01/10/2019	Lotte Landscapes Ltd	Work on Main Pond - phases 1 & 2 - as Quote	£ 3,000.00	£ 600.00	£ 3,600.00	3086
01/10/2019	Lotte Landscapes Ltd	Recreation Ground - September	£ 694.17	£ 138.83	£ 833.00	3086
01/10/2019	Lotte Landscapes Ltd	Allotments mowing - September	£ 110.00	£ 22.00	£ 132.00	3086
01/10/2019	Marcus Young Landscapes Ltd	Sept. Bin empties	£ 464.50	£ 92.90	£ 557.40	3088
05/10/2019	G Merry	Reimbursements - see sheet 2	£ 151.70		£ 151.70	3089

MOTION: to agree the payments for Sept/Oct 2019 as above, PROPOSED by Cllr Palmer SECONDED by Cllr Courtman and AGREED.

19.112 Recreation Ground and Village Projects:

i **Projects Update:** The barrier and bins have been installed. The Pavilion gutters have been cleared and the bus shelter repairs are underway. The 2nd village weed kill had been completed. Cllr R Green advised that he has the new signage for the recreation ground and Cllr B Green will arrange instalment.

ii **Devolved Services Contract:** Cllr Simpkins outlined the process, now complete, for assessment of the tenders. The assessment sub-group consisting of Cllrs Simpkins & Courtman and the clerk, with 2 councillors from Castlethorpe and their clerk, had selected one contractor for the Recreation Ground, allotments and ponds and another for the devolved areas in both villages. The clerk circulated the figures along with the recommendations of the group. The recommended suppliers were agreed, and Cllr Simpkins advised that the spec and the contract were currently being fine-tuned.

MOTION: To agree the recommended contractors for devolved services landscaping contracts, commencing March 2020, PROPOSED by Cllr Courtman, SECONDED by Cllr Cass and AGREED.

iii **Pavilion:** Cllr Courtman expressed concern that notices were being put on the walls of the changing rooms and would ruin the paint work. It was agreed to install pin-boards and Cllr B Green would ask the football clubs what size is needed. It was agreed Cllr Simpkins would

send the clerk a list of contact details for all teams using the changing rooms, for her to keep a record of usage. Cllr R Green stated he is in the process of getting broadband installed in the Pavilion. He confirmed that a TV license would not be needed.

- iv **Separation of Waste for Recycling:** A meeting had been held between Cllrs Simpkins & Courtman and the clerk, with the current contractor for the bins. He had offered to source a dual-chute bin whereby plastic waste could be separated. One would be installed outside the shop in the first instance and monitored for effectiveness.
- v **Defibrillator Offer:** The clerk reported that Davidsons were now stating that the offer of the defibrillator was conditional on the parish council undertaking some PR e.g. photo opportunities, press and media. This was discussed and it was agreed that the council does not support taking part in PR for Davidsons and that offers of goodwill to the village should not be conditional on this.
- vi **Village Litter Pick:** Cllr Proctor had received enquiries on this from residents. It was agreed the clerk would look into when national litter-pick initiatives take place, with a view to organising something for Hanslope.

19.113 Allotments Update:

Mr Cass and Mrs Cook have reduced the size of some of the larger allotments and the large amount of rubbish had been cleared. Cllr Simpkins was currently revising the rules and would circulate this before the next meeting. It was agreed tenants must receive the rules every year, along with their rent agreement/reminders.

19.114 Date of Next Meeting: Monday 11th November 2019 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 10.15pm.

The Open Meeting took place between 8pm-9.15pm for which minutes are not required. Meeting notes will be available.

Signed Date