

Minutes of the Meeting of Hanslope Parish Council, held on Monday 14th June 2021 at 7.00pm, in the Community Hall, Hanslope Recreation Ground.

Present:

Parish Councillors: -

M Palmer (Chair)

J Cass

R Simpkins

E Price

G Duffield

A Geary (MKC Ward Cllr)

D Courtman

S Proctor

J Gregory

A Andrew

C Wardle (MKC Ward Cllr)

Clerk: G Merry

2 Members of the Public

21.067 Welcome and Apologies:

Cllrs Proctor and Gregory would be late. Cllr Palmer welcomed all to the first face-to-face meeting in over a year. Everyone introduced themselves.

21.068 Co-option of new councillors:

MOTION: to agree to co-opt Alison Andrew onto the council PROPOSED by Cllr Courtman, SECONDED by Cllr Cass and AGREED

MOTION: to agree to co-opt Greg Duffield onto the council PROPOSED by Cllr Courtman, SECONDED by Cllr Cass and AGREED

21.069 To Approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on 6th May 2021

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

21.070 Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Geary stated that himself and Ward Cllr George Bowyer, now sit on the MKC Development Control Committee and therefore will not be taking part in any future planning discussions, unless just to advise on procedure. Planning issues requiring action may be directed to Cllr Wardle.

21.071 Public Time:

A member of the Hornets football club management stated that due to increased membership, the club was running out of storage and had applied to the council to allow a container to be sited on the Rec. Ground, in the area between the Pavilion and the playground. The current garage space is shared with all 4 clubs and the Hornets need a central place for coaches to access their equipment. In addition they have raised funding and have pre-approval for a grant. Cllr Palmer thanked the member of the public and confirmed that councillors had read the proposal and would discuss it later on the agenda. A member of the public expressed dissatisfaction that the traditional-style sign from the Long St/Gold St junction, had disappeared following a collision and he could get no response from MK council re. its replacement. Cllr Palmer explained that the parish council have taken on responsibility for funding, repairing and reinstalling the sign but it was currently held up with the blacksmith. Cllr Geary suggested the previously agreed end-of-June date should be pursued, in case MKC officers decide to override this decision with a new-style sign. Cllr Palmer stated he would continue to chase this.

21.072 Council:

- i. **Clerk's Report:** Year-to-date income stands at £68,642 (52% of budget) and expenditure at £17,666 (14% of budget) at the end of month 2. There is currently an underspend due to

projects already agreed being delayed. It has been a difficult month, mainly due to the condition place on planning approval for the MUGA. This in effect has been the same as not having approval at all, as the project cannot move forward without the condition being discharged. An installation date had been set with the 4 sports clubs and the supplier, for work to commence in a timeframe that suited all parties, but there is now a significant delay. The application to discharge the condition, based on the drainage report prepared by Stantec Consultants, (circulated to all) and which addressed each objection from the Flooding Authority has been submitted and a new consultation period has been notified. The project will now be delayed by a minimum of 6-weeks and a new start date will need to be negotiated with the clubs, due to the football season starting by then. The project is at a small but significant risk, as the suppliers have already incurred financial outlay. Cllrs were reminded to respond to emails labelled 'Response Required' and were thanked for their support in their areas of expertise.

- ii. **Working Parties and planning committee re. internal auditor's report:** The clerk had circulated the working party membership list from the previous year, and it was agreed that Cllrs Courtman and Andrew would join the Planning Group and Cllr Duffield would join Rights-of-Way. The internal audit report had identified that planning decisions needed to consistently be made only in meetings, as these are publicly-notified. Cllr Cass pointed out that the parish council do not have any role in deciding on planning applications and are consultees only, whose comments are often disregarded. Different options were discussed as to how the planning group might operate going forward and it was agreed to remain as a working party, whilst ensuring that any decisions to support, object, comment or not to comment were always taken in PC meetings. Where possible, extensions could be applied for. However, Cllr Geary advised that the planning authority are tightening up on granting extensions and that PC should consider holding short, extraordinary meetings where decisions were needed quickly. Ward Cllrs get 28 days to comment, one week longer than parish councils, so it would also be possible to raise concerns via Cllr Wardle in some circumstances. **MOTION:** To agree the way forward re. the planning working group – as above – PROPOSED by Cllr Courtman SECONDED by Cllr Andrew and AGREED.

The increase in footpath diversions was discussed, with some being permanent changes implemented to facilitate development and this was concerning. It was agreed the Rights-of-Way group would monitor this, ensuring where possible that footpaths are reinstated.

- iii. **Great British Spring Clean:** The village litter pick on 13/6/21 had been very well supported and all participants were thanked. Many had been keen to do it again, possibly in the spring when the grass is shorter and the temperatures lower. The clerk agreed to put thanks on the website and Facebook page.
(Cllr Proctor arrived at 19.48)
- iv. **Highways and Flooding Update:** Cllr Courtman reported on results from the Speed Indicator Device, operated over 7–10-day periods on Long Street Road, Hartwell Road and Forest Road. There had been a significant increase in cars breaking the speed limit and the data has been passed onto the PCSO. There has also been an increase in vehicles parked too close to corners and double yellow lines, reducing visibility. It was agreed that the white 'gates' were desperately needed at the village entry points and the clerk agreed to chase this again. On flooding, Cllr Geary reported that MK council are currently looking at issues in Stoke Goldington and from there would move on to Tathall End but there was no timeframe on this. Cllr Palmer reported the drains on Castlethorpe Road are all full and Cllr Geary stated that MK council has one gully cleaner for the entire borough. He will contact the developer on

Castlethorpe Road, as this debris appeared to mud from the building sites. Cllr Palmer and Duffield agreed to work on a map identifying the worst of the blocked drains in the village.

- v. **School Land Transfer to PC:** Cllr Proctor reported that the legal documents had been signed and returned and the transfer of the land is now complete, along with granting of the lease to MK Council. Cllr Proctor was thanked for this work on this.
- vi. **Reports from Outside Bodies:** Cllr Price had attended a BMKALC course which had been disappointing, although she pointed out that BMKALC run many courses that are worthwhile and urged newer councillors to look into this.
(Cllr Gregory arrived at 20.05)

21.073 Planning:

- i. Cllr Cass reported on the following:
 - 21/00262/FUL - Eventing Centre, Malt Mill Farm, Castlethorpe Rd - Outdoor menage, replacement clubhouse, access track – **Objected – determination date extended.**
 - 21/00959/DISCON - Cuckoo Hill Farm - Discharge of conditions only – **no comments**
 - 21/00963/FULMMA - Cuckoo Hill Farm - Variation of condition - to move parking spaces - **no comments**
 - 21/00620/FUL - New Buildings Farm, Bullington End, MK19 7BQ - 16 solar panels – **no comments**
 - 21/01115/FUL - 11 Cuckoo Hill Rise - Single storey rear extension – **no comments**
 - 21/01205/FUL - 27 Western Drive MK19 7LA - 2-storey rear extension, porch enlargement and garage re-build - **no comments**
 - 21/01096/FUL - 63 Hartwell Road MK19 7BY - Retention of detached dwelling (revision of 19/00446) – **Commented but no decision yet.**
 - 21/01224/CLUP - Mawley - Higham Cross Road - Certificate of Lawfulness only - info only
 - 21/01502/FUL - 3 Eastfield Drive, MK19 7NQ - Demolish Conservatory, construct 3-facet Victorian UPVC conservatory – **no comments**
 - 21/01596/FUL - 30, St James Close, MK19 7LF - Conservatory extension – **no comments**
 - 21/01640/FUL - Cuckoo Hill Farm, MK19 7HQ 3 residential dwellings plus improvements to existing farmhouse. Cllrs Cass and Price had been through the planning statements and stated the 3 were in addition to the 4 currently being built. The recommendation was to object on the grounds of housing density, access (both pedestrian and vehicular), and concerns over sustainable transport. **This was discussed and it was agreed to object.**
 - 21/01714/FUL - 39 Western Drive, MK19 7LB - 2-storey side and rear extension – Cllrs Cass and Price reported that the plans will significantly change the front elevations and the extension appears to go right up to the neighbouring boundary. **It was discussed and agreed to comment on this.**
 - 21/01748/CLUP the Corn House, 34 Tathall End, MK19 7NF - Cert of Lawfulness only re. construction of swimming pool cover - info only - **no comments.**
- ii. **Enforcement:** A precarious wall at Earl's Row had been reported to enforcement via the conservation officer.

21.074: Finance:

- i. **Reconciliations and Financial Situation Report:** Reconciliation and invoice checks had been carried out by Cllr Price. The clerk had circulated accounts to June 1st 2021, with payments and receipts reported as per 21.072 i. There were no questions.

- ii. **Internal Audit:** The auditor's report had been circulated and this had generally been very positive. Any recommendations would be addressed and the clerk, along with Cllr Price were thanked.
- iii. **Internal Auditor:** It was discussed and agreed to retain Tina Charteress as internal auditor for the year
MOTION: To appoint Tina Charteress as internal auditor for the year PROPOSED by Cllr Courtman SECONDED by Cllr Price and AGREED.
- iv. **Review of Annual Governance and Return:** The clerk read out each clause of the Governance Statement to which the answers were all yes.
MOTION: to agree each clause of the governance statement (page 4 of the AGAR) PROPOSED by Cllr Courtman SECONDED by Cllr Cass and AGREED

The governance statement was signed off by Cllr Palmer and the clerk. The accounting statement had been agreed by the internal auditor and circulated to councillors and this was signed off by Cllr Palmer and the clerk

MOTION: To agree the accounting statement (p5 of the AGAR) PROPOSED by Cllr Cass SECONDED by Cllr Price and AGREED

- v. **Approval of Payments:** The clerk had circulated the list of payments to be agreed for May/June (below) and these were reviewed: -

Date	Invoice from	For	Net	Vat	Total
17/05/2021	BMKALC	Training Course - Improving Internal Communications (EP)	£ 30.00		£ 30.00
21/05/2021	All Round Property Maintenance	Installation of bench	£ 360.00		£ 360.00
24/05/2021	WAVE	Water Rates	£ 47.55		£ 47.55
27/05/2021	South Central Ambulance Charity	Donation towards training and awareness session	£ 100.00		£ 100.00
30/05/2021	RTM Landscaping	May Landscape Maint	£ 979.17	£ 195.83	£ 1,175.00
30/05/2021	Tara Davies	Pavilion Cleaning May	£ 60.00		£ 60.00
01/06/2021	Marcus Young Environmental Services	Bins and dog Bins – May	£ 485.50	£ 96.90	£ 582.40
06/06/2021	Tove Landscapes (Lotte)	May Rec Ground Maintenance	£ 788.33	£ 157.67	£ 946.00
06/06/2021	Milton Keynes Council	Business Rates - Community Hall Monthly	£ 194.00		£ 194.00
06/06/2021	John Sharpe	May Caretaking + materials	£ 345.00		£ 345.00
from June 2021	Rialtas Business Solutions (RBS)	Accounting software license 2021-22	£ 124.00	£ 24.80	£ 148.80
From June 2021	Glasdon UK Ltd	Bench with plaque - for village pond	£ 720.30	£ 144.06	£ 864.36
01/06/2021	G Merry	Expenses reimbursement			£ 88.49
PAID					
13/05/2021	Keep Britain Tidy	1 x litter picking kit	£ 220.84	£ 44.16	£ 265.00
19/05/2021	Read Services Ltd pp Dynorod	Emergency drain clearance	£ 180.00	£ 36.00	£ 216.00

22/05/2021	Zoom Communications	Monthly fee	£ 11.99	£ 2.40	£ 14.39
26/05/2021	Amazon	Litter pickers x 12	£ 47.37	£ 9.48	£ 56.85
26/05/2021	Amazon	Masks for Litter pick	£ 7.49	£ 1.50	£ 8.99
26/05/2021	Amazon	Children's Hi-Viz for Litter pick	£ 18.45	£ 3.69	£ 22.14
26/05/2021	Amazon	Signs for Litter pick	£ 19.07	£ 3.82	£ 22.89
26/05/2021	Amazon	Adults Hi-Viz for Litter pick	£ 23.30	£ 4.49	£ 27.79
28/05/2021	Adobe	Monthly subscription	£ 12.64	£ 2.53	£ 15.17
28/05/2021	G Merry	May Salary	██████████	██████████	██████████
28/05/2021	HMRC	May Tax and NI	██████████	██████████	██████████
28/05/2021	Bucks CC	LGPS - May pension contribution	██████████	██████████	██████████
01/05/2021	Amazon	Various cleaning materials and detergents (Comm. Hall)	£ 57.35	£ 14.34	£ 71.69

MOTION: to agree the payments for June as above, PROPOSED by Cllr Simpkins SECONDED by Cllr Andrew and AGREED.

21.075 Recreation Ground:

- i. **Community Hall Updates:** The clerk had circulated a project update and the second phase of renovation had started. The scouts and guides are both planning to restart in September and had asked what rents would be charged. The safety of the current loft access was discussed and although 2 options had been suggested, it was discussed and agreed for safety reasons, to lock off access altogether and ask the scouts/guides to remove their items. Only the PC would retain a key for this space. Cllr Courtman expressed concern over council's liability for any incidents arising out of unsafe use of the climbing wall and felt it should be removed. The clerk agreed to look into the insurance position and any regulations on this. Cllr Courtman also expressed concern regarding cupboards which had not been cleared and could potentially present risk from falling objects. It was agreed there will be locks on the doors of all cupboards and only the applicable group will be allowed keys. It was agreed cupboard usage must be written into rental agreements. Lettings and Fees were discussed, and it was agreed that for casual bookings, the same rates as the village hall would be charged. For regular users i.e. scouts, guides, cubs and brownies the previous charges were considered before agreeing to average these out between each group, so that each group would pay £15 per week per group, for term time weeks.

- ii. **Drains:** The drains had become blocked necessitating a visit from Dynorod, attended by Cllr Palmer and the caretaker. A quantity of rubble had been left in the drains along with objects such as wipes. The drains had been unblocked but a full clearance was recommended along with a survey to map where certain unknown pipes lead to. Work to the manholes was needed first and the clerk presented 2 quotes which were considered. It was discussed and agreed to accept the quote from Phillwell Developments for the manhole work @ £900 and from Dynorod for the clearance at approx. £550.

MOTION: To agree further work to be carried out as above, and quotes agreed as above PROPOSED by Cllr Palmer SECONDED by Cllr Duffield and AGREED.

(The clerk asked Cllr Palmer for a vote to extend the meeting beyond 2 hours and this was agreed by a show of hands).

- iii. **Request for Container:** The Hornets request (21.071) was discussed, and it was agreed that this could not be considered at the moment, due to potential excavation work needed for the drains. However, one of the garages at the Pavilion is partially unused and can be cleared out

to offer some more storage space to the Hornets, along with use of the new hut when built. The garage will be offered on an annual license agreement which will need to be signed.

MOTION: To agree not to allow the container at this time PROPOSED by Cllr Palmer SECONDED by Cllr Gregory and AGREED.

- iv. **Overhanging Tree in Alleyway adjacent to 48 St James Close:** The clerk was unsure where this request had come from, so it was agreed that councillors would assess the tree first.

MOTION: to agree the quote for reducing the tree – CARRY FORWARD TO NEXT AGENDA.

21.076 Village Projects

- i. **Long Street/Gold Street Sign:** As discussed at 21.071, Cllr Palmer will chase this, with a view to affecting the deadline of 30/6/21.
- ii. **Bins and Dog Bins:** The clerk reported that a resident had been granted a permit for a dropped kerb and this would entail moving the litter bin in the High Street, to just outside The Cock. The previously allocated dog bins will now be installed, with the exception of the one on Hanslope Fields, where a resident had objected.
- iii. **Old Bus Garage Hoardings:** The hoardings were looking exceptionally unkempt, and it was agreed the clerk would contact the owner to request these are repaired and painted. The caretaker would be asked to check the blue pipe protruding from the ground.
- iv. **Rose Bush for pond:** Cllr Cass circulated information on the official HRH Duke of Edinburgh rose and it was agreed 2 would be ordered @ £19.99 each, with a percentage of the profits going to the D of E fund.
- v. **Landscape Maintenance Contract:** The clerk had circulated the contract options proposed by MKC for the next phase of devolved landscaping for the parishes. Cllr Simpkins advised waiting for the shortlist to be circulated before deciding on the best option for this parish.

21.077 S106 Projects

- i. **Allotment Project:** Purchase orders are now underway, although the timeframe has been put back to approx. September due to shortages of some building materials.
- ii. **MUGA Project:** The clerk explained the issues with the condition placed by the LLFA and with the application to discharge the condition 4 (21.072 i). Cllr Proctor advised that the application may still fail as it relied on infiltration, and as the success of this could not be proved without bore hole investigation. Cllr Gregory asked whether it was worth commissioning bore hole investigation. Cllr Proctor agreed to read the condition and revert back to the clerk.
- iii. **Commissioning of Drainage Report/Evaluation:** The need and urgency for the report had been agreed at the time, as essential to the potential success of the application to discharge condition 4.

MOTION: to retroactively agree the commissioning of the drainage report to address planning condition 4 PROPOSED by Cllr Courtman SECONDED by Cllr Cass and AGREED.

21.078 Allotments Update: it had been suggested that prospective tenants may have jumped the queue to be allocated an allotment. Cllr Simpkins assured all that he keeps the waiting list in chronological order.

21.079 Date of Next Meeting: 12th July 2021 at 7pm, in the Community Hall.

Signed Date