

Minutes of the Aspley Guise Parish Council meeting held on Monday 12th April 2010 in the Village Hall. The Meeting began at 7.30pm.

Present: Mr I Pickering, Chairman, Mr I Outram, Vice Chairman, Mr R Brown, Mr J Bunker, Ms F Fry, Mr P Harbottle, Mrs P Hawley and Mrs T Willis. Also in attendance (part time) were Central Bedfordshire Councillor Mr B Wells and PC J Birch.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Mr Martin, Mr Saxby, Mr Sinnott and Central Beds Councillor Mrs Chapman

2. Open Forum

There were no members of the public present.

Traffic Calming

Mr Pickering informed Mr Wells that following on from the Traffic Calming Meeting with Ameys and Central Beds officers on 25th March 2010, there had been no feedback. It was agreed that if there had been no contact by 10th May, Mr Wells would raise the points raised in the minutes with Ameys.

Covanta Proposals

Mr Pickering raised the recent proposal by Covanta for a Development Consent Order for the Rookery South Pit near Stewartby to be made to the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC). Part of the procedure for this should be full consultation – and Aspley Guise had not been consulted. The increased traffic flows of lorries had not been part of the assessment of traffic flow at Junction 13 of the M1 with the A421. These are expected to be 1 lorry every 1 minute 36 seconds entering the proposed site.

Central Beds will continue with the BEaR Project especially as the landfill tax will increase by 2013/14 to £80.00 per tonne and there are unresolved issues over the ownership of the Rookery Pit site.

Street Light testing

Mr Wells agreed to find out if the street light structural testing currently being carried out by Central Beds is mandatory.

Litter on A421

He will also investigate who is responsible for keeping the verges of the A421 by pass clear of litter as this is becoming an increasing problem.

Potholes

Mr Wells reported that Central Beds had been given £393,000 as part of the Government grant to local authorities for infrastructure repairs following the recent bad weather. So far £180,000 has been spent and the gangs are working on 500 potholes every week. Aspley Guise has many worn areas and potholes waiting for resurfacing/filling.

New Ward structures

Following the Boundary Commissions recommendations there would be fewer wards for the 59 councillors when elections are held next May 2011.

Aspley Heath Woods

There has been on going damage caused by cyclists in the woods. There is concern that the access agreement with the Duke of Bedford which ends in June 2010 may not be renewed if there is no financial support from Central Beds and Milton Keynes Councils and there will be a meeting this week between Councillors and Officers to discuss this. There is also an increased problem with joy riders using the top of Church Road Aspley Heath. The Police are addressing this problem.

Report from PC Birch

PC Birch updated the council on recent crime figures; there were 8 recorded crimes in the area; several burglaries and attempted burglaries, the theft of a motor vehicle and also a trailer, day time theft from a motor vehicle and unauthorised entry and theft from a house where the door had been left unlocked. So far no arrests have been made. A nuisance motor bike rider riding around the Trunk Furlong/Salford Road area has been spoken to by the Police. The Police will be carrying out speed checks in Salford Road, particularly at peak times. The on-going problems in San Remo road are being monitored by the Police with an increased presence. Covert action may be taken.

Truck Watch Schemes are now in place identifying HGV lorries using roads where there is a weight limit. PC Birch will send the information so that volunteers can be asked to come forward in the newsletter. The Police can write to the head offices and drivers of the lorries and can issue tickets in this way.

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was proposed by Ms Fry and seconded by Mrs Willis, with all in agreement, that the minutes of the meeting held on 1st March 2010 were a true record of events.

2. Matters Arising

Town Lands Ditch

Councillors had met with Aragon Housing representatives on 18th March and it had been agreed that Aragon Housing would reinstate the boundary fence to the rear of No 17 Trunk Furlong and the volunteers would clear the wood debris from around the ditch. Since the meeting the tenant has fenced off part of the Town Lands field appearing to be annexing part of this into his garden and cutting down the saplings and filling the ditch with them. He was witnessed with a small digger filling the ditch with concrete and other material, thus blocking it. It was agreed to send a strong letter to Aragon Housing objecting to this behaviour on the part of their tenant and stating that it is their responsibility to prevent it happening again. This should be done within a timescale of 28 days. It was agreed to reserve a budget of £500 for the ditch clearance should it fall to the Parish Council to carry it out.

Aragon have agreed to investigate the culvert at the opposite end of the ditch to the rear of Numbers 1 and 2 Trunk Furlong to ensure there are no blockages under their garages.

3. Planning

Applications considered:

CB/10/01053/FULL

Ty Gwyn, Mentone Avenue. Full Single Storey rear extension. No comment.

Correspondence:

The Planning Inspectorate

Re: Appeal Decision on Tarn Hows, Woburn Lane; CB/09/00663/FULL: erection of a detached dwelling with integral double garage, car parking and associated external works. The Appeal is dismissed.

Central Beds

Gary Worth, Assistant Director, Development Management

Re: infrastructure (Applications: Prescribed forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009. Proposed Application by Covanta for a Development Consent Order for the Rookery South Resource Recovery Facility at Rookery South Pit near Stewartby, Beds. This is considered to be a nationally significant infrastructure project and will, therefore be an application for development consent which will be submitted to the infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC) in early May for determination. Outline of 6 key stages of IPOC application process. At the

pre-application stage Covanta should have carried out full consultation with local villages to present with their application to the IPC. The Public Inquiry into Junction 13 also did not have the information about increased traffic using the junction. It was agreed to write to the IPC to object that not enough consultation had been carried out. The other local councils could also write making objections.

REASON

REASON is now a dormant group and an executive committee meeting has been called to wind up the organisation. The Parish Liaison Group has now superseded REASON. It was thought that the constitution states that any monies left belonging to REASON should revert to the contributing organisations which would be principally Wavendon Parish Council. Subject to this being agreed the Parish Council is happy for it to be wound up.

Parish Liaison Meeting

Mr Pickering and Mr Bunker had attended the presentation on 25th March by Bruce Stewart of Milton Keynes Council on the Milton Keynes South East Strategic Development Area Development Framework. It was felt that in the past it was not known how important these documents would be and it was proposed by Mr Pickering that a joint letter from the group should be sent to Milton Keynes Council, Central Bedfordshire Council and Milton Keynes Partnership expressing concerns that the parishes should be involved and consulted with from the beginning. A copy of the proposed letter had been circulated and it was hoped that the next Parish Liaison Meeting would agree to this being sent, subject to any amendments agreed to.

4. Accounts

The Clerk presented the Receipt and Payments Account. It was proposed by Mr Brown and seconded by Ms Fry, with all in agreement, that this be approved for use at the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Thursday 20th May.

The Annual Accounting Statement Section 1 and the Annual Governance Statement Section 2 were presented. It was proposed by Mr Brown and seconded by Ms Fry, with all in agreement, that these presented an accurate picture of the accounts for the annual audit, and were duly signed by the Clerk and Chairman.

Opening Balances:

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Base Rate Tracker Account | 22,606.00 |
| Business Saver Account | 1,134.36 |
| Community Account | <u>2,676.94</u> |
| Total | 26,417.30 |

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| Community Account No 2 (Town Lands) | 935.00 |
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It was proposed by Mr Outram and seconded by Mr Harbottle that the following accounts be paid:

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|---|----------|
| Edf Energy DD | |
| April energy monthly charge | 300.00 |
| BATPC | |
| Affiliation Fee 2010/11 | 434.00 |
| Aylesbury Mains Ltd | |
| Repairs A4 Woburn Lane and the Bus Shelter – The Square | 44.06 |
| Woburn and District Churches Together | |
| Agreed donation to Youth Club 2010/2011 | 1,000.00 |

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Akalat publishing | | |
| Footpath Leaflet printing | | 623.00 |
| International Tree Foundation | | |
| Membership renewal | | 25.00 |
| Bedford to Bletchley RUA | | |
| Membership Fee 2010/2011 | | 3.00 |
| Mrs P Woolhead | | |
| Litter clearance quarterly payment | | 150.00 |
| Mrs M Fitzgerald | | |
| Clerks salary | 432.75 | |
| Office allowance 09/10 | 500.00 | |
| BT telephone Dec – March | <u>36.88</u> | |
| | | <u>969.63</u> |
| | | 3,548.69 |
| Closing Balance: | | 22,868.61 |

Mr Martin has been reviewing the Risk Assessment and Insurance Schedule. It was agreed to have a finance committee meeting after the next Planning Committee Meeting.

5. Communities and Recreation

Ms Fry updated council on the Town Lands Project; the work parties were very successful and free trees had been received from Central Beds and were being nurtured in various gardens waiting to be planted out. Central Bedfordshire Council is paying for the play equipment a list of which has been circulated to councillors. The Project group would like to have the Rainbow Unit removed as it is not in keeping with the new 'greener' play items. It was agreed by council that if Central Bedfordshire would remove it and relocate it to another suitable village parish at no cost a wooden climbing frame would be installed in its place.

A grant of £375 has been received from the Woodcote Trust for the wild flower meadow.

Newsletter

Mr Pickering will write updated articles on Milton Keynes Expansion and Traffic Calming for the newsletter. Mr Bunker will do an article on the Truck Watch Scheme as advised by PC Birch and it was hoped that the newsletter would be ready by early May.

The Anchor

It was reported that the current landlord of The Anchor will be ending the tenancy on 12th June. Charles Wells are currently looking for another tenant and there is concern that this position might not be filled by a permanent landlord.

6. Footpaths

The Minutes of the P3 Meeting held on Thursday 4th March have been distributed. The P3 Summer Walk will be on the role of Aspley Guise in the propaganda programme of World War Two and will be on Sunday June 13th from The Square at 2pm.

7. Highways & Street Lighting

As reported there had been a meeting with Ameys and Central Bedfordshire officers. It had been confirmed that there were no monies for Parish Partnership schemes as identified at the last Highways meeting. Some finance may be available through the budget held for Footpaths and Safer Routes to School and this could possibly be used for works at the Blue Orchid, a pedestrian crossing in the Square or for a wider footpath in front of St Botolph's Church. The

advice is to raise money for Traffic Calming through the Precept. This option should be the subject of village consultation and could be discussed at the Annual Meeting on 20th May or at a village meeting in the early autumn. The proposal to raise the monies required over 3 – 5 years could be discussed and then would need to be confirmed at the budget meeting in November. Central Bedfordshire are currently undertaking structural surveys of all lighting columns in the area and it had been agreed that the council would be informed if any of its columns failed the survey.

8. Correspondence

Central Bedfordshire

B M Morris, Monitoring Officer

Re: Standards Board for England – bulletin 47

Gary Worth, Assistant Director, Development Management

Re: infrastructure (Applications: Prescribed forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009. Proposed Application by Covanta for a Development Consent Order for the Rookery South Resource Recovery Facility at Rookery South Pit near Stewartby, Beds. This is considered to be a nationally significant infrastructure project and will, therefore be an application for development consent which will be submitted to the infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC) in early May for determination. Outline of 6 key stages of IPOC application process.

Andy Clarke, Street lighting and Electrical Steward

Re: Survey of lighting columns in the CBC area. All columns to be surveyed, including Town and Parish lights. Columns could be cut down if deemed to be a safety hazard on the public highway. This is to be a structural survey of steel columns.

Swallowfield School, Woburn Sands

Lynn, secretary.

Re: Vacancy for School Governor. Mr Harbottle is willing to be considered for this position.

Charity Commission

Small Charities survey - completed

St Botolph's Church

Chris Hiatt, Treasurer

Re: Church Yard Grant 2009/2010. Acknowledgement and thanks for recent Church yard grant.

BDO

Emma Prince Senior Manager

Re: Annual audit for the year ending 31st March 2010. Annual Return to be submitted by 4th June 2010. Dates for exercise of Electors' Rights, i.e. inspection of accounts will be 4th May to 1st June 2010.

AON Ltd

Re: local Councils Insurance. Administration of insurance now transferred from Allianz Plc to Local Councils Team within Aon. Policy records have been transferred. Policy is due for

renewal: total inclusive of premium, IPT and admin fee is £3,976.47. Due 1st June. The Finance Committee will discuss this at the next meeting on 27th April.

HM Revenue and Customs

Re; Town Lands Recreation Ground – giving through SA Return. Charity's code is GAU65SG

The Woodcote Trust

Mrs P A Henstock

Re: donation of £375.00 specifically to sponsor the wild flower meadow for the Town Lands Recreation project.

Bedfordshire & Luton Fire & Rescue Service

Prue Canham Service Improvement Manager

Re; Public Consultation Paper and questionnaire in respect of Draft Community Risk Management Plan. This has been circulated to all, although it was felt that no one had sufficient knowledge of the way this was managed.

SEPT (South Essex Partnership Trust)

Re: Election of Governors for Bedfordshire and Luton

CPRE Bedfordshire

Notice of AGM – Thursday 22nd April 2010 at 7.30pm at Silsoe Village Hall followed by ‘A Bedfordshire Century on film’. All welcome.

Fieldwork April 2010 issue

J A Perry P 3 Chairman

Confirmation that footpath leaflets have now been received together with invoice for PC to pay to Akalat Publishing in the sum of £623.00.

Re: copy of letter from BRCC, Stephen Sleight, Transport Officer confirming Marston Vale Community Rail Partnership award of £773 towards the cost of the Aspley Guise Footpath leaflet.

Bedfordshire Police

Neil Wilson District Commander

Re: Street Watch, Bedfordshire; 8 initial pilot sites have been identified in Bedfordshire for this scheme. Information pack on the scheme.

PC Jon Birch, Bedfordshire Police

Re: parking problem at Burrows Close – Police are keeping an eye on this although it is only an obstruction (not dangerous obstruction which would warrant a ticket).

BATPC

Louise Ashmore, County Officer BATPC

Re: New contact details from 31st March 2010

Re: March edition of Bugle (circulated)

Macmillan Cancer Support

Julia Beales, Fundraising Manager – Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire

Re: Woodlands Walk 16th May 2010 – poster to display.

The Highways Agency

Lynne Stinson, Project Manager

Re: M1 junctions 10 to 13 improvement junctions 11 and 12. Public Notice announcing the Pre-Inquiry Meeting – 13th April 2010 at The Chiltern hotel, Waller Avenue Luton.

The Tree Council

Tree News - Spring/Summer issue

Energy Saving Trust

Re; Green communities

Commentree – The Forest of Marston Vale newsletter

Bedford to Bletchley RUA

Spring 2010 Newsletter

Clerks & Councils Direct

Local Council Review

Park Leisure – Play catalogue

Lumalite catalogue

9. Date of Next Meetings

Tuesday 27th April 2010, 7.30pm Mid Month Planning Meeting followed by Finance Committee. To be held in Council Room downstairs.

Monday 10th May 2010 7.30pm full Council Meeting – **To be held in Upstairs Meeting Room.**