

FLITTON AND GREENFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

ACTION

Minutes of the Parish Meeting held at Greenfield Academy, Greenfield,
On Monday 17th March 2014

Present: Councillors N Thompson (Chair), S. Phillips (Vice Chair), N. Arthur,
G. Ellis, M. Lowe, T. King, K. Wright, P. Woodland, D Jobling and J Sparrey

Also Present:

CBC Councillor J Jamieson

D Lawson: Clerk to the Council

2440 APOLOGIES AND SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies:

Beds Police Officer

Declarations of Interest: Councillor M Lowe declared an interest relating to work undertaken for the Parish Council by Graham Lowe and she did not participate in the discussion or decision making on any of these matters.

The Clerk also declared an interest in item no 7 grant aid consideration

2441 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 20th January 2014 were received and it was

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

The following matters arising were noted

- Councillor G Ellis confirmed that he was still pursuing the issue of H lines in Pulloxhill Road GE
- Cycle racks – all now removed from MUGA car park, two remain at The Compasses. The Council considered a quote for more installation work but decided not to proceed. It was agreed to seek advice or financial assistance from the CBC cycling officer about installation with a view to offer them to other village organisations. GE
- CBC Town and Parish Conference - following discussion it was agreed: that Councillor Philips and King attend the annual CBC conference on 29 April and the clerk to notify CBC accordingly DL
- Councillors were still not particularly happy about the position of the post-box in Greenfield and further enquiries will be made KW/DL
- Defer discussion of the Church event until May meeting

2442 DISTRICT COUNCIL AND POLICE REPORTS

Councillor J Jamieson passed around copies of the new Flitwick Leisure Centre plans, with a projected completion date of approx early 2016

He also asked Councillors whether they had looked at the use of electronic speed cameras in the village to complement the traffic calming measures as new ones without film were being introduced and it may be a matter for future consideration. He noted that Greenfield Road Pulloxhill is to be resurfaced this year. In Flitwick there had been a number of commuter questions about the temporary Station car park lease expiration and he confirmed that it will continue at least in the interim (3 years) under CBC management with meters and not cash. The broken street light outside the school is now working.

Councillors questioned the possible future provision of a wheeled bin for garden refuse, but this was thought to be very unlikely, even though the existing contract has two more years to run.

2443 COUNCIL STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The draft Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were presented and the Clerk explained that a new model set of Financial Regulations was released the week

before, to coincide with the Governments change in banking arrangements for Parish Councils. In addition to this new transparency rules for the external audit process had also just been released for consultation and these needed to be taken into account too.

However in order to have the new framework in place for the beginning of the financial year, it was concluded that the draft document should be adopted, but that work should continue to bring them up to date and to include any comments or changes suggested by Councillors. It was

RESOLVED:

the existing document be adopted, but that the ongoing task of updating the document should be delegated to the Finance Committee, which should meet soon to consider any further amendments and comments on the document

DL/NA

Councillors considered and discussed the idea of establishing an Emergency Planning Sub Committee, following the recent flooding issues, but it was noted that these had been resolved fairly quickly on the day by CBC and local residents and that helpful advice about flooding had now been issued by CBC. It was not felt necessary to create a new Sub Committee, and Councillor J Sparrey offered to arrange a working party to review the flood points in the village, including ditches and drains. It was

RESOLVED:

That the working party should report back to the Highways Sub Committee and that local residents and stakeholders should be invited to take part in any discussion if appropriate.

JS

Councillors considered the format of the Minutes and whether AOB should feature on future agenda's bearing in mind that no decisions can be taken unless an item has been included on the agenda (items can be forwarded to the Clerk up to approx. 10 days before the meeting or else perhaps raised on behalf of constituents in the public forum) and it was agreed that an action column would be included on the Minutes and AOB would be included on future agenda's for information items only.

2444 PLAYING FIELD SUB COMMITTEE

It was noted that Steve Dear would undertake the aboricultural work on 24 - 25th March including planting the three trees purchased from Clophill Community Tree Nursery and the Clerk would purchase the tree stakes and ties for him Councillor P Woodland was thanked for submitting the tree inspection report and the content of the report was noted.

DL

Councillor N Arthur also noted the hole in the fence, the work done recently to remove the rubble and planned flower planting with the school, the gate repair and the outstanding work for the safety surfaces plus the request for a meeting with the Village Hall Committee. The Clerk agreed to chase David Granger about the safety surfaces and hole and following a discussion about the signs and a cost for fixing them into position, it was

DL

RESOLVED:

That the Playing Field Sub Committee should convene before the next Council meeting to consider the matters outlined above including a meeting with the Village Hall Committee.

NA

The Clerk would order the signs and also ask the sign fitter if he could erect them.

DL

2445 CEMETERY SUB COMMITTEE

Councillor T King noted that there had only been a couple of comments on the Lawn Cemetery consultation and they were not necessarily directly about the changes and the Sub Committee was now keen to implement the proposals from April 2014 and it was

RESOLVED:

that the Council introduce a Lawned Cemetery Policy from April 2014 onwards DL

Councillor T King also presented on behalf of the Sub Committee a specification for the employment of a gardener, which was discussed and.

RESOLVED:

that the specification be advertised on the Notice boards, website and by word of mouth and quotes be invited for the Cemetery gardening work DL

Councillor T King also referred to work which was being undertaken to move the compost heap, an issue with an untidy grave, the transportation of the stone from School Lane and parking outside the cemetery which would be discussed at the next meeting of the Sub Committee

RESOLVED:

That the Cemetery Sub Committee should meet before the next Council meeting to consider the matters outlined above TK

2446 COMMUNICATIONS

The Council noted their appreciation of the new Flitton notice board and voted on whether there should be one or two notice boards in Greenfield to match. It was decided that there should be one board to be placed at the Pulloxhill junction. But in addition to this a new board would also be placed in the Cemetery. The Clerk had spoken to Mr. Jones who was prepared to make two more boards at slightly more than cost price this time (£800-850 for the larger and approx half that for the smaller board)

RESOLVED:

The Clerk ask Mr. Jones to make the new notice boards at the same specification as the Flitton board and the existing board outside the Compasses remain where it is for now. DL

2447 ALLOTMENT SUB COMMITTEE

The Clerk noted that the new Allotment Agreement and annual rent demands would be issued in March to coincide with the Lady day rent demand.

Councillor G Ellis updated Members about work on installing the water pipe but said that a new meter has been fitted and this now prevents any access to the tap. Further enquiries will be made about this.

2448 HIGHWAY/CYCLEWAY/FOOTPATH/GRASS CUTTING

Councillor G Ellis updated the meeting on the news about the safer walking route proposals, with the Council providing £15k out of a total £60k budget and he and the Sub Committee was congratulated on this result. He is seeking a meeting with Amey to discuss this as soon as possible. GE

A rut on the edge of the tarmac outside the post box by the Church hall was also noted and the Clerk agreed to report this a Highway problem DL

Councillor G Ellis offered to attend a meeting on Speed Watch called by the Police which he had heard about and this was felt to be a good idea. GE

2449 PARISH PLAN

There were no items for decision

2450 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED:

The following payments/income were noted**DL**

Richard O Dell	13/02/2014	£48.00
BATPC Subscription	06/03/2014	£299.00
All About Gas - blue pipe	06/03/2014	£116.00
Central Beds Allotment Rent	06/03/2014	£375.00
Central Beds Allotment Rent	06/03/2014	£100.00
Graham Lowe	12/03/2014	£382.00
D.J. Granger	06/03/2014	£1,872.00
Clerks salary	14/03/2014	£534.06
Ian Foxley	14/03/2014	£25.00
Notice board Greenfield	14/03/2014	£49.00
HMRC	14/03/2014	£141.42
CPRE Annual Subscription	17/03/2014	£29.99
Clerk Expenses February - March	17/03/2014	£109.49
Graham Lowe	17/03/2014	£20.00
Maureen Morey Litter	17/03/2014	£52.00

The Council also discussed the appointment of an Internal Auditor and other changes relating to financial services provided to the Council (payroll and helping to set out the accounts correctly on a spreadsheet) and various quotes were discussed, it was

RESOLVED:

to award the work to Fast Accounting Services (Greenfield) based on the quote provided

DL**2451 GRANT AID CONSIDERATION**

The grant application made by David Sedgley on behalf of the Flitton Flit runs raising funds this year for the Friends of Flitton Moor was discussed and it was

RESOLVED:

to award the Flitton Flit's the sum of £150

DL**2452 PLANNING ISSUES**

There were no new planning issues but the decisions on the applications in Greenfield were noted

2453 TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE AND CLERKS REPORT

- It was noted that the Clerk had submitted a response to the consultation on Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment 2014 on behalf of the Council, but any other member could also complete the survey
- Notice boards – already covered on the agenda
- Flitwick Leisure Centre - already covered on the agenda
- Flitwick Eagles use of the Playing Field was noted and it was

RESOLVED:

that the charges should remain at the same level for 2014/15

DL

- The Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) consultation by Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service was noted

2454 AOB

- The Chairman updated on the position of Woodstock Cottage Flitton
- The Chairman noted that signs had been requested from CBC for the bottom of Mill Lane and that the problem at Fitzroy Cottages should be resolved now following his intervention
- Lorry movements in Greenfield were still of concern to some residents, but without the times, it is too difficult to ascertain which contractor may be causing

the problem. If more definite information becomes available the Council may be able to get involved.

- An issue of irresponsible dog walking was noted and so was a new consultation from CBC on Dog Control Orders

2454 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Monday's May 19th, July 14th, September 15th, November 17th 2014, January 19th 2015, March 16th 2015

The meeting ended at 21:40h

DATED this 19th day of May 2014

CHAIRMAN