

FLITTON AND GREENFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Meeting held at the School, Pulloxhill Road, Greenfield
On Monday 17 November 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 D Lawson (Clerk)

Also Present:
Dougie McColm, Mark Austin and Mike Lawrence

2504 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman and Councillors agreed to take the public participation section at the beginning of the meeting.

Dougie McColm, Mark Austin and Mick Lawrence attended the meeting and presented three proposals for traffic calming on Flitton Hill, which they illustrated in a detailed hand out. Option 1 for a severed road was the most popular idea with residents, with the other two options following behind. All options would need advice from the Highway Authority and some re-education of drivers, but each was acceptable to the majority of Flitton Hill residents. The options had been presented to a meeting of the Highways Sub Committee the previous week along with some comments by CBC Cllr Jamieson and residents. It was stressed that there needed to be action sooner rather than later due to the speed and aggression of drivers using the Hill and any of the options would lend themselves to LTP match funding next year.

When the Highways Committee considered the options last week, there was agreement that option 1 would be best in terms of effectiveness and cost, however it was acknowledged that there may be concerns from village residents and other traffic users. One of the main aims would be to make safe passage for pedestrians on the Hill as well as slowing traffic down.

The Chairman explained that he had been presented with another option by a local resident to effectively make the Hill into one way access with no right turn at the A507. This would mean that traffic coming off the A507 would be banned from forking right up Flitton Hill and be obliged to go along Amphill Road skirting the edge of Silsoe and then turning onto Silsoe Road going past Wardhedges. Hopefully this would mean that most of the through traffic would keep going on the A507 until the roundabout at Maulden Road towards Flitwick and then turn left past Flitwick Mill. This fourth possible option which should significantly cut down the amount of traffic was discussed and Cllr Ellis mentioned that they had talked about a variation of this one way traffic scheme, with two ways only in the built up area.

Members discussed the various options and it was felt that option 1 may be unrealistic, but that there was good scope to combine various parts of each option into a successful scheme and agreed that the Highways Sub Committee should take these ideas, including Options 4a and b to CBC for their professional highway, cycling and financial advice.

In the meantime, the cost of the schemes should be firmed up so that funding can be included in next year's precept and a LTP application be made in January 2015.

2505 APOLOGIES AND SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor J Sparrey and CBC Councillor J Jamieson

Declarations of Interest: Cllr 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 declared an interest in the application for funding by the Church Hall Committee

2506 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15th September 2014 were received and it was

RESOLVED:

<p>That the Minutes be confirmed as a true record (subject to the venue for the next meeting being changed) and signed by the Chairman. The following matters arising were noted:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zig-zags outside school – Cllr Ellis to chase Amey about this • Bike racks (8) have now gone and funding will be reimbursed through the s106 agreement via Steve Lakin • The Post box by Holmewood Road will be moved this week • MUGA car park posts have been replaced and are waiting delivery of the height bar. The Insurance company has paid the claim • The baby swing has been replaced • Some soil has been removed from the Cemetery and the rest will be used for levelling • Cllr Phillips has met Simon Mason who has agreed to be co-opted as a member of the Highways and Communications Sub Committee(s) • The Parish Plan is all done bar one action to install a basket ball net in the Playing Field • Cllr Ellis has the allotment water meter figures and will send to the Clerk 	<p>GE DL to note</p> <p>GE</p>
<p>2507 DISTRICT COUNCIL AND POLICE REPORTS</p>	
<p>Cllr Jamieson had sent apologies, but emailed a short update earlier in the day and the Chairman ran through these. The Police had sent a copy of the crime statistics which had been circulated and subsequently apologised for lack of attendance due to an incident elsewhere in the area.</p>	
<p>2508 SUB COMMITTEE MEETINGS</p>	
<p>Playing Field Sub Committee</p>	
<p>The Chairman of the Sub Committee ran through the following information and/or actions which had been taken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New litter bins had now been installed • There had been another complaint about the Saturday morning footballers using the village hall car park and toilets and it was agreed that the Clerk should reiterate the position on this to the Team Manager. The Clerk noted that the current team had given notice to leave the Playing Field in December 2014 and that any agreement with a new team would be set out clearly in writing before use started • The MUGA car park problem of ‘unauthorised’ parking was discussed and it was noted that the only parking problem seems to be on a Saturday morning. As the car park was designated for the Playing Field and MUGA use, but is rarely full, Councillors were happy for others to use it (apart from Saturday mornings), unless it reaches capacity. It was agreed to monitor the situation, especially with regard to any all-day commuter parking, cease the use of any notices and not consider any additional signage for the time being. • It was noted that a local resident locks the MUGA gate at night to prevent any unauthorised use of the car park, but after a recent incident, it was noticed that the gate was unlocked. As the responsibility to do this falls to just one volunteer, it was readily acknowledged that there would be times when this did not happen. It was agreed that the Chairman of the Council would discuss this with the resident to see if any other neighbours could be encouraged to help and check that the padlock still works. • The MUGA Committee met on 6 Nov and Cllr Jobling reported back that they had been seeking more help with the MUGA management, 	<p>DL</p> <p>All</p> <p>NT</p>

<p>but without success. It was anticipated within the foreseeable future that the facility may need to be passed to the Council to take over responsibility for the MUGA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MUGA Committee had also asked for 2 trees to be removed to prevent moss accumulation on the surface. Cllr Arthur agreed to speak to Barry Timms about this before any action is taken. 	NA
Cemetery Sub Committee	
<p>There had not been a meeting, but the following points were noted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr King is still to source the new stones The recent issues relating to a vaulted grave had been sorted out by email and in future the Councils Terms and Conditions would be sent to relatives at the first opportunity 	TK
Communications and Parish Plan	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some points had already been mentioned by Cllr Phillips The new Greenfield notice board was now in full use, but as the notice board at the Compasses is no longer used, it was agreed to offer it to pub or alternatively to take it down Cllr King explained that the Billing details for the 1&1 email system was in the process of being transferred to the Council, so that her personal payment details were removed 	SP TK/DL
Allotments	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Wright reported that the Greenfield allotments were running smoothly at the moment, although the un-used plots would need attention again next year. Cllr Ellis also said that the allotments at Flitton Hill were quiet, but with some inactivity by plot holders throughout the year. Next year there is likely to be more empty plots and these will need to be promoted or an alternative use sought. Various suggestions were discussed, but it was felt that the Allotments Sub Committee should give this further thought and report back on options 	GE
Highways/Cycleways/footpaths/Grasscutting	
<p>Cllr Ellis reported back from the Highways Sub Committee meeting last week and a copy of the minutes is attached,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Ellis agreed to chase Amey about progress with the zigzags outside the school and progress on the LTP work He clarified that all suggested sites for Speed Watch had been vetted and agreed including Flitton Hill. There were a number of residents who had already been trained and who could use the equipment, some new recruits from Flitton Hill and more volunteers were being sought. The problem of parking outside the school on Pulloxhill Road had also been discussed and it was agreed that the Council should have a plan, albeit short and long term timescales to tackle the problem along with other responsible agencies (School and CBC Highways). It was acknowledged that over the long term the only realistic solution would be for a car park to be made available. This should not necessarily be the Councils sole responsibility, but plans could be drawn up and costed for the future. Various options were discussed including Cllr Jamieson's suggestion about land owned by CBC and Cllr Ellis agreed to pursue this with him. In the short term the extended zig-zag markings should help and giving consideration to extending the double yellow lines should be pursued with Amey. Cllr Ellis was arranging to meet the Headteacher to talk this through and would involve Cllr Sparrey and Simon Mason The LTP 50% funding project for 2015/16 had been considered and 	GE GE GE GE/JS

<p>the Sub Committee had agreed Flitton Hill should take priority, and an application will be drawn up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There had been discussion about the possible removal of one half of both the double barrier chicanes, leaving one half behind, with a possibility of re-siting the other half. Members remembered that Amey had assured them several years ago when they were installed that they were temporary structures. Potential sites for the move of the second half were discussed. Cllr Ellis agreed to pursue this with Amey • It had been noted that the ditches in High Street, Flitton had been cut and cleared and the Clerk agreed to find out who had done this and how often the work is scheduled • Finally the Sub Committee had considered the move of one or both of the electronic Speed Warning signs to better locations in the Parish. But the actual cost(s) were unknown, although it was thought that the Greenfield sign would be more expensive to move as it needs a power source and is not solar operated. Cllr Ellis agreed to pursue the actual costs with Amey 	<p>GE GE DL GE</p>
<p>2509 FINANCE COMMITTEE</p>	
<p>The Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 6 October were received and noted. The Sub Committee Chairs were asked to consider their expenditure needs for next year and let the Clerk have these by mid December, ready for the pre budget meeting in early January.</p> <p>A grant application made by the Church Hall at Flitton for re-decoration costs was agreed</p>	<p>NA/GE/ TK</p>
<p>RESOLVED</p>	
<p>(i) To award £1000 to the Church Hall Management Committee for re-decoration costs</p>	
<p>2510 PLANNING ISSUES</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The various planning applications and decisions were noted • The S106 Agreement at Hermitage Solar Farm was discussed and it was agreed to accept the offer being proposed without any caveats, as contained in a recent email from the Planners. However Councillors felt that it would be best to present a united response to CBC and asked the Clerk to contact Westoning Parish Council as the other named recipient of the email, to swap information and make a joint response if possible. It was noted that Pulloxhill Council was not included in the email. 	<p>DL</p>
<p>2511 CORRESPONDENCE AND CLERKS REPORT</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council had been asked to sign a 7 page Memorandum of Understanding for the provision of a community defibrillator, along with a 16 page Information pack outlining responsibilities which also needed to be signed. The Village Hall Committee had been asked whether they would be happy to take on the Host responsibilities, even though the Council had to make the commitment and the message seemed to be that they were not. Although the Council had been willing to make the financial contribution to the project, members agreed that they did not want to accept responsibility for the whole project and so decided to pull out at this stage on the basis that it was becoming far too 'bureaucratically' onerous 	
<p>RESOLVED</p>	
<p>(i) To decline the Community Defibrillator project</p>	<p>DL</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Public examination on the CBC Development Strategy was 	

<p>noted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An invitation to the Central Farms Tenants Reception was discussed and Cllr Ellis said that he would check to see if he could go and let the Clerk know • The Clerk explained the Centenary Fields Programme although it was noted that the only land in the Councils ownership was the Cemetery. Other areas of land were discussed, but they are leased from CBC and their approval would need to be sought to any proposal. The Clerk agreed to find out whether in principle CBC would be willing to commit to the project on a leased site. • The Grow Wild Flowers Trust had offered grant funding for wild flower projects, but after discussion and the tight time scales, it was agreed that the Council would buy seeds next year and plant in conjunction with the school and gardener • The MUGA committee had already been discussed • CBC had offered salt bags again this year, but following a lack of any resources last year to distribute, it was agreed to decline the offer • It was noted that the Chair of Finance and Clerk would attend the Council Tax seminar at CBC on 25 November 	<p>GE</p> <p>DL</p> <p>DL</p> <p>DL</p> <p>NA/DL</p>
<p>2512 ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of the School as a meeting venue was mentioned due to the fairly cramped conditions and numbers of the public present at this and the last meeting. It was not felt to be suitable anymore and the Clerk agreed to investigate the availability of the Church Hall for all future meetings • The Clerk reported correspondence with a Pulloxhill resident about needing more dog bins in Greenfield which was being progressed 	<p>DL</p>
<p>2513 DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p>	
<p>Monday 19 January 2015 19:30h</p>	

The meeting ended at 21.50h

DATED this 19th day of January 2015

Signed - CHAIRMAN