

**FLITTON AND GREENFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Church Hall, Flitton, on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2018

**Present:** Councillors M Gates (Chair), N Thompson, N Arthur, P Woodland, G. Ellis, T King, M. Lowe, R Stokes and B Rishton

**Also, Present:**

CBC Councillor J Jamieson and D Lawson (Clerk)

Mary Walsh CPRE, Sean Harries, Julianne Wright, Lisa Milne & Sandra Stack (residents)

**2713 APOLOGIES AND SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**Apologies:** Cllr J Fisher

**Declarations of Interest:** There were no declarations of interest

Before the meeting started the Chairman invited comments from members of the public. The following points were discussed

- The hedge and tree removal at the Old Orchard Greenfield was wholeheartedly condemned by everyone present and Cllr Jamieson confirmed that CBC officers were investigating whether the owners action contravened any regulations. Various comments were made regarding the hedge and whether it was historic and needed permission to be removed and if the orchard classed as an ancient orchard especially after CBC has recently been encouraging residents to identify such orchards. Cllr Jamieson confirmed that this was all being looked into, but sadly no measures would now return the site to its original state.  
It was anticipated that there may be another planning application on the site shortly and although the grounds of preserving the orchard and hedge had disappeared there were still other important issues to comment on.
- The planning application at Land off Greenfield Road, Flitton, MK45 5DR was also discussed and residents had already written or were about to write their comments on this. These were discussed and it was noted that this was a new application rather than one for reserved matters, based on the Appeal decision. Cllrs confirmed that they would be discussing this later in the meeting and thanked everyone for their comments.
- A resident mentioned that there was a group of young people hanging around a public footpath adjacent to her home and that litter including empty drinks cans, cigarette packets and small gas canisters was being left. This had happened at the weekend and was not the first occurrence. There was concern about the age of the group and use of the laughing gas and it was agreed to include a paragraph about this in the next FM
- A resident referred to the recent installation of two defibrillator cabinets but noted that they were not yet in use and had heard that there was a delay in commissioning them due to the insurance position. It was explained that the PC was discussing this later on the agenda. However, in terms of accepting full responsibility for them, Cllrs needed to be sure that there were administrative processes in place to ensure regular checks were being made and recorded.  
Following receipt of a recent email it had been confirmed that checks had to be registered on line and this would be sufficient for the Council, so long as this information could be made available at agreed intervals. However, without a project champion or manager Cllrs were unsure how this would be managed. The resident very kindly offered to fill this role and look after the administrative work which would involve coordinating the information required. This was much appreciated by Cllrs and the Clerk would ask her contact to speak to the resident.

DL

<p>It was also noted that Charles Wells Brewery had agreed to site the remaining two at their pubs in the villages and the Council was awaiting a legal agreement from them to finalise this.</p> <p>The Chair thanked the CPRE representative and residents for their attendance and contribution.</p>	
<b>2714 MINUTES</b>	
<p>The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018 were received and it was</p>	
<b>RESOLVED:</b>	
<b>That the Minutes be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.</b>	
<p>The following matters arising were noted, others are discussed again on the agenda</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were a number of issues to be raised with Cllr Jamieson and the Clerk agreed to follow these up with him</li> </ul>	DL
<b>2715 DISTRICT COUNCIL AND POLICE REPORTS</b>	
<p>Cllr Jamieson mentioned or responded to the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He had recently been appointed to a national role at the Local Government Association, but he explained that this would draw on his time in future. He was congratulated on this position.</li> <li>• He is taking part in discussions with Beds Police about the enforcement of HGV weight limits in the area, but it is still early days for any action</li> <li>• In connection with the Solar Farm, Cllr Jamieson said he was in contact with the Planning Officer and would get back to Cllrs as soon as there was anything to report. Cllr Jamieson was aware and acknowledged that Westoning P.C. had already received a large amount and this would be taken into consideration when the next distribution was made.</li> <li>• Cllr Lowe said she had been contacted about the chicane near Mill Lane and whether the other half could be reinstated. There was a short discussion about this, but the main view seemed to be that it is better now as it is and would not be reinstated.</li> <li>• Cllr Woodland asked a question about the invasive plant Japanese Knotweed growing in a resident's garden in Flitton and affecting at least one neighbouring Housing Association property and what could be done. It was noted that residents had complained to the Housing Association and if copies of the correspondence could be sent, then Cllr Jamieson agreed to follow this up with the Housing Association. Cllr Thompson also said he would support their request by making contact with the Housing Association on their behalf</li> </ul> <p>It was noted that there had not been a Police report for a while, but the Clerk explained this was because of a change in the Police recording system and the next report would be issued as soon as possible.</p>	JJ NT
<b>2716 SUB COMMITTEE MEETINGS</b>	
<b>Allotments:</b>	
<p>The following were discussed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Stokes had received notification by an allotment holder of a recent accident witnessed at the track in Joes Close due to the uneven surface and whether the Parish Council could take some action. It was noted that this was the original agricultural track to the allotments and is unadopted highway. The Parish Council has its original right of access, but when private houses were built there the residents had to assume responsibility for the maintenance of the road.</li> </ul>	



<p>agreed to ask the Village Hall to consider making this clear in the bar area and any letting agreement made. Cllr Lowe agreed to raise this at the next meeting of the committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The annual Safety Inspection report had been received and would be discussed in more detail by the subcommittee.</li> <li>There had not been any word from the school football team about the building following the clerks email to them. Cllr Arthur had looked at the position and felt there may just be enough room for this to be sited adjacent to the existing building with space for a compound in between. However, there would need to be access to the existing compound and so some discussion would still need to take place once a response is received.</li> </ul>	<p>ML</p> <p>NA/DL</p> <p>DL/NA</p>
<b>Cemetery Sub Committee</b>	
<p>Cllr King explained that a recent report of possible vandalism had turned out to be animal life. A request for edging round a plot had now been clarified and could be agreed</p> <p>Cllr Lowe mentioned that a wire fence post was falling over and needed to be replaced, however without an inspection, no-one was sure who had responsibility for the fence. This will be checked</p>	<p>DL</p> <p>TK/DL</p>
<b>MUGA Sub Committee</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The tennis coaching has been successfully concluded and there were 38 participants paying £754 (one only paid a reduced amount). Last year there were 30. The course had gone well and was generally appreciated and thanks were expressed to the coach and his team. It was agreed to pay him at the same rate which at £5 per person per session totalled £1140. The Clerk had spoken to the coach and he had a few suggestions to make for next year and it was agreed to invite him to the appropriate MUGA sub committee meeting next year to discuss these</li> <li>The MUGA annual Safety Inspection report had been received and would be discussed shortly</li> </ul>	<p>DL/JF</p> <p>JF</p>
<b>Highways/Cycleways/footpaths/Grass cutting</b>	
<p>The notes of the Highways Sub Committee were considered and the following comments made</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A meeting is now being held in August with a representative of the Greensand Country to talk about possible scheme on verges</li> <li>The lorry situation outside the school was noted with some appreciation and the Clerk said that the operator was pleased to have been notified of this</li> <li>There is still snagging to do on the Pulloxhill Road scheme and Cllr Ellis is in discussion with CBC. It would be helpful to have any photos of vehicles parked on the grass verge opposite the school.</li> <li>Consultation is now formally open on the Silsoe Road scheme</li> <li>The Clerk would follow up the meeting with a Highway representative which was promised in May</li> </ul>	<p>DL/GE</p> <p>DL</p>
<b>2717 FINANCE COMMITTEE</b>	
<p>The minutes of the Finance Committee were noted and the following comments were made</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An application for 10 silhouettes was made by the deadline but nothing has been heard yet</li> <li>The ownership and insurance of the defibrillators was discussed earlier and the Council was now happy to confirm its ownership and insurance cover based on there being a project administrator to organise and keep records of safety checks</li> </ul>	<p>DL</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The issue of the Flitton Hill allotments to be carried forward to a future meeting</li> </ul>	DL
<b>2718 CLERKS REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Clerk reported on the successful appointment of two casual litter pickers for the Parish, both to start in about 2 weeks' time.</li> </ul>	
<b>2719 ANY OTHER BUSINESS – FOR INFORMATION ONLY</b>	
<p>Cllr Arthur raised the issue of vegetation covering the path along Greenfield Road towards Flitwick and pedestrians needing to step into the road. Cllr Ellis agreed to log this on the CBC system</p>	GE
<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b>	
<p>The date of the next meetings was noted as Wednesday 19th September 2018 19:30h at the Church Hall Flitton. Members are also asked to note the date of the January Council meeting is on Weds 23<sup>rd</sup> and not Fri 25<sup>th</sup> 2019</p>	
<p>The meeting ended at 22.00h</p>	
<p>DATED this 19th day of September 2018</p>	
<p>Signed - Chairman</p>	