

FLITTON AND GREENFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parishioners Meeting held at the Church Hall, Flitton,
On Wednesday 17th May 2017

Present: Councillors N Thompson, G Ellis, J Fisher, M Gates, M. Lowe and P Woodland,

Also Present:

D Lawson: Clerk to the Council

Apologies

Cllrs N Arthur, T King and R Stokes

Members of the Public

No members of the public were present

The meeting was opened by the Chairman and the minutes of the Annual Parishioners Meeting last year were noted.

There were no members of the public present and no items for discussion.

<u>FLITTON AND GREENFIELD PARISH COUNCIL</u>	
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Church Hall, Flitton on Wednesday 17 May 2017 Present: Cllrs M Gates (Chairman), N Thompson (Vice-Chairman), G Ellis, J Fisher, M Lowe and P Woodland Also Present: D Lawson (Clerk)	
2642 APOLOGIES AND SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
Cllrs N Arthur, T King, R Stokes and J Jamieson sent apologies. Cllr N Mackie was not in attendance	
Declarations of Interest: there were no declarations of interest.	
2643 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN 2017/18	
Cllr Ellis nominated and Cllr Fisher seconded Cllr Mark Gates as Chairman of the Council and he was duly elected. Cllr Woodland asked for a note of appreciation to be recorded for Cllr Thompsons many years of exemplary service as Chairman of the Council and offered thanks on behalf of Councillors, who also fully supported this sentiment.	
RESOLVED	
Cllr Mark Gates be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year	
2644 DECLARATION OF OFFICE	
Cllr M Gates signed the Declaration of Office	
2645 MINUTES	
The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 15 th March 2017 were received and it was	
RESOLVED: That the Minutes be confirmed as a true record and signed by Cllr M Gates. The following matters arising were noted: (other issues are picked up again on the agenda)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to carry forward Cllr Jamieson's actions to the next meeting • The meeting with Pulloxhill Parish Council is still outstanding • Cllr Ellis gave a brief update of the GI cycle way project and said he would speak to Jon Balaam to see if any further intervention is necessary • The Neighbourhood Plan Group still had the two outstanding actions on their list to be addressed • Cllr Ellis reported that a meeting had been held with Silsoe Road residents and a Highway representative, who acknowledged that it would be difficult to design a scheme, but costed proposals would be put forward. • Cllr Fisher explained the difficulties of doing Speed Watch monitoring in a 40mph area, but said that subject to an acceptable risk level, Greenfield Road, Flitwick was still being considered • Cllr Lowe said that she is progressing the Emergency Plan project 	JJ DL/RS GE GE JF ML
2646 UNITARY COUNCIL AND POLICE REPORT	
Cllr Jamieson had sent apologies. Cllr Ellis reported that he had attended a meeting organised by the Police and Crime Commissioner to consider community priorities and most Parishes (including Flitton and Greenfield) had speeding traffic as their first priority. Cllr Ellis noted that the liaison officer for our area is now PC Aaron Dagley and he has been conducting some speed monitoring in Sand Road Flitton - although without the prior knowledge of the Speed Watch Team. It was suggested that he liaise with the Council in future to avoid any duplication and keep the Speed Watch team up to date with any Police	

monitoring. Cllr Ellis felt that the meeting had been useful and it would be important to attend again in future if possible.	
2647 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN 2017/18	
Cllr Gates nominated and Cllr Ellis seconded Cllr N Thompson as Vice Chairman of the Council and he was duly appointed	
RESOLVED	
Cllr N Thompson be appointed as Vice Chairman for 2017- 18	
2648 APPOINTMENTS TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE 2017/18	
It was agreed that Cllrs Gates, Thompson, Arthur. Ellis, Woodland and King would be the members of the Finance Committee	
2649 MEMBERSHIP OF THE SUB COMMITTEES 2017/18	
Planning – All members of the Council	
Neighbourhood Plan Group – Cllrs Arthur, Ellis and Fisher	
Playing Field – Cllrs Arthur, Lowe and Woodland	
Highways, Footpaths, Cycle Ways and Grass Cutting – Cllrs Ellis, Gates, Fisher, Stokes (plus Paul Masters Co-opted)	
Allotments – Cllrs Ellis and Stokes (plus any Co-opted Member(s))	
Cemetery – Cllrs King, Lowe and Woodland (plus Christine Ward Co-opted)	
MUGA – Cllrs Fisher, Gates (plus Simon Sadler and Dawn Leaning)	
Liaison with the School (Trustee) – Cllr Ellis	
Representative on the Village Hall Committee – Cllr Lowe + vacancy	
2650 SUB COMMITTEE MEETINGS	
Planning	
The following Planning Applications was considered and the response agreed	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11 Silsoe Road, Flitton, Bedford, MK45 5EE. Two storey front extension and changes to vehicular access and gates. <p>It was agreed that the response would be a comment stating that there was no objection to the application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recent Planning Appeal at Thriftwood was noted 	DL
Playing Field Sub Committee	
<p>There had not been a meeting of the Sub Committee, but the Clerk outlined</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reasons behind a proposed Lettings Policy and some of the issues associated with it, especially with reference to the former Governments stance on preventing Parish Councils charging for free public running events. It was agreed to adopt the Policy, which had been endorsed by the Sub Committee, but subject to any amendments to be made immediately following the Council meeting The Gala Committee’s request to use the Playing Field for the annual Gala on Saturday 9th September 2017 was agreed on the basis that no dogs are allowed (apart from Guide dogs), that provision is made for any vehicular access in wet weather conditions and all litter is removed from the site afterwards A request to hold a Charitable marquee dinner dance event on 28th April 2018, thereby using the field between 26th and 30th April was agreed on the basis that that provision is made for any vehicular access in wet weather conditions and all litter is removed from the site afterwards Cllr Lowe mentioned the two tyres which keep being moved around the field and car park and the Clerk said she had already asked Paco about this and he is just waiting for the ground to be softer before he can move them and finish the work. 	DL DL DL DL

Cemetery Sub Committee	
<p>There had not been a meeting of the Sub Committee, but the Clerk reported that the Chair had send notes explaining there were no outstanding issues and the loose headstones could now be laid down The Clerk also noted that steps had been taken to remove the builders materials left in the cemetery.</p>	DL
Highways/Cycleways/footpaths/Grasscutting	
<p>There had been a meeting of the Sub Committee on 26 April 2017and the following points were noted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Lakin had advised that work at the school and the removal of the half chicane in Greenfield, would take place at the end of May • Following consideration of a new lighter Speed Indication Device (SID) there had been discussion about whether it would be good value for money and Cllr Fisher agreed to speak to her Police contact about them replacing the device for the Group • The GI Cycle way had already been considered • Consideration of a 20mph zone throughout the whole Parish or in parts. It was felt that as the main road is the main residential area, a complete 20mph zone could be justified and Cllr Ellis agreed to do some more research on this before any approach is made to CBC • Steve Lakin had agreed to check responsibility for calibrating the flashing signs and report back to Cllr Ellis • The Sub Committee agreed to look at the grass cutting schedule over the summer, ready to tender in the autumn for a start in 2018 as well as responsibility for ditch clearance 	JF GE GE/DL
MUGA	
<p>There had been a meeting of the Sub Committee on 22 March and Chair reported back on the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It had been agreed to go ahead with the tennis coaching and charge a non refundable cost of £20 per person for the 6 week course. This is currently being arranged and all the courses are nearly full, such that we have agreed to do an additional earlier session • The surface maintenance and moss clearing was not considered necessary at the moment due to a mild winter and dry conditions, but it should be looked at again later in the year. The cost is approx £1000 per year (over a 5 yr contract period) and there is now a tap which can be used for the pressure cleaner. • It was agreed that the sleepers in the car park need to be replaced where worn and Paco has been instructed to do this • The MUGA website is now being used for playing field bookings • Simon Sadler presented the accounts and it was agreed to note them (from 31/01) in the Councils accounts and consider the best way to deal with this in the future • A Risk assessment is to be completed based on same format as the Councils assessments 	JF/DL DL JF/DL
2651 FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING	
<p>The minutes of the Committee held on 12 April 2017 were received and the following comments noted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The VAT reclaim of £2840.51 had been received • Cllr Gates outlined the differences between the 2 insurance quotes and whilst the more expensive quote provided a slightly better policy overall, the difference in cost was so great that the cheaper quote (even with some tailored requests) was better value and therefore accepted <p>The lighter SID funding request from Silsoe Parish Council had already</p>	

<p>been partly considered under the Highway Sub Committee where it was agreed that further enquiries would be made of the Police. Subject to this Members felt the request from Silsoe may be premature but if it did need to be raised again, in principle, it would only be considered if it was put forward as a joint evenly split project between the three Parish Councils.</p>	
<p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To accept the Insurance quote offered by AON subject to a couple of queries • To consider the lighter weight SID again when more information was available, but in principle it would only be considered if it was put forward as a joint evenly split project between the three Parish Councils 	<p>DL</p> <p>NT/DL</p>
2652 CLERKS REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The consultation on Park runs and use of Parish Council Parks and Playing Fields was discussed and it was agreed to respond to NALC stating that the discretion to charge for activities should be left to Town and Parish Council decision making and not require Legislation • Cllr Ellis would respond to Harlington Upper Schools Award Evening invitation • The Vice Chair and Clerk would attend the Cheering Volunteering Awards Evening event along with the Good neighbour Group. 	<p>DL</p> <p>GE</p> <p>DL/NT</p>
2653 ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE	
<p>Councillors discussed the implications and possibility of making nominations for assets of community value and whether this should be done through the Neighbourhood Plan Group.</p> <p>It was decided that the Parish Council would nominate the following assets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village Hall • Church Hall • Playing Field and MUGA • Amenity Land at Wardhedges • Flitton Moor • Allotments at Joes Close • Three Public Houses in the Parish <p>If successful, then discussion could be held with Flitwick Town Council about Flitwick Moor. Cllr Gates mentioned that the planning rules relating to Permitted Development had recently been changed for all Public Houses.</p>	
2654 AOB for Information	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Lowe mentioned that the Gala Committee had decided this year not to raise funds specifically for the Village Hall, but to provide a community based defibrillator and would be speaking to the Council about the role of a Community Champion for the facility. • Cllr Lowe also mentioned that she had received a complaint about overgrowing ivy on a wall next to a narrow pavement and would speak to the resident concerned about cutting it back 	<p>ML</p>
DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
<p>19 July 2017 at 19:30h in the Church Hall</p>	

The meeting ended at 21:15h

DATED this 19th day of July 2017

Signed - Chairman