



ASPLEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Aspley Heath Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 25th May 2022 at the Methodist Church Hall, High Street, Woburn Sands, starting after the Annual Parish Meeting

Present: PCllrs G Clough (Chair) G Harris
A McKay

In Attendance: Mrs D Batchelor (Clerk)

2359 To Elect a Chairman

PCllr Smith was proposed and seconded.

2360 To Elect a Vice Chairman

PCllr Clough was proposed and seconded. She took the chair for the evening.

2362 To Receive Apologies of Absence

Apologies of Absence were received from PCllrs Garratt, Jordan, McQuillan, Marshall, Smith and CBCllr Baker.

2363 To Note Declarations of Interest relating to Items on the Agenda

There were no Declarations of Interest.

2364 To Agree the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Two small amendments were to be made to the minutes: 2263a GC to be changed to SS and PCllr Clough to PCllr Smith. With those amendments made the minutes were **APPROVED**.

2365 To Co-opt a New Councillor

A new Councillor was still being sought.

2366 To Elect Members on to Associated Positions

Due to the low numbers of Members present at the meeting it was hoped that Councillors would remain in their previous positions. These were:

a. Finance – PCllrs Smith, Harris and Garrett

b. Planning – PCllrs Harris, McQuillan, McKay and Marshall. PCllr Clough to be added.

c. Footpaths including Aspley woods – PCllrs Harris, Jordan and Smith

d. Newsletter – PCllr Clough

- e. Friends of St Michael – PCllr Garrett
- f. George Wells Educational Trust – PCllr Smith

2367 Open Forum – Members of the Public are Invited to Speak to the Parish Council

There were no members of the public present.

2368 Central Bedfordshire Councillor Report

Actions carried forward:

2259 Proposed new development at Marston Vale – O&H Land had updated some documents but had added these to the general folder, not in a separate folder as requested. O&H had subsequently said they would organise the files more carefully. Minor changes had been made but a revised transport strategy had not been carried out. Red lines on maps had been shortened so the traffic survey was condensed and would not show wider problems particularly those flagged by the Council. The Clerk was to check if Woburn Sands were included in the consultation. As no communication had been received the Members were advised by CBCllr Baker to chase and ask for full inclusion to all correspondence. Aspley Guise and Husborne Crawley had also not been included. (Sept 2021)

Action: DB/PCllrs

2259b Super Fast Broadband was also being investigated. The BT Community team advised rural areas were attracting more funding. Gigiclear would be asked if they would get involved with providing SFBB. (Sept 2021)

Action: JB

CBCllr Baker was not in attendance.

2369 Chairman's Report

Actions carried forward:

1995 Speeding and Parking on Church Road

CBC had emailed residents to say their consultation was incorrect and would be re-submitted. Three sets of yellow lines were proposed which the Parish Council had informed CBC were in the wrong place. The 20mph limit had been rejected. This was questioned by Members as they felt that this was particularly necessary after a car had smashed into and destroyed a wall on Church Road. Another pillar had been knocked over pointing to a problem with speeding cars.

Action: GC/JB

2260 Details of the Councillor vacancy would go onto the notice board. (Sept 2021)

Action: SS/GC

2351a To Discuss Flags on lampposts supporting Ukrainian family

Flags had been put out locally. Some residents were hosting Ukrainian families and a word of welcome in Ukrainian would be added to the website. With the Jubilee coming up it was agreed that Jubilee rosettes be purchased, at a cost of approximately £40 and attached to lampposts in the Parish with reusable ties. Thanks were forwarded to PCllrs Smith and Clough for putting up the rosettes.

Completed

2370 Roads and Footpaths

Actions carried forward:

Although the fencing repairs were unlikely to happen in the short term this would remain on

the agenda. A resident had been injured by fencing that had fallen down and had not been repaired. This would be reported to Bedford Estate and Greensand Trust as the lack of maintenance was now a health and safety issue. PCllr Harris agreed to walk the path to help provide detailed information to BE and GT. (Reviewed July 2020)

Action: GH

2263 PCllr Smith and a resident had cleared away all the debris on Bishops Walk. An invoice would be sent to CBC asking for payment of £100 however, an order number was required. PCllr Smith would see if she could get one generated during a meeting with the Rights of Way Officer. (Sept 2021)

Action: SS

2263a BOAT at the top of Church Road – A topological survey was being planned by CBC. A resident had reported increased traffic on the BOAT due to the closure of Bow Brickhill Road as cars were accessing it as an alternative route. PCllr Smith had contacted the CBC Rights of Way Officer to suggest the planned temporary closure was brought forward. PCllr Smith had sent recent pictures of the damage to CBC including the fencing debris.

Action: CBC

2370a To Discuss a Resident's Concern with the Pavement at the Junction of Silverbirches Lane and Church Road

A photo was to be taken and sent to CBC to report.

Action: DB

2370b To Discuss New Signage for Sandy Lane to Restrict Unnecessary Access

Residents from two properties at the top of Sandy Lane were concerned about lorries accessing the very narrow path and turning at the junction with Church Road. CBC had agreed that a new sign would be installed. The Clerk would chase this.

Action: DB

2371 Lights

Actions carried forward:

2117 A payment of £240 had been made to pay a contribution towards the damaged light outside 57 Church Road. The Clerk would send a receipt to the contractor. (Sept 2020)

Action: DB

2372 Planning

New Planning Applications

Tree Tops, Heath Lane – no objections

Sandy Cottage – there was a breach of 60% uplift as there was an existing extension. This would be commented upon in response to CBC.

Sandown – no objections, response sent

Alderman's Lodge – a structure had been built in the garden and was currently being investigated by Planning Enforcement

12 Silverbirches – A planning application had been received for works already completed. PCllrs McKay and Clough would prepare comments on this.

Recent Planning Applications

2373 Village Matters

Actions carried forward:

2267 To Discuss Homewatch

A meeting was to take place to collate address lists. (Sept 2021)

Action: GC/SS

2340 The Chair had proposed an oak notice board with metal legs as this would be easier to secure into the current base. PCllrs were asked to think about possible designs and make recommendations to a future meeting.

Action: PCllrs

2373a Sandpit - The Chair was in the process of gaining 3 quotes for the tree works needed in the Sandpit.

Action: SS

2373b The Clerk was unable to attend the July and October meetings so it was asked whether the meetings could be brought forward a week. With the agreement of the majority of PCllrs the new dates would be: 20th July and 19th October.

Action: DB

2374 To Receive an Update from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Funding for 2022/23 had been awarded. A business questionnaire was to be designed to especially for all businesses so their views could be taken into consideration.

2375 Finance

a. To agree the purchase of wine glasses for AGM use

It was agreed that 24 wine glasses would be purchased for Parish Council use at a cost of £37.90.

b. To approve payments to be made in May

Payee	Chq No	Amount	Description
D Batchelor	1217	£183.00	Clerk's Salary – May
S Smith	1218	£51.59	Jubilee rosettes for lampposts
S Smith	1219	£56.65	Drinks for AGM £19.68 and glasses £37.90 (Subject to approval above)
SLCC	1220	£70	Annual Membership
BATPC	1221	£141	Affiliation Fee 2022/23
Groundwork UK	1222	£929	Refund of NP funding due to cancelling of website design

The above payments were **APPROVED** for payment.

c. To agree the financial statement for April

The financial statement and budget for April were **APPROVED**. The financial statement was now in a more simplified version. The Reserve Account had a balance of £18, 336.54.

Actions carried forward:
2132a To discuss information received from NatWest on switching bank account
 The Clerk had forwarded the relevant forms to the Chair for completion. The Chair would ring the bank to get paper copies of the forms. (Oct 2020)
Action: SS

d. To approve the Internal Auditor for 2022/23

It was agreed that Lynn Stapleton be asked to complete the Internal Audit for last financial year.

2376 To Note Correspondence Received Since the Last Meeting

	From	Subject	Action
2081	NatWest	Bank Statements	
2082	Central Beds Watch	Crime Stats – April (no crimes reported in AH)	
2083	SEMK Stakeholder Group	Confirmation of receipt of email	
2084	Beds PCC	A421 road closures 27-29 May	
2085	East West Rail	Spring 2022 Update	
2086	Central Beds Council	Town & Parish Council Newsletter – April	
2087	Central Beds Council	Safer Central Youth Survey	

Signed:

Chairman

The meeting closed at 9.35pm.