



# ASPLEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

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To: All Councillors

24<sup>th</sup> June 2021

The Meeting of the Aspley Heath Parish Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 8pm at the **Mary Adams Hall, Aspley Hill, Woburn Sands**

Signed: *D. Batchelor*

- 2224 To Receive Apologies of Absence**
- 2225 To Note Declarations of Interest relating to Items on the Agenda**
- 2226 To Agree the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**
- 2227 Open Forum – Members of the Public are Invited to Speak to the Parish Council**
- 2228 To Meet the Community Neighbourhood Support Officer**
- 2229 Central Bedfordshire Councillor Report**
- 2230 Chairman's Report**

Actions carried forward:

**1995 Speeding and Parking on Church Road**

PCllr Clough had sent a petition to Central Beds Council containing 64 signatures. A response was now awaited.

**Action: CBC**

**2022a** The Clerk had sent a letter asking for a .gov domain name for the website and was still awaiting a response.

**Action: Govt**

- 2231 To Discuss the Accessibility Statement for the Council's Website and to Analyse the Website for Issues**

Actions carried forward:

**2179** The Clerk would forward the website details to PCllr Jordan for further checking on accessibility issues.

**Action: AJ**

## 2232 Roads and Footpaths

### Actions carried forward:

**1514a** A stakeholder meeting was held on 11<sup>th</sup> May with the representatives from all stakeholder groups present. Bedford Estate acknowledged the increased visitor numbers both within its permissive paths and non-permissive areas. Savills updated on the development of Steetleys. It was hoped that outline approval for leisure use would be granted in June/July 21. The outline is for a leisure facility of 400m<sup>2</sup> in size to provide a focus for leisure activities in Aspley Woods. Following feedback on the original planning application, parking has been increased to c.100vehicles and discussion with Highways have confirmed there will be a formal highway crossing close to the junction. A key issue to address is how to maintain and manage the current bridleway safely. Once planning consent has been obtained, further expressions of interest will be sought with a view to letting out the facility. It was acknowledged that with the creation of paid parking, enforcement of parking restrictions on surrounding residential and countryside roads will be required. It was asked how Greensand Trust were spending their time in the woods. It was felt the Council should ask them to make information clearer on the different routes and trails within the woods.

**Action: Stakeholders**

There were now only 10 logs, left by Bedford Estate, for CBC to install. CBCllr Baker would need to ask CBC to get the logs installed.

**Action: JB**

There seemed to be cars spinning around the BOAT outside Aspley Lodge at the weekends. There had previously been posts which had marked out two emergency access gates, these had been lost some time previously but could be reinstalled. This might then stop the 'wheelies' on the BOAT. There had also been an increase in quad bikes using the BOAT particularly late at night. PCllr Harris agreed to speak to CBC to see what could be done.

**Action: GH**

The poor condition of the BOAT bordering the car park at the top of Church Road had been resurfaced however, as it is used as a turning circle by a lot of heavy vehicles, it was not known how much longer the repair would last before it needed re-filling.

Although the fencing repairs were unlikely to happen in the short term this would remain on the agenda. (Reviewed July 2020)

**Action: CBC**

### **2140a To Discuss Resident Complaints regarding Parking and Traffic on Hardwick Road**

Yellow lines were to be re-painted on Hardwick Road but MKC did not see this as a priority, so no date was given for this. PCllr Smith agreed to contact MKC again.

**Action: SS**

**2216** There were still issues with poor parking in the Parish. A discussion was held around the legality of issuing notices to owners of badly parked cars. PCllr Jones agreed to check this. A car which had been left in Church Road had possibly been reported to the police by a resident. Lynne Roberts agreed to see if she could locate the owner.

**Action: GJ**

## 2233 Lights

### Actions carried forward:

**2117** The light outside 57 Church Road which had been hit by a builder's lorry had now been

repaired. PCllr Garratt had drafted a letter to the contractor asking for full payment. The Clerk would send the letter, asking for a response by 11<sup>th</sup> June.

**Action: DB**

**2181** The light outside 13 Church Road was still not working. PCllr Jordan would check whether the repairs had been carried out. If not, the Clerk would chase the contractor.

**Action: AJ/DB**

## 2234 Planning

Actions carried forward:

**1861b** PCllr McKay had sent a letter to CBC detailing the concerns regarding the lack of communication between CBC planning departments. A response was awaited.

**Action: CBC**

**2090** 47 Church Road. The breeze block structure erected in the rear garden had been considered permissible by CBC.

**Action: Planning**

**2218** Narrow Path – there were issues with contractors' vehicles blocking Church Road and inconsiderate parking. The road was a mess and a sign had been knocked over. All access to the site needed to be via Narrow Path. PCllr Smith would chase these issues.

**Action: SS**

## 2235 Village Matters

Actions carried forward:

### **2155b Re-listing of a Community Asset – the Royal Oak**

PCllr Jordan had investigated and had found that new evidence would be required to re-list the pub. Previous evidence could not be used but there was little new evidence as the pub had only just re-opened and events weren't yet happening. The owners were keen to have the pub listed and so evidence would need to be collected in the future.

**Action: PCllrs**

**2169** Overhanging Hedges - further properties had been identified and the template letter would be sent out.

**Action: PCllrs**

**2219** The re-opening of the pub had seen complaints from nearby residents regarding noise, fireworks, users sitting and standing in their gardens and sitting on walls. There was also concern that Nonna's was increasing their event nights and there was plenty of inconsiderate parking by visitors. A suggestion was made to mark out parking spaces on Church Road to aid visitors in parking more sensibly. It was discussed whether local food and drink businesses could send details of considerate parking out with their booking confirmations. It was advised that the double yellow lines were being enforced. PCllrs offered to visit local businesses to talk about the various issues.

**Action:**

PCllr Jordan – the Royal Oak

PCllr Harris – House of Hair

PCllr McQuillan – Nonna's

PCllr Jordan would ask CBCllr Baker about the marking of parking bays to encourage more considerate parking.

## 2236 To Discuss the East West Rail Proposals and Subsequent Response

### Actions carried forward:

**2220** PCllrs Clough and Marshall had attended the East West Rail meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> May. Notes from this meeting had been circulated to all Members. The issues with Hardwick Road traffic and using allotment land were listened to. It was hoped that residents would send in a response.

East West rail seemed to be more concerned with the building of the railway rather than how local residents would be affected. Members were asked to send any feedback to PCllrs Clough, Harris and Marshall to include in the Parish's response to the proposals. It was also noted that SEMK would have a huge impact on the rail line.

**Action: PCllrs**

## 2237 To Receive an Update from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

## 2238 Finance

### a. To approve payments to be made in June

Payee	Chq No	Amount	Description
TBC		£TBC	Allocated for tree removal on Sandy Lane
D Batchelor	1166	£178.35	Clerk's Salary - June
HMRC	1167	£139.44	Clerk's PAYE April - June
D Batchelor	1168	£115.78	Clerk's Allowance & expenses April - June
Came & Company	1169	£358.94	Insurance renewal
BATPC	1170	£144.00	Affiliation Fees 2021
Cultivation Ltd	1171	£45.00	Jubilee Garden Maintenance April & May
S Smith	1172	£45.00	Hire of Mary Adams Hall for June meeting

### b. To agree the financial statements for May

#### Actions carried forward:

#### **2132a To discuss information received from NatWest on switching bank account**

Paperwork had been sent to the Co-Op regarding switching the Council's main account. However, there would be a monthly charge to maintain the account and this was not felt to be fair. Therefore, the Clerk would apply for the Sandpit account to be switched to the Co-Op with all details remaining the same. It was agreed that the Metro Bank be contacted and the main Parish Council account be switched over to them as they offered free banking for organisations with a balance of over £5000.

It was agreed that PCllr Garratt be added as a signatory when this was possible.

**Action: DB**

### c. To Approve the Internal Audit Report for 2020/21

### d. To Approve the Annual Governance Statement for 2020/21

### e. To Approve the Accounting Statements for 2020/21

### f. To Complete and Sign the Exemption Certificate for 2020/21

**g. To Agree the Insurance Renewal for 2021/22**

**2239 To Note Correspondence Received Since the Last Meeting**

	<b>From</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Action</b>
1983	NatWest	Bank Statements	
1984	East West Rail	Consultation thank you	
1985	Central Beds Council	Crime Statistics – May (no crime reported)	
1986	Police and Crime Commissioner	Meet the new P&CC – 9 <sup>th</sup> November 6.30pm	
1987	George Wells Foundation	New contact – Sam Townend & poster information	Added to website
1988	St Michaels Church	Thank you letter for grants received	
1989	BATPC	Queen’s Platinum Jubilee information	

**Actions carried forward:**

**2223** It was hoped that the next meeting would be carried out face-to-face and so PCllr Smith agreed to book a room for the next meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> June. The Mary Adams Hall was proposed as the Ellen Petit Hall was not available on Wednesday evenings and social distancing was likely to still be in place.

**Action: SS**