



## ASPLEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Denise Batchelor  
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To: All Councillors

24<sup>th</sup> March 2023

The Next Meeting of Aspley Heath Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 8pm at the **Woburn Sands Town Council Offices, next to the Memorial Hall, High Street, Woburn Sands**

**2470 To Receive Apologies of Absence**

**2471 To Note Declarations of Interest relating to Items on the Agenda**

**2472 To Agree the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

**2473 Open Forum – Members of the Public are Invited to Speak to the Parish Council**

**Actions carried forward:**

**2434** CBCllr Baker had gotten a response from the Fire Officer about checking all roads in Aspley Heath for accessibility by emergency vehicles but this had not been forwarded to the Clerk. CBCllr Baker agreed to send although this had not been received still.  
(Nov 2022)

**Action: JB**

**2434a** Yellow lines on Church Road – Matthew Simkiss of CBC had said the yellow lines outside Narrow Path would be removed in the next few months. With regard to the passing places suggested further down Church Road, CBC had agreed there was a problem with traffic. A question was asked about how these would be marked out. PCllr Clough would discuss these with CBC. Cones which were placed on Church Road to help with this issue were being driven over or removed. It was agreed that a small group be set up to review parking issues and yellow lines which would provide feedback to CBC. It was asked whether ANPR would be of use. PCllr Jordan agreed to investigate this.  
(Nov 2022)

**Action: CBC/GC/AJ**

**2447a** A complaint had been sent to CBC regarding the black cab selling coffee without a licence by the entrance to the woods. CBC had given no acknowledgement that the trader was there illegally. PCllr Smith had suggested an on-site meeting with the Licensing Officer so she could see the problems first hand. Residents had been unable to exit their own driveways due to poor parking and heavy traffic. (Jan 2023)

**Action: SS/CBC**

**2474 Central Bedfordshire Councillor Report**

**Actions carried forward:**

**2259** Proposed new development at Marston Vale – O&H Planning Application. CBC were not happy with the proposed plan as the traffic flow had not been modelled appropriately. (Sept 2021)

**Action: O&H**

## 2475 Chairman's Report

**Actions carried forward:**

**1995 Speeding and Parking on Church Road**

The 'Twenty's Plenty' signs had been agreed and ordered. A resident had offered to help put the signs up, PCllr Smith would contact them. (Sept 2022)

**Action: SS**

**2436a To Advise of a vacancy for the Three Parishes Fuel Charity (Poor's Coal Charity)**

This would be added to the noticeboard. (Nov 2022)

**Action: SS**

**2436d To Discuss a Tree Planting Event**

The Chairman had handed out most of the trees provided by CBC. It was expected that the remainder would be given away imminently. (Nov 2022)

**Action: SS**

**2462** PCllr Garratt had tendered his resignation. The Clerk would contact CBC to advise that there was a vacancy. (Feb 2023)

**Action: DB**

## 2476 To Discuss the Agenda for the Annual General Meeting in April

## 2477 Roads and Footpaths

**Actions carried forward:**

**1514a** 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. PCllr Smith would report the increasing amount of waste at the top of Church Road to Greensand Trust. A letter drafted by PCllr Smith would be sent to CBC. It was noted that the abandoned car had now been removed. (Reviewed July 2020)

**Action: GH/SS**

**2263a** BOAT at the top of Church Road – No response had been received from Francine Rainbow the Rights of Way Officer. CBC had said that if any unsocial behaviour was seen it should be reported via 101 so that it could be logged. (Sept 2021)

**Action: CBC**

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

A photo had been sent to CBC Highways but no response had been received by them yet. PCllr Smith had sent the email twice and now CBCllr Baker would investigate the lack of reply. (May 2022)

**Action: JB**

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

The CBC Rights of Way Officer had visited the site and it was hoped that a new sign would be installed soon. No response had been received from the CBC Officer Francine Rainbow. PCllr Smith agreed to email Chris Nichol copying in CBCllr Baker. (May 2022)

**Action: SS**

## 2478 Lighting

### Actions carried forward:

**2464a** The current contractor had advised that they were changing the way that maintenance for street lights was to be charged. A call out fee of £160 would be made with a £90 charge for any additional street light that needs repairing. A replacement light would be charged at £398. The Clerk would provide a summary of the number of call outs made in the last few years so a comparison could be made.

**Action: DB**

## 2479 Planning

New Planning Applications

Recent Planning Applications

## 2480 Village Matters

### Actions carried forward:

#### **2267 To Discuss Homewatch**

PCllr Jordan had registered the scheme with Neighbourhood Watch (Sept 2021)

**Action: AJ**

**2340** The Chairman would contact the company for a delivery date. (March 2022)

**Action: PNC/SS**

#### **2387 To Discuss the Bike Jump Area in Aspley Woods**

A Risk Assessment was still being sought. There were concerns with the number of Air Ambulance visits to the bike jump area. CBCllr Baker had asked for these but no information was forthcoming. However, the Air Ambulance reported on their site some of their call outs. The Bedfordshire Safety Advisory Group (SAG) were to meet with Bedford Estate. It was hoped that users of the bike jump area could be encouraged to use the Longslade Lane car park to reduce the issues on Church Road. (July 2022)

**Action: BE/SAG**

#### **2440c To Discuss the Hedge in Church Road/Narrow Path**

PCllr Clough had forwarded the previous letter regarding hedges to PCllr Marshall. It was agreed that notices would be given to those residents whose hedges were overhanging paths and roads. (Nov 2022)

**Action: GC**

**2453a** A huge number of cars had parked on both Church Road and Woburn Road over the weekend. Runners had been forced into the road due to inconsiderate parking on both sides of Woburn Road. There was also concern over unsafe loading and unloading of bikes from the cars and crossing the road. CBCllr Baker had received numerous complaints. PCllr Clough had drafted a letter to Mark Conway of the Safety Advisory Group. It was noted that lots of correspondence had been sent to Bedford Estate and the Greensand Trust with no response. There was no Management Plan in place to deal with the huge numbers of users and the effect on the local community. The

site was felt to be overloaded and CBC would be asked to visit at a weekend to see the impact. (Jan 2023)

**To be merged with 2387**

**2453c** It was agreed that the gardeners be asked to contact a Parish Councillor when the rubbish needed disposing of from the Jubilee Garden. (Jan 2023)

**Action: SS/AS-W**

**2453d** Some residents had complained to the Parish Council about lights installed onto a property in Church Road which were causing light pollution. The Clerk had reported this to CBC who had not taken any action. It was reported that the lights would affect the bat feeding routes known in this area. (Jan 2023)

**Action: DB**

**2466** The Chairman asked about putting up some temporary signs to celebrate the King's coronation. It was agreed that these would be attached to lampposts for the weekend. PCllr Clough agreed to get these printed out. (Feb 2023)

**Action: GC**

## **2481 To Receive an Update from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**

## **2482 Finance**

### **a. To approve payments to be made in March**

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Chq No</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Description</b>
D Batchelor	1261	£202.32	Clerk's salary – March
HMRC	1262	£151.60	Clerk's PAYE Jan - March
D Batchelor	1263	£25.00	Clerk's Allowance – Jan - March
Greensand Trust	1264	£2325 - TBC	NP Green Infrastructure Plan
Woburn Sands Town Council	1265	£160.00	Committee Room hire for Council meetings 2022-2023

### **b. To agree the financial statements for February**

## **2483 To Agree and Update the Risk Assessment**

## **2484 To Note Correspondence Received Since the Last Meeting**

	<b>From</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Action</b>
2172	NatWest	Bank Statements	
2173	Central Beds Watch	Crime Stats – February no crimes reported	
2174	Central Beds Council	Budget for 2023/24	
2175	Central Beds Council	Town and Parish Council bulletin - March	
2176	Deputy Police & Crime	Response to letter from CBCllr Baker	

	Commissioner	regarding lack of policing locally	
2177	Central Beds Council	Local Elections information for candidates	
2178	Central Beds Council	Acknowledgement of Councillor vacancy – no action required due to elections in May	
2179	Keep Britain Tidy	Great British Spring Clean 17 March – 2 April	
2180	BATPC	Councillor training – TBC after Elections	
2181	Central Beds Council	Photography of waste collections – Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	
2182	Local Council Audit	Annual Governance and Accountability Returns – forms sent	
2183	Central Beds Council	<b>Reminder of deadline for Parish Councillor nomination forms – 4<sup>th</sup> April 4pm</b>	