



## ASPLEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

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To: All Councillors

19<sup>th</sup> March 2026

The Next Meeting of the Aspley Heath Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at the **Woburn Sands Town Council Offices, to the side of the Ellen Pettit Memorial Hall, High Street, Woburn Sands at 8pm**

Signed:

- 2901 To Receive Apologies for Absence**
- 2902 To Note Declarations of Interest relating to Items on the Agenda**
- 2903 To Agree the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**
- 2904 Open Forum – Members of the Public are Invited to Speak to the Parish Council**

**Actions carried forward:**

**2814** Anti-social behaviour at the Royal Oak Pub. PCllr Wilson had met with residents and was planning to meet with the landlady. She had offered to meet her along with the residents to talk over the issues together. She advised that residents on Church Road near the pub had lots of video evidence of anti-social behaviour, trespassing and drug taking. Two residents had put up fencing in their front gardens to deter pub goers from using their gardens for anti-social and illegal purposes.

**Action: JW**

- 2905 Central Bedfordshire Councillor Report**
- 2906 Chairman's Report**

**Actions carried forward:**

**2890** The Annual Parish meeting would be held on 6<sup>th</sup> May in St Michael's Church. It was asked if Dominic Smith from the Bedford Estate would be invited as a speaker.

**Action: SS**

## **2907 To Agree the Agenda for the AGM**

## **2908 Roads and Footpaths**

### **Actions carried forward:**

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

The Clerk had contacted Francine Rainbow who had stated that the work had been ordered and that Chris Nicholl would be seeing this through. No action had been taken by CBC yet. The Clerk would contact Chris again to see if this was being actioned and copy in CBCllr Baker. The location and wording of the sign would need to be agreed. The repair to the BOAT (Sandy Lane) had now been agreed by CBC.

**Action: CBC**

**2859** The black paint was coming off of the road where it had been painted over the yellow (unofficial) lines close to Narrow Path and 25 Church Road. CBC would either need to re-paint them or burn off the yellow lines.

**Action: DB**

**2891** Residents were concerned with the opening of BOAT 33 as there had been two instances of fly tipping already. PCllrs Harris and Smith had met with another resident who had issues with 4x4s accessing the BOAT and making a lot of noise and damaging the surface. CBC had said they would monitor the situation over the next six months. The Parish Council would check with CBCllr Baker what this entailed. It was noted that more cars were parking at the top of Church Road and overnight camping had started again. PCllr Smith would email CBCllr Baker to ask about the situation and to state the Parish Council and residents' concerns.

**Action: SS**

### **Actions carried forward:**

**2687** CBC had rejected the Parish Council's request for a 20mph Speed Limit on Church Road. Feedback from residents at the January meeting was overwhelmingly for a reduced speed limit. The Parish Council would pursue this further as residents were overwhelmingly asking for a reduction in the speed limit. CBCllr Baker stated that the cost of reducing the speed limit and mitigations would be c.£10,000. If the Parish Council would contribute then CBC would more likely agree to the works. SpeedWatch data was felt to have been skewed as the users of the speed gun were told where to stand but these were at the slowest parts of Church Road and so it was felt that the report did not show the true picture. Residents were often having to walk in the road and this was considered dangerous on a 30mph road. A letter was to be sent to CBCllr Baker to ask that the 20mph limit be reconsidered. He should be asked if a petition would be useful. The Parish Council were prepared to run a SpeedWatch group. It was also suggested that the Parish Council could contribute to a speed sign or speed bumps.

**Action: PCllrs**

## **2909 Lighting**

### **Actions carried forward:**

**2894** It was reported that a light was out by 30 Church Road. This would be double checked.

**Action: PCllrs**

## 2910 Installation of CCTV

### Actions carried forward:

**2877** The company who had originally quoted for the CCTV installation had been taken over and this had resulted in lengthy delays. PCllr McKay was seeking a new supplier and costings. This would be reported to a future meeting, once received.

A resident asked about the direction of the cameras and who had access. They wanted to know if their property would be included in the field of vision. It was not known until the cameras were installed how far they would reach but the Parish Council could blur out residents' properties. Access would be for four Councillors and the Clerk but there would be strict policies on accessing the data. Once the cameras were installed residents would be contacted so they could determine where the pixelation would start. Any images would be deleted after 30 days.

**Action: Contractor/AM**

## 2911 Planning

### Actions carried forward:

**2896** Bedford Estate – Aspley Woods – Lawful Development Certificate - Use of land for a bike park for outdoor sport and a recreational facility

PCllr Clough had sent a draft response to Councillors before the meeting. This included previous letters and photographs sent to CBC. There was a break in the use of the bike jump area several times with full closures. Volunteers had created new parts of the bike jump area on an informal basis. There had also been closures for flooding and tree removal. The bike jump area had been closed for a minimum of six months during one closure. Fencing had only been put around some of the site in 2022. There were also questions over footpath and general access if the bike jump area opened. A response would be sent to CBC by 8<sup>th</sup> March.

**Action: GC/DB**

### New Planning Applications

- Fernwood, 75 Church Road
- Land between Brogborough, Lidlington and Marston Moretaine – Outline planning application for 5000 homes, 7 schools, employment, leisure, etc.
- Land adjacent to 10 Silverbirches – variation of plans

### Recent Planning Applications

## 2912 Village Matters

### Actions carried forward:

**2762** PCllr Wilson was continuing to gather residents' views.

**Action: JW**

**2897** The last date for the survey of the Sandpit area would be checked.

**Action: DB**

**2897a** There was some difficulty in finding a gardener to maintain the Jubilee Gardens. It was asked if local gardeners would be able to look after the area. These would be contacted by the Parish Council.

**Action: PCllrs**

## 2912a To Consider a Litter Pick as part of the Great British Spring Clean

## 2912b To Agree a Survey of the Sandpit trees

## 2913 To Receive an Update from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

### Actions carried forward:

**2850** A quote would be sought to print copies of all Neighbourhood Plan documents to give to the team and to have spare copies available for residents to borrow; ten copies were suggested initially. Members agreed to this expenditure.

**Action: GC**

**2898** Despite several emails Jane Hubbard at CBC had not replied to the Steering Group's query about the Neighbourhood Plan not being displayed on the CBC website. It was agreed that a copy would be added to the Parish Council website.

**Action: GC/DB**

## 2914 Finance

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

Payee	Chq No	Amount	Description
D Batchelor	1411	£235.77	Clerk's Salary - March
HMRC	1412	£176.60	Clerk's PAYE – Jan - March
D Batchelor	1413	£25.00	Clerk's allowance – Jan - March
D Batchelor	1414	£34.48	Stamps – 6 x 1 <sup>st</sup> , 24 x 2 <sup>nd</sup>

### b. To Agree the financial statements for February

### c. To Confirm the Signatories for the Sandpit Bank Account and note the Bank Statement

## 2915 To Note Correspondence Received Since the Last Meeting

	From	Subject	Action
2467	NatWest	Bank Statements	
2468	Central Beds Watch	Crime Stats – February and to mid-March– no crimes reported	
2469	Central Beds Council	Glass recycling	
2470	Central Beds Council	Town and Parish Council update - March	
2471	CPRE	January newsletter	
2472	Central Beds Council	Town & Parish Council Forum – 25 <sup>th</sup> March 6-7.30pm	
2473	Wix.com	Renewal of website - March	
2474	Central Beds Council	Temporary suspension of recycling waste collection due to fire at transfer station	

2475	Keep Britain Tidy	Great British Spring Clean – 13 to 29 <sup>th</sup> March	
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