



ASPLEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

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To: All Councillors

13th October 2023

The Next Meeting of the Aspley Heath Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 18th October 2023 at 8pm at the **Woburn Sands Town Council Offices next to the Ellen Pettit Memorial Hall, Street, Woburn Sands**

2554 To Receive Apologies of Absence

2555 To Note Declarations of Interest relating to Items on the Agenda

2556 To Agree the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

2557 Open Forum – Members of the Public are Invited to Speak to the Parish Council

Actions carried forward:

2434a The yellow lines on Church Road by Narrow Path had now been removed however, CBC had not removed the unauthorised yellow lines at the bottom of Church Road. CBCllr Baker had chased this up and was awaiting a date for removal. (Nov 2022)

Action: CBC

2544 Two residents of Church Road complained about the anti-social behaviour faced by them and other residents from users of the pub. The majority of problems occurred on a Friday and/or Saturday evening after 11pm and included drug taking, trespassing onto property, sitting on residents' walls, broken glasses on residents' property, threatening behaviour, noise which continued after midnight. The Councillors advised the residents to report to the police online as this would be quicker; the website was beds.police.uk. Noise pollution could be reported to Central Beds Council as could issues with drinking alcohol in the streets where Licencing would be notified. A food truck was also reported in the street which had caused problems with trailing wires. PCllr Jordan agreed to speak to the Royal Oak to make them aware of the problems and to possibly suggest hiring a doorperson.

Action: AJ

2558 Central Bedfordshire Councillor Report

Actions carried forward:

2259 Proposed new development at Marston Vale – O&H Planning Application. (Sept 2021)
It was thought the new members in the CBC committee responsible would ask more questions about this development. It was hoped a new traffic analysis would be carried out; CBCllr Baker was to be asked about this.

Action: O&H/JB

2545 CBCllr Baker reported that the pot holes in Church Road had been repaired however some members stated that there were still pot holes. CBCllr Baker would ask that Church Road be inspected and the man-hole cover surround be checked as the pavement was cracked. Silverbirches Lane – it was reported that fibre cables were being laid. Marston Vale new homes – no progress would be made until 2027 as there was no highways plan. A new transport survey was to be carried out. PCllr McKay would send CBC an email asking them about the transport issues.

Action: AM

2559 Chairman's Report

2546a To Agree the Meeting Dates for 2024

The previously circulated meeting dates were agreed with one amendment. Woburn Sands Town Council had stated the Memorial Hall was not available to hire on Wednesday evenings. Therefore, it was agreed that the Annual meeting in April be held on Thursday 25th April. The Clerk would book the hall with WSTC.

Action: DB

2546b To Discuss Advertising and Refreshments for November meeting

The meeting would be advertised in the newsletter, website, notice board and Facebook. Refreshments were agreed which PCllr Smith agreed to source.

Action: DB/GC/AJ/SS

2559a To Arrange Poppies and Remembrance Day Service

2559b To Discuss a Safer Community Event

2560 Roads and Footpaths

Actions carried forward:

2263a BOAT at the top of Church Road – Chris Nicoll from CBC would email when dates were known for a temporary closure. Gazebos had been reported on the BOAT and it was asked that if any were seen in the future that photos be taken and sent to Bedford Estate to make them aware.

Action: CBC/PCllrs

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

(May 2022) CBC Highways had repeatedly not responded. PCllr Smith had submitted another form to have the work completed during April 2023. This had not been done and PCllr Smith would send another email asking for action.

Action: SS/CBC

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. (May 2022) No response had been received from the CBC Officer Francine Rainbow despite several months passing. PCllr Smith would contact CBC again.

Action: CBC/SS

2561 Lighting

2548 A report of a light out by 57 Church Road was made. The Clerk would contact the contractors.

Action: DB

2561a To Discuss a Resident's Offer to Help Source Replacement Lighting for the Parish

2562 Planning

Actions carried forward:

Recent Planning Applications

It was asked whether the recent CBC meeting on Planning Obligations (Section 106) could be accessed via a recording. This had not been emailed by CBC but the Clerk would see if a copy could be sent.

Action: DB

New Planning Applications

Recent Planning Applications

2563 Village Matters

Actions carried forward:

2267 To Discuss Homewatch

The Neighbourhood Watch scheme was now up and running and more advertising of this was needed so that more people joined the online group. Thirty people had signed up so far. The link to do this was on the Neighbourhood Watch website and residents would need to type in Aspley Heath in the scheme name. Details would be added to all communication channels. The scheme also addressed other community needs such as helping vulnerable people, reporting anti-social behaviour and furthering community cohesion. Grants were available for coffee mornings for lonely people and home security stickers for homes. The Deputy Police Crime Commissioner had confirmed his attendance at the November meeting.

Action: PCllrs/DB

2340 The new notice board had been installed and thanks was given to Nigel Garratt for installing it. A photo would be added to the website. A planter was also discussed and funding would be requested from the Ward Councillor Grant scheme. PCllrs McQuillan, Jordan and Smith would research designs and funding. (March 2022)

Action: SS/SMc/LJ

2387 To Discuss the Bike Jump Area in Aspley Woods

No Risk Assessment was forthcoming. (July 2022) It was noted that the use of the bike jumps was being limited when wet which was encouraging. Litter was still a problem but was not increasing in amount. The lack of facilities was still a major issue.

Action: PCllrs

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

More letters were to be given to residents. (Nov 2022)

Action: SS

2537a A resident had commented that trees close to their property were causing issues. The Clerk would contact CBC/Bedford Estate to see if these could be cut down. Andy Jones would be emailed as one of the trees crossed over the BOAT.

Action: DB

2550b The Rural Affordable Housing meeting would be attended by PCllrs McQuillan and Harris. The Clerk would email to inform of their attendance.

Action: DB

2550 Newsletter - PCllr Clough asked for ideas for the next newsletter. The Neighbourhood Plan, new notice boards, Jubilee Gardens and Neighbourhood Watch were suggested. Any further ideas were welcomed and to be sent to PCllr Clough with some text attached.

Action: PCllrs

2564 To Receive an Update from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

2565 Finance

a. To approve payments to be made in October

Payee	Chq No	Amount	Description
D Batchelor	1293	£202.32	Clerk's salary – October
Forde & McHugh	1294	£	Light repair – o/s 58 Church Road

b. To agree the financial statements for July and August

Actions carried forward:

2539a It was agreed that a gift be purchased for the Internal Auditor to say thank you for carrying out the audit. The Clerk would arrange this.

Action: DB

2566 To Note Correspondence Received Since the Last Meeting

	From	Subject	Action
2226	NatWest	Bank Statements	
2227	Central Beds Watch	Crime Stats – no incidents reported	
2228	SEMK	Stakeholder meeting – Thurs 19 th October 5.45pm, Memorial Hall, WS	
2229	Charity Commission	Online registration	Completed by DB
2230	CPRE	Newsletter - September	
2231	Central Beds Council	Safer Community Events –	
2232	East West Rail	Letters bring sent to landowners regarding digging of trial trenches	