



ASPLEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Denise Batchelor
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Minutes of the Aspley Heath Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 27th May 2020, remotely, starting at 8.00pm

Present: PCllrs S Smith (Chair) G Clough
 G Harris A Jordan
 P Garratt A McKay
 S McQuillan A Shirville
 C Southgate

CBCllr J Baker

In Attendance: Mrs D Batchelor (Clerk)

2081 To Receive Apologies of Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2082 To Note Declarations of Interest relating to Items on the Agenda

The following Declarations of Interest were made:

PCllr McQuillan – Item 1861b – 12 Silverbirches Lane (pecuniary)

PCllr Clough – Item 2076b – 41 Church Road (pecuniary)

PCllr McKay – Item 2076b – 41 Church Road (pecuniary)

2083 To Agree the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 29th April 2020 be signed as a true record of events. The signing would take place at a future date to conform to current social distancing requirements.

2084 Open Forum – Members of the Public are Invited to Speak to the Parish Council

Actions carried forward:

1648 The street light on Sandy Lane was due to be connected today.

Action: SS/Contractor

2071 Central Beds Council had carried out the work to re-paint and extend white lines outside the entrance to Charlewood House. It was stated that any resident could ask for this to be done.

Completed

A resident of Narrow Path had asked if a round mirror could be installed to ease access out of the junction with Church Road. Councillors were amenable to this suggestion and asked that the resident be informed of this. The residents would need to source the mirror but the Council supported their request. PCllr Jordan would follow up on this action and also the potential re-painting of white lines outside the entrance to Narrow Path.

Action: AJ/Residents

2085 Central Bedfordshire Councillor Report

The consultation regarding Fulbrook Middle School becoming a Secondary School had received a high level of support. There was also support for Swallowfield Lower and Aspley Guise Lower schools to become Primary Schools.

Highways Officers had made the most of quieter roads and had re-surfaced parts of Aspley Hill and West Hill. The pot hole by the roundabout at the bottom of Church Road had also been filled.

Central Beds Council had re-instated the Councillor Ward grant scheme and £200 was allocated to Aspley Heath if a suitable project could be identified.

CBCllr Baker advised that bins would be emptied as soon as possible. CBCllr Baker asked if any roads needed repairing or re-surfacing and advised that Woburn was next to be restored.

2086 Chairman's Report

Actions carried forward:

1994b The new cabinet had been received and would be installed. Additional costs of approximately £88 were agreed. (Jul 19)

Action: Contractor

1995 Speeding and Parking on Church Road

It was noted that temporary devices could be attached to lampposts which recorded speeds for every passing vehicle within a 15-minute period. However, there were no lampposts sited in the hotspot speeding areas. CBCllr Baker reported on a data capture method that used Google to record speeds of cars. He offered to research into this further. (Jul 19)

Action: JB

2009 Mr Shirville joined the meeting to provide an update. Full Fibre (FTTP) is now available to approximately 30 properties in Sandy Lane and in Church Road. CBCllr Baker agreed to chase the Officer at CBC so that Full Fibre could be installed to all properties. (Sept 19)

Action: JB

2022a The new website was now up and running and information was being added. A .gov domain had not yet been received and the Clerk would chase.

Action: DB

2034a To Discuss an Event for the 75th Anniversary of D Day

As all events were cancelled the Parish Council would upload information to the website instead. PCllr Clough would forward some photographs.

Completed

2073b To discuss celebration of a resident's 100th birthday

The celebration of a resident's 100th birthday on 9th July was hoped to be marked in a special way. Residents had offered their terrace for the celebrations and would invite friends and Parish Councillors. Support for this event was agreed as long as conditions permitted. It was thought that musical instruments could be brought and played outside.

Action: SS

The Chairman advised that Lesley Willmott had asked about the possibility of having a plaque fixed on to the Parish Council bench at the top of Church Road, in order to commemorate Piers' time on the Council. It was agreed that this was a welcome idea and that the Council would meet the cost. Wording was sought from Lesley Willmott.

Action: SS

It was noted that parking at the top of Church Road had increased and was very busy. There were reports of fires in the woods, drug use and young people congregating in large groups. The police had been called out several times and were now visiting twice a day.

2087 To Agree the Agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting

It was agreed to hold the meeting on Wednesday 24th June at 8pm. The meeting would be held remotely. The Annual Parish Council meeting would be held afterwards. It was agreed that Bob Holland be invited to talk about the woods and a draft agenda would be circulated. PCllr Shirville advised that she would attend the Annual Meeting but this meeting would be her last. The Clerk would contact CBC to advise there would be a vacancy.

Action: DB

2088 Roads and Footpaths

Actions carried forward:

1514a Replacement bollards for the top of Church Road were available from Bedford Estates. CBCllr Baker agreed to contact the Highways Officer to see if CBC were prepared to install new bollards.
The fence on both sides of the car park was falling apart and Bedford Estates had acknowledged that further works to the fencing would be carried out as part of an overall fencing update. (Sep 15)

Action: JB

2089 Lights

Actions carried forward:

2012a Street Light Adoption by Central Beds Council – A list of lights had been sent to CBC but no response received. The Councillors agreed that all Parish Council owned lights would remain so. It was hoped that the lights would be cleaned in the Spring. (Sept 19)

Completed

CBCllr Baker had asked for an update on the condition of CBC owned street lights in the Parish. A street light in Heath Lane, identified by CBC, was not actually present. PCllr McKay agreed to send CBCllr Baker a map of street lights with the missing street light indicated.

Action: AM

2090 Planning

Actions carried forward:

1861b 12 Silverbirches Lane. Councillors were concerned with the procedures carried out on this application. The website was not updated and the Enforcement Officer was not aware of the recent decision. There were no details of the enforcement provided. The application referred to the replacement of quoins but there had not been any on the house originally. The Conservation Officer was not aware of this issue either which was worrying. PCllr McKay was awaiting a response from the Planning Officer. (Jul 19)

Action: CBC

2076a The application for Aldermans Place had been refused due to its location too close to the tree canopy and its overbearing size.

Completed

2076b The Parish Council were unhappy with the approval for 41 Church Road despite raising objections and a response had been sent.

Action: Planning

It was noted that 47 Church Road were installing new windows and render for which, permission had not been sought. It was agreed that the Enforcement Officer be contacted as there were concerns with the alterations and also the side elevation windows not being obscured.

Action: SM

Tree application for 67a Church Road – no comments

2090a To discuss the Planning Application for 23 Church Road

Councillors were aware of the concerns of residents with the application for a new dwelling next to the existing dwelling and new access via Narrow Path. As Narrow Path was not a Council owned road no comment could be made on this aspect. However, Councillors were concerned with the number of healthy trees that would need to be removed to make way for new access. Comments would be sent to CBC regarding this.

Action: Planning

2091 Village Matters

Actions carried forward:

2000c A Welcome Pack for new residents had been put together by the Clerk. Members were asked to send any additional information to the Clerk for inclusion, particularly about Sports, Clubs and Groups. It was asked that the pack be ready by the end of August. The pack would also be available via the website and Facebook. (Jul 19)

Action: PCllrs/DB

2027 As all Councillors were present a screenshot was taken of the meeting and would be used as photographs for all media. (Oct 19)

Action: AJ/DB

2038c To Discuss Further a Neighbourhood Plan

PCllr Clough had sent off the application and was awaiting approval. The newsletter would be updated with this information and a request made for interested residents to join the Steering Group; approximately six were required to make the group feasible. PCllrs Clough and McQuillan would be the contacts for the group.

Action: CBC/GC/SM

2092 Finance

a. To approve payments to be made in May

Payee	Chq No	Amount	Description
D Batchelor	1114	£132.00	Clerk's salary May

The above payment was agreed for payment.

b. To agree the financial statements for April

The financial statements were agreed.

2093 To Note Correspondence Received Since the Last Meeting

	From	Subject	Action
1897	NatWest	Bank Statements	
1898	Central Beds	Poster resources	
1899	BATPC	Information on Audit for 2019/20	
1900	Central Beds Council	Town & Parish Council COVID bulletin	

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Signed:
Chairman