



ASPLEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Denise Batchelor
Tel: 01525 717905
Email: clerk@aspleyheath.org.uk

To: All Councillors

13th January 2023

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

2444 To Receive Apologies of Absence

2445 To Note Declarations of Interest relating to Items on the Agenda

2446 To Agree the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

**2447 Open Forum – Members of the Public are Invited to Speak to the
Parish Council**

Actions carried forward:

2434 CBCllr Baker had asked the Fire Officer about checking all roads in Aspley Heath for accessibility by emergency vehicles. No reply had been received yet. CBCllr Baker agreed to chase the Officer. (Nov 2022)

Action: JB

2434a An impact assessment had taken place regarding yellow lines in Church Road. CBC had refused to implement the asked for 20mph speed limit but had added yellow lines in several areas as part of a temporary Experimental Order. CBC had put some of these in the wrong place and the Parish Council had had to report this. The yellow lines by Narrow Path had been asked for by residents but the Parish Council felt they were not needed as visibility had improved at the junction. CBCllr Baker agreed that Highways should be contacted to get the lines reduced so they were only present directly opposite the junction. This would be done once PCllrs Sandys-Wood, Harris and Clough had checked the sightlines. PCllr Clough would email CBC with the necessary changes. The renewal of the yellow lines at the very bottom of Church Road was also requested. (Nov 2022)

Action: JB/GC

2434b It was acknowledged there were no passing places near the Church but at least one was required. However, the introduction of yellow lines might cause problems elsewhere and further views were to be sought. The leafleting of residents living close to this area was suggested. (Nov 2022)

Action: PCllrs

2448 Central Bedfordshire Councillor Report

Actions carried forward:

2259 Proposed new development at Marston Vale – O&H Planning Application. CBCllr Baker had met with consultants who could not provide any evidence for having considered traffic movements in the area. No further information as of this meeting (Nov 22). (Sept 2021)

Action: O&H

2409 Concerns were raised about conditions put on planning applications which were then disregarded in subsequent applications. It was felt that CBC were not following their own rules. It was asked whether Enforcement could actually enforce the planning conditions as this was setting a precedent in the Parish to get conditions overruled in a later planning application. It was asked if a Teams meeting could be arranged with Andrew Davie, the Director of Planning. CBCllr Baker offered to arrange this. This had not yet been done. CBCllr Baker asked if a list of concerns could be drafted and PCllr McKay agreed to send this to CBCllr Baker. (Sept 2022)

Action: JB/AM

2449 Chairman's Report

Actions carried forward:

1995 Speeding and Parking on Church Road

The 'Twenty's Plenty' signs had been delivered but the correct brackets had not yet arrived. Once received, the signs would go up. (Sept 2022)

Action: PG

2410 St Michael's Church Christmas Tree festival. PCllr Smith had made the tree and would put up. (Sept 2022)

Action: SS

2410a PCllr Sandys-Wood had laid the Parish Council's wreath at the Remembrance Day parade. The Chair thanked PCllrs Sandys-Wood and Marshall for putting up the poppies. It was agreed that 10 additional poppies be purchased at a cost of £5 each. (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

2436b To Discuss an Alternate Date for the January Meeting

It was agreed to move the January meeting to Wednesday 18th January. The Clerk would update the website. (Nov 2022)

Action: DB

2436d To Discuss a Tree Planting Event

This was agreed in principle but more information was needed from CBC. The Clerk would ask for more details. (Nov 2022)

Action: DB

2450 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 – The topological survey had been carried out by CBC. No further action would be taken until the new budget in 2023 when temporary traffic regulations would be made. CBCllr Baker would send an email.

Action: JB

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

Actions carried forward:

2437 It was agreed that a small group be set up to review CBC's Draft Parking Strategy and provide feedback to CBC. PCllr Clough would investigate how to do this. (Nov 2022)

Action: GC

2451 Lighting

Actions carried forward:

2438 A light on Sandy Lane was reported as not working. The Clerk would contact the contractors. (Nov 2022)

Action: DB

2452 Planning

Actions carried forward:

2426 There was a question regarding the re-installation of a Holly Hedge at 23 Church Road as this was thought to be part of the Planning Conditions. The Chairman would ask the Tree Officer at CBC about this. (Oct 2022)

Action: SS

2439 There was some concern that a Garden Room extension to 45 Church Road was encroaching into the neighbour's property at 43. It was felt that the Enforcement Team should be notified in order to check this. (Nov 2022)

Action: DB

New Planning Applications

Recent Planning Applications

2453 Village Matters

Actions carried forward:

2267 To Discuss Homewatch

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

Action: AJ

2340 It was agreed that a plaque be purchased to commemorate Her Majesty the Queen's life and put on the board. No response had been made since the Clerk had emailed the confirmed wording over. PCllr Smith agreed to contact them again. (March 2022)

Action: SS

2387 To Discuss the Bike Jump Area in Aspley Woods

CBCllr Baker had repeatedly asked for a copy of the Risk Assessment. Bedford Estate had responded that they had not been given any risk assessments for the Bike Jump area. PCllr Harris would write a letter to send to the Greensand Trust asking for the risk assessment. Funding for the Greensand Trust was being removed from April 2023. (July 2022)

Action: GH

2440b To Discuss trees in the Sandpit

Following the tree works, one tree was identified as needing to be inspected by camera to see if removal was necessary. The contractor had advised it was not dangerous. PCllrs Smith and Marshall would look at the tree in question. (Nov 2022)

Action: SS/CM

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

It was noted that several hedges were encroaching onto Church Road with cars having to move into the middle of the road to avoid them. Prams were unable to be pushed on the pavements in places. A leaflet was suggested with residents' previous comments made on the difficulties of accessing overgrown pavements added. PCllr Clough agreed to collate the information and make up a newsletter which would put through residents' letterboxes. (Nov 2022)

Action: GC

2454 To Receive an Update from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

2455 Finance

a. To approve payments to be made in January

Payee	Chq No	Amount	Description
D Batchelor	1251	£202.32	Clerk's salary – December
HMRC	1252	£175.40	Clerk's PAYE Oct – Dec
D Batchelor	1253	£25.00	Clerk's Allowance Oct - Dec
D Batchelor	1254	£202.32	Clerk's salary - January
Cultivation Ltd	1255	£40.00	Jubilee Gardens maintenance - November
Gill Clough	1256	£208.70	NP – Hall hire for workshop £93, printing of postcards £89.67 and refreshments £26.03

b. To agree the financial statements for November and December

<p>Actions carried forward:</p> <p>2132a NatWest bank account – new mandate forms needed. The forms had arrived to all signatories earlier in the day and would need to be completed. Once the main account was sorted the account for the Sandpit would be looked at. (Oct 2020)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: SS/ASW/PG/GH</p> <p>2443c To Agree the Precept for 2023/24 The Clerk had prepared a draft budget for 2023/24 which showed predicted expenditure at £11,520. This was significantly above the precept requested last year. Although the Council had used their reserves in previous years it was felt that significant amounts of reserves should not be used every year. Expenditure was analysed and some items removed from the budget to lower costs. This meant that a precept of £10,210 was sought which meant a Band D contribution of £27.30, an increase of 19.5%. The Precept for 2023/24 of £10,210 was APPROVED. The Clerk would inform CBC. (Nov 2022)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: DB</p>
--

2456 To Note Correspondence Received Since the Last Meeting

	From	Subject	Action
2153	NatWest	Bank Statements	
2154	Central Beds Watch	Crime Stats – November and December no crimes reported	
2155	Central Beds Council	Revised register of Town and Parish Councillor interests	
2156	Central Beds Council	Town and Parish Council bulletin - December	
2157	Poor's Coal Charity	Thank you for donation	
2158	The Pensions Regulator	Confirmation of completed online declaration	
2159	East West Rail	Materials from November meeting	
2160	Beds Police and Crime Commissioner	Budget consultation for 2023/24	
2161	Central Beds Council	Budget consultation for 2023/24	
2162	Beds Police and Crime Commissioner	Newsletter - January	