



ASPLEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Aspley Heath Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 27th November 2019 in the Council Offices at the rear of the Ellen Pettit Memorial Hall starting at 8.00pm

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

CBCllr Baker

In Attendance: Mrs D Batchelor (Clerk)

2 residents

2030 To Receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from PCllrs Jordan and Southgate.

2031 To Note Declarations of Interest relating to Items on the Agenda

PCllr McQuillan declared an interest in 12 Silverbirches Lane (item 2037a).

2032 Open Forum – Members of the Public are Invited to Speak to the Parish Council

Actions carried forward:

1648 The timescale provided by the developer for the light to be reconnected had now passed and no response had been received. A letter to the developer had been drafted and would be sent once agreed stating that legal action would have to be taken. A temporary connection had been made to the residents' house.

Action: Developer/SM/JT

2007 To Receive an Update from Susan Lynch of CPRE on the Oxford to Cambridge corridor

A meeting was planned for 4th November at Aspley Guise Village Hall. The Clerk would contact Susan Lynch to let her know the Councillors who could attend.

Completed

2020 A resident from Church Road expressed his concerns about parking on Church Road at its narrowest point close to 27 and 40. He had put up a sign asking for more consideration to be taken and this seemed to have stopped the parking issues. At the present time no more action was to be taken.

Completed

A resident expressed his concern with parking in the Parish especially as essential emergency vehicles were being blocked by inconsiderate parking. The Fire Service did not keep a record of difficulties accessing roads. Members agreed that information should be included in the newsletter and Welcome Park as well as putting leaflets on windscreens of offending cars.

2033 Central Bedfordshire Councillor Report

Actions carried forward:

1979 No response had been received from Planning regarding issues with applications. CBCllr Baker agreed to chase if a response was not received in the next few weeks.

It was reported that the trees on Woburn Road needed cutting back as they were obstructing the path, the Parish asked CBCllr Baker to report this and organise necessary tree works. (Jun 19)

Completed

2008 The overgrown drain in Sandy Lane had been reported to CBCllr Baker so that a clearance could take place before too much rain was received. The work had now been completed. (Sept 19)

Completed

2008a Members expressed their concerns over the site plans provided with the plans for 69 Church Road and asked if Planning officers were checking these. The documents were not representative of the area and CBCllr Baker was asked to report this to the Planning department. CBCllr Baker agreed to chase the relevant Planning Officer. (Sept 19)

Action: CBCllr Baker

2021 Central Beds Council would uphold the appeal for 102 Church Road. CBCllr Baker advised Members to take photos of the trenches so they could be assessed with regard to the size of the proposed development and location. CBCllr Baker agreed to check whether a Planning Officer had visited the site. (Oct 19)

Completed

CBCllr Baker advised that Jason Longhurst would be leaving Central Beds Council.

New bins had been agreed due to two bins having been burnt out in the last six months.

2034 Chairman's Report

Actions carried forward:

1994b A grant from BHF had successfully been applied for which covered 50% of the cost of a defibrillator. The outcome of a grant application from John Baker was being awaited. This would pay for the cabinet, for which a suitable location was still being sought. A power supply would also need to be investigated.

Community sessions for CPR training were also proposed and Councillors agreed this would be a good idea. An article would be put in the next newsletter and any interested residents could contact the Clerk. PCllr Smith would continue to investigate connection. (Jul 19)

Action: SS

1994c To discuss a Micro Library

A Micro Library was to be set up in the entrance porch of the church by an interested parishioner. (Jul 19)

Action: SS

1995 Speeding and Parking on Church Road

A check was agreed for next week; PCllr Smith would pick up the machine on 30th November. It was noted that temporary devices could be attached to lamppost which recorded speeds for every passing vehicle within a 15-minute period. The results could then be analysed and the amount of traffic and the possibility of blockages assessed. PCllr McKay agreed to investigate further. (Jul 19)

Action: AM

2009 It was reported that full fibre was planned for all of Aspley Heath. Further confirmation was required. (Sept 19)

Action: AS

2022a The website was discussed and it was agreed that there was little support for the cost of the Eyelid option. The preferred route was to use wix.com, copying a template that had been developed for Milton Bryan and continue with the existing email provider, due to the simple requirements for the Council required. The Clerk would ask for a .gov.uk domain name. The data transfer for the website would be fairly simple and the Clerk would do this using wix.com once a template was put in place. PCllrs Jordan and Clough would support the Clerk with the website.

Action: AJ/GH/DB

The Chairman thanked everyone for their hard work over the last year.

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

Tripta Eady gave details for the anniversary event which would take place on Friday 8th May. Walks around the churchyard were planned and a leaflet had already been designed. The church would be opened up for the community to use. The Parish Council were happy to help with the Church's plans and PCllr Smith would contact Tripta Eady with any ideas the Councillors had.

Action: SS/All PCllrs

2034b To Discuss the Christmas Tree Festival

PCllr McQuillan agreed to create a tree for the festival.

Action: SM

2035 Roads and Footpaths

Actions carried forward: (Sep 15)

1514a The bollards at the top of Church Road were rotting away and there was a huge puddle forming outside the gates. A quote had been received by CBC to fill in the hole and an order placed. Paul Williams had stated that CBC had installed the posts and he would chase.

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. Paul Williams would be contacted to see if there was any progress.

Action: Bedford Estates/CBC/DB

1933 Holly Walk Steps – The repair work had been carried out.

Completed

2036 Lights

Actions carried forward:

2012a To Discuss Street Light Adoption by Central Beds Council

The Chairman had still not received answers to questions raised and would chase again. (Sept 19)

Action: CBC

2037 Planning

Actions carried forward:

1861b An enforcement notice for a house in Silverbirches Lane regarding its brickwork being smoothed over was still in force. CBC were awaiting a non-material amendment from the resident. (Jul 18)

Action: CBC

2026 There were no objections concerning the planning application for 18 Sandy Lane. response. (Oct 19)

Completed

2026a To discuss the planning application for 57 Church Road. PCllr Harris would prepare the response on behalf of the Planning group. Plans were circulated and discussed. It was noted that potential works to trees needed to be made clear. (Oct 19)

Completed

2026b To discuss the planning application for 102 Church Road

No information had been received from CBC regarding the decision. (Oct 19)

Action: CBC

2037a To Comment on Outstanding Planning Applications

Consultation with residents regarding the application for 69 Church Road was ongoing. Comments were to be submitted by 3rd December.

66 Church Road – PCllrs Clough and McKay declared an interest in this application. It was noted that the roots of a tree within the grounds of No. 68 would be affected by the planned works.

55 Church Road – The sub committee agreed to meet to discuss the planned demolition of the bungalow and the erection of a two-storey house.

Action: Planning

2038 Village Matters

Actions carried forward:

1893a The owners of Croyland Cottage had cut back their hedge.

Completed

2000b The Facebook page had been updated and current news was being added. (Jul 19)

Completed

2000c A Welcome Pack for new residents was being put together by the Clerk. Information was being added and a draft would be made available at a future meeting. (Jul 19)

Action: DB

2027 It was asked whether Councillors would like to have their photos added to the noticeboard so that residents could identify them more easily. Most Members were happy with this and PCllr Jordan would be asked to collate the photos for the board. (Oct 19)

Action: AJ

The Jubilee Garden had been tidied the previous day.

2038a To Progress a New Website for the Parish Council

Discussed under Item 2022a.

2038b To Receive an Update on Neighbourhood Watch

As PCllr Southgate was not present this would be moved to the agenda for January's meeting.

2038c To Discuss Further a Neighbourhood Plan

Following the meeting with a representative from Central Beds Council the first step in the process would be to see if there was support for a Neighbourhood Plan by residents. Further discussion would take place at the next meeting once paperwork had been received, Councillors were asked to think over the plans and bring ideas to the next meeting.

Action: CBC

2039 Finance

a. To approve payments to be made in November

Payee	Chq No	Amount	Description
D Batchelor	1081	£264.00	Clerk's salary November & December
HMRC	1082	£99.00	Clerk's PAYE Oct - Dec
D Batchelor	1083	£59.42	Allowance & stationery items Oct - Dec
BATPC	1084	£30.00	New Councillor Induction Training – GH 3/10/19
St Michaels Church	1085	£300	Donation
Woburn Sands TC (Library)	1086	£600	Donation
George Wells Foundation	1087	£300	Donation
Swallowfield Lower PTA	1088	£300	Donation
Fulbrook Middle PTA	1089	£300	Donation
Forde & McHugh	1090	£710.88	Maintenance of Street Lights 1/10/18-31/3/19

The payments listed above were agreed.

b. To agree the financial statements for October

The financial statements were agreed.

c. To agree the Precept for 2020/21

Members discussed the proposed budget and agreed that the precept should be set a similar level to the previous year. The Precept for 2020/21 was **APPROVED** for £8106.04 which due to an increase in the tax base meant a zero increase for residents. The Band D charge would remain at £21.2. The Clerk would send the Precept Request to CBC.

Action: DB

PCllr McQuillan left the meeting at this point.

2040 To Note Correspondence Received Since the Last Meeting

	From	Subject	Action
1843	NatWest	Bank Statements	
1844	Central Beds Council	Review of polling places and districts	
1845	BATPC	Beds Bugle	
1846	Central Beds Council	Intention to dispose of Asset of Community Value– The Royal Oak	Advise if to be considered a potential bidder
1847	Beds Police	Crime statistics - October	
1848	Central Beds Council	Town and Parish Conference cancelled due to General Election	
1849			
1850	Central Beds Council	Precept Request Form	Return by 17/1/20
1851	St Michaels Church	Notice of 75 th Anniversary of D Day	
1852	NatWest	Cheque Book	

The Chairman reported that a complaint had been received from a resident stating that proper practices had not been followed. It was noted that Councillors declared an interest in any agenda items that affected them or their property and took no part in discussions.

The comments for development at 12 Silverbirches were distributed and members agreed a response to be sent to CBC.

The meeting closed at 10.15pm.

Signed:
Chairman