

Minutes of a meeting of Cublington Parish Council held on 21st May 2024 at Biggs Pavilion at 7.30pm

Present:

Cllr G Antosiewicz (Chair)
Cllr M Reilly
Cllr M Waters
Cllr K Shults

Cllr D Blamires (Bucks Council) for item 4
Cllr P Cooper (Bucks Council) for item 4

In attendance: Mr M Joy (Clerk) and one member of the public

1. Apologies

Cllr A Bond and Cllr H Vale

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 12th March 2024 were discussed by the meeting and duly signed by the Chair.

3. Declaration of Interest

None .

4. Reports

Buckinghamshire Council has stated it will use evidence from individual dashcams to help prosecute against fly-tipping. Cllr Peter Cooper gave a summary of the unitarian council and how successful it has been in bringing together five separate councils into one and the savings generated from it which has put the council in a better financial position compared to other Councils. The number of councillors will be reduced from 147 to 97 members from next year. There will be boundary charges and Cublington PC will become part of the new Bierton/Kingsbrook group. Roadworks at Bierton were discussed and the manning of traffic lights. Cllr Cooper will give an update on the enforcement notice ref 19/00049/CON3 served at the Land off Cublington Road Wing once the Enforcement officer had given an update to

the North Bucks Planning Committee which Cllr Bond and Cooper sit on. Cllr Shults asked if covert cameras could be put in place on the Cublington Road where there is regular fly tipping. Cllr Blamires will pursue this request with the relevant department at Bucks Council .

5.1 To approve payments since last meeting.

The following invoices were passed for payment from 1st March to 9th May 2024:

4/3 Bucks Council £302.65 – dog bin collection for the year
4/3 K Shults £30 – expenses litter pick refreshments
12/3 Forde & McHugh £9,384 – replacement LED lighting
28/3 DPS Property £1,054.76 – essential maintenance work on the playground
28/3 Clerk Salary £180.57 – March salary
28/3 HMRC £135.60 – PAYE 4th quarter
4/3 SSE £201.42 – electricity
15/4 BALC £57.54 – subscription
15/4 Mainly Mowing £232.50 – grass mowing.
26/4 Clerk Salary £198.47 – April salary
15/4 Best Kept Village £25 – entrance fee
15/4 Autela Payroll £73.73 – payroll processing costs
3/4 SSE £108.41 – electricity costs

5.2 To review the accounting statements to 31st March 2024

M Joy presented the end year accounts. There was a deficit of £7,244 and a closing cash balance as at 31st March 2024 of £14,459. The major cost during the year was the upgrading of the street lighting to LED of £7,980. It is anticipated that the payback period will be in the order of 4 years . The precept was £12,600 an increase of 5% over the previous year's precept The surplus funds are earmarked for traffic calming schemes and street lighting.

5.3 To approve the accounting statements by resolution.

The meeting approved the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024.

6. Orchard Ground/ North Field Report

The new signage for Orchard Ground is now up , and OG is looking to replace the gate and fencing. Bookings are holding up. The start of the cricket season has been delayed three weeks because of the poor drainage of the outfield. Grants of £5,000 has been secured from Heart of Bucks and £10,000 from ECB for improving the drainage of the outfield. Juniors attending cricket training has been encouraging. A grant application has been made to FCC (previously named Wren) concerning an accessible path from the playground and across the car park using special material - Ecogrid. Waiting on quotation for the work which is estimated to be in the region of £20,000 . The grant would be 90% and 10% from OG. A decision on the grant application will be made by September/October. The Allotment society is replacing its fencing at a cost of £3,150 and a grant application has been made to Arnold Clark. North Field - thanks was made to Hugh Vale for cutting the field . Volunteer days continue – 3 benches have installed with concrete - a grant application has been made to Arnold Clark for a storage container.

6.1 New Charity and lease

Further meetings have been held with the proposed trustees.

7. Planning Permissions

7.1 24/01332/COUAR - Rockwell Reads Lane Cublington Buckinghamshire LU7 0LE Determination as to whether prior approval is required in respect of transport & highway impact, noise, contamination risk, flooding and locational considerations for the conversion of an agricultural building into one dwellinghouse (Class Q(a)) and in relation to design and external appearance of the building (Class Q(b) – no objection

It was noted that Lakeside Business Units has not complied with the conditions of planning , in particular moving the entrance and landscaping. Clerk to notify Enforcement Officer.

8. Village Matters

8.1 Traffic

The wet weather over the past two months has restricted Speedwatch activities. There have been two new recruits to the scheme.

A member of the public reported a near miss collision with the cyclist on the sharp bend on the Stewkley/Dunton road due to the cyclist being on the wrong side of the road. Clerk to check with Local Area Technician whether there was adequate road signage.

8.2 Street Lighting

An estimate had been received for two new lights on the High Street between the Unicorn and Ridings Way. The estimate is £10,600 plus VAT. There are insufficient funds for this work, so grants will be required for it to go ahead.

8.3 Trees and hedges

Bucks Council has a useful section on its website, 'Rights of Way,' for reporting issues concerning access on public footpaths. The cherry trees on the crossroads were planted by the WI in recognition of the Roskill Commission to site the third London Airport ,and it was suggested a plaque should be placed by the trees.

8.4 Moving 30 mph sign on Wing Road

There will be a cost of £500-£1,000 from Bucks Council for an assessment of moving the speed sign. Clerk to approach BC for confirmation of costs and procedures.

8.5 D Day 80th Anniversary

The Vales have kindly invited the village to the lighting of a beacon to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of D Day. It was suggested a four-page insert be placed in the Crier. Costings to be checked with Gary Brazier. Church bells to ring at 9.00pm followed by a procession from The Unicorn car park to the beacon. Brian Knight to be asked if he would kindly give the proclamation.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 9th July 2024 7.30pm at Orchard Ground.

Signed:

.....Dated:

8.6 Best Kept Village Competition

Entry has been made for this year's competition. An article has been written for the Crier asking villagers to look after their boundaries. Plants for the hanging baskets by the bus shelter have been kindly donated by Caroline Lightfoot, the bus shelter to be repaired and repainted, High Street path needs to be cleared of vegetation, village gates need cleaning and weeding around the Church boundary. Judging to take place between 2nd June and the 14th of July.

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8.7 Arthur Read

It was reported the sad news that Arthur Read had died. Arthur made a significant contribution to the work of the Parish Council having served as a Councillor from 1968 to 1991 and as Chair between 1978 and 1987. Cllr Shults agreed to contact Arthur's family to see how best to commemorate his life and contribution to the village. One suggestion was to use the space where the old telephone box used to be located, and Cllr Reilly offered to prepare drawings and costings for a small quartz sculpture.