**Minutes of a meeting of Cublington Parish Council held on 13th March 2018 in Village Hall at 7.30pm**

Present:

Cllr H Vale (Chairman)

Cllr J Merriman

Cllr S Morgan

Cllr M Reilly

Cllr N Glover (part)

Cllr Merriman agreed to take the minutes of the meeting in the absence of the Parish Clerk.

The Chairman opened the meeting expressing his thanks, on behalf of the Parish Council, to those residents who took part in the litter blitz around the village the previous weekend. A total of 30 bags of rubbish had been collected from local roads.

1. **Apologies**

Cllr G Antosiewicz and Mr M Joy.

1. **Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 16th January 2018 were discussed by the meeting and duly signed by the Chairman.

1. **Reports**

***Neighbourhood Policing Team***

* Crime statistics for the past year:

Burglary dwelling down 51%

Burglary non-dwelling down 95%

Theft of motor vehicle Up 91%

Theft from motor vehicle Up 14%

Criminal damage Up 11%

Drug offences Down 43%

* Theft from motor vehicles has increased, but could be reduced by following some simple precautions:
* Ensure you lock your vehicle when you are leaving it unattended even if it is only for a few minutes
* Do not leave valuables on show, this includes wires for sat navs, ipods and phone chargers etc.
* Remove all tools from your vehicle if it is parked overnight.
* If it is not possible to remove tools then consider fitting extra security locks.
* If possible park under a street light or in a well-lit area.
* ‘Have your say meetings’ are being organised and those convenient for Cublington residents are:

***PCSO Megan Harriett***

Tues. 27th March 5.30pm until 6.00pm outside village shop, Stewkley

Sat. 7th April 2.00pm until 2.30pm at village shop, Wingrave

***PCSO Natalie Hall***

Wed. 18th April 11.00am until 12.00pm at Wing Library, Leighton Road, Wing.

* Contact us if you see anything suspicious on 999 if it is a crime in progress or 101 if you have information. You can also email the team at:

[greatbrickhillwingivinghoeNHPT@thames.valley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:greatbrickhillwingivinghoeNHPT@thames.valley.pnn.police.uk)

***Aylesbury Vale District Council and Buckinghamshire County Council (Cllr Netta Glover)***

* ***Unitary Decision – representations:*** Following the announcement for a proposed one unitary authority in South Buckinghamshire you can give your views before 25th May 2018. To do this, contact the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local government by email at [sajid.javid.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:sajid.javid.mp@parliament.uk)
* ***Freight Strategy:*** Consultation is now taking place in which you can take part. See link below.

[www.buckscc.gov.uk/media/4510662/draft-freight-strategy.pdf](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/media/4510662/draft-freight-strategy.pdf)

* ***Aylesbury Crown Court:*** this iconic building has now closed. There are plans for it to be converted into a hotel.
* ***Children’s Services:*** Recently failed an Ofsted report. A new Children’s Services’ Commissioner for Buckinghamshire, John Coughlan CBE has been appointed. He will work closely with the Council and then make a recommendation about the future of Children’s Services in Bucks. There is an open meeting at County Hall on 26th March at 7.00pm.
* ***Link to Expressway:*** Please look at link below for information regarding the proposed Expressway.

[www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/571353/oxford-to-cambridge-expressway-strategic-study-stage-3-report.pdf](http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/571353/oxford-to-cambridge-expressway-strategic-study-stage-3-report.pdf)

1. **Accounts**
   1. The following invoices were passed for payment since last meeting:

S Hayward,tree work at pond £200.00

E-on electricity: January £89.04

Clerk salary: January £166.67

Clerk salary: February £166.67

Wicksteed final payment £12,464

* 1. ***Transparency Grant***: the application has been submitted and awaiting a decision.
  2. ***Internal Auditor***: Rhonda Roberts has kindly agreed to act as internal auditor for the Parish Council.

1. **Lakeside Business Units – New Access**

A decision from Aylesbury Vale Planning Department regarding the legality of the access to Lakeside Business Units is still awaited.

1. **Orchard Ground Report & North Field Project Update, incl. CIO status**

Nothing to report from Orchard Ground Committee, but the North Field Project situation is as follows:

* 1. ***Change of Use of North Field****:* Parish Clerk commenced what is a laborious process and presently awaiting a response.
  2. ***Charitable status and possible transfer of assets***: Parish Clerk has written a briefing note for Buckinghamshire Association of Local Councils (BALC) to send on to their lawyers. Further work is ongoing.

1. **Village Matters** 
   1. ***Play Area***: Cllr Merriman confirmed that a satisfactory safety report has now been received from Wicksteed Leisure so Aylesbury Vale District Council has released the monies (£12,464) in final settlement.
   2. ***Pond at Crossroads:*** Cllr Reilly said he had received no response to his request for help and advice with regard to the village pond. It was agreed by the meeting that ways of improving the health of the pond should be investigated, including suitable plants to encourage wildlife.
   3. ***Poles at Crossroads:*** Cllr Reilly stated that he had been unable to remove these poles manually, but would obtain suitable equipment to aid removal as a matter of urgency.
   4. ***Traffic Calming:*** After some discussion, the meeting agreed that a feasibility study should be carried out regarding the installation of a roundabout at the crossroads. The Local Area Forum (LAF) has agreed to fund half of this expenditure which was envisaged to be in the order of £7.5k. Cllrs Morgan and Reilly confirmed their attendance at the next LAF meeting to be held on 19th March 2018.

Cllr Morgan confirmed that he would be organising future traffic speed monitoring through the village using the Sentinel equipment and had recruited some more volunteers. The meeting suggested he contact Mr Bush who had previously worked on this initiative when he was a Parish Councillor.

* 1. ***Street Lighting:*** Cllr Morgan confirmed that he was presently in consultation with suppliers regarding maintenance of the village street lights. The present contact expires at the end of this month.

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday, 1st May 2018 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall and will be preceded by the Annual Meeting.**

Signed: …………………………………………..

Dated: ……………………………………………