



PARISH NEWS

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Minutes of a meeting of Cublington Parish Council held on 16th January 2018 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present:

Cllr H Vale (Chairman)

Cllr M Reilly

Cllr J Merriman

Cllr N Glover (part)

In attendance: Mr M Joy (Clerk)

Apologies

Cllr Morgan

Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 14th November 2017 were discussed by the meeting and duly signed by the Chairman.

3 Appointment of New Councillor

Cllr Vale confirmed Gillian Antosiewicz will become a Councillor and will attend the next meeting. Mrs Antosiewicz used to be Parish Clerk several years ago.

4. Reports

4.1 Thames Valley Police

No contact had been received from the Police concerning the report and the meeting. Cllr Glover gave details of an alternative contact email address to us in the future.

4.2 - Aylesbury Vale District Council and Buckinghamshire County Council

Early Help: Was discussed at cabinet. The new arrangements were all agreed. It is worth watching the webcast. This new strategy focuses on intervening early to improve the life outcomes of young people rather than reactively waiting until problems are being experienced. It should also enable us to reach a far higher percentage of those in genuine need and importantly they will have to tell their story just once – at the moment families can be involved with several people. There has been extensive consultation on the proposed changes which has shown 50% support. A lot of concerns are about closing Children's Centres. No decision has been taken yet – what was agreed is the work to be done on Early Help. A decision on the future of the centres will be taken later this year. The decision has been called in by three opposition members.

Plastic Waste

You will have seen the reports that China is no longer accepting plastic waste. Fortunately Buckinghamshire's waste is dealt with by a British firm to do the same thing as the Chinese did. The cost is protected by our contract with them but there will almost certainly be a glut on the market so watch this space.

Number Plate Theft

There has been an increase in these thefts which are used on other cars. Police recommend that we use anti-theft screws. These can be bought from places like B&Q or from Thames Valley Police.

Gigaclear to acquire Aylesbury Vale Broadband's Network

Aylesbury Vale Broadband Ltd (AVB) announced that it has agreed to sell the assets of its business to Gigaclear, the leading provider of full fibre broadband in rural locations. The acquisition will enable Gigaclear to serve the seven villages connected through AVB, as well as expand the ultrafast fibre-to-the-premises (FTTP) network further across Aylesbury Vale.

The intention is to make this process as seamless as possible for existing customers, as well as expand our offering so more of the local community can connect to our network quickly and experience the very best broadband technology.

Gigaclear has purchased the assets of the business, rather than the AVB company itself, which means that existing customers will be invited to migrate onto the Gigaclear network

Water Supply

The water companies are telling us that despite the recent rain there has not been enough to reach the aquifers.

To keep up to date with the latest water resource position, please visit www.affinitywater.co.uk/resources

The National Infrastructure Report is now out and it includes some radical suggestions that impact on The Vale - from new towns, East/West Rail, the route of the "Expressway", the doubling in size of Milton Keynes and more. AVDC is going through the report in detail and will make its response to the NIC/Government as soon as possible. It will also be contributing to the response of the "Central Area Governance Group", that's been formed to monitor plans for the Oxford-Cambridge Corridor that affect the section between Bicester and Bedford, to the NIC report. Leaders of authorities across the corridor have held meetings with the NIC at which we've put forward our suggestions in respect of economic and housing growth and the infrastructure that's needed to facilitate that growth. Some of our concerns have been addressed but there are others that need significant clarification. I will keep you up to date.

Flood management update: there is a new enforcement policy which clarifies BCC's enforcement powers. Bottom line is that we want to ensure that all enforcement systems are transparent; and that enforcement procedure is consistent. I guess most interesting bit for parish councils is guidance on Riparian owners duties. It gives advice on maintaining watercourses or ditches and what can be refused etc. You can check online to see if your area is affected I will let you have a copy of the plan when it is finalised.

Waste

Cllr Reilly asked if it was possible to have guidance notes to go on the bins which sets out what type of waste can be recycled in view of the recent press reports concerning failure to recycle properly. Cllr Glover to raise this point with AVDC.

5. Accounts

5.1 The following invoices were passed for payment:

MW Jenkins – play area fencing £630

Autela Payroll £30.60

KHosting – website £123

E-ON electricity Nov £86.17

E-ON Electricity Dec £89.04

Mainly Mowing £375

Wicksteed Leisure–playground £10,000

M Joy expenses Planning permission on North Field £72

Clerk's salary Oct, Nov & Dec £500.01

AVDC – Dog Waste Bins £310.50

5.2 Cllr Morgan to give update on the proposed Internal Auditor.

5.3 Accounts to 20th December were presented to the meeting and an estimate to 31 March 2018. The surplus to 20th December was £2,416.56 and the estimate to 31 March 2018 is £1,469.35 and surplus funds of £11,258.10.

The Council agreed that the surplus funds should be earmarked for traffic calming purposes.

5.4 Mr Joy produced a summary of likely income and expenditure for 2018/19. It was suggested and agreed the precept should be increased by £500 to £10,500.

4.5 Mr Joy confirmed a draft application for transparency funding had been submitted to BMKALP.

6. Lakeside Business Units – New Access

The legality of this access has been referred to Aylesbury Vale Planning, and it is now on their enforcement list awaiting a decision. Cllr Glover stated the Planning Department was under a lot of pressure and as such this issue could not be dealt with speedily. Cllr Glover was considering lodging a formal complaint but felt this would not assist this matter.

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

An application has been made for change of use. Mr Joy to give details to the North Field committee.

Mr Joy presented the main points arising from an informal meeting between Cllr Vale and the North Field Committee.

A discussion took place and it was agreed CPC should consider the options of transferring assets into the proposed Charity. Cllr Vale and Mr Joy to review a similar structure at Pitstone Parish Council.

Mr Joy to assist OGA with an application for a Wren Grant.

8. Village Matters

8.1 Play Area

Cllr Merriman confirmed the WREN grant of £37,500, had been paid to Wicksteed Leisure. Vat of £10,000 had been received by CPC and paid to Wicksteed Leisure. \$106 money was still due to Wicksteed but would not be released by AVDC until the final safety audit report had been satisfactorily signed off. New fencing completed.

8.2 Pond

Cllr Reilly reported he had contacted Natural England and Vale Conservation concerning possible grants for the Pond. It was felt we should contact Vale Conservation for guidance and thereafter we shall need volunteers to complete work around the pond. The surrounding trees should be cut back to allow more light on the area. Cllr Vale to obtain a quotation for this work.

8.5 Street Lighting

A report on the new lighting is required setting out bulbs that have been replaced and what further bulbs are required. This is to assist with the costings in the 2017/18 budget. It was requested Cllr Morgan complete this report for the next meeting.

The 'Give Way' lighting at the crossroads on the Aston Abbotts Road has been reported but is still not working.

8.6 Traffic Calming

There were a few hedges that required to be trimmed back to ensure there are clear views of roads and junctions. Cllr Reilly to contact the relevant owners of these hedges.

It was felt that we should pursue the use of Speedwatch as traffic calming is such an important issue within the village. Cllr Morgan to report upon the latest status of the equipment and how it can be used within the village for the next meeting.

8.7 Planning Permission 17/04760/APP – Cublington.

Application for demolition of existing dwelling and rebuild.

No objection as long as planning permission had been properly obtained for the original dwelling. Mr Joy to contact the planning officer for confirmation.

9. Meeting dates next year - amendments

8th May 2018 meeting to bring forward to 1st May and to be the AGM.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday, 13th March 2018 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.