

Minutes of a meeting of Cublington Parish Council held on 15th September 2020 by video conference call at 7.30pm

Present:

Cllr H Vale (Chairman)
Cllr G Antosiewicz
Cllr S Morgan
Cllr M Reilly
Cllr N Glover

In attendance: Mr M Joy (Clerk) , and one member of the public for agenda item 8.1 Horse signs

1. Apologies

None

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 21st July 2020 were discussed by the meeting and duly signed by the Chairman.

3. Declaration of Interest and Co-opting new councillor

There were no Declaration of interests . Cllr Vale proposed Martyn Waters be co-opted as a councillor which was unanimously agreed by the meeting.

4. Public Comment

A member of the public made a statement to the meeting concerning agenda item 8.1 Horse Signs. The person had distributed a map of the surrounding area highlighting all location of liveries and stables and felt that signs warning motorists of horse activity was essential to avoid serious accidents.

5. Horse signs agenda item 8.1

CPC had contacted Bucks Council concerning horse signs to determine the costs, and it is awaiting a response. Cllr Glover had contacted the local transport officer who stated a report needs to be completed by the traffic management team which would have to be commissioned by CPC and/or the local Community Board . CPC will review the position once the cost of the report had been received. Parish

Councils do not have discretion over road signs.

6. Reports

Neighbouring Policing Team

Reports where appropriate were posted on the Cublington website.

<http://www.cublington.com/>

County and District Councillor

Highways Conference

We had a very interesting Teams conference yesterday. If you missed it, I believe it can be accessed on the council's website.

Fibre Optic

Defra has allocated a share of a £2.1 million grant scheme to extend the fibre-optic network further into Buckinghamshire's countryside. The project is a partnership between Buckinghamshire Council, Buckinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), and telecoms provider Openreach. I don't know if this will affect Cublington, but it is worth keeping an eye open for updates.

Buckinghamshire libraries reopen for book borrowing in person

All 29 libraries in Buckinghamshire are now open again for book borrowing in person. The first libraries reopened on 6 July, when government restrictions were lifted, and the very last one, Iver Heath Community Library, opened this week. Covid safety measures are in place in all of them. At busy times people might have to queue. Anyone who still has books out on loan since March, and there are still over 3,000 people who have, are asked to return them to their library before 30 September, as this is when the fines amnesty will come to an end. Information about the opening times of your local library can be found at: www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/libraries

Improvements to roads and pavements

This year we're spending over £28m on repairing and improving our roads, particularly after the very wet weather last autumn, which did so much more damage to them. This is the biggest amount we

have ever spent. This will still not restore all our roads to the state that many residents reasonably expect. Some roads will be completely resurfaced, some repaired by targeting the sections which have failed (this is called 'plane and patch' in the jargon). Resurfacing teams have been out and about laying new surfaces and doing repairs to roads across the county. Teams will also be improving and repairing sections of pavements.

Remember to report road or pavement problems via [Fix My Street](#). Do always be proactive as you can't assume someone else has already let us know.

Cycling and walking

During lockdown one of the most positive features was the absence of traffic and the ability to walk and cycle safely along most roads. This was fantastic for families, sales of cycles boomed, and more people enjoyed the fresh air. The government has tried to keep some of this going by funding the temporary trials of 'Quietways'. The guidance was to get these into use quickly, whilst areas were still quiet and consult afterwards.

A number of schemes have been trialled in different areas of the county. Whilst some have been popular, in other areas they have been unpopular and seen as an imposition. This is not the way we want to be seen to operate and I have asked that existing schemes are reviewed, and any new trial schemes must have the support of local councillors. For any permanent schemes we would, of course, fully consult local residents.

The new NHS COVID-19 app:

The new **NHS COVID-19 app** will launch on **Thursday 24 September**. Downloading this app means you'll be able to tell if you've been in close contact with any other user who's tested positive for coronavirus. You will also be able to report symptoms, book a test and use the app to book into venues you visit, like pubs and restaurants, using a QR code.

Importantly, **you can use the app anonymously. Nobody, including the government, will know who, or where, a particular user is.** The app is designed to track the virus, not the user.

In Buckinghamshire, our recent localised outbreaks have been amongst groups of young people, so I would like to especially appeal to people of this age and their parents. I'm proud that our younger population in Buckinghamshire is mature and responsible but there is a minority who have not followed the social distancing guidance, and I really want to appeal to you to act responsibly and to follow the rules.

We're recognising our heroes

While unfortunately, the pandemic is far from over, we still want to take time to recognise the people in our communities who've gone above and beyond these last few months. You can nominate either a person or organisation in our 'Proud of Bucks' awards, sponsored by the Clare Foundation.

Corona Virus

The situation in Buckinghamshire:

Cases of coronavirus are rising across the UK as a whole, and that's what's beginning to happen here in Buckinghamshire too. However, I do want to stress that at the moment, we are still in a better position here than in some other parts of the country.

The infection rate can vary from week to week and we have seen the number of weekly cases in Buckinghamshire increase from 8.5 to 12.7 per 100,000 people in the space of a fortnight. The very latest figures for Buckinghamshire suggest the rates have risen even further in recent days, to about 14.4 cases per 100,000 people. So, although there have been recent reports in the newspapers saying the Buckinghamshire rates have dropped, the overall trend is that in fact, cases are increasing here.

7. Accounts

7.1 To approve payments since last meeting

The following invoices were passed for payment since the last meeting:

9-Jul-20 Zurich Insurance £1,475.16
20-Jul-20 Autela Payroll £67.44
25-Jul-20 Clerk Salary £151.13
29-Jul-20 Unicorn Pub £650.00 rental
20-Aug-20 PKF £240.00 audit fee
20-Aug-20 Mainly Mowing £470.00
25-Aug-20 Clerk Salary £151.13
13-Jul-20 e-on £120.91
17-Aug-20 e-on £128.97

7.2 To review accounts to 31st August 2020 and forecast to 31st March 2021

There was a surplus to 31st August 2020 of £3,196.28 and an estimated deficit of £407.72 to 31st March 2021. This is after allowing for legal fees of £2,000 relating to granting Orchard Ground charity a lease, playground maintenance of £850 and North Field Planning costs of £1,500. No allowance had been made relating to traffic calming, dog waste bins or road signage report.

8. Orchard Ground Report/ Charity Status and North Field

Orchard Ground :

Corvid protocols have been implemented by all club users of OG. Cublington Cricket Club secured a grant from the English Cricket Board of £3,000 which will go towards the costs of repairing the outfield. The cost estimate is £4,200. The PC had to renew its commitment to CCC for it to use the field as requested by the ECB.

Further to the grants previously reported, Hearts of Bucks Foundation had accepted the outline bid of £2,500 with match funding of £1,000. Cllr Waters has raised £470 in donations from residents towards the £1,000

required. A grant application will be submitted to The Tree Council to buy trees for North Field.

Cllr Waters is meeting with the chairman and treasurer of OG to go through the financial forecast for the current and forthcoming year. The grants secured to date show OG in a healthy financial position but the future income stream looks very weak. It is unlikely CCC will be playing league cricket until 2022.

Charity Status/North Field

Lawyers have been instructed to draft a lease for OG charity (yet to be formed). The lawyers have been asked if it is possible for the PC to retain ownership of the building and assets so that VAT can be claimed in the future on assets acquired.

9 Planning Permissions

Agenda item 7.1 18/04085/APP

Lakeside Business Units Formation of new vehicular access onto Reads Lane. There has been another amendment to this application. A new entrance has been proposed opposite the entrance to The Dene. This was felt to be the best option given the circumstances surrounding the fishery entrance not being available to the Units. No objection.

7.2 19/04435/ACL -Wing PC – Wing Caravan Site – application for certificate of lawfulness for existing caravan site. Awaiting decision from the planning office.

7.3 20/02133/APP Ridings Cottage Ridings Way Cublington Buckinghamshire LU7 0LW - Redevelopment of site with three detached dwellings, additional access to Ridings Way. Awaiting decision from the planning office.

10. Village Matters

Agenda item 8.1 Traffic Calming:

Quiet Lanes

In progress .

Option 1 A from the feasibility report prepared by Transport for Bucks

Wing and District Community Board (replacing Local Area Forum) had put forward our proposal for traffic calming with matched funding from CPC . The matching cost will be £3,723 , and it was agreed to proceed with this proposal.

Speed watch - The Speed watch equipment can be used but with restrictions due to Covid 19 compliance. Cllr Morgan is actively trying to use the equipment in order that CPC can apply for signs at the entrances to the village stating it is was a speed watch area.

Agenda item 8.2 Street Lighting: No issues. No annual maintenance agreement had been issued by the current supplier. Cllr Morgan to check out the position. It was suggested to replace one old light with a new LED one.

Agenda item 8.3 HGV Traffic/Lockharts Farm .

The recycling site had been reported to the enforcement officer for three contraventions of its planning permission and operator's licence : number of vehicle movements exceeding 12 in and 12 out per day , the installation of a concrete crusher and the problem of odour. The Environmental Agency had been contacted concern the odour problem.

The Enforcement Officer has requested a record of waste transfer movements from the company Bulk Transfer Limited which operates the site. Bucks Council understand that Bulk Transfer Limited has engaged a planning agent , who will seek to review the current operation in line with the extant planning permission. There was no update yet from the Environmental Agency nor the point concerning the use of the concrete crusher from the Enforcement Officer.

Agenda item 8.4 Playground and maintenance

Wicksteed (suppliers of the playground equipment) had been contacted concerning maintenance work. They requested a detailed work schedule. Cllr Vale and Mr Joy will prepare a schedule and obtain a quote from Wicksteed.

Agenda item 8.5 MP Visit

In view of current Covid 19 restrictions this visit is on hold.

Agenda item 8.6 Dog Waste

Bucks Council have been contacted concerning a new dog waste bin, and we are awaiting a response.

Agenda item 8.6 Trees

Cllr Reilly was concerned about the condition of trees in Reads Lane. In high winds there is a risk to members of the public using the lane and the properties on it. It was also noted that hedges needed to be cut. It was agreed Cllr Reilly would speak to the relevant people responsible for the trees and hedges in Reads Lane .

Resignation

Cllr Morgan notified the meeting he will resign at the end of the calendar year. The Chairman thanked Cllr Morgan for his hard work, and he had been a great asset to the parish council .

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 10th November 2020 at 7.30pm venue to be advised. The Annual General Meeting will be held when appropriate .

Signed:

Dated:

