Minutes of a meeting of Cublington Parish Council held on 11th March 2025 at the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present:
Cllr G Antosiewicz (Chair)
Cllr H Vale
Cllr M Reilly
Cllr M Waters
Cllr Shults

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

1. Apologies

Cllrs D Blamires and P Cooper

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 14th January 2025 were discussed by the meeting and duly signed by the Chair.

3. Declaration of Interest

Cllr Antosiewicz item 8.4 Village Hall and Cllr Shults item 8.3 Arthur Read's Bench.

4. Reports

There no reports received from our Unitary Councillors.

5.1 To approve payments since last meeting.

The following invoices were passed for payment from 1st January to 28th February 2025:

13/1/25 Cyan Teak Garden Furniture £465.00 Arthur Reed Memorial Bench 27/1/25 Clerk Salary £198.27 January salary

27/1/25 PAYE £49.60 January 31/1/25 PAYE £49.60 January (paid twice) 14/1/25 KT Hosting £123.00 – website

annual cost 28/2/25 Mainly Mowing £467.50 – clearance of vegetation around High Street

28/2/25 Clerk Salary £198.27 – February 28/2/25 PAYE £49.60 – February

5.2 To review the accounting statements to 28th February 2025 and forecast to 31st March 2025

M Joy presented the accounts to 28th February 2025 which showed a surplus of £4,183.23 and cash balances of £18,642.15. The forecast to 31st March 2025 estimates a surplus of £4,972.23 and cash balances of £19,431.15.

6. Orchard Ground/ North Field Report

The fortnightly drinks evenings are well attended with monthly food nights. OG social events are all sold out, and it had been suggested OG applies for a liquor licence rather than a TENS licence. The meeting felt this was not advisable as a possible change of use application on the Unicorn would be difficult to challenge if OG had a licence. Cllr Walters reported he had been successful in securing a grant from the Community Trust for £4,725 for accessible footpaths. North Field work continues with general maintenance. OG and Cublington Cricket Club had drawn up a licence agreement for the use of the cricket pitch and pavilion and asked for CPC to review the agreement. Mike Joy and Cllr Antosiewicz to review the agreement and consult with Cllr Waters and Harry Gadsby on it. It was suggested this agreement should be described as a Memorandum of Understanding. OG is trying to establish a budget and reviewing its fees in September.

6.1 New Charity and lease

The application for registration of the charity is still in progress.

7. Planning Permissions

7.1 24/02425/APP Great Oak Farm Dunton Road Cublington Buckinghamshire LU7 0LS Change of use of farmyard and farm buildings from agricultural to B2 (general industrial) use and associated storage and parking, demolition of barn,

erection of a single storey side extension to workshop building, placement of three portacabins, and internal and external alterations to buildings by The Quartz Worktop Company Limited (Retrospective) – no objection

7.2 25/00363/COUAR- Rockwell Reads Lane Cublington Buckinghamshire LU7 0LE Prior notification application (Part 3, Class Q) for change of use and conversion of an existing agricultural barn into 1no. dwelling – no objection.

7.3 25/00398/ALB Old Manor Farm Reads Lane Cublington Buckinghamshire LU7 0LE Listed building consent for the removal of a section of garden wall which is in a poor state of repair and replacement with close board fencing to match the existing fence which the wall currently abuts on the Eastern end – no objection

8. Village Matters

8.1 Traffic - calming.

There had been a serious road traffic accident at the crossroads in the afternoon. A member of the public contacted the clerk by email stating not enough was being done concerning traffic calming. The meeting discussed the email and reiterated the points raised in previous meetings and articles in the Crier. The Parish Council is concerned about the traffic issues facing the village. A survey costing £2,200 had been carried out on the four roads leading to and from the village the results from which will be to used to present to Bucks Highways Commissioning including details of accidents .near misses and speedwatch with a request on guidance for suitable solutions to our traffic issues. We are having to follow 'due process' with Buckinghamshire Council which unfortunately takes a long time. Any solutions will involve a cost to us which needs to be quantified.

8.2 Granite sculpture

Cllr Reilly ran through the plans for a war memorial. A design is in progress and the granite will be donated by The Quartz Worktop Company Limited a local company. Planning permission is required which will cost £250. Grounds works is estimated at £2,000. There will be brickwork surrounding the memorial the costs of which are not yet known. Local tradesmen will be used for the work. At this early stage it is suggested the memorial should be located next to OG car park. Councillors to review location for suitability etc.

8.3 Arthur Read's Memorial Bench

Cllr Shults did not take part in this item. The bench will be in Reads Lane overlooking the fields Arthur farmed. A quotation of £495 was obtained from DPS Property Maintenance to prepare a concrete plinth and secure the bench. The quotation was accepted.

8.4 Village Hall Donation

Cllr Antosiewicz did not take part in this item. It was agreed a donation of £150 be made to the Village Hall.

8.5 The Paddocks Development – Lucy Developments Limited

The clerk had spoken to the CEO of Lucy Developments Limited concerning the possibility of a donation towards the village. He explained no units had been sold yet so he would contact us once they had been sold.

8.6 Best Kept Village Competition

It was agreed to enter the competition again this year.

8.7 VE Day

Thursday 8th May – Cllr Hugh Vale kindly agreed to have a beacon again on his land, and Cllr Antosiewicz to ask Brian Knights if he would kindly read the proclamation.

8.8 Community Library at the bus stop

The library has operated well, and it was agreed it should be a permanent fixture after its trial period. Cllr Antosiewicz to write to Georgina Meads thanking her for the work she has put into the library.

8.9 Ridings Cottage

It was noted that reports from the Tree Officer and Ecology Officer had been put on the planning portal requesting surveys from the applicant, together with a condition of planting seventeen trees to replace the ones taken out.

8.10 Thames Water

The clerk had submitted a complaint to TW following the blockages Streer/Chapel Alley on 4th February. There was a subsequent blockage in early March. The unitary councillors were informed. The complaints dept had been in regular contact to give us notice of the scheduled cleaning of the pipes. It cannot give us a date. TW has stated that this pipe is on its annual cleaning maintenance. The pipes are not fit for purpose which TW do not accept. The only way to resolve the matter would be to have an independent review and force TW to replace the pipes. Given the poor financial state of TW, it would be a waste of our money pursuing it.

The next meeting of the Parish Council and AGM will take place on Tuesday 20th May 2025 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

Signed:		
	 	 Dated:

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