



HEATH & REACH PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes – Full PC Meeting

Minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on Monday 8th April 2024 (following annual parish meeting) at 7.10pm at The Village Barn, Eastern Way, Heath & Reach

Signed – S D Grierson-Hill

04.24.0 INTRODUCTION:

- a) Meeting attendees: *Cllrs. Fitzpatrick (DF), Boyden (MB), Inns (AI), Loomes (HL) and Smith (SS).*
- b) Apologies for absence: *Cllrs. Bevan & Reading.*
- c) Absentees: *None.*

04.24.1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: *HL (payment of invoice) DF & SS (item 04.24.6).*

04.24.2 APPROVAL OF PARISH COUNCIL/COMMITTEE MINUTES:

- a) Approval of full Parish Council minutes for March 2024 – *Approved and signed by DF.*
- b) Approval of Cemetery committee minutes for March 2024 – *Approved and signed by AI.*
- c) Approval of Sports & recreation committee minutes for March 2024 – *Approved and signed by AI.*

04.24.3 PUBLIC FORUM – members of the public have a cumulative 15 minutes to address the Parish Council. No resolutions other than those on the agenda can be resolved from items raised in the public forum.
16 members of the public (MOP) present.
MOP 1: (i) Concern raised regarding trees on green next to Heath Inn Pub. Point raised from Cllr. Mark Versallion last month suggested moving the Green closer to the fence line of the Sports Ground. DF said nothing has ever been received but the suggestion was that if the Green was moved it would be returned to its original position once the Quarry work has finished. A request was made for a TPO to be put on the trees, Clerk to look into.
(ii) Request made for PC to consider when discussing item 04.24.5d, that the bank should be left as it is as the brambles provide shelter, flowers and fruit for wildlife and would be a shame to remove them.
(iii) Rubbish bin on Heath Green. Request made that if the bin on Heath Green were to be moved it is not placed to close to bench for fear of wasps etc bothering people in the Summer.
MOP 2: spoke about concerns over flood prevention measures in Emu Close, The Stile and Linslade Road. DF asked how many people were invited to flood prevention meeting held by Cllr. Versallion on 11th March 2024. Very few people were aware of the meeting but would have attended if been informed. Cllr. Versallion invited people who had contacted him in the past about flooding by email. MOP 3 said she had contacted Cllr. Versallion via email last year and never heard back from him. DF expressed belief that anyone within the area that has been affected by flooding or will be affected by the raised tables should have been invited.
MOP 2 noted that flooding in Emu Close also takes place on the other side of the raised tables, therefore will not help. Residents would like to see Engineering reports showing how this work will prevent the flooding issues.



HEATH & REACH PARISH COUNCIL



DF advised residents to contact MV via email or alternatively email Andrew Selous.

MB asked for the purpose of the minutes which residents were from the affected roads.

Emu Close – 6, The Stile – 2, Linslade Road – 4.

HL asked if PC could facilitate a meeting so all can be invited. Clerk to contact CBC, Cllr. Versallion & Andrew Selous.

MOP 4 has been flooded by sewer water.

04.24.4 PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS:

- a) *CBC Councillor Mark Versallion report: Cllr. Versallion was unable to attend meeting due to a family bereavement. Report read out in Annual Parish meeting.*
- b) *Clerks report: Clerks report emailed to all Councillors prior to meeting via email.*

04.24.5 MATTERS ARISING (for info only):

- a) *Traffic Calming update: No further update from CBC. PC to consider purchase of new SID's (Speed indicator devices) 04.24.7g*
- b) *Speed watch update: 2 sessions carried out over month, Leighton Road & Woburn Road, 8 letters were sent out regarding speeding.*
- c) *Clock tower work: Remedial work has started, awaiting update on timescale.*
- d) *Slope opposite Gig Lane – brambles: Clerk has emailed CBC regarding the ownership of land and possible clearance of area. HL would like to propose a group of people to get together to look at all areas of the Village for improvement and tidy up to include said bank. She would also like to see the verge outside the Vicarage planted with gorse & broom. It was pointed out that this is CBC land. The green with the phone box on and Heath Green are owned by the Village. HL to put together a proposal for agenda item in the future. AI stated she would rather brambles to stay in place.*
- e) *Extension of lease agreement on Bryants Lane car park & pavilion: The extension lease agreements are currently being drawn up by Solicitors to bring all three lease agreements in line with one another.*

04.24.6 Planning & Environment:

APP/P0240/W/23/3333606 (CB/23/00275/OUT)

Land rear to 15 Leighton Road – Planning appeal: Erection of dwelling & demolition of existing barns.

PC asked owner if any amendments had been made to original application.

Owner confirmed there were no changes. Original comments by PC stand – NO FURTHER COMMENT TO MAKE.

04.24.7 MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION & RESOLUTION (where possible)

a) Heath Green:

i) Tommy figure – Suggestion to move figure closer to pumphouse. HL advised this to be included as part of the tidy up Village project that she talked about in item 04.24.5d. AI suggests removing existing figure if sharp and dangerous to public. Clerk to arrange removal – IT WAS AGREED.

ii) Removal of concrete planter – To be discussed in tidy up Village project, no action at present – IT WAS AGREED.

iii) Replace current rubbish bin with wooden style and reposition besides bench – To be discussed in tidy up Village project – IT WAS AGREED.



HEATH & REACH PARISH COUNCIL



- b) Bus shelter – Woburn Road: Proposal to consider quotes – *The original option of removing the current shelter on the south side of the road and re-positioning by Brickhill Road bus stop is not possible. The shelter, although safe where it is would fall apart and would be uneconomical to move. 3 quotes received to supply and fit new shelter ranging from £ 4,700 to £16,500. Concern was raised over how much a shelter at the far end of the Village would be used therefore proving not financially viable. PC voted unanimously to not purchase new bus shelter - IT WAS AGREED.*
- c) Thrift Road parking issues, consider future options: *A survey was conducted by the PC, issued to 44 properties. 22 were returned and outcome was as follows:
21 said 'YES', there was a parking problem.
Several options were offered as a possible remedy and the most popular answers in order were:*
- *Removal of parking on verge.*
 - *Residents parking scheme.*
 - *Yellow lines on park side of the road.*
- MB will publish full results on Village Facebook group, Clerk to put on noticeboards and website. Clerk emailed Andrew Selous to advise survey has taken place and to chase up a meeting between the PC and CBC Parking Officer before further action can be agreed to resolve issue.*
- d) Flood alleviation work – Emu Close, Linslade Road & The Stile: *See item 04.24.3.*
- e) Dog off lead area – Update on response to planning enforcement notice: *Following contact from CBC Planning Enforcement regarding whether the PC should have applied for a 'change of use' to the dog off lead area, CBC have confirmed they do not consider this was necessary. CBC Pollution team have also investigated and have written to the PC saying there is no case to answer. DF suggested a sign pointing concerned residents to dog warden but as no recommendation had been asked for by CBC it was decided this was unnecessary – IT WAS AGREED.*
- f) Internal audit – Julie Betts to be instructed for internal audit - £155.00 – IT WAS AGREED.
- g) SID's (speed indicator devices) – Proposal: *To consider type & cost to install 3 new systems: As discussed previously current ones are no longer useable. MB explained, to install 3 new SID's on the existing poles the price would be in the region of £10,000. If the devices are to be used to provide official data for volume of traffic and speed records, then the position of the pole on Linslade Road is not acceptable as it faces a bend in the road. If different posts are to be used PC would need to consult with CBC. If devices are required as a deterrent only, then all three posts are sufficient. It was agreed in the Finance committee meeting held on 5th April 2024 that PC should invest in new SID's. PC voted unanimously to purchase two with data coverage and one deterrent only camera – IT WAS AGREED.*
- h) Neighbourhood plan update: *HL advised PC that there is not much interest*



HEATH & REACH PARISH COUNCIL



and support from Village so therefore would like to propose to set up a Village group instead as discussed in 04.24.5d. Considering the expense that a neighbourhood plan can cost it was suggested that the neighbourhood plan should be dropped – PC voted unanimously to drop plan – IT WAS AGREED.

- i) Waste collection, Bryants Lane – Proposal: to change suppliers if same service can be provided for cheaper. *Due to an increase in monthly charge, Clerk is sourcing other quotes for same service, possible option, Veola. PC voted unanimously to change supplier assuming same service and cheaper cost – IT WAS AGREED.*

04.24.8 FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION:

- a) Treasurers: £ 1,855,12 Savings: £ 54,773.82
32 day notice account: £ 101,002.15

b) **Payments:**

Markland Gardens	£ 505.00
Reynold Landscapes	£ 177.60
Sue Grierson-Hill	£ 812.24
HMRC	£ 203.00
Sue Grierson-Hill (expenses)	£ 5.40
Heath Village Barn	£ 18.75
CPM Playgrounds	£ 234.00
Helen Loomes	£ 153.99
Newton Newton	£ 28.80
Wellers Law Group	£3,590.00

c) **Direct debits/Standing orders:**

Bri Gas (Bryants Lane)	£ 167.69
Bri Gas (Clock tower)	£ 37.11
Alan Ward	£ 43.33
Anglian Water	£ 86.00
NEST Pension	£ 15.64
Waste Managed	£ 90.00
ICO (data protection fee)	£ 35.00

04.24.9 Items to go on next agenda:

Distressed land.
Update on wildflower seed planting.
New tommy figure to be replaced. Position and price.

04.24.10 Date of next meeting:

May 13th 2024

Meeting closed at: 8.06pm

In accordance with The Data Protection Act 2018 all attendees of the meeting are hereby notified that the meeting will be recorded as an aide memoire for the clerk when compiling the minutes. The recordings are held securely and are deleted after the resolution that the minutes are a true and correct record.