



Minutes – Full PC Meeting

Minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on Monday 4th December 2023 at 7.00pm at
The Village Barn, Eastern Way, Heath & Reach

Signed – S D Grierson-Hill

12.23.0 INTRODUCTION:

- a) Meeting attendees: *Cllrs. Fitzpatrick, Boyden, Inns and Bevan.*
- b) Apologies for absence: *Cllrs. Loomes & Smith.*
- c) Absentees: *None.*

12.23.1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: *None*

12.23.2 APPROVAL OF PARISH COUNCIL/COMMITTEE MINUTES:

- a) Approval of full Parish Council minutes for November 2023 – *Approved and signed by Cllr. Fitzpatrick.*

12.23.3 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.

7 Members of the Public present.

MOP 1 – asked a question about amount of fallen leaves on Woburn Road opposite Grange Gardens. Advised, this can be reported on fixmystreet.com.

MOP 2 – Wished to speak regarding Thrift Road & dog off lead area. Was advised he would be able to speak when this is discussed 12.23.7f.

No other speakers.

12.23.4 PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS:

- a) **CBC Councillor Mark Versallion:** *Cllr. Versallion did not attend but sent through a text report with the following information.*
He has met with several Highway Officers over recent weeks and is having to restart the traffic calming request again due to changes in CBC staff and the Contractors.
He has also implemented the cables to be laid on Birds Hill to measure traffic volume and speed.
MV confirmed he is having to re-send drawings from 2020/21 created by previous contractor.
Clerk messaged to suggest drawing for traffic calming created so far should be the property of CBC?
Concern was raised by the PC that the cables are in the wrong place for recording speed as they are placed by the crossing and narrowing of road due to parked cars.
Clerk to email Cllr. MV and request cables are moved, with queries over what happened to plans drawn up (80% complete, as advised in the past & why the delay as changes at CBC happened in April)
- b) **Clerks Report:** *Received and read by PC*

12.23.5 MATTERS ARISING (for info only):

- a) Traffic Calming update: *See 12.23.4a*
- b) Speed watch update: *- No update*
- c) Neighbourhood plan update: *Jane Hubbard – Neighbourhood Planning Officer for CBC will now attend January 2024 FPC meeting.*



12.23.6 **Planning & Environment:**

- a) CB/23/03479/FULL - 12 Reach Lane, Erection of a part 2 storey, part 1st floor rear extension – *NO COMMENT.*
- b) CB/23/03474/FULL – 45 Woburn Road, Two storey rear extension – *NO COMMENT.*
- c) CB/23/03674/LB – 8 Lanes end (listed building) – Replacement of three windows to south east elevation. New double-glazed units to ground floor south west elevation – *Concern raised over double glazed units on a listed building and in a conservation area. Clerk to email CBC.*
- d) CB/23/03783/VOC – Vandyke works, Miletree Road. Removal of condition 3 of planning permission – *NO COMMENT.*

Any planning applications received between the published agenda and the meeting date will be included during the meeting.

12.23.7 **MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION & RESOLUTION (where possible):**

- a) **Road signs on Brickhill Road** – *Clerk has emailed CBC regarding this issue, no further information at present.*
- b) **Clerks pay scale & pay rise** (following announcement from NALC) – *Increase pay scale to level 21 to include allowance for Cemetery work. Pay rise on current pay scale to be backdated to 1st April 23 & Cemetery allowance to be backdated to 1st October 23 – IT WAS AGREED.*
- c) **Raised tables at Emu Close & The Stile** – *Raised table to be constructed to act as a flood prevention measure, preventing surface water from Linslade Road overwhelming Emu Close drainage system. This will cause surface water to be directed down the gutter line of Linslade Road. To prevent this from flowing into The Style a further raised table will be constructed at the entrance of The Style allowing the water to flow past and into the adjacent open water course beyond. Concern was raised by a MOP that proposed work is moving problem elsewhere. Drains in Thrift Road are completely full of sand, concrete etc. and the water flowing down Thrift Road exasperates the problem. Cllr. Bevan also mentioned the danger at bottom of road to cyclists, cars and pedestrians due to volume of sand being washed down. Cllr. Fitzpatrick advised taking pictures for evidence and forwarding on to CBC for their records when making future decisions.*
d) No agenda item
- e) **Lack of communication with Ward Councillor** – *Cllr. Fitzpatrick noted that Cllr. Mark Versallion is not obliged to turn up at meetings. However, following so much lack of communication Clerk has emailed Andrew Selous regarding the issue. It was noted that he has attended the recent Rushmere meeting.*
- f) **Dog off lead area** -
 - i) *Broken gate – the middle gate between the two fields has been vandalised. It has been temporarily secured and it is hoped a fix can be carried out.*
 - ii) *Holes in ground caused by animals digging – Instruct TM to fill holes with soil – IT WAS AGREED*
 - iii) *Dog waste – It was pointed out to Cllr Bevan by local people that there is a huge*



HEATH & REACH PARISH COUNCIL



amount of dog waste not being picked up. Cllr. Boyden didn't feel this was in excess. Clerk reported the following advice from CBC – 'any person caught not picking up dog waste can be reported to: community.safety@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk'

iv) Picnic table in dog off lead area – (Previously agreed). A new request was made not to move a table as food eating should not be encouraged into this area – IT WAS AGREED.

v) MOP raised concerns over amount of traffic and parking issues in Thrift Road, and quoted a large percentage of the problem is caused by dog walkers from outside the Village.

Cllr. Boyden reported that the issue of traffic and parking in Thrift Road was discussed many years ago and residents were contacted about parking permits, something that was not wanted at the time. Cllr Boyden also informed MOP that individual resident parking permits can be applied for through the CBC website. Cllr. Fitzpatrick to contact Cllr. Versallion to discuss the parking issue, suggesting a meet at Thrift Road to see problem. If no response from MV then Cllr F will escalate this to Andrew Selous.

g) **Gym floor & additional work at Bryants Lane –**

i) Lighting work in public area is now complete.

ii) Gym owner has written to PC to confirm he will carry out repair work but needs to have agreement of renewed lease agreement before undergoing repair/strengthening work.

PC have contacted Arnold Whites regarding renewal of the Car Park lease. Confirmation received that Arnold Whites are due to discuss this.

h) **Review on policies:**

i) Freedom of Information – No changes necessary – IT WAS AGREED

ii) Grants policy – Minor amendment to the way grants are paid – payments will be made by bank transfer, not cheque – IT WAS AGREED

iii) Health & Safety policy – No changes necessary – IT WAS AGREED

12.23.8 FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION:

a) Treasurers: £ 105,999.32 Savings: £ 54,534.69

b) **Payments:**

Reynolds Landscaping £ 345.60 – authorised to pay on receipt of invoice.

Markland Gardens £ 652.76

Sue Grierson-Hill £ 728.10

HMRC £ 182.00

Sue Grierson-Hill (expenses) £ 15.25

Heath Village Barn £ 37.50

B Kent Electrical £ 480.00

Pear Technology £ 114.00

GI Rogers & Sons £ 324.00

Festive Lights Ltd £ 624.80

Microsoft renewal £ 98.99 (authorised via email)

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

Bri Gas (Bryants Lane) £ 177.12

Bri Gas (Clock tower) £ 26.63

Alan Ward £ 43.33

Anglian Water £ 86.00

NEST Pension £ 10.16



HEATH & REACH PARISH COUNCIL



12.23.9 Any other Business:

Cllr. Loomes concerned about the route for the Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan.

This is a public Consultation and Clerk has previously posted information on PC and Village Facebook. Clerk to re-post.

12.23.10 Items to go on next agenda:

Nothing to report.

12.23.11 Date of next meeting:

8th January 2024

Meeting closed at: 7.39pm

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.