



MEETING

Minutes of FULL PARISH COUNCIL meeting held on Monday 5th October at 6.30pm

Item No.	Agenda	Reporting / Action
440 440.1 440.2 440.3 441. 441.1 441.2	<p>INTRODUCTION:</p> <p>Meeting Attendees: Cllrs Thyer, Inns, Malone, O’Brien, Thompson, Boyden, Fitzpatrick, Smith. Cllr Versallion, Webmaster and Clerk, Mr Foll (Arnold White Estates) Mr John Fairlie (Engena) in attendance.</p> <p>Apologies for Absence: Cllr Chivers</p> <p>Declarations of Interest: Cllr Thyer - Creative Solutions payment</p> <p>APPROVAL OF PARISH COUNCIL / COMMITTEE MINUTES:</p> <p>Approval of full Parish Council minutes September 2020. Approved</p> <p>Approval of Planning Committee minutes September 2020 Approved</p>	
442 442.1	<p>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.</p> <p>Ian Foll from Arnold White Estates re: Charging station application</p> <p>Mr Foll introduced John Fairlie, planning consultant, who then presented a series of slides to the Parish Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlined the reason behind the project, the Climate Change Act 2008 was amended in 2019 to ensure net UK carbon for 2050 is 100% below 1990 levels i.e. net zero. Surface transport has added to carbon emissions since 1990 due to the increase in number of SUVs & cars account for 57% of surface transport emissions, which is 11% of UK’s total greenhouse gas emissions. In response, the UK Gov are planning to end the sale of new diesel and petrol cars by 2035 (possibly 2030). This will require 3500 rapid chargers near motorways, 210,000 public chargers in towns and cities. The current capacity is 21,000 chargers in total across the UK, Leighton Buzzard has four 7kw chargers. • Proposed Charging hub will have four of the most rapid chargers on the market. AC chargers also included to ensure the hub is open to as many people as possible. There will be solar powered canopy with auto dimming lighting, coffee outlet for people to wait. Generally high-powered chargers take 30 mins. In addition, an electric bus charging hub for 6 buses to service local area. Also, there will be a 3-megawatt battery and associated infrastructure planting and landscaping. • Double Arches wind turbine is now fully operational, Checkley Wood Turbine due to be constructed early 2021. Double Arches solar array was consented earlier this year. Double Arches turbine and solar array will be coupled with the 3-megawatt battery. This battery will provide stable output to the chargers. When the battery is full the power will be diverted to Clarence Road substation where it will power local homes and stabilise the grid when there are outages. • 4 Location charging units and coffee to front of the site, battery, and bus charging units to the rear. 	



MEETING

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefits of the site will be to provide ultra-rapid EV charging area to as many people as possible, the nearest rapid charger at present is Junction 14 of M1. The site will be powered by on-site renewables addressing the climate emergency. This will be a UK first, there are no other charging areas that are self-sustaining. <p>Cllr Thompson then asked a number of questions raised by the village either directly or in response to an online survey:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why this location? The original consent for the turbine was granted with the provision that no further development would be done through this access route. There is the question that there is not a compelling enough reason for this charging station to go onto greenbelt land given there are existing brown field or industrial areas closer to the centre of Leighton Buzzard. • Response by JF: The charging hub is located to be close to the renewable energy source, on a restored quarry site. It is on greenbelt and the openness of the site is a material consideration in the process, there are clauses in the green belt policy that allows for transport provision and we are confident that this sits within the parameters. • What is the split between battery power-to-hub and local homes? • Response by IF: All energy goes to Clarence Road substation, so all energy is consumed locally. When the hub is open it will take the required charge driven by consumer demand and the surplus will go to Clarence Road. • Buses charging – there are only 3 charging points will it be staffed over night to swap vehicles around? • Response by IF: 50kw chargers and proposed buses battery can go all day on one charge then come in and charge at night; the chargers are self-regulated and services 4 bus routes. There is the potential for 7 bays in the future. • Traffic management on A5. Major concerns that the information in the application seems to paint a rosier view than the actual accident count if Eastern Way is included. • Response by IF: Highways England have been consulted throughout the planning process and are an official consultee on the application. JF said there are access and entry tapers on design with HE input. • Will there be additional consultation? Have the closer residents been contacted? • Response by IF: There was no requirement for a consultation at all but given the feedback on the solar array application, they asked the Clerk to address this meeting. 750 households have been consulted and they have no intention of carrying out any further consultation. 	
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MEETING

442.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there plans for future development on the site-E.g. coffee outlet, could this then be developed into fast food outlet/petrol station? Response by IF: There will not be a petrol station, they are committed to the use of renewables and a clean site. Regarding other facilities it is not the current intention to expand this; it is there to provide a space for people to wait whilst their vehicles are charging. • Lighting/littering issued raised by CBC. • Response by JF: Lighting will only be used if the facility is being used. • Response by IF: Littering at present the land and layby is heavily littered and cleared by AWE. The layby will be removed by this application and he is confident it will be a cleaner site than at present. <p>IF asked PC to contact him if there are any other issues.</p> <p>Central Bedfordshire Councillor Mark Versallion Report Charging station – there should be a discussion about section 106 not necessarily money but something of community benefit to compensate for the loss of green belt. The disused petrol station would be a preferred location, but AWE do not own this piece of land. Are the circumstances exceptional enough grounds for green belt to be relaxed? Cllr Malone queried whether there will be a requirement for bus companies given the decline in passenger numbers? Cllr Versallion explained this would not be a planning consideration. Cllr Boyden strongly refutes the accident data. Cllr Thyer rounded off the discussion by asking the members to consider the matter further and arrange another meeting on 6th October to discuss the parish council response. Clerk advised closing date of 7th October. Cllr Versallion asked if the Parish Council had considered the Vandyke Redland brick work proposal to either dispose of the site or expand it. If sold it is likely to be for housing/industrial unit, as it is a local employer the view was to encourage expansion to allow for continued/increased employment. Cllr Thyer to join meeting with the site owners with Cllr Versallion online. Cllr Versallion still working on average speed camera proposal with the police.</p>	
442.3	Police Report As circulated 4 th October.	
443	MATTERS ARISING – for information only	
443.1	None	
444	PARISH COUNCIL REPORT	
444.1	Cemetery Management Committee: Meeting took place earlier this evening. Minutes to follow	
444.2	Finance Committee: Nothing to report, budget to be prepared early December	
444.3	Planning & Environment Committee: Charging station application was publicised to the village via website, agenda and an online survey to which there were 11 responses.	
444.4	Sports & Recreation Committee: Meeting took place earlier this evening. Minutes to follow. Bryants Lane court bookings are near full capacity. Broken benches to be disposed of. Works highlighted on CPM report to be addressed.	



MEETING

445	MATTERS FOR RESOLUTION																					
445.1	Renewal SLCC Membership not exceeding £126. Proposed Cllr Thyer, seconded Cllr Fitzpatrick. It was resolved.																					
445.2	To provide a poppy wreath and wooden crosses for CWG for Remembrance Sunday, not exceeding £50. Proposed Cllr Thyer, seconded Cllr Fitzpatrick. It was resolved.																					
445.3	Renewal of insurance policy with Came and Co not exceeding £1,500. Proposed Cllr Thyer, seconded Cllr Inns. It was resolved.																					
445.4	To approve purchase of Christmas tree for the Green not exceeding £200 Proposed Cllr Thyer, seconded Cllr Malone. It was resolved.																					
445.5	To approve putting up Christmas lights not exceeding £250 Proposed Cllr Malone, seconded Cllr Boyden. It was resolved.																					
445.6	To approve purchase of fire extinguishers including necessary signage at Bryants Lane pavilion. Proposed Cllr Fitzpatrick, seconded Cllr Thyer. It was resolved.																					
445.7	To approve manufacture and installation of QR codes to Parish Council sites. Proposed Cllr Fitzpatrick, seconded Cllr Malone. It was resolved.																					
446	VILLAGE MATTERS																					
446.1	Carols on the Green 2020 and Remembrance Sunday. Carols on the Green cannot take place due to social distancing; St Leonard's Church are arranging a Remembrance Day event. Clerk has reminded Fr. Noel about restrictions and has forwarded guidance from CBC																					
446.2	Nominate a representative from Parish Council to lay the Remembrance wreath. Clerk will undertake this.																					
447	FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION																					
	Cashbook Summary & Bank Account Balances																					
	Current Account: £16,008.00 Reserve Account: £105,030.08																					
	<table> <tr> <td>Markland Gardens</td> <td>£375.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Axatax</td> <td>£222.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CPM Playgrounds</td> <td>£186.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reynolds Landscaping</td> <td>£691.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Francesca Sheppard</td> <td>£697.68</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Francesca Sheppard expenses</td> <td>£89.56</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Be Safe Fire Protection</td> <td>£266.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SLCC membership</td> <td>£126.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Came Insurance</td> <td>£1,497.28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R Thyer signs & replacement locks</td> <td>£725.16</td> </tr> </table>	Markland Gardens	£375.00	Axatax	£222.00	CPM Playgrounds	£186.00	Reynolds Landscaping	£691.20	Francesca Sheppard	£697.68	Francesca Sheppard expenses	£89.56	Be Safe Fire Protection	£266.40	SLCC membership	£126.00	Came Insurance	£1,497.28	R Thyer signs & replacement locks	£725.16	
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448	Administration /OTHER MATTERS of interest Cllr Malone asked if Parish Council could donate some money to the Halloween organising committee, say £25. This was agreed as long as the event is COVID risk assessed, and there are not large groups of children are allowed to mix. The organiser is a headteacher who lives in the village and will be aware of best practices.	
	Meeting closed at 8.10pm	