

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Hanslope Parish Council, held
on 11th October 2021 at 7pm
at the Community Hall, Recreation Ground, Hanslope.**

Present:

Parish Councillors: -

M Palmer (Chairman)

E Price

A Andrew

J Gregory

D Courtman

R Simpkins

G Duffield

Cllr G Bowyer (MKC Ward)

Clerk: G Merry

1 Member of Public

21.110 Apologies for Absence: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Proctor, Cass and Wardle (MKC).

21.111 Minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on 13th September 2021:

The minutes had previously been circulated and were PROPOSED by Cllr Andrew SECONDED by Cllr Simpkins and AGREED.

21.112 Declarations of Interest: No declarations

21.113 Public Time:

A member of the public expressed disappointment that the Gold St/Long St sign had still not been re-installed. Cllr Palmer explained that the blacksmith is making progress, but this is slow, and he intended to visit ASAP, to chivvy this along.

21.114 Council:

- i **Clerk's Report:** At 30/9/21, income stood at £143,614 (109% of budget) and expenditure at £95,818 (77% of budget). The expenditure figure is inflated, as money has been spent on the allotment project but has not yet been reimbursed from S106. This has been claimed @£20,117. The quiet period came to an end in October with the MUGA being approved and work starting almost immediately, just as the allotment project came to an end. There have been bookings for the Hall, as well as Guides/Brownies every week. Cllrs are asked to be vigilant with use of the Hall and Pavilion as this must be controlled and security can only be assured through use of the signed agreement, via the clerk. The working party is managing the MUGA work; the drain work has progressed, and Hall snagging issues have been completed, along with the new window and door installation. The clerk is working on the budget to present next month, and asked Cllrs to flag any projects or other expenditure increases, to her. Cllr Price suggested the Gas/Electricity rates should be reviewed in light of the current shortages/price spikes.
- ii **Complaints Policy:** The clerk had circulated a proposed policy and it was agreed to implement it without change.
MOTION: To adopt the Complaints Policy as circulated, PROPOSED by Cllr Simpkins SECONDED by Cllr Price and AGREED.
- iii **Highways, traffic calming, 'white gates' and roadworks:** The clerk had emailed MKC's new Head of Highways asking why the application for 'White Gates'; had been refused. He had replied suggesting there appeared not to be an identifiable reason and that this could still happen. New SID devices and poles were also to be ordered. Cllr Courtman circulated the speeding data from Park Road, close to the main part of the village and

these were generally found to be shocking. The clerk requested the data to be emailed as she would forward these to the Head of Highways. Cllr Bowyer advised on how best to apply for a reduction in speed limit via the council. The current overlapping roadworks were discussed, and the clerk confirmed she notifies the village via the Facebook site, providing she herself is notified. Dissatisfaction was expressed re. recent motorists who had been removing 'Road Closed' signs from the Castlethorpe Road closure and driving through. It was advised this is illegal.

- iv **Parking Issues:** The working party of Cllrs Courtman, Cass and Duffield had not yet met and would report to the Nov. meeting.
- v **Queen's Platinum Jubilee – 2nd-5th June 2022:** Cllr Andrew reported that a group is meeting on 18/10/21 at the Club, to plan events and she will report back to the Nov. meeting. Street parties had been popular suggestions, along with lighting of a beacon. Cllr Palmer advised he has the beacon and Cllr Courtman added it is being encouraged that the Beacon is 'piped in' by a highland piper. The clerk agreed to source someone. Cllr Gregory offered to facilitate any community sports activities.
- vi **Reports from outside bodies, training courses etc:** No items however, the clerk advised that MKC would be running Cllr training sessions on 'Teams' in November and advised all to attend if possible.
(Cllr Gregory left at 8.00pm)

21.115 Planning:

- i **Update on planning applications and agreement on PC responses:**
21/00262/FUL- Eventing Centre, Castlethorpe Rd: This had been approved (with conditions) on 6/10/21. Cllr Price advised that the exit from the site was extremely dangerous, as it opens onto a bend, with compromised sight lines. The only option remaining to fight this may be a Statutory Review, as the planning group felt that Highways had not taken on-board the seriousness of the risk. Cllr Bowyer stated he had not been consulted on this application so there may be faults in the statutory process, which could also be grounds for challenge. In extreme circumstances, the LPA can be compelled to revoke a decision. It was discussed and agreed to explore implementation of a Statutory Review and Cllrs Price & Cass would work on this. Cllr Price advised a large senior citizens residential development is being built at Linford Lakes and this should be monitored as it may increase traffic in Hanslope.
- ii **Enforcement:** Cllr Price stated that the issue of advertising hoardings in Gold Street needed to be revisited, as the conservation officer had not taken any action.

21.116: Finance:

- i **Reconciliations and financial situation report to 30/9/21:** Cllr Price had checked the reconciliation reports for the current account and was happy the figures balanced. The clerk had circulated the accounts and reported the council had passed its audit. There were no questions.
- ii **Future Projects, financial planning and cost implications of adopting landscaping in 2 new estates re. budget 2022-23:** Cllr Simpkins was working with the contractor to define potential costs of adopting landscaping in the Wheatfields and Hanslope Fields estates. It was not yet clear whether the LEAP areas were to be included but the clerk had calculated the annual costs of these to be approx. £4,136 for both.
- iii **Grant Applications:** A grant application had been received for the annual Santa Run @ £350. This was a discussed and agreed.
- iv **Approval of Payments:** The list below had been circulated and there were no queries:

Date	Invoice from	For	Net	Vat	Total
17/09/2021	PKF Littlejohn LLP	External Audit fee	£ 400.00	£ 80.00	£ 480.00

30/09/2021	RTM Landscaping	Sept. Landscape Maint	£ 979.17	£ 195.83	£ 1,175.00
30/09/2021	MK Council	Business Rates - Community Hall Monthly	£ 197.75		£ 197.75
30/09/2021	Barbara Osborn Business Services	Payroll July-Sept	£ 82.50		£ 82.50
30/09/2021	Tara Davies	Pavilion & hall Cleaning Sept	£ 112.50		£ 112.50
30/09/2021	John Sharpe	Sept Caretaking	£ 396.00		£ 396.00
04/09/2021	British Gas 603150042	Pavilion Elec	£ 80.38	£ 4.01	£ 84.39
04/09/2021	British Gas 600136199	Pavilion Gas	£ 13.43	£ 1.22	£ 14.65
01/10/2021	Marcus Young Environmental Services	Bins and dog Bins – Sept			£ -
05/10/2021	Tove Landscapes (Lotte)	Sept Rec Ground Maintenance	£ 788.33	£ 157.67	£ 946.00
06/10/2021	PropertyCare Bucks	Installation of new doors and windows in Hall	£ 3,970.00	£ 794.00	£ 4,764.00
07/10/2021	Simon Bates Building & grounds Maint	Village Herbicide spraying	£800		£ 800.00
08/10/2021	Phillwell Developments	Drains and manhole work	£900	£ 180.00	£ 1,080.00
11/10/2021	G Merry	Expenses reimbursement (phone & home office allowance)			£ 44.96
Grant Applications					
11/10/2021	D Kent	Santa Run Grant	£350		
PAID					
27/09/2021	EON	Hall – Elec	£ 10.58	£ 0.53	£ 11.11
27/09/2021	EON	Hall – Gas	£ 28.99	£ 1.45	£ 30.44
22/09/2021	Zoom Communications	Monthly fee	£ 11.99	£ 2.40	£ 14.39
15/09/2021	Amazon	Jerry Can Spout – Allots	£ 11.62	£2.32	£ 13.94
15/09/2021	Amazon	Jerry Can - Allots	£ 14.99	£ 3.00	£ 17.99
23/08/2021	Amazon	Printer Ink	£ 32.49	£ 6.50	£ 38.99
15/09/2021	Net World Sports	Boot scraper – Allots	£ 162.45	£ 32.49	£ 194.94
20/09/2021	QuickFit Container Accessories	Divider for container	£ 336.63	£ 67.33	£ 403.96
20/08/2021	Adobe	Monthly subscription	£ 12.64	£ 2.53	£ 15.17
20/09/2021	The Ramp People	Ramp – allotments	£ 210.00	£ 42.00	£ 252.00
22/09/2021	Amazon	Key Cabinet	£ 8.71	£ 1.74	£ 10.45
22/09/2021	Amazon	Toilet rolls – Hall	£ 12.49	£ 2.50	£ 14.99
22/09/2021	Amazon	New Vacuum cleaner – Hall	£ 94.16	£ 18.83	£ 112.99
22/09/2021	Amazon	Desk Diary – 2022	£ 8.32	£ 1.67	£ 9.99
22/09/2021	Amazon	Blue Roll – Hall	£ 7.49	£ 1.50	£ 8.99
22/09/2021	Amazon	Cleaning Materials	£ 10.70	£ 2.09	£ 12.79
22/09/2021	Amazon	Cleaning Materials	£ 2.90	£ 0.58	£ 3.48
28/09/2021	G Merry	Sept Salary			
28/09/2021	HMRC	Sept Tax and NI			
28/09/2021	Bucks CC	LGPS - Sept pension contribution			

MOTION: To approve the invoices as presented, PROPOSED by Cllr Price SECONDED by Cllr Andrew and AGREED.

21.117 Recreation Ground:

- i **Community Hall Updates:** The clerk expressed concern that liquids were stored in the one of the cupboards and Cllr Palmer agreed to take these to the tip ASAP. The Scouts had offered to attend and clear out the loft space and dates were being discussed.
- ii **Drains Update:** Cllr Palmer explained the history of drains issues and 2 sets of contractors had attended recently. One had cleared and repaired the inspection chambers and Dynorod had rodded the drains they could access. The drains from the changing rooms are still misaligned and the showers cannot be currently used. A cost-effective solution had been proposed @ £1815, for fibreglass liners to reconnect the various systems. This was discussed and agreed.
- iii **Football & Cricket updates:** The clerk reported that the portable floodlights had been ordered but were delayed due to shortages of supply and delivery drivers. The insurance company had agreed to pay for the stolen strip of artificial turf to be replaced and would make the payment. The council could choose to leave the work until the Spring but there would be no increase in the payment.

21.118 Village Projects

- i **Long St/Gold Street Sign – update:** Discussed at 21.113
- ii **Electric Vehicle Charging Points:** Cllr Simpkins outlined some sites where E.V. points may be possible. This was discussed and it was agreed that loss of parking spaces would not be supported by the residents and that the technology, if implemented now, may be redundant in a few years' time. It was agreed the only viable site would likely be the proposed car park area on the Hanslope Fields estate, when opened, although the parking strip on Newport Rd and the Recreation ground car park remain options. If accepted for funding, at that time a decision can be made. Cllr Simpkins would convey this to BP Pulse.
- iii **Bins and Dog Bins:** The clerk had advised that Financial Regulations do not automatically require a contract to be tendered for (see Appendix 1). It was discussed and agreed to renew the emptying contract for a further year and then review. Cllr Simpkins outlined the proposed sites for new waste bins: one on each of the 2 new housing estates; 1 to replace the missing bin on the Rec. playground; 1 by the Castlethorpe Road bus stop and 1 x the new MUGA. The cost would be approx. £4000, including installation, and this was agreed.
- iv **Queen's Jubilee 2022:** Discussed at 21.114 v.
- v **Clarion Newsletter:** Cllr Palmer explained that in recent years the PC newsletter had been incorporated into the local newsletter 'The Clarion' and the PC paid for the printing costs. The church then organised the distribution. Cllr Palmer will write an article and circulate it to all for approval. The clerk stated the printing invoice last year was £493 for 1300 copies and costs in this region were agreed.
MOTION: To agree printing expenditure in the region of £493 PROPOSED by Cllr Palmer SECONDED by Cllr Andrew and AGREED.
- vi **Christmas Lights:** Last year a group of volunteers from the village organised the lights and the PC gave a grant. The clerk advised this is legal, because a qualified and insured electrician carries out the electrical installation work. It was agreed to support this approach again this year and the group would be applying for a grant for extra lights. The clerk will ask Cllr Bowyer if the Ward Cllr grant may go towards this.

21.119 S106 Projects

- i **MUGA** (item taken early in the agenda with Cllr Gregory present): To-date the hut had been demolished and the pitch drainage work started. Construction of the new MUGA would commence from 18/10/21 and the working group were overseeing the

contractors. Cllr Palmer presented 2 items of additional expenditure: The CCTV proposal had been circulated @ £3424 + VAT, in addition to the use of Trackway @£7920 + VAT to protect the ground from heavy vehicles. Both were discussed and the clerk would aim to reclaim both from S106 funds if possible. The clerk was thanked for her work on this project.

MOTION: To agree the cost of CCTV and Trackway as above for the MUGA PROPOSED by Cllr Simpkins SECONDED by Cllr Gregory and AGREED.

- ii **Allotment Improvement Project:** Phase 1: New gates, container, composting toilet, installations and new equipment, was all complete and the clerk had submitted the application for the S106 funding. The committee had invited Cllrs to view the new facilities.
- iii **Dr's Surgery Project:** Cllr Palmer and Cllr Ayles from Castlethorpe PC were working jointly to develop a project with the village surgery, for installation of a 24-hour drug collection facility, using the considerable S106 available.

21.120 Allotments – Update:

The clerk had circulated the last set of allotment committee minutes and there were no comments.

21.121 Date of Next Meeting: Monday November 8th, 2021, at 7pm.

Signed Date

APPENDIX 1

FINANCIAL REGULATION 11.1 a) iv

1.1. Procedures as to contracts are laid down as follows:

- a. Every contract shall comply with these financial regulations, and no exceptions shall be made otherwise than in an emergency provided that this regulation need not apply to contracts which relate to items (i) to (vi) below:
 - i. for the supply of gas, electricity, water, sewerage and telephone services;
 - ii. for specialist services such as are provided by solicitors, accountants, surveyors and planning consultants;
 - iii. for work to be executed or goods or materials to be supplied which consist of repairs to or parts for existing machinery or equipment or plant;

- iv. for work to be executed or goods or materials to be supplied which constitute an extension of an existing contract by the council;**