

**CUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting**  
**held in Cuddington and Dinton School, Infant Site**  
**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2014 at 7.30pm**

**PRESENT:** Ken Birkby (**KB**), Frank Crowdy (**FC**), Matthew Giorgi (**MG**), Jim Hayward (**JH**), Doug Kennedy (**DK**), Jennifer Schram de Jong (**JSdJ**), Stephen Turner (**ST**), Venetia Davies (**Clerk**).

**Parishioners:** There were 4 Parishioners present.

**Note:** The Meeting was chaired by Jim Hayward, Vice Chairman until end of Item 3. Ken Birkby chaired the meeting from Item 4.

**NB: Action points highlighted**

**Parishioners Question Time**

There were no questions.

**1. Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies.

**2. Approval of Minutes – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2014**

One amendment: *It was resolved to **depute** to the WWG to draft a survey in the village.* Draft Minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by Vice Chairman, JH.

**3. Matters Arising**

- **Children's Playground:** Email received from Sarah Chadbone, South Bucks Tree Surgeons confirming supply of some further chippings mid to late August. JSdJ has replied requesting confirmation that these be supplied to the Parish Council without further costs incurred to the Parish Council. **ACTION: Cllr JSdJ/Clerk to schedule delivery.**
- **Diamond Jubilee Commemorative Item.** Cuddington Playing Fields Association has suggested the planting of hedge/shrubs (not trees) along the fence of the playing fields leading to Swanhill to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee. It was also suggested that something distinctive (rather than just infill) could replace the trees that have gone missing in the border with the road.
- **Review of 2005 Village Plan.** **Clerk to Agenda for September meeting.**
- **Kings Cross Footway Feasibility Study.** **ACTION: KB to arrange a 'think tank' meeting with those who have expressed in interest in forming a Working Party.**
- **Water in Lower Church Street.** Following further reporting regarding a recent slip in the bank, TfB are hoping to progress the instruction for the system to be jetted more quickly. It is believe the issue is due to the construction of the access to the two properties. ST expressed ongoing concerns at the lack of response from the authority and the absence of a system to deal with this consistent problem, in fact reported over several years. It was agreed to take the matter further. **ACTION: ST to draft a letter to forward to Andrew Grant, Chief Executive, AVDC and Si Khan, Highways Localities Manager, Transport for Bucks.**
- **Correspondence:**
  - **BCC concerning detailed inquiry into county's public transport** – This will not be a review of specific transport issues, rather the general topic of public transport and how it might work in the near future. Various bodies have been called at this stage but do not include Parish Councils.
  - **Grass Verges. Spicketts Lane.** JH noted recent comments from TfB regarding cutting of verges in Spicketts Lane – who now, due to dangers of

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working on a bend, require a road closure order for one hour. This has been cut for 30 years prior. **Holly Tree Lane.** Despite the PC arranging for a cut at the beginning of July before the Fete, and subsequent cuts as for the other verges this year, Holly Tree Lane remains uncut. Clerk is awaiting response from TfB.

- **TfB Working together to limit damage to verges.** **ACTION: ST/DK to arrange photos of pre development work to support any damage to verges during development works.**
- Email received via Website re. Shooting Birds/Dadbrook. Agreed outside Parish Council remit. **ACTION: KB to respond.**
- **Finance.** **ACTION: Clerk to obtain alternative quotes for dog bags.**
- **Town and Council Devolution Programme.** Cllr PI notified Councillors of a proposed LAF meeting, involving 35 Parish Councils, to discuss the Devolution Programme. **ACTION: PI to circulate date and questionnaire. Clerk to chase PI.**
- **Website Update, Cllr ST.** **ACTION: ST with WWG to produce recommendations concerning a possible Survey to ascertain web usage for circulation in the winter.**
- **Play Around the Parishes.** Numbers were thought to be down (actual numbers to be received by AVDC) and it was suggested that perhaps a date towards the end of the summer school holidays, may result in greater attendance.

#### 4. Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

#### 5. Planning:

- **14/01729/APP 12 Hillside Cottages, Dadbrook, Cuddington, HP18 0AQ**  
Erection of a new garden room with combined shed. **Comment by: 20<sup>th</sup> August 2014**  
**ACTION: Clerk to return 'NO OBJECTIONS' to AVDC**
- **14/02202/APP Cowley Farm, Aylesbury Road, Cuddington, HP18 0BG**  
Change of use of existing outbuilding from garaging, workshops and storage into dwellings with an increase in its roof pitch. **Comment by: 21st August 2014**  
**ACTION: Clerk to return 'NO OBJECTIONS' to AVDC**

**Permit:** 14/01269/APP - Sunbeam Cottage, Frog Lane, Buckinghamshire, HP18 0AX

#### 6. Correspondence

- **AVDC – Devolution of services by BCC.** This was discussed under Item 8.
- **Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition.** Cuddington received a Highly Commended Grade in the Morris Cup category (81/100) and has received a certificate of merit in recognition of its achievement. It was noted that the Judges had commented that the children's playground may need closer inspection in view of some worn bolts in the swing supports and the redundant iron bar dangling from the basketball net stand.

#### 7. Finance

- a. **Balance from Minutes of previous meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> July 2014): BALANCE: £14,392.81**
  - Receipts: £0.00
  - Debits: £0.00
  - Plus unpresented cheques: £150.00 (Carl Small, June maintenance)**Balance of Bank Account: £14,542.81 (as at 20<sup>th</sup> June 2014).**

**Available Funds: £14,392.81 (balance of bank account less unpresented cheques)**

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b. **Orders for Payment: £571.66**

- **Venetia Davies - £206.00** (July 20 hours)
  - **Charles Sanderson - £21.38 (£4.28 VAT) £25.66** (Strimmer Blade for path clearance)
  - **Carl Small - £120.00** (Children's Playground – 4 cuts @ £30 per cut)
  - **Simon Brown - £220.00** (Grass cutting – 4 cuts @ £55 per cut)
- BALANCE: £13,821.15** – (Available Funds less Orders for Payment)

**8. Town and Council Devolution Programme** - proposal by AVDC for comment by end August.

Letter received from AVDC asking if Parish Councils would be interested in exploring the possibility of AVDC taking on responsibility for delivering grass cutting and potentially other services which BCC have recently proposed to devolve to clusters of parish and town councils. In effect, for AVDC to act as the cluster co-ordinating body that BCC's devolution offer is looking for. To ensure that this would be affordable both for AVDC and parishes (the expectation is that BCC subsidy for this service will diminish over time), AVDC is suggesting that one way in which it might achieve this, is that a Parish Council could pay AVDC a top-up fee if it wished to increase the number of grass cuts, or if the money coming through BCC's devolution offer was insufficient for the standard the Parish Council was seeking. A link to a web form to express an interest *in principle* can be completed by end August. Councillors resolved that it would not commit to the Devolution Programme proposed by BCC nor form a cluster. Whilst it was agreed that the work can be best done by a single contractor and to a better standard, AVDC's proposal with a top up fee would also increase costs (through the Precept) as would the service being proposed by BCC. Neither would be acceptable.

**ACTION: Clerk to access web form and comment in line with resolution (on web form or as an addendum by email).**

**9. Website** - enhancement Update, Cllr ST

All enhancements have now been completed. A new advanced reporting package has also been implemented giving greater statistics such as visitors, number of visits, pages and hits counts than Google Analytics. Ways to ascertain website users in the village will continue to be explored.

**10. Items for Information** including:

- The Buckinghamshire County Council (Parish of Lower Winchendon) Definitive Map Modification Order 2014. Made on 30th June 2014. Any representations about or objections not later than 3rd September 2014.
- Review of 2005 Village Plan (reminder: to be discussed at September meeting)
- JSdJ: Concerns received regarding road entrance to Playing Fields. **ACTION: Clerk to write to Vale of Aylesbury Housing Association to express concerns for health and safety, particularly of elderly residents.** Basketball/Netball Hoop. **ACTION: JSdJ to investigate replacement costs** (to be funded from Diamond Jubilee Funds).
- JH: Brambles noted in Welford Way and concerns expressed over Pot Holes in Spicketts Lane.
- KB: Unable to attend invitation from Michael Rand, Chairman of AVDC to Civic Service, All Saints Church, Brill on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September. Councillors invited to attend in KB's absence. **ACTION: Clerk to RSVP.** Mrs Walker, Bernard Close. Concerns expressed regarding overgrowth. **ACTION: MG, CPFA representative, to raise with Association.**

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2014 at 7.30pm in St Nicholas Church, Cuddington**