

CUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held in Cuddington and Dinton School, Infant Site
Wednesday 1st October 2014 at 7.30pm

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

Parishioners: There were 7 Parishioners present including Cllr Michael Edmonds.

NB: Action points highlighted

Parishioners Question Time

- Rotten post reported at edge of playing field. **ACTION: MG to report to CPFA for repair.**
- Substantial tipping of hard core and glass reported in Mr Allen's field (Map Reference SP738115). Concerns expressed that the land is becoming more of a "builder's yard" than that of agricultural. **ACTION: KB and Clerk to raise complaint with planning authorities.**
- Due to the closure, potential closure and falling attendance of village societies (History Society, Cricket Club and Sunshine Club) the Parish Council was asked if a possible breakdown of the "social fabric" of the village was of concern. It was further questioned, that given the current absence of a 2015 Fete Committee, which distributes annually £8K-£10K amongst village societies (and the suggestion that the Fete becomes a bi-annual event) whether it would consider funding the resulting shortfall. Whilst Councillors acknowledged this to be a serious issue, it was agreed that societies inevitably suffer due to falling attendance, lack of leaders, and a changing demography of a village (for instance, societies such as CYD and the Village Picture House have thrived due to a growing population of young people with children). The Parish Council would not substitute Fete funding through its Precept. It was agreed that a Village Voice/Website article highlighting these issues should be prepared and this topic should be raised in an open forum at the Annual Village Meeting. Parishioners are also encouraged to attend the **Fete AGM on Wednesday 8th October.** **ACTION: KB to prepare article for Village Voice. Clerk to note for AVM.**

1. Apologies for Absence

Jennifer Schram de Jong (**JSdJ**), Paul Irwin (**PI**).

2. Approval of Minutes – Wednesday 3rd September 2014

Draft Minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by Chairman, KB.

3. Matters Arising

- **Kings Cross Footway Feasibility Study.** Whilst an initial meeting of the Working Party had progressed, KB stressed that a feasibility study into footways and cycle ways would take considerable time. It was also noted at the recent LAF meeting, that the suggestion of those villages prominent to the proposed Haddenham Cycle way, should perhaps re-submit proposals with joint funding from these parishes.
- **Dog Bags.** Alternative supplies sourced. **ACTION: Clerk to circulate new dog bag samples to Councillors.**
- **Devolution Programme.** Councillors remain agreed that a devolution programme will result in Precept rise and will not commit to a Cluster or ADVC proposal at this stage.

- **Grass Cutting.** Despite an overdue cutting programme, Councillors commented on the excellent village cut by TfB (Wednesday 1st October). **ACTION: Clerk to feedback to Tim Fowler, Stuart Campbell and team.**
- **Children's Playground.** Basketball/Netball Hoop. **ACTION: JSdJ to investigate replacement costs** (to be funded from Diamond Jubilee Funds).
- **Proposed increase of verge frontage (to Malt House) for road widening.** **ACTION: KB to meet with Stuart Campbell, TfB and discuss further with Mr Digby. KB to also discuss granite setts with Stuart Campbell.**
- **LAF Funding.** PI has confirmed that the pathway around the Green will be resurfaced in Spring 2015 (LAF funded). **ACTION: PI to confirm exact location.**
- **Nicholas Almond Charitable Trust.** Trustees report to Parish Council due one month prior to AVM. **ACTION: Clerk to agenda for March 2015 meeting.**

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

5. Planning:

- **14/02776/ATC – Bay Tree Cottage, Aylesbury Road, Cuddington, HP18 0BG**
Cut back lateral branches and slight reduction in height of one Cherry (wild) tree.
Comment by: 3rd October 2014
ACTION: Clerk to return 'NO OBJECTIONS' to AVDC
- **14/02475/ALB – Wyncot, Frog Lane, Cuddington, HP18 0AX** Works to interior and new external door. Comment by: 10th October 2014
ACTION: Clerk to return 'NO OBJECTIONS' to AVDC
- **14/02533/APP – Franklin Cottage, Bridgeway, Cuddington, HP18 0AW** Demolition of existing garage, Replacement with two storey office, utility, storage and 2-bay car port with solar panels to rear. Comment by: 10th October 2014
ACTION: Clerk to return 'NO OBJECTIONS' to AVDC

6. Correspondence

- **AVDC – Planning Service Changes – Communicating with Town and Parish Councils.** Town and Parish Councils have been notified that hard copies of applications, plans and notices to Parishes will not be sent unless applications are for major developments of ten or more properties. Councils are instead required to view planning applications electronically. Although a “unique parish web page” is being proposed, it was agreed that dimensions and indexing of drawings is needed online, and that timescales should widen. Whilst copies will be made by the Clerk for circulation, it was also noted that copies could be provided by the application themselves. **ACTION: KB and Clerk to agree pages for printing for internal circulation but Councillors to also assess applications online.**
- **Alan Marsh, Treasurer, Cuddington Parochial Church Council. Letter received requesting continued support of annual grant for upkeep of churchyard.** The annual donation was submitted in February 2014, and it was agreed to revisit this again in February 2015. **ACTION: Clerk to bring forward in February 2015**

7. Finance

- a. **Balance from Minutes of previous meeting (3rd September 2014): BALANCE: £12,181.88**
 - Receipts: £0.00
 - Debits: £0.00

2014/32

- Plus unrepresented cheques: £0.00
- Note: Approved September 2014 (Mazars £120.00, Broker Network Ltd £1,029.28)
Balance of Bank Account: £12,181.88 (as at 25th September 2014).

Available Funds: £12,181.88 (balance of bank account less unrepresented cheques)

b. Orders for Payment: £590.70

- **Venetia Davies - £206.00** (September 20 hours)
- **Jim Hayward – Chiltern in Bloom. Petrol Expenses - 66 miles @ 45p £29.70**
- **Carl Small - £60.00** (Children's Playground – 2 cuts @ £30 per cut)
- **Simon Brown - £165.00** (Grass cutting – 3 cuts @ £55 per cut)
- **AVDC – Play Around the Parishes** (Wednesday 30th July) **£130.00**
Note: Also approved. Orders for Payment: £645.70
- **Royal British Legion - £55.00** (Poppy Appeal Donation)

BALANCE: £11,536.18 (Available Funds less Orders for Payment)

Note: Precept Payment £5,000 (Remittance Advice 26.09.14)

8. Website include Internet Distribution, Cllr ST

An analysis of website users was presented by ST. Ways to establish and encourage an even greater database of website users was discussed.

9. Children's Playground, Wood chippings, Cllr KB

Email from Bucks Tree Surgeons notifying Council that supplies of wood would not be suitable for playground area due to irregular sizes. **ACTION: JSDJ to continue to arrange for wood chippings to be raked with large pieces removed.** Dog fouling noted in Playground area (dogs prohibited). Also increased dog fouling on playing fields. The Parish Council agreed it would consider banning dogs from this area. **ACTION: KB to write article for Village Voice and Website. Clerk to insert Dog Fouling Penalty sign at entrance to playground.**

10. Items for Information

- Cuddington has received a Silver Gilt Award in this year's Thames and Chilterns in Bloom Regional Award. Councillors heartily thanked JH for all his efforts. After 24 years, JH has decided to retire from leading the Britain in Bloom competition. Entry for next year's competition noted as April 2015 for anyone wishing to lead this project.
- The first Working Group meeting of the Save the River Thame project, headed by DK will take place on 2nd October. Concerns over blockage of River Thame by fallen trees and vegetation reported.
- Planned works to Bridgeway by TfB have been removed. Further investigation required.
- In the absence of a waste or recycling authority responsible for emptying blue bin outside shop, it was agreed this should be removed. **ACTION: KB to arrange.**
- Financial Account received from Diamond Jubilee Committee. **ACTION: In the absence of JSDJ, Clerk to agenda for November meeting.**

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting:

Wednesday 5th November 2014 at 7.30pm in Cuddington and Dinton School – Infant Site