

DRAFT MINUTES

2021/006

CUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL **Draft Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held by Zoom Video Conference** **Monday 22nd February 2021 at 6.00pm**

PRESENT: Ken Birkby (**KB**), Ken Brown, (**KMB**), Julia Ridout (**JR**), Lorraine Stevens (**LS**), Ravern Stevens (**RS**), Ken Trew (**KT**), Andrew Vickers (**AV**), Venetia Davies (**Clerk and RFO**). Cllr Paul Irwin (**PI**) and Cllr Ashley Waite (**AW**) were also present.

Parishioners: Peter Spence (**PS**), lead of TAG2 and Paul Ridout (**PR**), member of Tree Warden group.

NB: Action points highlighted.

Parishioners Question Time

There were no questions.

1. Apologies

Cllr Judy Brandis (**JB**), Cllr Brian Foster (**BF**) and Milly Soames.

2. Approval of Minutes – Monday 25th January 2021

The Draft Minutes of the January meeting were **agreed** as a true record. **ACTION: CLERK to prepare a paper copy. KB to sign.**

3. Matters Arising

- **Village Maintenance/Administration**
 - Water on Dadbrook Road – treatment & ownership of ditch for clearing (**PI**)
 - ‘Slow Down for Horses signs’/Steps to reduce speed - Low Lane (**PI**)
- **GDPR Legislation** (Clearing of files). (**LS/CLERK**)
- **Local Parish Infrastructure Priorities and Future Workshops.** To inform Andy MacDougall, BCC of infrastructure priorities once results of Village Survey and Traffic Survey are known (**KT**)
- **Right of Access over VAHT land to Playing Fields.** Email received from Maria Damigos, Solicitor, BC giving no real insight. **ACTION: KT to attempt registration on the Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust land registry.**
- **Green Future Bucks.** Grants of £2,500 are available for Parish Councils for projects such as Community Orchards and Owl boxes. There are also grants of up to £500 available towards environment projects.
- **PCSO Ken Stephenson.** KB to meet with Ken Stephenson.
- **Rectory Homes/Environmental community projects.** Meeting date tbc.
- **Upper Green reseeding & access to Greenways.** **ACTION: KB to arrange in the Spring.**
- **Cuddington Village sign at Brookfield Farm.** TfB has confirmed that the removal of the sign was not removed as part of the build-out scheme but requested by the Bucks Maintenance Team. The sign and posts were rotten, damaged and on the verge of falling down. **RS** is pushing for its early replacement. **ACTION: RS to chase.**
- **Permissive path at Cuddington Mill.** Application submitted by landowner. **ACTION: CLERK to liaise with Keith McCullagh for future article on website.**
- **Potholes.** These have now been filled.
- **Dog Mess.** **ACTION: CLERK to ascertain costs for a dog bin at Tibby's Lane.**
- **Disabled Bay near Church.** **ACTION: KB to discuss with Colin Woolford.**

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared. All Parish Councillors have declared an interest in the Neighbourhood Plan.

5. Access to Southways

The terms of the Easement have been submitted to the Resident and have been agreed. The Deed of Easement to now be prepared by the Parish Council's solicitor for signature by both

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parties. **ACTION: CLERK** to organise for Land Registry compliant map (Wrightmans Plans Ltd - £362.40) and apply to TfB for the white line (3 metres) at a cost of £110. On signature of the Easement, to instruct Simon Brown to reinstate the area as agreed.

6. Buckinghamshire Local Plan

Buckinghamshire Council has issued a Call for Sites for Brownfield land. The new local plan covers the period up to 2040. The Vale of Aylesbury Housing Plan covers the period to 2033. It was commented that Bucks Council appear to be topping up of existing housing allocations in various local plans rather than a major review at this stage.

7. Cuddington Neighbourhood Plan.

KT had sent various background papers to Councillors about 3 policy changes to the Draft CNP following consultation with Bucks Council Planners:

- Settlement boundary. It was agreed to remove the housing policy in CNP and combine it with the Settlement boundary policy based on the approved Waddesdon settlement boundary policy (as suggested by Bucks planners)
- Affordable housing policy. It was agreed not to have a separate policy but to refer to the affordable housing policy in AVDLP and VALP.
- Local Green Spaces policy. The proposed Local Green Spaces within the settlement boundary are either church land or land owned by the PC and protected by the Heritage Assets policy in the Local Plan. To control development outside the settlement boundary the PC has been advised by Bucks planners to adopt Waddesdon's settlement boundary policy (see above). This restricts development in a similar way to the exceptions permitted under a Local Green Spaces Policy. It was agreed that there was no need to have duplicate policies in the CNP and that the Local Green Spaces policy could be omitted. This decision can be revisited at the next review of the CNP and, if necessary, a Local Green Spaces added back in.

8. Traffic Action Group

An interim note prepared by Peter Spence was circulated prior to the meeting. The paper asked for Councillors to consider adopting an independent urban design consultant so that the PC can ascertain what traffic calming measures can be put in place beyond the previous feasibility study by TfB. A proposal from a company has been circulated to KB giving an indication of fees (£5K). Given any scheme has to have Bucks Council approval, it was suggested TfB might be better placed to consult, particularly as the main issue is 20mph limit.

ACTION: PS to contact consultant for examples of successful implementation of other schemes and **KB** to lobby the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, via the Community Board, asking the position of Thames Valley Police on 20mph in villages.

9. Trees

- **Replacement of horse chestnut.** A revised quotation (£5,014.00) from Majestic Trees has been received and includes supply, delivery, planting and aftercare (not watering). This has been approved by Rectory Homes who is kindly gifting the trees to the Village. A ground check for services has been completed for the hornbeam (replacement for horse chestnut). Further investigation is required for the walnut tree (to be planted on the corner of Dadbrook and Bernard Close). **ACTION: KB** to ask Simon Brown to dig down a metre square to double check for clearance of utilities. **PR** to order on trees.
- **Tree Asset Register/Mapping.** **ACTION: KB/PR.** Honey Locust to be included.

10. Proposed Footpath Diversion CUD013

The Parish Council considered the comments received on the proposed footpath diversion. The way in which the path was diverted has upset some residents (the paddocks erected, and the path being diverted prior to making any application, and signs erected which some

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walkers have found intimidating). The issues **against** quoted the diversion of a historic footpath, removal of an ancient hedge, the walkable width (2 metres being restricted, less accessible and prone to becoming a muddy expanse), cost for construction/maintenance of bridge and setting of precedent. The issues **for**, quoted the path would be better maintained and safer (previously grazed cattle in open field), and the installation of a gate rather than stile at the bottom of the path. The vote from the Parish Council was inconclusive and so it agreed to outline instead the feelings of some Councillors and Parishioners to Ela Hackling, Definitive Map Officer, Bucks Council. It was noted that since applying for an extension to the comment date, the Definitive Map Officer has advised the PC that the public will be invited to comment in the next stage of the process, when the order is made. **ACTION: KB/CLERK to submit comments to Definitive Map Officer.** **Please see addendum at end of Draft Minutes.*

11. Footpath CUD013

- **Road safety issue.** **ACTION: KB to liaise with Bucks Highways/Colin Woolford to ascertain if a feasibility study is necessary or if signs are instead permitted.**
- **Ditching/water flow towards Cuddington Mill.** The flooding issue has been addressed with the insertion of a drain.

12. Playground Equipment

Councillors agreed to the proposed multi play tower and balance beams, at a cost of £17,813.50, to be jointly funded by Haddenham and Waddesdon Community Board (approved £10,688.10) and S106 monies (18/00137/APP Land North of Aylesbury – current balance £23,422.38). **ACTION: CLERK to complete Leisure S106 Projects Authorisation Form and send to Joe Houston, BC. On approval, LS to order. Electronic copies of invoices, a post installation inspection report by a member of the Register of Play Inspectors International and a photo of the completed works be included.** The suggested opportunity to move the existing play area to meet the current Fields in Trust guidance was briefly discussed, this being beyond the needs of the village and its desires.

13. Correspondence

- Email from Parishioner regarding verge damage by lorries/large vehicles and asking if there is a way to restrict large vehicles to prevent continuous damage. The Parish Council is currently lobbying about vehicles 'rolling' through the village.
- Email from Chearsley PC to consider a joint initiative to replace benches where Cuddington, Chearsley and Nether Winchendon meeting (Cannons Hill). These were originally installed for walkers of the Thames Valley Walk. The PC agreed to collaborate if scale and funding permit. **ACTION: CLERK to respond to Chearsley PC.**
- Email from Trustee of Baptist Chapel requesting (in the absence of fete funding - £100 in 2019), financial help for felling a tree, clearing and planting. In principle, Councillors agreed to support. **ACTION: CLERK to respond and ask for idea of costs.**

14. Reports from Councillors attending meetings and outside organisations including CPFA

- **CPFA.** There were no meetings.
- **Haddenham &Waddesdon Environmental Subgroup.** JR attended a recent meeting and was very supportive of the Wild Aylesbury Vale project, Bucks tree planting and Library of things initiatives.

15. Contributions from Buckinghamshire Council Councillors

- **Cllr Judy Brandis (JB).** A short report was circulated prior to the meeting. The Council has spent £30m on road repairs. There is a £6m reserve for weather damage repairs. The Department of Transport is cutting capital funding for all highways. As a result, Bucks Council will receive £3 million less and is seeking alternative funding. There is a

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commitment to planting over 500,000 new trees, a native broadleaf tree for every resident of Bucks, which will create some new woods.

- Cllr Paul Irwin (PI). Bernie Bus is to be replaced with a newer model. The original Bernie may be used as mobile storage for the Library of things initiative. Wild Aylesbury Vale is offering grants of £500 for groups in villages for improving mental health and the environment.

ACTION: LS to inform the CPFA and Cuddington Gardening Club.

- **Cllr Ashley Waite (AW).** 120,000 Bucks residents (over 65) have received the Covid-19 vaccination. Bucks University has opened as one of three mass vaccination centres in the county. The base rate for Bucks, as of Friday 19th February was 0.8. Hospital admissions for over 60s is plummeting, the highest group now 20-39 years. The Bucks Council Business Grants and Additional Restrictions Grants has paid over £10m, this amount partially funded nationally but topped up by Bucks Council.

16. Planning

There have been no new applications since the January meeting.

17. Finance

- a. **Balance from Minutes of previous meeting** (25th January 2021): **£47,510.05**
 - Receipts: £0.00
 - BACS Debits: £0.00
 - **Balance of Bank Account: £47,510.05** (as at 18th February 2021)
Available Funds: £47,510.05
- b. **Orders for Payment: £754.35**
 - **Venetia Davies - £574.55** (£415.36 + £14.39 (Monthly Zoom Subscription Pro Plan) + £15.00 (Use of Home) + £129.80 (additional hours)
 - **Ken Birkby - £25.00** (payment to Mr Woodford for electricity for Christmas tree lights)
 - **JRB Enterprise Ltd - £154.80** (£129.00 + £25.80 VAT) (dog bags)
 - **BALANCE: £46,755.70 (Available Funds less Orders for Payment).**
- c. **Management Report, March.** **ACTION: CLERK to circulate.**

18. Items for Information including:

- **Parish Charter Survey.** Closes 7th March. KB has fed back positively via the Community Boards.
- **Haddenham & Waddesdon Community Board Public Meeting - 18th March 2021.**
ACTION: KB to report back.
- **Town and Parish Council Elections.** Thursday 6th May 2021. Applications to be submitted to BC by Thursday 8th April by 4pm. **ACTION: CLERK to promote via Village Voice, Website and Notice Boards.**
- **Annual Village Meeting 2021.** **ACTION: CLERK to bring forward to March meeting.**

19. Date and Time of Next Meeting:

Monday 29th March 2021 at 6.00pm (by Video Conference)

Parishioners are invited to the meeting but are required to email the Clerk at: cuddingtonpc@gmail.com for a Zoom meeting ID number and password.

*The Parish Council meet on **the last Monday of every month** (or the 4th Monday in the event of a Bank Holiday Monday).*

****Addendum. Item 10 - Proposed Footpath Diversion CUD013.** After the meeting, the comments of the PC were submitted to the Definitive Map Officer. The Office required a definitive answer as to whether the PC supported or objected to the application. On that basis the Parish Councillors who abstained at the meeting made an additional site visit. The result was that the majority of Parish Councillors were supportive of the diversion. This has since been conveyed to the Officer. Two points have been clarified by the applicant. The proposed path will be 4 metres wide and the bridge is being paid for by the applicant.*