

DRAFT MINUTES

2021/043

CUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL **Draft Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the Bernard Hall** **Tuesday 19th October 2021 at 7.00pm**

PRESENT: Ken Birkby (**KB**), Ken Brown (**KMB**), Julia Ridout (**JR**), Ken Trew (**KT**), Lorraine Stevens (**LS**), Ravern Stevens (**RS**), Malcolm Thomas (**MT**), Venetia Davies (**Clerk and RFO**).
Parishioners: There was one Parishioner present and also Buckinghamshire Councillor Mick Caffrey (**MC**).

NB: Action points highlighted.

Parishioners Question Time

There were no questions.

1. Apologies

Ashley Waite (AW).

2. Approval of Draft Minutes

The Draft Minutes of the September meeting were **agreed and signed** as a true record by KB, Chair.

3. Matters Arising

- **GDPR Legislation.** Clearing of files (**LS/CLERK**). Ongoing.
- **Local Parish Infrastructure Priorities and Future Workshops.** The priorities have been defined in the draft CNP submitted to Buckinghamshire Council.
- **Cuddington Green Initiative** ongoing (KT/LS/JR).
- **Sewage spills into the River Thame.** Greg Smith, MP has raised this with Thames Water and has asked for an urgent investigation of the matter. **ACTION: CLERK to follow up.**
- **Village Maintenance/Colin Woolford LAT.** Works to the unofficial lay-by at the top of Dadbrook, near King's Cross will commence September. Poor condition of Bridleway 6. Both awaiting.
- **Parish Council Notice Boards.** Awaiting outcome.
- **Planning Update.** **ACTION: CLERK to upload on website and include Bucks Council and PC response to Oxford-Cambridge Arc Consultation.**
- **Boules Pitch.** **ACTION: KB to obtain two new sleepers.**
- **Curtilage on Spicketts Lane.** Letter sent to resident requesting highways land is reinstated.
- **Boardwalk, Nether Winchendon.** The repair to the Boardwalk was reported more than a year ago. **ACTION: KB to request repair prior to adverse weather conditions, with Alastair McVail, Area Rights of Way Officer.**
- **Welford Way.** **ACTION: LS/CLERK to confirm works for Welford Way to Simon Brown at a cost of approximately £140.00 plus disposal of rubbish.** The broken step has been re-reported to VAHT. **ACTION: CLERK to monitor.**

4. Declarations of Interest

MT expressed an interest in planning application **21/03904/APP**, Swan Cottage. All Parish Councillors have declared an interest in the Neighbourhood Plan.

5. Traffic Measures and Aylesbury Road Safety Project

- **S106 contribution (£15,000 Rectory Homes).** **ACTION: CLERK to invoice Bucks Council £6,911.94 on receipt of Purchase Order.**

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- **Aylesbury Road Safety Project.** PID (Project Initiation Document) received. The scheme is addressing the overriding of vehicles on Aylesbury Road and the ability to cross safely by road narrowing islands & dropped kerbs. The cost is £10,832.47 (Preliminary design Safety Audit and Designers Response and Consultation), supported by the remaining £8,088.06 retained from Rectory Homes contribution. The total estimate for implementation of the proposal is £50,000.00. Councillors expressed concerns over the proposed plans and the capability of them being implemented. **ACTION: RS** to ask if the project can be progressed and costed in a phased way. To also query the need for further traffic data). In the meantime, **KB/KT** to research consultants.
- **Speed Indicator Device (SID).** Outcome of funding awaiting (£3,675.00).
- **20mph.** Email from Member of Buckinghamshire Council representing the Wing Ward challenging Martin Tett's opposed view to 20mph zones for residential areas in Buckinghamshire. **ACTION: KB/CLERK** to send letter of support.

6. New Permissive Footpath at Cuddington Mill

Keith McCullagh gave a short presentation on the new permissive footpath at Cuddington Mill. An application for a footpath diversion, supported by the PC, was unsuccessful in 2019. However, Buckinghamshire Council confirmed the right to a permissive footpath. A new route, with two new steel bridges (Environment Agency approved), has been installed and is now open for the enjoyment and use of all. The bridges and their approaches are constructed above flood level. Temporary signs are in place with fingerpost signs on order. The use of the new permissive path will be assessed over time and, if enough members of the village and the public appear to be using it, an application for a new footpath diversion order may be submitted. An article, with map, will be included in the November issue of Village Voice.

7. Cuddington Infrastructure Projects 2021-2033 - Dadbrook Footway/Cycleway link

The Feasibility Study has been circulated for funding approval. However, TfB has advised that the implementation of this scheme would potentially be expensive, and more than the Community Board could afford. The Parish Council has been informed that the footway/cycleway be added to the Council's list of schemes ready (In the same way as the Waddesdon Greenway extension) to be proceeded with once Government confirms additional funding for cycleways. Regarding the diverting of the 280-bus service into Cuddington, Arriva has proposed to TfB that this be assessed in the rural bus service improvement plan in 2022.

ACTION: KT to update the Cuddington Infrastructure Project list. **CLERK** to upload on website.

8. Right of Access over VAHT land to Playing Fields.

A report is being prepared (Dinah Champion, Property Officer, Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust) for the Board to consider granting formal access over the land registered to the Vale of Housing Trust, for the benefit of the Sports Field. This to then be registered against the relevant titles at HMLR.

ACTION: AW/CLERK to continue to monitor progress.

9. Pedestrian Safety at Crossing Point/Footpath CUD13

KB has written to the Conservation Manager at Waddesdon Estates (cc'd to Alistair McVail, ROW) requesting that the cutting back of the hedge and lowering and flattening of the verge. The RoW officer has asked the definitive map team to verify the alignment of the path and, if it is correct, the Estate/landowner will be required to remove a section of hedging on the correct alignment and reinstall the gate if it still needs one. A fingerpost would be replaced by the Council's RoW team

ACTION: KB to press for response. Other safety suggestions include:

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- *Realignment of footpath to coincide with path opposite.*
- *Installation of SID sign displaying pedestrian crossing. ACTION: KB to apply for additional SID for this purpose with H&W Community Board, at the appropriate time.*
- *A 40mph buffer before entering the village.*
- *Resetting of gate further back from the road to give walkers more safe space from the traffic.*
- *A mirror in the hedge line on private land.*

Once some of the measures have been implemented, it has been agreed to formally understand the process to change to the speed limit. ACTION: Paul Irwin to ask TfB for an 'in principle' response to the proposal to introduce a 40mph speed zone at the approach to the village from Chearsley.

10. Playground – equipment and further works

LS has met with a group of parents to discuss the future of Cuddington playground. At the meeting, LS gave a brief history of the playground, its equipment and funding sources (PC and external). An email from the group of parents has been received by the PC seeking approval of a Parent Committee Working Group and consent to expand the area (as opposed to the removal of some older equipment) to offer more space for new playground equipment (toddler and additional needs equipment). The expansion was unanimously agreed by the PC.

ACTION: LS to notify Parent Committee but request that the extended area is assessed in the context of the current Fields in Trust guidance). The parent committee has committed to setting out a project plan, detailing how improvements will be funded, installed and maintained.

ACTION: LS to request the Parent Committee presents its proposals at a forthcoming meeting of the PC. Funding will be via grants, section 106 money (remaining S106 monies total £14,015.63 and maintenance of £1,621.35) and fundraising. Thanks were paid to LS.

11. Wildlife Project

LS reported that the wildlife project is underway. 2,000 daffodil bulbs have been planted at various locations (the cherry tree bank at Swan Hill, the top of the playground, Aylesbury Road around the Build Out and a selection of Spring bulbs on the triangle at the top of Holly Tree Lane). Thanks for the help of the volunteers and Sunday School children. The triangle bulbs were generously donated by Mike and Gilly Cottman. ACTION: JR to order bat and bird boxes and locate as recommended by Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT). The Wildlife project will include a *listening* bench and may also include wildlife information boards installed on the playing fields. The consensus from Parishioners (who have sight of the Lower Green from their homes) is for the bench to be located on the east side, facing up along Lower Church Street. Footings for the bench will be established together with accessibility for anyone with poor mobility. Further benches are available from the Community Boards. The Parish Council agreed to request two for positioning near the Platinum Jubilee commemorative tree and the old dugout. The plantings of saplings will take place on the playing fields 13.11.21.

12. Correspondence, any outside Agenda items including Chearsley Carbon Neutral.

- A Parishioner has asked requested a branch from one of the Village trees be lopped. ACTION: KB to instruct Simon Brown.
- Chearsley Carbon Neutral. It was agreed to write an article in Village Voice (VV) outlining the initiatives the Parish Council are taking to reduce its carbon footprint. ACTION: KT/JR to progress for December issue of VV.

13. The Queen's Green Canopy/Tree for the Platinum Jubilee

An Acer Campestre (Field Maple) has been selected as the Commemorative tree. Planting will be along the south-eastern edge of the playing fields. ACTION: JR to progress with purchase of tree

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and planting (including hire of matting (if required) and labour), subject to approval of Community Board funding (£2937.90). The Parish Council has agreed a contribution of £500. It was suggested the school be involved with the placing of the plaque. The Parish Council received an autumn report from the Tree Wardens. This will be included in the November issue of Village Voice.

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

Minutes circulated. Neal Waters has stood down as Chairman.

15. Contributions from Buckinghamshire Councillors

- **Cllr Mick Caffrey.** VALP adopted. MC has written to the Transport and Climate Change committee expressing concerns over pollution in the River Thames.

16. Planning:

- **21/03870/ALB - Beam Cottage, Lower Church Street, Cuddington HP18 0AS**
Listed building application for conversion and extension of existing ancillary residential outbuilding (amendment to 20/01949/ALB). **Comment date: 29th October 2021**
ACTION: CLERK to return No Objections to Buckinghamshire Council.
- **21/03904/APP - Swan Cottage, Aylesbury Road, Cuddington HP18 0BG**
Householder application for conversion of garage into habitable accommodation, part ground floor and part first floor rear extensions and recladding. **Comment date: 1st November 2021**
ACTION: COUNCILLORS to attend site visit.

17. Finance

- a. **Balance from Minutes of previous meeting (27th September 2021): £70,810.14**
 - Receipts: £0.00
 - BACS Debits: £0.00
 - **Balance of Bank Account: £70,810.14** (as at 15th October 2021)
Available Funds: £70,810.14
- b. **Orders for Payment: £1,468.31**
 - **Venetia Davies - £430.36** (£415.36) + £15.00 (Use of Home)
 - **Blades Turf Care - £726.00** (£110.00 + £22.00 VAT (village green grass cutting), £70.00 + £14.00) (watering, 2 hours @ £35.00), topsoil and seeding around playground equipment £425.00 + £85.00)
 - **Neal Waters - £45.00** (Playground grass cutting - 1 cut)
 - **Lorraine Stevens - £96.00** (£80.00 + £16.00 VAT) (Woodland bulbs)
 - **Gilly Cottman - £98.95** (Best Kept Village Planting)
 - **Parish Online - £72.00** (£60.00 + £12.00 VAT) (Subscription renewal)
BALANCE: £69,341.83 (Available Funds less Orders for Payment).
- c. **Management Report.** October 2021 circulated.

18. Items for Information

- **Grit Bin at the bottom of Lower Green.** **ACTION: CLERK to request and ascertain preparation required for installation.**
- **Community Board meeting:** 04.11.21 at 7pm by MS Teams.
- **ACTION: KB to attend and read list of fallen at Remembrance Service (14.11.21).**
- **Christmas Tree.** **ACTION: KB to order.**

19. Date and Time of Next Meeting:

TUESDAY 30TH NOVEMBER at 7pm in the Bernard Hall

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The Agenda and Minutes of the Parish Council meetings can also be viewed at
www.cuddingtonvillage.com

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Annual Village Meeting - Monday 4th April 2022

*The Parish Council meet on **the 4th Tuesday of every month***

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