

DRAFT MINUTES

2023/01

CUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL **Draft Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the Bernard Hall** **TUESDAY 17th JANUARY 2023 at 7pm**

PRESENT: Ken Birkby (**KB**), Ken Brown (**KMB**), Julia Ridout (**JR**), Lorraine Stevens (**LS**), Ravern Stevens (**RS**), Malcolm Thomas (**MT**), Venetia Davies (**Clerk and RFO**).

Parishioners: There was one Parishioners present plus Buckinghamshire Councillor, Paul Irwin (**PI**).

NB: Action points highlighted

Parishioners Question Time

There were no questions.

1. Apologies

Ken Trew (**KT**) and Ashley Waite (**AW**)

2. Approval of Draft Minutes

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

3. Matters Arising

- **Lighting in the Village.** It was agreed this should be a discussion topic for the Annual Village Meeting to preserve the 'Dark skies' environment of the village. Re Swan Cottage. Malcolm Thomas declared an interest and refrained from commenting. Councillors agreed the lights were lower and more mellow than anticipated and didn't consider them obtrusive.
- **Wildlife Project.** Bat boxes will be installed at later date.
- **Cuddington Green Initiative.** Ongoing (**KT/LS/JR**).
- **Village Maintenance/Colin Woolford, Local Area Technician.** Poor condition of Bridleway 6. Awaiting.
- **Resurfacing of playing field carpark.** Trustees to reapply to National Lottery fund. Grant monies are to be match funded.
- **TAG 2.** **ACTION: KB to reinstate with activists.**
- **Assets of Community Value:** Expiry dates: Allotments (11.04.23), Cuddington Village Stores and Post Office (15.09.24) and Crown PH (15.09.25). **ACTION: CLERK to agenda Allotments for February meeting.**
- **HGV and Weight Limit on bridges.** KB in liaison with Working Group and PI/Graham Hilary.
- **Overgrown Hedges. Holly Tree Lane/Frog Lane.** Further remedial work is still required to reveal outer edge of tarmacked highway surface. Colin Woolford has said that he will see if there is anything Buckinghamshire Council can do to find a 'middle ground'.
- **Registration of Parish Council Land with Land Registry.** JR awaiting outcome.
- **Millennium tree plaque.** In need of future repair.
- **Right of Access over VAHT** (now Fairhive Homes) land to Playing Fields. Draft Licence received by Fairhive Homes and sent to Wellers Hedleys Solicitors for comment. **ACTION: CLERK to forward comments made by professional Solicitor, also a parishioner.**
- **Spicketts Lane Verge (West).** Winter working party to be arranged to cut back ivy and brambles (February).
- **Nicholas Almond Trust.** **ACTION: JR to attend meeting.**
- **From Low Lane (East) to Stone Footpath.** Works to clear the path and trim back grass/weeds/hedges has been marked out, but only one area. **ACTION: KMB to write to Colin Woolford for update.**
- **'Bump' on Dadbrook, near Kings Cross.** Order in place to fully repair the defect this year.

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- **Salt Bin.** If funding application is successful, to be positioned at corner of Frog Lane and Lower Church Street. Cost is £450.00 (refilled each year, free of charge). **ACTION: JR to apply for a micro grant from Haddenham and Waddesdon Community Board.**
- **Dadbrook.** Clerk has raised the flooding issues in Dadbrook and the replacement of the 'kill your speed' sign with Colin Woolford and is awaiting comment.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

5. Planning – please view Planning Applications and full comments via the new [Planning Tracker](#)

- **22/04311/APP - 12 Swan Hill Cottages, Aylesbury Road, Cuddington, HP18 0BE.**
Householder application for proposed annexe. Comment date: 25.01.23.
Clerk has written to the Case Officer highlighting that the elevations for the application do not match the plan. **ACTION: CLERK to return OPPOSES the application to Buckinghamshire Council and comment as follows:** The Parish Council has nothing against the principle of an annexe and it is clear this cannot be separated and sold as a separate dwelling. However, the Parish Council opposes the application because the accompanying drawings are inconsistent, in that the fenestration does not agree between the elevation and the plan. In addition, the windows on the east and west elevation are full height and, because of the extra height of the proposed annexe, will overlook the two neighbouring properties. There are concerns about the amount of light that will potentially emanate from any outside lighting unless it is low level and low power. Further, the application makes no reference to the need to increase the parking provision to 3 vehicles from the existing space for 2.

6. Buckinghamshire Council Settlement Review

Response for Part 1 & Part 2 of review agreed. **ACTION: KB/KT to review and complete (28.02.23).**

7. Road Safety Projects

- **Dadbrook Path.** The full width of the verge has been closely flailed following a litter pick. The bramble and vegetation at the Kings Cross junction have been cut back, a metre from the road edge. Colin Woolford has advised that as the improvements to the carriageway would be classed as a scheme, a Schemes Brief Request Form must be completed. There are specifications for piping grips and the proposals will also need to have dropper kerbs fitted. Costs for any scheme need to be ascertained.
- **Kings Cross – safety measures for Kings Cross/A418 crossing**
Cuddington PC, Chearsley PC and Haddenham PC are equally concerned about the safety of the A418 junction. The mitigation measures (a new left hand turn flare to increase the capacity and provide greater room for left turning vehicles), are not fit for purpose and it is felt the planners had not considered the cumulative effects of various housing sites in Haddenham. With the new Local Plan for Buckinghamshire (2025) underway, Haddenham PC is asking the consultants working on the Haddenham [street scape project](#) to quote for a feasibility study on this junction (with funding to be collectively applied to from the H&W Community Board). Further, Cllr Alan Thawley, Haddenham PC has suggested that the study should include a safe, all weather accessible connection for pedestrians and cyclists to also cross the A418, highlighting the funding awarded (£397k) to Bucks Council for walking and cycling schemes from Active Travel England. He has asked if a surfaced path at Dadbrook would be met with landowner resistance. Nic Brown, Buckinghamshire Councillor and Chair of Chearsley PC, has also requested a meeting with Steve Broadbent Cabinet Member for Transport,

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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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Buckinghamshire Council. Paul Irwin has suggested the Parish Council also ask for this to be put on the Agenda for the Haddenham and Waddesdon Community Board.

ACTION: KB/CLERK to complete the Schemes Brief Request Form but progress discussions with neighbouring Parish Council's.

- **Aylesbury Road:**
 - **Build Out/Speed Humps as an alternative measure.** TfB has said that given the proximity to properties, a ramp, hump or cushion would raise serious concerns on noise and ground borne vibration to adjacent residential properties.
 - **Changes to Speed Limits.** To extend the existing speed limits, there will be new costs (Speed surveys - £504.70 each, speed limit change in excess of £10,000 - per change). TfB have now confirmed that the Buffers zones won't be effective due to the sudden change between the village boundary and the National Speed Limit (NSL) (no gradual change). KT has queried this and asked that, if transitions are not recommended in principle, can an extension of the 30mph zone be applied for. With very few collisions, the PC needs to understand if it will get support for speed limit changes based on other criteria before it proceeds further. **Petition from the Village to Buckinghamshire Council for its speed limit changes. ACTION: KB to work with Parishioner. To also write to Elaine Hassell so that the correct process can be determined.**
- **Pedestrian Safety at Crossing Point/Footpath CUD13.** Landowner has cut back a small section of the hedge but all on the westward side and not on the bend as the road starts to go down the hill (as the photographs in 2008 illustrated). As a result, there is no improvement to the visibility and safety to the west. A mirror has been installed and has been favourably commented on by Parishioners and other Parish Councils alike.

8. Playground Project

The Annual Playground Inspection has been carried out. Overall, the report was low risk. The stock valuation is higher than the insurance policy cover. An additional cost to cover the new equipment has been requested. **ACTION: CLERK to follow up with insurers.** The Parish Council will carry out some small-scale remedial works/painting in late Spring. A micro grant application (up to £1,000) has been submitted to Haddenham and Waddesdon Community Board for the base of the basketball net. **ACTION: LS to request a second quote for the concrete base.**

9. Correspondence

- Email from Doug Kennedy concerned with the extent of the reinstatement works in Spicketts Lane and its effect on the natural environment. Whilst understanding maintenance is required in order to prevent the hedgerow encroaching the road, the proposed work, in his view, is too much. **ACTION: KB to respond.**
- Email from Parishioner asking for further footpath gates following the installation of the gate on Footpath CUD008. KB has responded. The priority is CUD003 but the Parish Council agree it should have a strategy for replacing wooden stiles with metal gates.

10. The River Thame Conservation Trust Talk

A talk, hosted by the PC, has been arranged for **15th March at 7.30pm** in the Bernard Hall. **ACTION: CLERK to return hall booking form. DK to prepare article in February issue of Village Voice. A Flyer to be printed and distributed in the March edition of Village Voice.** Doug Kennedy has requested the Parish Council contribute towards this. **ACTION: KB to discuss with Doug Kennedy.** Doug Kennedy has extended the invitation to neighbouring villages.

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11. Proud of Bucks Awards

Everyone is invited to individually nominate people for the Proud of Bucks Awards. The nominations are Local Community Champion, Young Community Champion, and Community Group Contribution. **ACTION: JR to issue poster to Village Voice. CLERK to issue on Notice Boards and Website to encourage nomination of people.**

12. Reports from Councillors attending meetings and outside organisations

There were none. The Gardening Club is sadly closing.

13. Contributions from Buckinghamshire Council Councillors

Cllr Paul Irwin. This year, the Haddenham and Waddesdon Community Board gave the highest level of contributory funding, a total of £138k. The budget for 2023/24 is reducing to £103k. Buckinghamshire Council has launched its Estates Strategy and is reviewing its office accommodation inherited from the pre-unitary councils. The excessive cold snap, which was followed by rain, has exacerbated road problems. Parishioners are asked to report issues on Fix My Street. The Charity, Inspire Bucks gave 3,000 children a Christmas present this year. Food collections are going very well. An extra MP in mid Buckinghamshire could result with the new boundary changes.

14. Finance

- **Balance from Minutes of previous meeting** (20th December 2022): **£59,508.63**
- **Receipts: £24,015.63** (£14,015.63 - S106 monies) and £10,000 - Haddenham and Waddesdon Community Board)
- **BACS Debits: £0.00**
- **Balance of Bank Account: £83,524.26** (as at 12th January 2023)
- a. **Orders for Payment: £594.26**
 - **Venetia Davies - £469.72** (£454.72 + £15.00 (Use of Home))
 - **Hugo Fox - £12.00** (£10.00 + £2.00 VAT) (Monthly Planning Tracker support)
 - **Playground Inspection Company - £87.54** (£72.95 + £14.59 VAT) (Annual Inspection)
 - **Ken Birkby - £25.00** (for Mr Brian Woodford – for electricity for lighting of Christmas tree)
 - **BALANCE: £82,930.00** (Available Funds less Orders for Payment).
- b. **Management Report.** January report circulated.

15. Items for Information

- **Haddenham and Waddesdon Community Board** – 16.02.23 at 6.30pm on MS Teams.
- **The River Thames Conservation Trust Talk** - Wednesday 15th March at 7.30pm in the Bernard Hall.
- **The Great British Spring Clean | Buckinghamshire Council** – 25.03. 23-10.04. 23. The Parish Council will hold a litter pick on **Sunday 2nd April**. **ACTION: KB to promote in Village Voice.**
- **Annual Village Meeting – Wednesday 19th April at 7pm.** The meeting will include a discussion on lighting in the village.
- **Hedging Whips.** Arriving from 6th March onwards for Spicketts Verge and the Playing Fields.

16. Date and Time of Next Meeting:

TUESDAY 28th FEBRUARY 2023 at 7pm in the Bernard Hall

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

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