

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 30th May 2023 at 7:30pm at Westcott Cricket Club

Attendees

Cllr Sue Pusey (Chairman) (SP), Cllr Tony Wilkinson (TW), Cllr Grahame Pusey (GP), Cllr Sue Lacey (SL)

Ward Councilors – Cllr Ashley Waite, Cllr Paul Irwin

Officer of the Council – Barry Malki

Public Forum

One member of the Public stated that the Churchyard had been in the worst state they had seen it in 60 years.

One member of the Public agreed, reporting that a number of local families had complained.

BM noted that the original contract with the contractor was for monthly cuts.

TW stated that if the contractors weren't fulfilling the contract terms, then they wouldn't have the contract renewed. BM to liaise with contractor regarding dates of visits.

One member of the Public asked why the contractor changed. JH responded that there was a fair tendering process, and the current contractor was chosen above others that submitted a proposal.

Part One

14. Election of the Chair

TW nominated Cllr Sue Pusey to stand as Chair.

JH seconded

Cllrs Agreed.

Cllr Pusey signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

15. Election of the Vice Chair

SP nominated Cllr Tony Wilkinson to stand as Chair.

JH seconded

Cllrs Agreed.

Cllr Wilkinson signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

16. Apologies

Cllr Kevin Ready

17. Declarations of Interest

None

18. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2023

Minutes were confirmed to be an accurate record of the meeting.

19. Governance Review

Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Risk Register all agreed and adopted with no material

changes.

20. Review of External Representation.

- a. Beck and Fetto – Cllr Vitkus
- b. William Turner - Cllr Wilkinson
- c. Faith Beaumont - Cllr Wilkinson
- d. Greenway - Cllr Hooper
- e. Bucks Recycling Liaison - Cllr S Pusey, Cllr S Lacey
- f. Website - Cllr Hooper
- g. Village Green working group - Cllr S Pusey, Cllr G Pusey, Cllr Wilkinson, Cllr Ready
- h. Community Board - Cllr S Pusey (Litter, Freight, Speed) Cllr Hooper (Environment)

21. Insurance Confirmation

BM to check that SID devices are covered within the insurance policy.

22. Meeting dates 23/34

- 11th July
- 22nd August
- 3rd October
- 14th November
- 19th December
- 6th February
- 19th March

BM to set date for Annual Parish Meeting 24/25 and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council 24/25

23. Clerks Report and Ward Cllrs Report

BM gave an update on the following items:

- The Lighting repairs were on a work order and awaiting the site visit from the team. BM to get a date asap.
- Update on two recent burials, and confusion between the council and the undertaker as to who would be providing the Green Certificate.
- Goal nets have been delivered.
- The domain name had been renewed via Freeola
- Update on the cost of replacement dog bins if provided by Bucks Council. BM to investigate whether BC would empty bins supplied by a third party. SP proposed allowing £700 to cover the dog bin replacements, but a cheaper alternative to be eliminated first.

Cllr Irwin gave an update on the following items:

- The Station Road traffic lights had failed again.
- The Freight Strategy had gone to cabinet for approval. The only lorries permitted through the village would be those delivering directly to Westcott and Ashendon
- That the Greenway hadn't moved on as different stakeholders are conflicted about the proposed routes.

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- Grass Cutting was to take place in early June, noting that vision displays had a statutory minimum level of maintenance, but other areas would be cut twice per year.
- The priority of the new road maintenance contractor, Balfour Beatty was for fewer “temporary repairs”. JH asked for sight of the contract.

Cllr Waite gave an update on the following items:

- That changes to the cabinet would affect the devolution agenda, and would be trying to raise with new cabinet member urgently.
- There is a new point of contact for Bucks Recycling, and that he will remind them of the planning conditions. SL to provide a list of issues.
- The boundary commission had signed off on the changes to ward boundaries, and it would now need to be ratified by parliament. The new structure means that one Cllr will represent approximately 4,750 residents.

24. Burial Ground

BM to update procedures, and to benchmark costs against other local councils.

SP to introduce BM to former clerk.

25. FINANCE

- I. To NOTE the financial report and agree payments. BM unable to provide end of year accounts due to a discrepancy between the Bank Reconciliation and the Accounting Figures. This was likely due to a missed entry during the handover period, but would take some time to identify and correct. BM to send Annual Return as soon as possible.
- II. To AGREE payment of Chairman’s allowance
Cllrs agreed the amount of £100 should be paid to the Chair.
- III. To CONFIRM bank signatories
Cllrs agreed that JH, SP and TW should remain as signatories.

26. PLANNING MATTERS

- 23/01229 – Cllrs were concerned about the external lighting on the building, and in the car park area, and what effect it would have on residents and wildlife.

27. Urgent matters of note

SP reported that the hedge planting had been delayed at the Venture Park because the client wants to investigate the possibility of electric car charging ports.

SP reported that there would be an outline application for a new Hub in the park, and that two small buildings would be demolished to provide four units for small business. WPC would be invited to view the masterplan for the site. SL noted that the Aylesbury Vale Plan would favour a sports-related facility.

JH noted that there had been comments on social media regarding the mile marker, that may be

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within the parish boundary.

SL noted that the footpath was still not repaired. BM to chase.

GP noted that the Three mast on the roundabout was looking unkempt, with flaking paint.

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28. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 11th July 2023 at 7.30pm
Cllrs agreed

Part 1 of the meeting closed at 21:17

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Date Agreed:

Signed:

Position: – Chair/Vice Chair/Councillor

DRAFT