

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11 November 2015 at the Pavilion, Deep Spinney, Biddenham

Present: Peter Chase, Graham Bates, Jon Gambold, Alan Jacobs, Krzys Osuch, Francia Slade, Borough Cllr Roger Rigby and the Clerk were in attendance. In addition there were four members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Crowther and Platt - **it was resolved** to accept the apologies

2. Declarations of interest

None

3. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 14 October 2015

It was resolved to approve the minutes.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes

It was resolved to move the following items to Matters in Progress:

Deep Spinney pedestrian entrances

Elger Close footpaths

Speed hump/traffic calming island in Gold Lane/road markings outside the schools

Left hand lane road marking at Deep Spinney roundabout approach on the Bromham Road heading out of Bedford

There were no other matters not covered elsewhere within the agenda.

5. Public Open Session

Street names for new houses on land North of Bromham Road – would the parish council consider using names of local fields? Members felt there were not enough names for this to be feasible.

Speeding – this was raised several months ago but is not on tonight's agenda. What progress has been made with this subject? Cllr Chase responded that this subject has not been forgotten and has been added to matters in progress. The parish council are still pushing the Borough regarding road markings outside the schools on Biddenham Turn, the possible of a 20mph safety zone near the schools and also a traffic island on Gold Lane.

Martin Hosegood from the Biddenham Village Hall (BVH) committee addressed the meeting. The BVH committee meets 6 times per year and are seeking a representative from the parish council to join them. Cllr Chase thanked Mr Hosegood for attending and asked members to consider whether they wished to join the committee.

Members of the parish council were thanked for their work with the Borough to ensure the gypsies were moved off the field near Church End. In addition residents were very pleased to see work already taking place to clear the field and prevent access. Cllr Chase thanked Borough Cllrs Rigby and Gambold for their support in ensuring the Borough reacted swiftly to the situation. Work has already started to build ditches and improve security to the field. The Borough Council has begun the process for a legal order (this could take up to 6 months) for the field. Once in place this will ensure that anyone who enters the field will be evicted within 24hrs.

6. Planning

(i) The report was noted. The applications for phase 4-7 on Land North of Bromham Road were currently being circulated to all members. Cllr Bates was pleased to see that provision for a MUGA had been include near the new sports pavilion. Planning permission has already been granted for these parcels of land the applications provide

Clerk

All Cllrs

information on the layout of each phase in more detail.

(ii) **It was resolved** that Cllr Jacobs would join the planning sub committee group that deals with Deep Spinney.

7. To consider a response to Bedford Borough Council consultations on

(i) the Local Development Plan 2032

Biddenham is part of the Urban Area of the Borough and information relating specifically to this area has not yet been published. **It was resolved** to make no comments on the local development plan 2032

(ii) Council tax support grants

It was resolved to make no comments on this consultation

Clerk

8. To approve the calendar of meetings for 2016

It was resolved to adopt the calendar of meetings for 2016. Members were asked to think of a guest speaker for the Annual Parish Meeting for the 13th April and the chairman would include a request for a guest speaker in The Loop.

Clerk

Cllr Chase

9. To consider a local theme for street naming on land north of Bromham Road

It is likely the main residential route will be called St James Way. The Borough is looking for suggestions for the new bypass and also for the small tributary roads in the Western end of the development. The Borough has proposed several names which make reference to the Great River Ouse. However, members were not in favour of these suggestions and proposed Etienne Way (reference to local Olympic sportsman) or Dovecote Way (reference to the Dovecote in Biddenham which sadly was demolished several years ago.) After a brief discussion **it was resolved** to propose Dovecote Way as the preferred name for the new bypass. Members then considered options for the tributary roads and **it was resolved** that road names associated with water and local mills should be used.

Clerk

Borough Cllrs

10 Clerk's report

The report was noted.

11 Borough Councillor's report

The Borough is currently compiling its budget proposals but needs to make savings of approximately £1.7 million. Full details of the draft budget will be circulated to all members on the 25th November and this will be considered by the Executive committee in January. The Borough has approved plans that car parking will remain free in the evenings and will also retain the 2hrs free parking on Saturdays.

12 Financial Matters

(i) Accounts for approval – **it was resolved** to approve the accounts for payment listed below:

	Payee	£	Description
BACS	RBL Poppy Appeal	50.00	Civic Wreath (S137)
BACS	T Horton	85.00	Quarterly descale of showers and repair to disabled toilet
BACS	F Slade	30.00	Reimbursement for payment to Bugler (S137)
BACS	G Lawrence	500.00	Removal of brambles, tree works within SSSI
BACS	Chris Horne Gardens Ltd	1765.80	Grass cutting
BACS	A Southern	73.31	Pavilion cleaning materials, mileage visits (June-Oct) and

Clerk

			car parking fees (banking)
	TOTAL	2504.11	

(ii) To note the monthly spend against budget including current bank balances held
The report was noted.

Clerk

iii) To consider the quote from Chris Horne Gardens for additional grass cutting within the parish

It was resolved to accept the quote from Chris Horne Gardens which would see the remainder of the parish cut on the same schedule of up to 19 cuts per year which would cost a maximum of £3050 + VAT. This would commence in the financial year 2016-17.

Cllrs Gambold and Rigby would discuss with Beds BC regarding the parish opting out of using the Borough for grass cutting services and also to ascertain if any funding towards the cost of the grass cutting was available.

Borough Cllrs

(iv) To consider quotes for servicing of lawnmower equipment for use at the Pavilion
The cricket club had supplied three quotes for servicing the Outfield Mower, Wicket/Square Mower and the Roller. The quotes were supplied by Groundcare, Whites and AMF Services. **It was resolved** to retain the services of AMF Services at a cost of £1616 + VAT.

Clerk

13 Matters in Progress

The report was noted. **It was resolved** to include the following items to the report:

Elger Close Footpaths

Speed Humps/traffic island/road markings

Left hand lane road marking at Deep Spinney roundabout approaching on the Bromham Road heading out of Bedford

Deep Spinney pedestrian entrances

14 Parish Concerns

Assets of Community Value – Cllr Gambold was now in a position to submit applications for The Three Tuns and land owned by Lou Thomas to the rear of The Balk – **it was resolved** to submit both sites to the Borough.

Clerk/JG

Darlow Drive – trees outside no 2 were diseased and the Borough would be removing them and would replant in the spring.

TPO's for Biddenham Turn – the Borough will be undertaking a survey of all the trees along Biddenham Turn as it has come to light that very few trees are afforded the protection of TPOs. They will advise the parish council once the survey is completed.

15 Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 13 January 2016 at 7:30pm in the upstairs meeting room of the Pavilion.

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Approved by Chairman 13 January 2016