

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CLIFTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 10th Sept AT 7.30 PM AT CLIFTON COMMUNITY CENTRE.

Present: Cllrs Barry Livesey (Chair), Mrs Pauline Livesey, Ian Pacey, Steve Langton, Mrs Judy Lanham, Adrian Cree, Ray Dart, Phil Lawrence, Martin Ephgrave and Rupert Puritz

In attendance: Bob Smith.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

187. Apologies for absence were received from the Clerk, Parish Cllrs. Elisabeth Smith, Simon Fish and Central Bedfordshire Cllrs. Ian Dalgarno, David Shelvey and Richard Wenham.

Public Forum

Bob Smith raised two matters. (i) Condition of the footways in Fairfax Close.

(ii) Confirmation of the named speaker at the AGM of the Residents Association on 18th November.

188. Reports

- There was no report from CBC and the members' apologies had been received,
- A written report had been received from the Police was submitted. In August/September there had been 8 recorded incidents, 6 were for burglaries, 2 were cases of theft and the handling of stolen goods. These were noted. Concern was expressed at the number of burglaries and the Clerk is asked to write and ask what is to be done about this.

189. Minutes – the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd July were confirmed as a true record, approved by the members and signed by the Chairman.

190. Matters arising from the minutes.

- The date of the meeting for the Defibrillator training session will take place on Friday 11th September.
- The Clerk is to make sure that Elisabeth Smith has had and completed all necessary forms as a newly co-opted member of the Council.
- The hedge outside 38 – 68 New Road had been cut.
- Proposed development on land off Hitchin Lane. It was noted that Ruth Gray was acting on behalf of the Parish Council. The latter had distributed leaflets throughout the village during the past month.

191. Correspondence; Statement from the auditors BDO enclosing their account.

192. Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations: A meeting to discuss this is to be held on 24th September. A representative from the Parish Council is invited.

193. Community Centre Matters; Steve Langton and Martin Ephgrave had looked at the trip hazards noted in the RoSPA report. Steve Cracknel would be starting work on the replacement of the safety surface for the Tropica Multi play equipment in approximately 6 weeks time. It was suggested that he should also be asked to look at the trip hazards and if possible address the situation. Steve Langton offered to talk the matter through with Mr Cracknel and this was agreed.

The sign had been delivered.

Work on the extension should be beginning shortly.

The Clerk is asked whether any response to request about safety checks training has been received.

Woolgars had completed the electrical repairs.

194 Highway Matters

Work on the bollards and granite edging will be done shortly: Mr Carafalo had been reminded that he had promised that it would be done during the summer months. The provision of a footpath to the cricket club should be delayed as it appeared there would not be funds available from S106.

Trees: Mrs Livesey asked if the Clerk could find out the name of the new Arboricultural Officer as she was having difficulty contacting one. A tree had been felled seemingly without permission at the top end of Hitchin Lane leaving a dangerously high stump.

It was noted that the highway grass had been cut recently. The use of a strimmer was criticised.

Pond: After discussion it was agreed that when further pairs of waders had been purchased a date should be fixed to remove weed.

195. Planning: Two meetings concerned with the development off Hitchin Lane had been held.

No objection had been raised by the Parish Council to CB/TCA/15/00276 (pruning an ornamental cherry tree at 28a Grange St)

The Chairman had been approached by Mr A. Hale about a proposal to erect 3 houses on the site of redundant barns at Clifton Farm. It was noted that this would be on land outside the settlement envelope and to permit this development might seem to be inconsistent with the decision to object to that on land off Hitchin Lane. Plans would shortly be circulated.

195. Financial Matters

Barclays Bank had confirmed that the change of signatures on the bank accounts had been approved. A form for the Clerk is yet to be sorted out.

Bank balances were current account: £1,431.29; savings account: £68,935.85.

196. Other Reports

Adrian Cree attended a meeting about the extension of Clifton Park, New Road (the erstwhile caravan site, now permanent houses). He reported that the company that owns land at the back of the present park and is intending to use this to erect new homes in phases. It is planned to erect 10 as the first stage.

Steve Langton and Judy Lanham attended a meeting in Shefford about the possibility of a Neighbourhood plan. Updates will be reported when available.

196. Items for future agendas. (a) Remembrance Sunday. (b) Local Plan.

Date of next Council Meeting: Thursday 8th October.

Signed _____