

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

Present: Cllrs Barry Livesey (Chair), Mrs Pauline Livesey, Mrs Judy Lanham, Martin Ephgrave, Elisabeth Smith, Rupert Puritz, Ray Dart, Phil Lawrence, Steve Langton and Simon Fish

In attendance: Bob Smith, CBC Richard Wenham, Ian Dalgarno and David Shelvey

225. Apologies for absence Adrian Cree and Ian Pacey

To adjourn for public session and To receive and presentation from Mr Olly Martins Police and Crime Commissioner.

Mr Martins produced handouts for everyone. He explained the current operation challenges for Bedfordshire Police and the operation budgets. The efficiency and collaboration with the Tri-force set up is proving to be effective for major crimes including counter terrorism and organised crime. The cuts that were originally proposed by the Government were put on hold following the attacks in Paris but also because an error was found in the formula they used to work out funding. Therefore no cuts will be made for 12 months. Better use of ICT by investing in the best equipment which should ultimately reduce court and justice time.

Biggleswade and Dunstable sub hubs have been reopened and more warranted officers have been introduced.

A petition is available to sign online to support the argument of Bedfordshire needing more funding.

Bedfordshire police force is under extreme pressure in respect of lack of funding and not getting the fair share of the cake. He likened it to a double bed with a single duvet.

Bob Smith advised that the residents association would be looking at promoting Christmas lighting next year; He had met with the enforcement officers regarding the footpath on New Road; Harbrook Lane road had not been adopted as per the planning application and understood that one house

will be occupied from 17th Dec; He also suggested better lighting for the carpark.

Richard Wenham advised to contact enforcement to make the point of the breach of the planning conditions.

226. Reports from Central Bedfordshire Council

Ian Dalgarno gave thanks to Barry for his support and presentation at the CBC meeting regarding the proposed variation to the planning condition of the Gypsy and Traveller Site. He was pleased that the application was rejected by CBC.

Also reported that Bedfordshire has been voted 13th out of 138 as the best place to live. The Biggleswade recycling plant will reopen in January. The Local Plan consultation starts soon and will be completed by 2018.

Precept requests need to be in by 27th January 2016.

227. Police Report – was read out by the Chair and appendix to these minutes.

228. the minutes of the Council meeting held on 12th November 2015 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair

229. Matters Arising – Simon Fish reported that he had carpeted the storage building.

230. Correspondence - DogsRus sent a letter asking if the council could provide an open area for them to carry out some dog training for free. It was **agreed** to decline the offer at this stage.

Southill Parish Council had emailed regarding support for a 40MPH limit on the Clifton – Stanford Road. **Clerk to make contact with Southill Council**

231. Queens 90th Birthday Celebrations – to consider proposal to provide funding under S137. It was proposed and seconded that £2000 be given to the funds for the celebration **all were in favour**

232. Community Centre Matters – to consider quotations for the renewal of footpath and disabled ramp – no quotes had been received and therefore deferred to next meeting.

Community Centre hire – the committee had resolved that regular hirers should pay in advance as per the terms of the current agreement. This decision led to concerns being raised by Tessa. The Clerk advised that there was not a 'regular hirer' agreement in place and therefore used the hall hire terms and conditions as a guide. It was clear that the committee had not considered this decision which had initially been brought forward from cancellations made by Tessa. **It was proposed and seconded** that the decision is overridden for the time being and the committee will aim to produce a 'regular hirer' agreement with the view to have it in place by March 2016, therefore giving plenty of notice to the hirers of any changes that may occur. **All were in favour. Action Clerk to advise the regular hirers of the decision ASAP.**

Ray Dart advised that he had taken delivery of the new strap for the swing and would be sorting it out in the next few days. He also advised that the netting extension was proving to be very costly and advised that maybe scaffold poles could be used and netting purchased as an alternative.

233. Highway Matters – the minutes of the meeting that had been held were read out.

234. Report of the Planning Committee – 3 planning applications were put on circulation by the Clerk

235. Finance Matters to discuss the Precept for 2016/17 – the Chair advised the councillors to read the Finance report and the draft budget and a decision would be made at the meeting in January 2016.

236. To receive accounts for approval and receive finance reports - all invoices were approved for payment.

237. Date of next Council Meeting and confirmation of Committee meeting dates – no committee meetings were required this month. Next meeting of the Council to be held on 14th January 2016, Committees to meet on 21st January 2016

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

12/2015/225 - 237

Signed _____