Parish Council

Thursday 21-Jul-2016 @ 18:30
Dave Law Sports Pavilion, Park Crescent, Stewartby

MINUTES

1: Apologies
To receive apologies for absence B. Cllr. Tim Hill

2: Declaration of interest
No declarations of interest were received for items on the agenda

3: Public Question Time
The meeting was adjourned to allow members of the public speak about their concerns about parking

4: To approve the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on 23rd June 2016
The minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on 23rd June 2016 were approved and signed

5: Vote on new Councillor
Jon Barkat was voted on as a new Councillor

6: Report from Borough Councillors
Report from Borough Councillors – Tim Hill's report was previously distributed and was discussed.

7: Authorise Cheques for payment – a list will be presented to the meeting
Authorise Cheques for payment – the list is attached to these minutes

8: Covanta and Marston Vale Forest Centre
Covanta and Marston Vale Forest Centre: Mr. N. Webb addressed the meeting - He explained that he has been there for
4.5 years and wanted to address Stewartby PC regarding the Trust concerning Covanta. He explained that the Trust has 61 square miles community forest. They operate as a Charity and private enterprise Bedford Borough Council as part of their planning policy is to support MVFC (Marston Vale Forrest Centre) and therefore development which requires planning will be required to support MVFC – Their only agenda is to create forest. The Trust requires capital. What has caused controversy was that it was neutral on Covanta - The Trust has made a decision that it will always be neutral on all planning issues as it would be difficult to draw a line as they could be inundated with requests from residents requiring their support for all sorts of matters especially as planning goes through the Borough Councils and are looked at with a local view and therefore remains neutral on all development. However they do get involved with every development in that they negotiate on what is intended to be contributed to the Forest of Marston Vale - Covanta made certain offers and also the creation of a fund starting with £250,000 with ongoing contributions. The partner Veolia has in the past paid over monies but this was nothing to do with Covanta. Cllr Burnage asked how many trees was it intended to be introduced to offset the pollution that will happen due to the development of the commercial site. Cllr. Buck also asked about the wind turbine, which has set a precedent for the height restriction and thus has meant that no objection can be made on the height of the chimney to be built. There was much discussion about this The clerk
to put the question that the Trust look at its decision to remain neutral because this planning decision was dealt with in a
manner in contradiction to the Trust's original decision to remain neutral. Therefore while still accepting the money that is offered from Covanta could the Trust reconsider their criteria in that they can make a decision whether or not to support a planning decision when it is made without the support of any local authority. Especially when the whole of the Vale oppose it and that this situation will not happen again because IPC has been disbanded.

9: CCTV
CCTV There has been a new quotation in for a new system which comes to £10,992 plus VAT this is deferred to the next meeting as Cllr. Cooper did not feel that CCTV did much and just leaving the old system up whether it worked or not would be good enough.

10: Land behind the Church
Land behind the Church - still waiting for Persimmon, referred to the MD for a decision.

11: Land at Quest Pit
Land at Quest Pit – the owner Mr. D. Khola has a meeting with BBC this week and will be meeting with the Chairman and the Clerk – to discuss the future of the pit – the Chairman asked for suggestions a nature type amusement park

like
Stanwick Lakes. A holiday park - A hotel complex with cabins etc.

12: Play equipment report

Play equipment report – this has been ordered and the Chairman and Cllr. Buck will be meeting with Timberplay tomorrow at 9pm to discuss the location of the equipment. Regarding the repair of the play equipment Cllr. Buck has asked Fenland Leisure and they will either just supply the bits or will fit as well , however they have suggested to replace
the bucket swing and swinging apparatus – they also offer monthly or quarterly inspections and will tighten nuts etc. at the same time – this costs £100 per time. It was resolved that Fenland be instructed to attend to the repairs including the change of the apparatus in the bucket swing. Because of the urgency of this the work needs to be done quickly therefore the full quotation will be circulated and agreement should be sent to the clerk prior to order.
Timberplay will be attending tomorrow and it was resolved that together with the other items there should also be a bung
around the chippings and also a larger earth mound near the zip wire.

13: Correspondence

Correspondence only periodicals were received other than what is discussed.

14: Clerks/Financial Report

Clerks/Financial Report – Cllr. Law had received a request from Crittalls asking for
• 10% + VAT Prior to commencement and on receipt of an agreed Order or Letter of Intent.
• 15% + VAT With completion of survey
• 25% + VAT On receipt of approval of working drawings
• 50 % +VAT On completion of manufacture of the first planned batch of materials and prior to delivery.

15: Council award scheme

Council award scheme: We are now registered for the award scheme and an invoice will be forthcoming – this will need to go on the website and Cllr. Law will liaise with Cllr. Plater for this. The clerk needs to go through CPDS requirements and then send on the Sally.

16: Planning applications

Planning applications Cllr. Law asked that we reiterate that we are unhappy with plastic windows to the bungalows

17: Regular items

a. Highways – The Chairman is to speak to Highways about parking around the Village Hall, Churchill and Wavell Close. The Clerk will research signage for the Village Hall Parking and a letter will go to all residents in Wavell Close explaining about the parking bays to the centre of the green.
b. Lighting - deferred
c. Recreation Area as above

18: Date of next meeting

Date of next meeting 18th August 2016