Parish Council
Thursday 20-Sep-2018 @ 18:30
Dave Law Sports Pavilion, Park Crescent, Stewartby

MINUTES

1: Meeting Header
Meeting Name: Parish Council
Date: Thursday 20th September 2018
Time: 7:15pm - [End Time]
Venue: [Venue]
Chair: [Chair Name]

2: Apologies
Present:
Cllr. Symonds, Cllr. Plater, Cllr. Melville, Cllr Rogers, Cllr Hill, Cllr Thornton & Cllr Law, T Young (Clerk), Ian Johnson and Jon Shortland from Bedford Borough Council

Apologies:
None

3: Declarations of Interest
None

4: Public Participation
No members of public were present

5: Confirmation of Minutes
The minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on the 19th July 2018 were approved and signed

6: Chairman's Report
Cllr Symonds reported that he and Cllr Hill had met with representatives from Global UK who are developers of the Stewartby brickwork site. Cllr Symonds chased Keirs yet again regarding street lighting. Cllr Law asked whether Cllr Symonds had heard from Persimmon. Cllr Law cannot get anywhere near the bowls green which looks untidy and needs a lot of work doing to it. Cllr Law was advised that she would be able to gain access in April. Ian asked what planning officer we had spoken too? Cllr Law responded that we had not been given an officer. Ian commented that he would try and find out any information regarding the obligations in the 106. Cllr Symonds commented that Persimmons expect the Parish to manage the sports field and that according to Persimmons, the Borough were not interested. Cllr Symonds added that he has been asking for a meeting with Borough regarding the 106 money. Cllr Symonds asked Jon to see what he could do with regards to the bowling green and Persimmons. Phil Marshall and Borough to make contact with Cllr Hill.

7: Ian Johnson & Jon Shortland from BBC – Conservation Area
Cllr Symonds asked Jon whether they had any information on the 106 and if so what would we get and when? Cllr Law mentioned that we should get £70k for the green areas for the next 10 years. Cllr Symonds mentioned that Borough sent a map with areas that they cut but Cllr Symonds reported that the Parish are cutting these areas. Jon will speak to a colleague and will advise.

Cllr Plater commented that the Parish is still waiting with regards to the kerbs being realigned in Wavell, Alexander and Churchill. Cllr Plater explained that the dust carts are unable to get around there because of a tree. Jon advised he would speak to Andy and Gareth. Cllr Plater added that parking spaces also need identifying in Wavell Close.

Cllr Symonds mentioned that Borough let planning applications go ahead in the Conservation Area, Ian advised that there will be times when the Parish will object and Borough will approve but that is just the odd case. Ian added that they have a guidance to go by regarding extensions. Cllr Law commented that 4 or 5 years ago the guidance was up to date and looked the same and the front of the building should look like the front. Cllr Law added that everybody has a garage, but it is not in the guidance. Ian commented that the guidance does require updating.

Cllr Symonds showed Ian and John the land out the front of the VH and mentioned that parking spaces were requested. Ian commented that parking spaces under trees were a no due to the roots. Jon asked for a map of what the Parish require, Cllr Symonds to action.

8: Borough's Report

Cllr Hill sent out his report before the meeting and briefly covered items from his report.

9: Clerk's Financial Report

Cheques for payment
9.1) Stewartby Grass Cutting Agreement was signed by Cllr Symonds.
9.2) A cheque for Richard Thornton which was due was confirmed by Cllrs to be sent, £9485.
9.3) Cllr Symonds mentioned that Mazars are asking for an internal auditor to go over the accounts. 2 internal auditors were chosen at random and TY to contact them to quote. Internal Audit needs to be done by January 2019. A letter to be put together to Vicky regarding gratuity to be returned to the Parish.

10: Planning Applications

No new applications.

11: Amenities

11.1) Highways/Lighting
Cllr Symonds already mentioned the street lighting above. Cllr Plater advised that he had received some quotes from Andy Muskett for changing the lights to LEDs and the cost would be £2275. Cllr Plater added that Houghton Conquest have also asked Andy to quote for LEDs. Cllr Symonds proposed that we go ahead with the quote. Cllr Thornton advised that she was not happy as the LED lights will make it darker due to the columns are further apart in Alexander Close. Cllr Rogers suggested in maybe to do with the wattage. Cllr Plater to contact Andy with Cllr Thornton's concern.

11.2) Policing
Cllr Melville reported that the Northern Priority Set meeting was agreed that priority was to focus on vehicle crime. Cllr Melville added that Bedfordshire have the lowest resource of officers and a request has gone in for an additional 300 officers. Parish councils are urged to send in requests for more police officers. All Cllrs area in agreement for Cllr Melville's letter to be sent by the Clerk. Cllr Symonds to apply to neighbourhood watch.

11.3) Recreation Area
Cllr Symonds confirmed that Timber Play have fixed the broken swing and 2 tonnes of soil have been delivered FOC. Cllr Symonds added that part of the climbing frame was broken and a quote to follow. The bridge has now been repaired and a quote for the bridge to be painted to follow.

11.4) Newsletter
Cllr Melville is now in the process of putting together the Newsletter and requires information by the 9th November. Cllr Melville asked whether we reduced the adverts to £7 as this is what other local Parishes are charging, Cllrs Symonds suggested £10, Cllrs agreed. Cllr Rogers to ask her husband if he would like to deliver the newsletters for £60.

11.5) Xmas tree/lights
Cllr Plater received a quote of £980 for the Xmas lights. Cllr Symonds asked for a quote for lights to be placed on the oak tree. Cllr Melville asked whether we could purchase a rooted Xmas tree, Cllr Law advised it was not our land. Cllr Thornton asked whether Persimmon could be contacted to ask whether they were placing any Xmas lights, Cllr Symonds to contact them. TY to look into where we bought the last Xmas tree from.
Cllr Melville has come up with 3 places for Xmas Dinner, preference was for the Knife and Cleaver which was £27 ahead for the 14th December.

12: Any Other Business

Cllr Symonds mentioned the back door requires a sensor, Cllrs advised go ahead

Date of next meeting Thursday 18th October 2018

Meeting closed at 9.45pm