MINUTES

1: Meeting Header
Meeting Name: Parish Council
Date: Thursday 19th January 2023
Time: 6:30pm - 08:12pm
Venue: Sports Pavilion, Park Crescent, Stewartby
Chair: Lee Melville

2: Apologies
Present:
Cllr Melville (Chair), Cllrs Law, Serino, Banks, Nelsey, Fraser and Tilly Bartens (Clerk)

Apologies:
Apologies were received from Cllr Burnage.

3: Declarations on Interest in items on the Agenda
None

4: Applications
To consider any applications for dispensation
None

5: Public Participation
Two members of the public were in attendance.

Lloyd who is interested in becoming a member of the Parish Council and Dan Lewis who is looking for a youth pitch for a Stewartby Youth Football Team (under 10s). The Parish Council support the football team in principle. The Parish Council will get back to Dan within four weeks with a definitive answer.

6: Minutes of the Previous Meeting
The Council RESOLVED that Cllr Melville should sign the minutes of the meetings of the Parish Council held on the 17th November and the 15th December 2022 as a true and accurate records.

7: Matters arising from Previous Minutes
There were no matters arising

8: Chairman's Report
Cllr Melville advised that the Local Plan 2040 had been approved by the Full Council at Bedford Borough Council.

The potholes at Broadmead and the flooding at Manor Road have been reported to Highways.

Cllr Melville advised that there were ongoing issues at the Travellers Site and that he would be attending a meeting with all relevant parties.

He also advised that he would be standing as a Borough Councillor in the next election however he hoped that he would be able to remain on the Parish Council and act as Chair.

9: Report from Bedford Borough Council
A report has not been received from Cllr Hill due to ill health. The Parish Council wished him a speedy recovery

10: Clerk's Financial Report
9.1 Authorise payments for BACS transfer
The Clerk advised the meeting of the invoices that were due to be paid and talked them through the report. It was RESOLVED to authorise all of the payments as per the BACS Report with the exception of the invoices from ACE Fire & Security and Firelec that should be referred to the Village Hall Committee.

The payment for ACW Pest Control was put on hold to check that it had not been paid by the Village Hall Committee.

9.2 Accounts
Members were advised that as at the 31st December 2022, the balances of the Parish Council and Sports Fields accounts were as follows:
£30,248.50
£22,441.00
£25,550.42
£524,713.42

9.3 Budget Monitoring
The budget monitoring reports were considered. The Clerk advised that the Sports Pavilion budget was on track however there were some areas of concern for the main Parish Council as follows:
• Open Spaces – the expenditure in this area has increases due to the new paths in the Memorial Garden. These works had not been budgeted for in the 2022-23 financial year.
• Village Hall – the Parish Council has incurred significant expenditure in this area due to the balcony works.
• Misc – this includes expenditure for the Jubilee event and the outdoor cinema. The Council is expecting some revenue from the outdoor cinema event from ticket sales and stallholder fees.

It was RESOLVED that the Council will continue to monitor and review expenditure and take remedial action where necessary.

9.4 Precept 2023-24
It was RESOLVED that the Precept for 2023-24 should be set at £122,000.

The Sports Pavilion budget was also set for the 2023-24 financial year at £86,000.

11: Quotations for authorisation

10.1 Staff Uniform
It was RESOLVED that new uniform for the caretakers should be purchased up to a maximum of £400.

10.2 Replacement Mobile Phone for Weekend Caretaker
It was RESOLVED that a replacement mobile phone should be purchased for the weekend caretaker up to a maximum of £25 per month.

10.3 Village Hall Emergency Lighting
It was RESOLVED to accept the quote from Firelec for £822 for these works

10.4 Teen Shelter
The quote from Miracle Design & Play was not accepted. Further quotes will be sought from Warners and DMT.

12: Planning Applications

11.1 Ref: CB/22/03616/FULL Hybrid Planning Application: Creation of film and TV studio campus (Use Class E (g) (i-iii) and B8) comprising film studios, sound stages, workshops, offices, warehouses, overnight accommodation, community hub, canteen/ restaurant, ancillary floorspace, new access arrangements including bus interchange, car and cycle parking, landscaping, infrastructure and
associated works. Comprising (i) Full application for phase 1, 1a and 1b which includes 54,334sqm of stages and workshops (E(g) (i-iii), 50sqm education hub (F.1(a)), 384sqm transport hub, (F.2(b)), 384sqm community floorspace (F.2(b)), 8,701sqm of ancillary floorspace (E(g)(i-iii) and B8) and site wide enabling works (ii) An Outline application: Phases 2 – 3 and substation phase up to a maximum floor area of 75,000 sqm; which includes up to 38,000sqm of stages and workshops (E(g)(i-iii), up to 25,000sqm backlot, 2000sqm substation facility, 4,100sqm of ancillary overnight accommodation, a 1,200 space multi storey car park and up to 5,900sqm of associated ancillary floorspace (E(g)(i-iii) and B8). All matters reserved except access. EIA development accompanied by an Environmental Statement. LOCATION: Quest Pit, Ampthill Road, Houghton Conquest

It was RESOLVED that the Council has ongoing concerns about the wider transport implications of the development.

11.2 Ref: 22/02684/MDC3 Major District Council Reg 3 Application PROPOSAL: Outline application with all matters reserved except access for removal of existing telecommunication apparatus and the development of up to 100,000 sq.ft of Warehouse Storage and Distribution (B8 use) with ancillary office space. LOCATION : Land West Of Interchange Way Kempston Bedfordshire

It was RESOLVED that the Council objected to this development.

Planning Decisions
11.3 22/01285/EIAWM Permission granted for use of Stewartby Rail Sidings, hardstanding and access roads, replacement weighbridge and office, new wheelwash and acoustic barrier for the importation of material by train for export from the site by road. AMENDED LOCATION: Stewartby Rail Sidings Green Lane Stewartby Bedfordshire.

13: Amenities

12.1 Highways/Lighting
It was RESOLVED to accept the Grass Cutting Contribution from Bedford Borough Council.

The works to the Street Lights in Green Lane have now been completed.

12.2 Recreation Area
The Deep Water signs remain outstanding.

12.3 Newsletter
The copy deadline for the next newsletter is the 17th March 2023. Cllr Nelsey will be responsible for putting it together. The following articles were agreed:
• Events
• Christmas Fair
• Planning
• Covanta
• John's Bench
• Raring2go! Events
• Sports Pavilion Hire
• BMX Track

12.4 Sports Field/Pavilion
Please refer to minute reference 4 above.

12.5 Village Hall
It was noted that the roof needs some repairs. Quote needs to be sought.

12.6 Policing
Crime statistics remain low. There were domestic related incidents and two car thefts. A major concern in the area is the theft of catalytic converters.

12.7 Covanta
Cllr Law updated the Parish Council following a recent meeting she attended at Covanta. The circular path has now been completed however they are awaiting signage. There will be four information boards erected providing information about Covanta and the history of the site. The Education Centre has also been completed. Cllr Law will arrange a date for the Councillors to have a
tour of the site.

There have been no verified breaches connected to the site and they are now fully staffed with a significant number of employers coming from the local area. The majority of the recycling is being taken to Wellingborough.

Cllr Law advised that 85% of the waste is coming from Veolia and the remainder from Crawley's and Geminor. Covanta is now owned by a Swedish company.

The Community Trust Fund is now open for applications. Cllr Law to pursue

14: Sports Pavilion Committee

It was RESOLVED that the following Councillors would form the Sports Pavilion Committee:
• Cllr Law
• Cllr Faser
• Cllr Banks
• Cllr Nelsey

The Committee will meet on the 30th January 2023 at 6.30 pm.

One of the issues that the Committee will need to consider is the feasibility of the football pitches going forward.

15: Community Events

Cllr Melville advised the meeting that the following events would take place in 2023:

- BMX Track Opening/Family Fun Day – 3rd June 2023
- King's Coronation – Bunting to go up in the village
- No Summer Event this year whilst the Council apply for a Premises Licence
- Car Boot Sales
- Remembrance Saturday Service
- Christmas Fair – 25th November 2023

Parish Council Surgeries will be incorporated into the events.

16: Close of Meeting and items for the next Agenda

Meeting closed at 20.12pm

17: Date and Time of Next Meeting

Thursday 16th February 2023 @ 6.30 pm