

Minutes of the Eggington Parish Council
Meeting No.182 – held on Monday 17th September 2018 at 8:05pm

PRESENT: Chairman: Rob Jefferis
Councillors: John Westbury, John Symonds, Peter Ellyard, Peter Moore, Richard Gorton
Ward Councillor: Cllr Mark Versallion

CLERK: Charlotte Gurney

PARISHIONERS: Mr Duncan Lay, Ms Mandy Downes and Mr Daniel Whyte

Public Statements: Ms Downes felt that the Curry Garden, in the centre of the village, had become a bit of a dumping ground and looked an eyesore. Cllr Westbury advised that it had been cleared previously, but that ownership is technically Bedfordshire Highways. However, like the village verges they do not maintain it.

CLERK to report issue to Beds Highways, and write to the owner of the Curry Garden.

Mr Whyte asked whether there was a Neighbourhood Watch active within the village. Cllrs advised that there had previously been a group, but with no great appetite for people to become group co-ordinators, it had fallen within the village. Mr Whyte also commented that there was a car parking on path/verge near Roasedale which was causing an obstruction. This led to a brief discussion on Speedwatch and traffic calming measures: Cllr Versallion advised that a speed-table would cost in region of £25k to install.

1. To receive apologies for absence: None had been received.

2. Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensations: None were made.

3. Report from Ward Councillor: Cllr Versallion reported that he had met with Highways England to discuss traffic issues in Hockliffe and on the A5, and with these being impacted by other roadworks. He said that some 16,500 vehicles were now passing through Hockliffe each day, some 3,500 more than Highways England had projected. He reported that Highways England would be publishing what they think the issues are, but not be until Spring 2019. He asked Clerk to Hockliffe Parish Council (Pam Scott) & Clerk to Stanbridge & Tilsworth Parish Council (Maxine Whiting) to contact Highways England to impress upon them the issues being suffered in the villages. Once the A5 is de-trunked, then it may be possible to re-route the traffic (using the A505/A4146) for much of the traffic to bypass Hockliffe.

CLERK to contact Maxine regards response to Highways England.

Second point he made was in regard to relationship with Leighton-Linslade Town Council. Cllr Versallion advised that the current Chairman, Ewan Wallace, had indicated a desire to attend a future Parish meeting to discuss the Clipstone Park development with Councillors.

Cllr Versallion to advise LLTC of future meeting dates.

Cllr Moore advised Cllr Versallion that school buses are also speeding through village. Cllr Versallion requested that the number plate and date/time be passed to him, so he can investigate and take the matter further. Cllr Westbury asked if Cllr Versallion could contact Beds Highways and request that the white line at bottom of Nursery Lane (which has all but disappeared!) and that outside Eggington House/The Lodge could be re-instated.

Cllr Versallion will report back: Clerk to report to Beds Highways online.

4. To confirm Minutes of Meeting 181: proposed by Cllr Westbury, seconded by Cllr Symonds that the Minutes were a true and accurate record. Unanimously agreed.

5. Matters arising from those Minutes: Lamp 101 is still not working. **Clerk to report again.**

Grass Cutting: St Michael's Churchwardens have requested that the Parish Council cease responsibility for cutting the churchyard grass. They have however, indicated that they would like the money paid by the Parish Council to the current contractor to be made over to them instead so they can put it towards managing their own contract. Councillors were all in agreement that the contractor can stop cutting the churchyard grass; however, it was pointed out that the Council had no direct means to provide funds to St Michael's Church other than through s137 funding, and that sums has been 'granted' to them over each of the last three years. Cllr Westbury had spoken to Mark Miles (Ed's Garden Services) regarding this matter: Mark understood the situation. Also, at Cllr Westbury's request, he has provided a quote for cutting back the hedge around the recreation ground. This was accepted by the Parish Council, and Cllr Westbury will contact him to begin the task.

CLERK to draft a response to PCC for Cllr Jefferis to review.

Cllr Jefferis to look at adding to website, for the village consultation.

6. Financial Report: Cllr Westbury (on behalf of the RFO) provided the following financial information:

Current Account	£ 5,424.66
Deposit Account	£ 12,285.36
Total	£ 17,710.02

Approval was sought to pay the following outstanding Invoices/payments:

Clerk's remuneration	£ 635.19
Hire of Village Hall	£ 24.00
Council Insurance	£ 394.95

It was pointed out that the VAT for noticeboards needs to be amended on the Account record. The Accounts as submitted were proposed by Cllr Westbury and seconded by Cllr Ellyard. They were unanimously adopted.

7. Planning and Development: No new applications had been received. However, the Parish Council had received an email notification of an Enforcement case being opened for the Solar Farm, due to the Application's Conditions (for hedging) not being properly met.

8. Council Insurance: with the EPC being in the last year of a 3-yr tie-in with Came & Co as its Insurers, members of the Parish Council agreed the renewal, with payment to be made as discussed. (Item 6)

9. Village Matters: Cllr Gorton advised the Parish Council that Eggington Foresters Cricket Club had recently registered themselves as a charity.

Cllr Moore advised that Speedwatch would be having their Annual Meeting on 1st October, and that he planned to attend.

Cllr Westbury advised that the BATPC would be having their Annual Meeting at Cople Village Hall on 19th October, and that he would be attending as there was a talk being given by Mr Martin Tugwell regards the Infrastructure of the Oxford-Cambridge arc, the routes and the housing, etc.

Cllr Westbury also advised that, following a request from CBC, he had updated the Parish Schedule regarding what land was 'public open space' within the village. Cllr Westbury he also advised that the new village noticeboards have been made and paid for. They had been delivered to Eggington by truck, but were returned to the manufacturer as the delivery driver was unable to off-load from the truck due to their weight being greater than he could manage. They would need another attempt at delivery with two persons to handle them.

Cllr Westbury then advised that he had been chasing BT/OpenReach regarding Broadband implementation within the village for the (eastern) half which is not covered from Cabinet 7. He commented that the Parish had received some information from CBC regarding some vouchers that might fund such an extension of the fibre-based service (FTTC). Cllr Jefferis advised that his understanding was that cabinet 3 will be upgraded in the near future.

Cllr Symonds reported that he had reported parking concerns in the village to Beds Highways.

10. Clerk Update:

- a. Crime – 2 crimes had been reported in August
- b. Correspondence – list of correspondence provided to Cllrs of note was BATPC meeting which both Cllr Westbury and Cllr Jefferis will be attending
- c. Co-Opting – an 'Expression of Interest' had subsequently been withdrawn.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 22:30 (10:30pm).

The next meeting will be on 15th October 2018, at 20:05 (8:05 pm)

This is true and accurate record of the meeting

Signed: *R. Jefferis* (Chairman) Date: 15th October 2018