YELLING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 20th October 2022 in the Thatch Barn at 7.30 p.m.

Minute Ref.

22.92 Apologies for absence:

Mr R. West, District Councillor, Mr S. Ferguson, County Councillor.

22.92.1 Present:

Miss K. Davies (Chair), Mr A. Fusco (Vice-chairman), Mrs S. Ascroft, Mr J. Peal, Mr T. Race, Mr C. Griffith and Mr G. Reilly-Lloyd.

22.93 Declarations of interest:

None.

22.94 Agenda Item 3: Public Open Forum

No parishioners present.

22.95.1 Agenda Item 4: Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of 14th July 2022

The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of 17th August 2022 were read. It was proposed by Mrs Ascroft, seconded by Mr Peal and agreed unanimously that they were an accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chair accordingly.

22.96 Agenda Item 5: Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

22.96.1 Planning Applications: HDC determinations

Planning Application 22/01577/HHFUL - 10 Bridle End - Approved.

22.96.2 HDC Avian influenza alert

It was noted that outbreaks had been recorded at Great Barford, Soham and Tempsford.

22.96.3 The Chair noted that all other matters arising were covered by items on the meeting agenda and could be considered accordingly.

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22.97 Agenda Item 6: Verbal reports from County and District Councillors (if in attendance)

Not applicable.

The Clerk noted that Mr West had contacted him to advise that his activities would temporarily be restricted as a result of a domestic accident and he would keep the PC apprised of his progress.

22.98 Agenda Item 7: Death of HM Queen Elizabeth II

The members of the Council noted the death of The Queen on 8th September and the succession of The Prince of Wales to the throne as King Charles III.

22.99 Agenda Item 8: East West Rail

The Council noted that Mr Sunak had succeeded Miss Truss as Prime Minister and there had been consequential changes to The Cabinet which could impact the future of major infrastructure projects but that there was no further information available regarding the future of the East West Rail development.

22.100 Mr Reilly-Lloyd joined the meeting at 19.53.

22.101 Agenda Item 9: Traffic management strategy plan

(a) A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet - Update

- The Development Consent Order was granted on 18th August;
- Local area surveys were now evident.

(b) Toseland crossroads & resurfacing of Toseland Road between A428 and crossroads;

- The Temporary Traffic Regulation Order had been approved on 17th October and works were expected to be undertaken on 7th November.

(c) Traffic statistics

- No details available.

22.102 Agenda Item 10: National Air Traffic Services - Luton Airport stacking pattern

The Chair agreed to contact Rob Payne in Abbotsley for further details about the hire of noise monitoring equipment;
The Chair recorded that she had been notified by a resident of the response received from the department at Luton Airport dealing with

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complaints. This response indicated that there was no foundation for complaint as the noise emanated from normal flight path operations and there were no interaction with the proposal contained in the consultation document.

It was felt that this response:

- raised concerns over the capacity for valid noise complaints;
- undermined the effectiveness of individual representations during the post-implementation review period;
- raised questions over the terms of reference of the initial consultation.

It was understood that representations were being made by local MPs, district and county representatives as well as the local action group, Reject Luton Airport Stacking and the progress of these representations should be monitored.

22.103 Agenda Item 11: Cotton Farm Community Benefit Fund - Application to assist with the purchase of planting tubes/stakes and compost for the village planting initiative under the Queen's Green Canopy

It was noted that:

(a) the application for funding for was progressing;
(b) planting locations would need to be identified and any relevant permissions sought;
(c) support stakes and compost would need to be purchased in advance of delivery of the saplings;
(d) consideration would be given to offering excess saplings to parishioners.

Mrs Ascroft had obtained indicative quotations totalling £400 for the items in (c) and it was agreed to proceed with their purchase.

22.104 Agenda Item 12: Planning Application procedure changes - Acceptance of amendments and restrictions of extensions

The Clerk advised he had received notification from HDC's Planning Department of the intention to more strictly apply the statutory provisions for accepting and progressing applications and that this would likely result in reduced scope to accept requests for extensions from parish councils.

22.105 Agenda Item 13: LHI Grant Initiative - Changes to application procedures effective 31st October 2022

The Clerk advised that he had received and circulated notification of changes to the application procedures and monetary limits for applications under the initiative.

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These would apply for the current round of applications which could be made between 31st October 2022 and 6th January 2023.

The Chair asked members to consider ideas for possible opportunities for discussion at the next meeting.

The Clerk reminded the Council that Community Infrastructure Levy funding of approximately £3,600 had been received but could only be applied against eligible infrastructure projects.

22.106 Agenda Item 14: Planning application 22/02092/TREE - Church of the Holy Cross

The Chair confirmed that the members of the Council had had the opportunity to review the documentation associated with this application for maintenance work to trees protected by Tree Preservation Orders for the safety of road users and pedestrians.

After discussion, it was proposed by Mr Race, seconded by Mr Griffith and carried unanimously that the application be recommended for approval.

22:107 Agenda Item 15: Planning application 22/01500/FUL - Tower Farm & Stables, Toseland Road - Amendment

The Chair confirmed that the members of the Council had had the opportunity to review the documentation associated with this application to amend the specifications for a Day Room at the above site previously considered under this application and recommended for rejection at the Council's meeting on 17th August 2022, minute reference 22.75.

The amendments proposed are the reduction in footprint understood to be from 9 metres by 6 metres to 9 metres by 3.8 metres with changes to the internal layout

The Chair confirmed that the members of the Council had had the opportunity to review the documentation associated with this application which was for a Day Room at the above site.

It was noted that this proposal is intended to provide essentially the same facilities as those previously referenced in refused application 21/02883/FUL and withdrawn proposal 22/00824/FUL. The footprints of the Day Rooms in these applications were both 6 metres by 12 metres. While that proposed in this application is smaller at 6 metres by 3.8 metres, the facilities it is intended to provide are substantially identical.

After discussion, it was proposed by Mr Peal, seconded by Mr Griffith and carried unanimously to recommend rejection of the application for materially the same considerations as for the former applications 21/02883/FUL and 22/00824/FUL and as set out in minute reference 22.75.

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22.108 Agenda Item 16: Footpath, footway and carriageway matters

(a) Village drainage maintenance

Mrs Ascroft advised that Maciej Adamczyk, the Local Highways Officer for St Neots, expected the remedial works to the drainage at the eastern end of the village near the Equestrian Centre to be undertaken shortly.

22.109 Agenda Item 17: Consideration of email addresses for PC use

Mr Reilly-Lloyd reported that he had arranged new email addresses and details had been circulated together with implementation instructions.

The Chair thanked him for his prompt attention and support in dealing with this.

22.110 Agenda Item 18: Community Infrastructure Levy - Identification of eligible expenditure

The Clerk reminded the Council that Community Infrastructure Levy funding of approximately £3,600 had been received but could only be applied against eligible infrastructure projects. This limited its scope but it might, as an example, be applied for the repainting of the carriageway markers at the eastern approaches to the village. The Council was asked to consider suitable opportunities but this funding should be borne in mind when considering potential LHI Grant initiatives.

22.111 Agenda Item 19: County broadband - Full fibre service

It was noted that County Broadband would install the fibre service to any resident who had signed an 'in principle' agreement for their service but required 25% of households to sign-up if the infrastructure was to be made available in the village generally for future connectivity and had set a deadline of 30th November for these agreements to be concluded. Mr Peal agreed to remind parishioners by issuing a 'Your Yelling' in good time.

22.112 Agenda Item 20: HDC Precept Application 2022/2023

The Clerk had previously circulated the funding estimates for the precept for the Financial Year ended 31st March 2024, noting the various outstanding commitments and other planned and potential expenditure. After discussion it was proposed by Mr Griffith, seconded by Mr Race and carried unanimously that a precept of £6,000 be set.

22.113 Agenda Item 21: Parish Council Insurance

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The Clerk referred the Council to his email of 25th September advising details of the renewal quotation received from the intermediary used for may years, Business Services at CAS Ltd, following the withdrawal of the existing insurer, Royal & Sun Alliance, from this sector of the market. The renewal quote from their nominated replacement insurer was significantly more expensive and he had obtained an alternative online quotation of £241 p.a. from Zurich Insurance with whom the PC has been insured in the past. The insured risks and amounts in this quote were generally comparable to the RSA policy with one exception, i.e., the level of cover protecting councillors against third party claims under the 'Officials Indemnity' section was unclear.

It was proposed by Mr Race, seconded by Mrs Ascroft and carried unanimously to accept this quotation subject to obtaining satisfactory clarification of the 'Officials Indemnity'.

22.114 Agenda Item 21: Accounts to pay

It was proposed by Mr Race, seconded by Mrs Ascroft and carried unanimously that the following account be approved for payment;

- Zurich Municipal - Insurance Premium - £241.00

22.115 Agenda Item 22: Items for future consideration - (for information only)

- Progress of registration of Clay Pits land with HM Land Registry.
- Millennium Wood - Maintenance proposals
- Yelling Cricket Club - Closure and notice of surrender of lease of cricket field.

22.116 The meeting closed at 21.40.

1/2/23