



Soulbury Parish Council Buckinghamshire

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 17 January 2022 at 7:30 pm

Those present:

Cllr Maurice Cross	Vice-Chairman
Cllr Alan Stevens	
Cllr Margaret Rowe	
Cllr John Day	
Cllr Nigel Kemal	
Cllr Salina Darbyshire-Mackay	
Wendy Taylor	Parish Clerk Assistant
Cllr Jilly Jordan	Buckinghamshire Council
4 members of the public	

1	Apologies for absence	Action																		
	Apologies received from Cllr Victor Wright. In his absence the meeting was chaired by Cllr Cross.																			
2	Approval of minutes																			
	Minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2021 were approved and signed by Cllr Cross.																			
3	Matters arising																			
	Wendy had been advised that Ian Woodland had been asked to look at the hot water in the kitchen and to check the heating. Wendy called Ian prior to the meeting to establish what had been done to find he knew nothing about it so Wendy offered to get a clear understanding of the jobs and to email him to get them done. Cllr Wright has purchased the laptop.	WT																		
4	Finance																			
	<p>a) The following payments have been paid since the last meeting:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Vic Wright</td> <td>Purchase of laptop</td> <td>£599.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vic Wright</td> <td>Replacement of defib battery</td> <td>£211.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>British Gas</td> <td>Gas for parish hall</td> <td>£132.62</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Open Spaces Society</td> <td>Subscription</td> <td>£45.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Npower</td> <td>Street lighting</td> <td>£113.54</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Anglian Water Business</td> <td>Water for parish hall</td> <td>£40.02</td> </tr> </table> <p>b) Further payments to be made: None</p> <p>c) No further news on the internal and external audit for 2020/21 financial year.</p> <p>d) It was unanimously agreed that we should curtail the subscription to Zoom as we no longer use this facility for council meetings.</p> <p>e) The precept request for 2022/23 has been sent to Buckinghamshire Council who have confirmed receipt and that Wendy carried out the process properly. The Precept Department was thanked for the support they provided to Wendy.</p>	Vic Wright	Purchase of laptop	£599.00	Vic Wright	Replacement of defib battery	£211.20	British Gas	Gas for parish hall	£132.62	Open Spaces Society	Subscription	£45.00	Npower	Street lighting	£113.54	Anglian Water Business	Water for parish hall	£40.02	VW
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	<p>f) Wendy reported that EON no longer collect the payments for the street lighting and the job has migrated to NPower. The last invoice via Eon was £113.54, the first invoice from NPower is £182.21. The kWh rate has moved from 24.5p to 33.8p. Wendy called NPower, pointed out the error in their migration of data, that we have seen no benefit from spending £9,000 on new LED lanterns which has undermined the business case presented to our community for the change to LED and refused to pay the bill. NPower agreed to suspend the payment due on 3 Feb 2022 until this is sorted out. All this was confirmed on email. NPower also asked Wendy to 'prove' we paid 24.5p so had to send a scan of the last EON bill.</p> <p>g) The bank balance as at 17 January 2022 is £52,094.65. The rents for the allotments are being paid into the account via online banking in most cases now. Total received to date is £410.</p>	<p>WT</p> <p>WT</p>
5	Planning	
	21/04826: Dollar Farm, Leighton Road, Soulbury, LU7 0JH: Application for certificate of lawfulness for existing units 1-4 for Class E(a)/A1 use and workshop used for Use Class E(g)/B1. The application documentation had been sent to all councillors via email. There was no objection to this application and Cllr Stevens asked that we show we actively support it.	
6	Environment	
	<p>6.1 Childrens' Playground At the last minute the Planning department wanted H&S information before making a decision. This angered all involved as the only reason we needed planning was because the pole in the middle of climbing frame was 1 m higher than the permitted 4m. Frances Meichtry sent an email to all those who could bring some sense to the planners which proved successful as we obtained permission. Playground equipment has now been ordered. Regarding the grant for the disabled access FCC needed audited accounts for the last two years and two further quotes for the job. As we do not have audited accounts for the last two years Wendy rang FCC to find out what it is from the numbers they want. After a conversation, they are happy with the bank reconciliation. They also confirmed the two quotes are not needed until their Board have approved the grant. However, they are aware that we are now only awaiting one more quote.</p> <p>6.2 Grass cutting The hedges have now been trimmed and Wendy is awaiting the invoice for the work.</p> <p>6.3 Churchyard grass cutting Wendy established that one of the guys who helped with cutting the grass was not getting his fuel costs paid. He did not want paying to do the job however. A general discussion was held about the accountability for the £800 paid to the Friends of All Saints as we believed it was for the maintenance of the churchyard. If no-one is being paid why do they need an increase. Wendy was asked to write to the Friends of All Saints to establish this.</p>	<p>VW</p> <p>Wendy</p>
7	Reports from County Councillor	
	<p>Cllr Jilly Jordan reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surgeries are planned with Planning Dept to discuss problems with applications. The first is 7 Feb 2022 and Cllr Jordan asked for a list of issues from us. They are 20 min slots. • New initiative re litter 'Bin it to win it'. Details will be sent to Wendy for Parish mag and website/FB. • Queen's jubilee: national 70 trees for 70 years and Bucks Council has decided to do their own for the county. Details will be sent to Wendy for Parish mag and website/FB. 	

	<p>Cllr Day raised the issue of staff in the planning dept. Whilst the pandemic is be blamed for the delays in planning decisions he pointed out that actually the lack of staff excuse has been played out for at least the last 10 years. This is not limited to Bucks and Councnty Councils need to get on top of it.</p> <p>Cllr Day also pointed out that waste companies are transporting waste from London to Newton Longville and getting paid a lot of money to do so. However, the bypass edges are like a rubbish tip as well as it falls off the lorries and then Bucks Council is paying, again, to clear this up. This needs addressing.</p> <p>Local waste collection teams need to be aware of bins in car parks and clear them. The waste at the entrance to the car park at the bridge by the Three Locks is a disgrace.</p>																
8	Parish Hall																
	<p>Banking info:</p> <table> <tr> <td>Opening balance at bank:</td><td>£7,050.86</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Opening petty cash balance:</td><td></td><td>£196.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Hall cleaning</td><td></td><td>-£40.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Closing petty cash balance:</td><td></td><td>£156.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Closing balance at bank:</td><td>£7,050.86</td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>Lindsey Russell, KBP Ltd, confirmed the valuation in the insurance document is an adequate rebuild cost for the parish hall.</p> <p>A TV monitor has been donated to the parish council which will be used for presenting documents from computers via an HDMI cable. It will not be used for streaming services and will not have an aerial which means we do not need a TV licence.</p>	Opening balance at bank:	£7,050.86		Opening petty cash balance:		£196.00	Hall cleaning		-£40.00	Closing petty cash balance:		£156.00	Closing balance at bank:	£7,050.86		
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9	Millennium Green																
	<p>Last month Richard Caplan found a lot of rubbish in and around the SMG bins. It was not SMG rubbish. Some of it was very dangerous ie open metal tins, dog/ cat faeces complete with litter tray contents, etc. Also in the rubbish was the address from which it came. Cllr Stevens and Richard attended the address and dealt with the issue. It was, however, felt that Wendy should advise VAHT of their tenants actions as this was an act where a serious fine could have been imposed.</p> <p>Cllr Cross gave Cllrs Stevens the plaque and fixings for the bench to be put into the annexe in remembrance of Liz Miller.</p>	WT															
11	Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations																
	<p>Wendy went through the plans so far regarding 2nd and 5th June so Cllr Jordan was aware as she wanted to be involved. We are joining the national beacon lighting on 2nd and holding a BBQ with cash bar and music. In the afternoon on 5th there is a family event on the Millennium Green with families bringing picnics and chairs/tables and pitching on the SMG. Fun for the kids and tea 'room' for the not so young with tea, finger food and cake. We are having our own pudding competition which will be judged that afternoon. Cllr Jordan and her husband will join us on 2nd June.</p> <p>BBQ food and tea 'room' food will be funded by Parish Council.</p>																
11	Public participation																
	<p>Lindsey Russell will put together a list of planning applications that are way over the decision date for onward transmission to Cllr Jordan for the surgeries. Post meeting note: received.</p>																
12	Any other business																
	<p>Wendy asked if the Parish Council would pay for a full print run of the parish magazine in March. This is to ensure as many people are aware of the plans for the Jubilee celebrations. This was agreed.</p>																

	The allotment co-ordinator has asked on behalf of a tenant if she can erect a polycarbonate greenhouse on her plot. General discussion took place and no-one really knew the answer. Wendy was asked to check the Conveyance. Post meeting note: the Conveyance stipulates that no building/structure can be erected other than a shed for tools used on the property. Does not stipulate a tool shed per plot or a tool shed for the area, however. Wendy will advise co-ordinator accordingly.	WT
13	Date of next meeting	
	The next meeting will be held on Monday, 21st February 2022 in Soulbury Parish Hall at 7:30 pm.	All

Distribution:
 All Councillors
 Wendy Taylor
 Parish website
 Parish noticeboard
 Parish News (a resume)