

GREAT MISSENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council
held on Monday 12th January 2015
at the Memorial Centre, Link Road, Great Missenden
at 7.30 p.m.

Public Forum: None

Present: Councillor B.Gover - Chair
Councillors: B.Barker: M.Bennett: A.Hewett: S.Humphreys: M.Johnstone: G.Maher:
V.Martin: C.Plested: L.Swayne: C.Ward

1. Apologies: Councillors: R.Hougham: M.Lee: K.Pither: J.Sole: D.Tavernor

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 8th December were **agreed** and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising

Nothing further had been heard from the Great Missenden Traders about improving the step visibility in the High Street.

Cllr M.Lee had forwarded details of the commercial vehicle getting stuck in Hotley Bottom Lane to the Clerk who had sent the information onto TfB who were looking to improve the signage.

There was no further news on the lighting issues at Sainsburys.

5. Reports from Committees

a) Planning Committee

i) The minutes of the meeting held on 5th January 2015 were **agreed** and **confirmed**.

There was some discussion about whether there should be more Councillors on the Planning Committee although it was pointed out that any Councillor could attend any Committee meeting.

ii) CDC – Chiltern District Local Plan (2014-2036) – consultation

Cllr M.Johnstone had produced a synopsis of the recent information from CDC concerning the withdrawal of the DDPD and the new Local Plan. The first phase is an initial consultation and a call for sites with a further public consultation expected to take place in autumn 2015. The Council felt it was too early to hold further public meetings but did feel that the opportunity should not be missed to incorporate ideas at this stage of the process. The Council agreed that they should hold a meeting and invite local interested groups and ask a representative from CDC to address the meeting. Details of the information from CDC would also be published on the website.

b) Open Spaces and Lighting Committee

i) Parking Consultation – Great Missenden – PC response to consultation

The parking consultation is running until January 21st 2015 and the Council agreed that it should respond. Several comments were raised including the parking area on the bridge over the A413 being in the incorrect place, parking on the London Road and parking near Oldham Hall. It was agreed that Cllr B.Gover and the Clerk would prepare a document based on these comments and circulate it for approval.

ii) MVAS – update on Nairdwood Lane and review meeting

The letter written by Chris Williams, Chief Executive of BCC, to Mr Morley was noted. The Council agreed that the MVAS unit should go to the Nairdwood Lane site at the next move of the unit which would be in February and then be incorporated into the schedule. Cllr B. Gover reported that the MVAS review meeting was scheduled for February 16th.

iii) Request from Prestwood Colts & Girls FC to use Prestwood Common

The Council approved the request to hold the annual Presentation Weekend on Friday 5th, Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th June 2015 on Prestwood Common.

iv) Request for a shed and water container – Nairdwood Lane, plot 25B

The Council approved the request for a shed and water container.

v) Flights over the Parish – responses from Cheryl Gillan

The responses from both the CAA and Heathrow obtained by Cheryl Gillan were noted.

vi) Land ownership of part of Buryfield – email and response from BALC

In connection with the recent request from UK Power Networks, it appears that there is some clarification needed with regards to the strip of land that runs through the Buryfield that is not registered to the Parish Council. It was agreed that the Clerk could spend up to £1000 to seek specialist legal advice and would also notify our insurers and external auditor of the situation.

vii) Potential threat to open space

The majority of the land in the information forwarded by the Open Spaces Society fell within Great Hampden Parish and there was only a small area within Great Missenden. It was agreed that this information should be publicised as widely as possible by forwarding the details to 'The Source'. It was also agreed to send the information to the Chiltern Society and Great Hampden Parish Council.

c) Finance & General Purposes Committee

i) Budget 2015-16

The discussions about capping Parish Councils are still continuing with no definite decisions made. This may be limited to 'larger' Parish Councils but as yet 'larger' has not been defined. The Parish Council has to submit its precept request to CDC by the end of January with as yet no resolution to these questions. Therefore the Council unanimously **approved** a budget for 2015-16 of £188,608 resulting in a precept request to CDC of £188,608 for 2015-16.

ii) Update on devolution of services

It was noted that any money on offer from BCC to take on devolved services would be less for Parishes in Tranche 2 (those looking to start in April 2016).

iii) Request from PYCAG for a grant

The Council, by majority vote, approved a request from PYCAG for a grant of £4000.

iv) Request from Open Spaces Society for a donation

The Council agreed to donate £100 to the Open Spaces Society.

v) Quote for playground repairs

The Council approved the quotation from Playground Facilities for the play area repairs. It was agreed not to replace the wooden animal at Ballinger Common at this time.

vi) Quote for litter bins

The various options for a new litter bin at the Skate Park were discussed and it was agreed to purchase the Wybone anti-vandal bin. The quote from Sexton Fencing to install the bin was also approved.

vii) Quote for maintenance – tennis courts

The tennis courts have now been chemically treated but the dead moss now needs to be removed. It was agreed that there should be a maintenance contract for the tennis courts. The Council asked the Clerk to get alternative quotes.

viii) Rental for Love Food

The Council agreed that the rental charge for Love Food for 2015 should be £700.

ix) NALC – Financial topic note – Pensions issues

Financial Topic Note F12-14 dated 19th December 2014 concerning Pensions Issues was noted.

x) Bucks Community Funding Fair

As well as the Funding Fair taking place on Tuesday February 24th, the Council has also now been notified of a BCC Conference – Parish Councils Delivering More – taking place on the same date. Cllrs M.Johnstone and L.Swayne volunteered to attend the Funding Fair and Cllr C.Plested and the Clerk would attend the BCC conference.

xi) Request from Assistant Clerk to take additional employment

The Council discussed the request from the Assistant Clerk to take up the position of Clerk to Coleshill Parish Council and discussed any potential conflicts with her current role as Assistant Clerk to GMPC. The Council agreed unanimously to this request. A signed letter from the Chairman would be the written consent as per GMPC's contract of employment.

xii) Payment of accounts for January

It was **resolved** that accounts numbers **157-172** in the sum of **£11,119.15** for **January** be agreed for payment and petty cash items for **£99.64** be ratified.

d) Editorial Working Party

Cllr B.Gover reported that the next editorial deadline for 'The Source' was January 29th. It was agreed to submit an article about the upcoming elections and potential Councillor vacancies – the Clerk to request an extension from 'The Source' for this article. Cllr M.Bennett agreed to write an article explaining the service devolution offer from BCC.

e)HS2

General update

Cllr M.Johnstone reported that an article in the Bucks Examiner stating that the Select Committee were attending a site visit in our area on January 15th was incorrect.

CDC is still progressing with proposals for a long tunnel.

Cllr M.Johnstone had attended the Select Committee to hear the petition from Burton Green Parish Council who also have HS2 passing through their Parish. He felt that their position was weakened by not having legal representation. He commented that the Chairman acted very fairly towards individual petitioners.

It is important to continue gathering evidence, continuing to group petitioners and for the Parish Council to engage with HS2 about tunnels.

6. Reports from Representatives to outside Groups.

None

7. Clerks Report

i) July Parish Council meeting - location

The Clerk advised that the Memorial Centre was already booked by another organisation for the July date of the Parish Council meeting, but that it was possible to book Prestwood Village Hall instead. This was agreed.

8. Any other business.

- Cllr M. Johnstone reported that there was a 'Save the Pheasant' meeting on January 20th.
- Cllr C. Ward advised that there was a meeting of the Misbourne NAG on February 19th at Prestwood Village Hall.
- Cllr C. Ward noted that the street signs in Great Missenden needed cleaning.
- Cllr L. Swayne reported that the drains were blocked at the junction of Honorwood Close and Honor End Lane.
- Cllr B. Barker reported that the gulleys between the bakery and the pharmacy on Prestwood High Street had vegetation growing out of them and were blocked.
- Cllr M. Bennett reported that Jamieson signs were still being left around the Parish.
- Cllr L. Swayne reported that nothing could be done about the road access changes at Holy Trinity Church because the road was private.

The meeting closed at 21.40

9. Future meetings

- a) Planning Committee – 7.30 p.m. Monday 2nd February 2015 in the Parish Office
- b) Parish Council – 7.30 p.m. Monday 9th February 2015 in the Memorial Centre