

GREAT MISSENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council
held on Monday 12th June 2017
at the Memorial Centre, Link Road, Great Missenden
at 7.30 p.m.**

Public Forum: Dr Michael Streule and Mr Brentall about parking in Upper Hollis.
Jennifer Allott provided an update on the CAB in the parish.
Amanda Cook regarding the councillor vacancy.

Present: Councillor - A.Hewett - Chair
Councillors: C.Baxter: R.Hougham: S.Humphreys: M.Johnstone: I.Lovegrove: V.Martin:
K.Pither: C.Plested: T.Stevenson.

1. Apologies: Councillors: K.Allan: L.Cook: M.Lee: V.Marshall.

2. Declarations of Interest:

None.

3. Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 8th May 2017 were **agreed** and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising: None.

5. Councillor vacancies

The council discussed the application for the parish council vacancy, as under the co-option process, the parish council must still consider whether or not to co-opt any person that applies. Cllr I.Lovegrove had recommended Amanda Cook and the council felt she would make a good contribution to the council. The council agreed unanimously to co-opt Amanda Cook to the parish council.

6. Reports from Committees

a) Planning Committee

i) The minutes of the meeting held on 5th June 2017 were **agreed** and **confirmed**.

Regarding item 4 iv) Cllr M.Johnstone provided an update – although the proposed cycle route is supported by DfT it has not yet been costed nor funds allocated.

b) Open Spaces and Lighting Committee

i) Parish beacon

Cllr C.Plested introduced the idea of the parish having a beacon for the commemoration of the end of the war on 11th November 2018. Various questions were raised, such as where it could be located (although it would probably be best on parish owned land), whether planning permission was required and how much it would cost. Cllr C.Plested would investigate and report back to the council.

ii) Open spaces – clearing up / environmental services

The parish council agreed to delegate this to the Open Spaces Committee. Cllr A.Hewett suggested that a company could be employed or Sextons contract could be extended if he was prepared to do it.

iii) Draft licence – GMPC to BCC – land for use as a school playing field – for approval

The council unanimously agreed to accept the content of the draft licence.

iv) Flag pole for the parish

Cllr C.Plested would investigate this and report back to the council.

v) Request for nets on football goals – Ballinger Common

The council discussed the request. There was concern that any net left on site would get vandalised and after further discussion agreed that the council could not install a net on grounds of health and safety. The council did not want to discourage the young footballer so suggested he contact Ballinger Bombers.

vi) Safety mats – Ballinger play area

The parish council agreed to delegate this to the Open Spaces Committee.

vii) Bucks & MK Sport Awards 2017

The council agreed to forward the details to the Tennis Club, Sprinters Leisure, Prestwood Colts and the Abbey Gym Club. Cllr A.Hewett would write an article for 'The Source'.

viii) Request to use Prestwood Common – Misbourne Explorer Scouts

The council agreed to the request for the Scouts to hold a fund raising event on Prestwood Common on 15th July, pending receipt of their TEN licence. The council requested that it would appreciate it, if there was no BBQ held on the grass.

ix) Plant a Tree Charter Legacy Tree

The council felt that there were already enough trees in the parish.

x) Lease of Greenlands Lane land from SM&OPC - for approval

There was some discussion about the responsibility for repairing the building but the building belongs to the parish council anyway. The council unanimously agreed to accept the new lease.

xi) Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO's)

Cllr A.Hewett reported that the PSPO's replace the current DPPO's. The PSPO's are just a change of name and the areas in the parish are already covered.

c) Finance & General Purposes Committee

i) Approval of the Annual Governance Statement & Accounting Statements

Copies of the accounts and the Annual Return, together with an updated risk assessment and the suggested distribution of funds into the various reserves, had been circulated to all the Councillors. Cllr M.Johnstone reported that the accounts had been subjected to an independent internal audit and there were no matters of concern. The distribution of reserves, the Annual Governance Statement 2016-17 and the Accounting Statements for 2016-17 were duly approved and adopted unanimously by the Council. The documents were signed by the Chairman and the Clerk. The council thanked the clerk for all her hard work preparing the accounts.

ii) Funding contribution – LAF – Ballinger Road – Traffic calming

The council discussed the match funding request for £3,107 for the feasibility study in some detail. Although the council still support the project it felt that over £6,000 for a feasibility study was too expensive and the council request that a more realistic cost is provided. The council were also concerned about the actual cost of the project for which no figures have yet been supplied. The LAF representatives would take these comments to the next LAF meeting.

iii) Quotes – gate for Greenlands Lane

The council approved the quote from Sexton Fencing to install a metal gate.

iv) Sports wall – Prestwood Common – quote for repair

The parish council agreed to delegate this to the Open Spaces Committee to investigate alternative equipment or suggest another solution.

v) Creation of parish charter – response required

Cllrs C.Baxter and K.Pither agreed to investigate this and report back to the council at the July meeting.

vi) GMVA – parish representative

The council agreed to support the nomination of Cllr V. Martin to the GMVA committee to act as a representative of the parish council.

vii) Legal Briefing Document L03-17

Cllr M.Johnstone reported that there were changes to the Data Protection Act effective from May 2018. There are 12 steps to consider now although at the moment it is unknown how this new legislation will affect parish councils.

viii) Payment of accounts for June

It was **resolved** that accounts numbers **34-60** in the sum of **£13,275.62** for **June** be agreed for payment and petty cash items for **£205.93** be ratified.

d) Editorial Working Party

i) 'The Source'

Cllr C.Plested would write an article about SM&OPC and Cllr T.Stevenson would write an article encouraging people not to speed and to recruit more volunteers for the MVAS and Speedwatch volunteer teams.

Following a recent meeting with Colin Veysey and further discussion about funding from the parish council it had been suggested that the parish council could provide a grant to pay the printing costs of two issues.

e) HS2

i) HS2 Update – public meeting on 9th June

The council thanked Cllr M.Johnstone for all his hard work preparing for the public meeting on 9th June.

Since the last parish council meeting, two meetings with BCC have taken place – on 22nd May and 5th June. Rod Black, lead Highways Officer from BCC's HS2 infrastructure team, is reviewing the sensitive junctions on the A413 which include the two roundabouts and the junction by the Chiltern Hospital. The Atkins report on the hospital junction fell short of agreeing to a roundabout. The HS2 working party have familiarised Rod with the Buryfield, the proposed new set down area for the school, the position of the haul road and the Link Road.

The proposed new cycle way from Wendover to Great Missenden – as discussed by the Planning Committee – should not be confused with the assurance from HS2 (2746) which Wendover had secured for £0.5m to be spent on 'improvement and repair of the existing cycleways to the north and south of Wendover'.

The Bucks team are looking at additional car parking which GMPC are encouraging and they have produced a draft Feasibility Study with about 8 options. There are two objectives to this study:

a) Under the HS2 assurance - replacement of up to 20 free car parking spaces i.e. to replace those lost when HS2 widen the Link Road ahead of construction. HS2 would not release the funds if charged-for spaces were used as replacements.

The BCC preferred current option would be to create some replacement parking around the Square at the end of Church Street. Parking is already taking place across the verges and ruining them so this could be significantly improved by parking some cars at right angles - however this would result in more traffic down Church Street. There is already quite a strong negative reaction to this proposal and consultation will continue.

b) The creation of general additional parking for cars and coaches in the village.

The feasibility study provides a good start at looking at all options for additional parking including the Link Road managed by CDC. Subsequent to the meeting Ifath from CDC has suggested that the three councils get together to review the options.

The study of redesign of the Link Road car park was raised again and it was noted that GMPC have already agreed to co-fund half up to a maximum of £1k from 2017-18 HS2 budget (March 2017 parish council meeting).

With regards to the public meeting on 9th June, Cllr M.Johnstone thanked Cllr A.Hewett for chairing the session, Cllr C.Baxter for annotating the M2 proposal map on the new display boards which were set up at the back of the room and to Cllrs L.Cook and K.Pither for helping set up. GMPC had 4 presenters from HS2, 3 from Bucks CC and 3 from Chiltern DC.

Over 100 people attended and although the projector and presentations were good there were some issues with the sound as there was no microphone available.

Cllr A.Hewett covered the objectives and Cllr M.Johnstone covered what GMPC has achieved since 2010 and confirmed where we are now i.e. the outline HS2 plans and focused on the GM package of 6 Assurances agreed at the time that Royal Assent was granted. These assurances fell into three groups:

1. The M2 proposals to improve the flow of traffic along the Link Road and the A413 and the replacement of free on-street parking
2. School's new set down area
3. Landscaping of the haul road

Bucks County went through the first group of assurances and the option of putting replacement parking in the square at the end of Church Street. This prompted a strong reaction over the increase in traffic down Church Street, however the option needs to be specified in more detail. HS2 then presented an indicative project timeline covering the enabling and main works with the main work likely to start early 2019. How they intend to engage with local communities was also covered in their presentation and a series of FAQs covering the haul road; vehicles and roads, the vent shaft and compounds.

The main issues raised at the meeting were traffic flow during construction, parking, the nature of the haul road, the threat to the Misbourne River, the impact of spoil dumps and noise from the vent shafts.

GMPC also asked for suggestions for the two HS2 funds - The Community and Environment Fund (CEF) and the Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF) and suggestions for the enhancement projects under HS2 Chiltern AONB Review Group. Proformas were prepared so that suggestions could be written down and handed into the parish office. It was suggested that copies of the profomas could be placed on the PVA website.

There were a lot of questions and the meeting overran.

GMPC offered to provide copies of the presentations and documents and asked those who wanted them to provide their details. All the documents will also be put on the parish website.

ii) GM School Developments

GMPC HS2 WP met the school project team on the 25th May and requested an update.

a) School Classroom Construction

Contractors will be appointed shortly and the school has delayed the start of the main works until after Lighthouse week. The repair of the two parts of the car park will be started as soon as the contractor has been appointed. All aspects of the Traffic Management Plan covering the parish council comments were accepted. The delivery of two complete temporary classrooms and one library will be a challenge and had yet to be agreed.

Next stage is that GMPC will be invited to a pre-start meeting.

b) New set down area with access from Frith Hill roundabout.

The Pre-Application covering access from Frith Hill roundabout is still being discussed. There is a follow-up meeting with Highways on July 4th.

7. Reports from Representatives to outside Groups.

None.

8. Clerks Report

None.

9. Matters for information.

Cllr A.Hewett requested councillors to propose any pavements that needed repair as there is some money available. The pavement outside Crossroads garage and Clare Road were suggested.

The meeting closed at 21.45

10. Future meetings

a) Planning Committee – 7.30 p.m. Monday 3rd July 2017 in the Parish Office

b) Parish Council – 7.30 p.m Monday 10th July 2017 in Great Missenden Memorial Centre