



**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**  
**held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at Great Missenden Memorial Centre**  
**at 7.30 p.m.**

**Public Forum:**

None.

**Present:** Councillor A Hewett, Chair  
Councillors: G Bridges, L Cook, S Humphreys, M Johnstone, V Marshall,  
V Martin, R Pusey, T Stevenson

**Also present:** Jane Hennessy, clerk

**1. Apologies:** Councillors, C Baxter, A Brazil, M Lee, I Lovegrove, K Pither, S Rhodes

**2. Declarations of Interest:**

None.

**3. Minutes** The minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019 were **agreed** and signed as a correct record.

**4. Matters arising**

Cllr Stevenson offered his help with the website and to re-join the Communications working party, should it be required.

The clerk reported that some items recently reported missing from The Cage had now been located.

An update from the Woodland Trust advised that the 30 free trees would be delivered between 28<sup>th</sup> Feb and 13<sup>th</sup> March. The planting strategy would be discussed at an Open Spaces meeting to be held before the February council meeting.

Cllr Hewett advised that she would be attending a meeting called by Great Missenden Combined School on 27<sup>th</sup> January. The meeting had been called by Roz Thompson and Cllr Johnstone would also be attending. The clerk was asked to join the meeting to take minutes.

Chiltern District Council (CDC) advised that the potholes in the Buryfield Car Park had not been repaired but this had now be re-scheduled for February half term.

**5. Councillor Vacancy**

The clerk advised that the legal process was underway for the councillor vacancy.

**6. VE Day 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations 2020**

A discussed was held regarding celebrations for VE day 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It appears unlikely that the Prestwood Event Group are in a position to re-arrange the Big Lunch, and also unlikely that shops in Great Missenden High Street will be open on 8<sup>th</sup> May, as it is a bank holiday. The council resolved not to arrange a separate event for VE Day and to support the request from Greens Funfair to hold a family day on the Buryfield (see item 14.c)viii) below).

## **7. Parking**

### **i) Update on proposed Buryfield car park**

Cllr Hewett advised that the topography report had now been obtained for the proposed Buryfield car park extension, as had advice from Bucks Highways. Further amendments to the drawings are now required before submitting a planning application. A successful planning application will have to state that coach parking will no longer be available for safety reasons when turning. Roald Dahl coaches are currently sign posted towards parking in the Link Road car park. Cllrs Hewett and Johnstone will be meeting with GM Combined School and will raise the school coach parking as part of the discussion.

### **ii) Car Park Management**

Given the development to extend the Buryfield car park, it was resolved by the council to wait until the plans are formalised before revisiting the car park management.

## **8. Parish Cup – request for nominations**

The councillors were asked to let the clerk have any nominations for recipients of the parish cup prior to the February meeting. One nomination has already been received.

## **9. Community Speed Watch – 2020**

The council considered the information from Thames Valley Police regarding approval of a hand-held speed radar gun which can be used by Community Speed Watch (CSW) teams across the Thames Valley, at a purchase cost of approximately £122. Cllr Hewett expressed concern for the CSW teams being open for abuse, especially as they will be unattended by the TVP. It was also noted that two of the current speed signs display the actual speed and can also be used for CSW. The council resolved to remain with the current equipment. The CSW co-ordinator, Paul Egan, is going to attend a training session on the new radar gun and will advise if there is any new information.

## **10. Great Missenden Memorial Hall – schedule of works**

The HS2 CEF grant application is still ongoing with an update on the application due at the end of January. In the meantime the council resolved to approve the request for the following:-

- use of general reserves, in case of need, whilst payment from Groundworks is awaited, but only once written confirmation of the funding is available,
- use of general reserves of approx. £14,000, to cover the cost of VAT for the project. All VAT will then be reclaimed as part of the usual quarterly reclaim process,
- use of general reserves to cover approx. £7,000 (equivalent to 5% of the funding) which is only paid by Groundworks on completion of the project.

The trust deeds have been examined and there are no apparent restrictions for the proposed internal works to create a meeting room and storage area by removal of the stage. The Further costings will be obtained for this work.

## **11. Speeding on Martinsend Lane**

The council discussed the request from a resident for average speed indication equipment to be installed on Martinsend Lane. The cost of this equipment was quoted by Cllr Stevenson as £100,000 per mile, which is prohibitive for the council. The current speed indicator equipment is targeted on Martinsend Lane to help address speeding and the statistics are passed onto the TVP.

## **12. Great Missenden Railway Bridge**

There continues to be problems with the surface of the Great Missenden railway bridge, for whom Network Rail are responsible for structurally. County Councillor Peter Martin is attending a meeting with Network Rail to discuss this. Cllr Rhodes was thanked for his persistence with communication with the Co-Op regarding their larger lorries, which are prohibited by their size, still utilising the bridge.

### **13. Emails**

It was agreed to defer this item to the February agenda.

### **14. Reports from Committees**

#### **a) Planning Committee**

i) The minutes of the meeting held on **6<sup>th</sup> January 2020** were agreed and confirmed.

#### **b) HS2**

##### **i) Mitigation GM Link Roadworks**

HS2 organised a meeting for 17<sup>th</sup> December it is understood that this was to announce the revised plans for the Link Road mitigation widening. The parish council insisted that key stakeholders were invited, however it then became apparent that no senior HS2 engineers were available for the meeting. Communication from HS2 then advised that the meeting had been cancelled. Latest information from HS2 suggests that a meeting will be arranged by them at the end of the month and the parish council have again requested that key stakeholders are invited.

##### **ii) Mitigation Frith Hill Roadworks**

The planned roadworks for Frith Hill in December were curtailed by local protestors. These roadworks then recommenced on 6<sup>th</sup> January without disruption and are due to complete by the end of February. However several complaints have been received regarding the poor signage and lighting of the roadworks and these have been passed to HS2 who are going to look into improvements.

##### **iii) Haul Road 'Gantries'**

At least six yellow gantries have recently been installed on the haul road to restrict vehicles passing under the overhead cables. The council resolved to request that these gantries be changed to something less obtrusive and more sympathetic to the Chiltern AONB. Cllr Johnstone will progress this.

##### **iv) Wendover Camp**

A new 'protest' camp termed an Active Protection camp has been setup on a small wood to the south of Wendover in line with the Wendover Smalldene viaduct

v) Cllr Johnstone reported on other HS2 related topics including:-

- a joint 4 parishes meeting with HS2 and contractors on 17<sup>th</sup> December, to which no HS2 representatives attended. The main works civil contractors are waiting to be given the Notice to Proceed and in the meantime archaeological work and ground investigation work continues,
- The Oakervee report has yet to be published and it is likely that this will be delayed further, perhaps into February,
- The Misbourne Greenway route is being developed by Sustrans, BCC, Chiltern Society and CCB with some funding from the Dept of Transport A community event will be held in GM on 25<sup>th</sup> January between 10am – 3pm to obtain views on the route options through Great Missenden

### **c) Open Spaces and Lighting**

#### **i) Collings Walk – update**

It was noted that the work to the three trees on Collings Walk had been completed on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

#### **ii) CDC – Large Project Fund – Prestwood Track Update**

In order to progress the Prestwood track the council requested further time to arrange visits to local examples of the track surfaces. The deputy clerk will email the locations to the councillors. It was also discussed that consideration needs to be given to the LAF funding deadline. Cllr Hewett will contact Cllr P Martin regarding this. A decision will then be taken regarding the preferred surface at the February meeting.

#### **iii) Buryfield springer replacement – update**

Playground Facilities have confirmed that the rubber bushes are worn and a new springer recommended. All the bolts have been tightened up as a temporary measure and the springer returned to working use. Cllr Pusey has made a further repair to make the equipment safe and the council requested further quotes for replacement equipment.

#### **iv) The Misbourne Greenway – request for letter of support from BCC**

The council resolved to support the request from BCC for their application to the Department of Transport's Local Pinch Point Fund, particularly in support of the Misbourne Greenway scheme. The council approved the draft letter of support with amendments.

#### **v) The Cage**

The council resolved to approve the draft contract for users of the Cage for storage.

#### **vi) Tree work – quote for consideration**

It was suggested to hold a meeting next week to go through the quote for the tree work to prioritise the work. The recommendations would then be circulated to all councillors for agreement as the work needs to be completed by the end of March.

#### **vii) Greenlands Lane**

The council resolved to approve the quote for £265 + VAT to re-instate the post and wire fence along the length of the beech hedge that has recently been cut back at Greenlands Lane.

#### **viii) Greens Funfair – request to use Buryfield**

The council resolved to accept the request for the funfair to use the Buryfield from 27<sup>th</sup> April to 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020 and to use the whole of Buryfield on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May to organise a VE Day themed family event.

#### **ix) Prestwood Common – floodlight repair**

A further quote was requested for the floodlight repair at Prestwood Common. If, however, it is not cheaper than the £560 + VAT quoted by Sparkx then approval was given to go ahead with Sparkx.

### **d) Finance & General Purposes Committee**

**i)** The minutes of the F&GP Committee meeting held on 18th December 2019 were agreed and confirmed.

#### **ii) Draft budget 20/21 – for approval**

Cllr Johnstone presented the third draft of the budget for 2020/21 following a recent Finance & General Purposes committee meeting. Minor reallocations were made to earmarked reserves. The overall total and precept request of £266,067 including use of general reserves of £22,000 was approved by resolution. This precept represents an increase of £9/year or 17p a week for band D properties.

**iii) LGPS Discretions Policy – draft for approval**

The draft policy was unanimously approved by resolution.

**iv) Chiltern District Council – Tax Base 2020/2021**

The Council Tax Base for Chiltern District council of 4,921.3 was noted.

**v) Grant request – Misbourne Area Youth**

The request was discussed and further information requested for consideration at the February meeting, including how many children attend the Youth Café, are they local, what activities are provided at the weekly meetings. The councillors also requested clarification on the use of S137 grants for salaries which the clerk will confirm.

**vi) Payment of accounts for January**

It was **resolved** that accounts numbers **173-190** in the sum of **£11,867.45 (inc VAT)** for **January** be agreed for payment and petty cash items of **£66.33** be ratified. (It was requested that payment 187 was withheld in the short term until confirmation of make good works were completed.)

**e) Editorial Working Party**

Cllr Hewett advised that dates for the next meeting of the working party would be emailed and any article suggestions were welcome.

**15. Reports from Representatives to outside Groups.**

None.

**16. Clerks Report**

i) The clerk's progress report was noted.

ii) A request has been received to reconsider the April meeting dates as they fall close to Easter. The clerk will send around the options to establish which dates get majority attendance.

**17. Matters for information**

None.

**18. Future meetings**

a) Planning Committee – **7.30 p.m. Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020** in the Parish Office

b) Parish Council Meeting – **7.30 p.m Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020** in the **Great Missenden Memorial Centre**

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.