

Slip End Parish Council

Chairman: Mrs Sarah Minnighan

Vice-Chairman: Vacant

Clerk: Mrs Tracey O'Neill – clerk@slipendparishcouncil.co.uk

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Minutes of the Meeting of Slip End Parish Council held on Monday 6th March 2023 at the Village Hall, Slip End.

Present: Councillors: Mrs. S Minnighan (CHAIR); Mr. P Shaw; Mr. S Patterson; Mrs. C Brennan; Mr. T Hooker

Also Present: Mrs T O`Neill (Clerk), Mr. P Segal (Clerk)

Apologies: Councillor: Mrs C Beeton, Councillor K Collins

Members of the public: 5 member of the public attended.

This meeting was chaired by Cllr. S Minnighan (CHAIR)

22/23/169 Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Hooker expressed an interest in item 5 on the agenda and made the following statement; "My declaration on my official Election Nomination said "say no to more housing development." I am generally opposed to more, new house building, but I have come to this meeting with an open mind." He also said he will be sound recording the meeting.

22/23/170 Meeting Open to the Public.

No comments

22/23/171 Minutes of recent meetings.

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th February 2023 were read.

Cllr T Hooker – asked for the following amendment to be made. It was stated that **TH** had agreed to join CASEBUG and report back. **TH** clarified that he did not wish to join the group, but was happy to attend on an ad-hoc basis but not be a member. **SM** asked the Clerk to amend the original meeting notes to reflect this.

The following resolution was then proposed by Cllr Simon Patterson and seconded by Cllr. Carol Brennan to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 6th February 2023 and to authorise the Chair to sign them. The resolution was passed unanimously.

Action: Clerk to amend original meeting notes

22/23/172 Planning Matters

- a) [CB/23/00399/FULL](#) - 325 Manor Road, Woodside, Conversion of existing garage into habitable space with pitched roof and addition to existing side extension – no comments were made.
- b) [CB/22/0240/W/22/3313149 \(appeal reference\)](#) [CB/22/02141/FULL](#) - Land next to 78 Woodside Road, Woodside (**Appeal application**)

The original discussion and outcome for this planning application was object. The council discussed whether any further comments were to be added to the original response of object. After a discussion the following observations were made:

Councillor T Hooker stated that he stood by his original stance of object. He expressed his concerns for additional cars being forced on the road and that Woodside Road had recently had a few car accidents due to parked cars. Mr R Gill, the applicant for the build was present and the Chair asked for his comments. Mr Gill expressed his frustration with the planning laws as there had been other planning applications passed in Woodside Road, namely a large, detached house and two detached bungalows. He felt he was being discriminated against. TH said his comments were based on the plan in front of him and not who placed the application. The chair asked Mr Gill if this was his last chance to get planning permission and what his plans were going forward. Mr Gill stated that if he did not receive planning the fence would remain and the plot would be rented out as a yard. He had a prospective renter for car sales. The Chair SM stated that the parish council could only comment on planning applications but could not make; a decision on them, as that was for the planning department to decide. The Chair asked the council if they wished to make further comment to CBC regarding the appeal three councillors said their objections still stood and one made no comment. The council agreed to make no further comments to CBC and let the appeal board decide on an outcome.

The parish council discussed the fence that had been erected on the site and the possible rental to a car sales company. TH proposed we vote to ask Councillor Kevin Collins to investigate the fence was within planning laws. He also said we invite KC to give a full brief on this at the next meeting in April. The Chair SM asked council if we should action speaking to Kevin Collins and asked for a formal vote which was proposed by TH seconded by PS. The council voted unanimously to speak to Kevin Collins and for him to report back at the next council meeting.

- c) [APP/P0240/W/22/3312091 \(appeal reference\)](#) [CB/21/03960/FULL](#)- Land next to 66 Woodside Road (**Appeal application**). The Chair SM asked if there were any further comments regarding the original no comment. TH said that although the Parish Council had originally voted to no comment, he personally voted to object purely based on car parking. He felt limited car parking would mean vehicles would have to park on the bend and this was dangerous for cars driving down Woodside Road, who would be forced on to the wrong side of the road at a blind bend. Compounded by the fact that some people still speed at that point. The parish council discussed whether any further comments be made on the original no comment and unanimously agreed to not comment further.

Action: Councillor S Minnighan will contact Kevin Collins for advice and to report back at the next council meeting in April.

22/23/173 **Crawley Playground and Youth Shelter**

Councillor S Minnighan said that she had spoken to Komplan regarding the replacement grips for the zip wire. Komplan confirmed that the original quote for £640 was for one set of grips only and that two sets were needed as there were two ramps. The cost to replace both was now £1280.00. The council said that in view of the comments made that the ramps were slippery and usage was only going to increase throughout the year that the replacements were needed. SM said we could make an application to Councillor Kevin Collins for some of his ward grant. The council agreed that we approach KV for a grant as it was a health and safety issue. Councillor C Brennan asked if there were any other options for repair. SM stated that parts could only be purchased from Komplan and that if alternative parts were sought and fitted this would void our warranty with Komplan.

Action: Councillor S Minnighan to make an application to Kevin Collins for a Ward grant

22/23/174 **Parish Council Grants 2023**

The Clerk stated that two grants had been received to date. The Slip End Parish News and 1st Woodside Brownies. The closing date for applications is the 13th March and the Clerk will collate and send all applications received after this date prior to the meeting in April.

22/23/175 Good Neighbour Scheme

Councillor S Paterson thanked the volunteers for their support and said they had a new volunteer, a gentleman, join the scheme. An issue raised is that they are experiencing that some clients are needing more intensive care which reduced the help for others. It was felt that these clients needed referrals to specialist agencies. There is a Tea party organised for the 5th April at the village hall. The Soup and Sarnie lunch scheme held each week at the Rising Sun at 12.30, is going well. We wish to continue the scheme whilst we have enough funding to do so.

22/23/176 Community Improvement Fund

None

22/23/177 Fly Tipping

Councillor S Minnighan, said that Woodside road is a really bad spot for fly tipping with four deposits and with one encroaching on the road. There are also more deposits at the Amazon bend. She has contacted Jonathan Wildsmith at Central Bedfordshire Council responsible for fly tipping and Awais Younis (also CBC) again regarding a camera being installed. The response was that the camera would be too visible and not easy to hide. The council will continue to push for cameras to be installed.

22/23/178 Highways and Footpaths

We used to receive a monthly report on highways from Mr Melvyn Downs, The Chair Councillor S Minnighan asked the Clerk to contact him for a recent footpath report.

SM was approached by a resident to install a further dog bin on Markyate Road, by the entrance to the FP3 footpath leading to Half Moon Lane. The resident sent SM pictures of dumped poo bags by the entrance to the field and asked for a bin to be placed here. Poo bins are bought by CBC installed and emptied. SM asked the clerk to contact Environmental Health at CBC. Mr P Segal said that you had to be very specific when requesting the bin. Councillor P Shaw agreed to send some photos to clerk of the location. A further bin was requested in Lower woodside and the Clerk will look into this.

Councillor T Hooker said a footpath and the kerb between Lower Woodside and Grove Road and the are all torn up and will report this personally to CBC as it may be a trip hazzard. TH will send some photos to council members.

Action: Clerk will contact Mr Melvyn Downs for highway report

Action: Councillor P Shaw will take some photos of placement for poo bin in Luton Road. The Clerk will look at where a poo bin can be placed in Lower Woodside.

Action: Councillor T Hooker will report footpath and kerb damage to CBC and take some pictures and send to council members

22/23/179 Parish Trees and Gardening

Councillor S Minnighan stated the Clerk had received an email from St Andrews church thanking the council for the maintenance of the trees. She stated that a resident had also contacted her at Old School Walk about overgrown trees there. SM will meet with resident to discuss the trees, take some pictures to send to council members and this will be discussed at the next parish council meeting.

Action: Clerk to put on Agenda for April meeting.

22/23/180 Accounts for Payment

Prior to the meeting The Clerk had circulated the schedule below (**Appendix A**) to Members for approval. The payments were unanimously approved, having been proposed by Cllr. Brennan and seconded by Cllr.P Shaw.

The cheques were signed by Cllr. Minnighan and Cllr. Patterson.

22/23/181 Report from Central Bedfordshire Councillor(s)

Grove Road / Mancroft Road Flooding, Residents Parking Scheme, Bus Routes

No report made due to Councillor K Collins detained at another meeting.

22/23/182 POLICING

Report from resident in the Oaks that a car has been parked for weeks in three bays. Neighbours have observed people turning up and taking items from the Car. Councillor S Minnighan has passed photos to PSCO Laura Tuck for action.

SM also spoke to PSCO LT about the drug paraphernalia -that had been found on the woods by the Slip End Playing Fields.

A Police Community Engagement event has been arranged at Slip End village hall on 3rd April 23 from 11 – 1 pm. The council agreed it would be nice to have a good turnout and Councillor C Brennan will put a notice on the Slip End groups on facebook.

Action: Councillor C Brennan to put Police Community Engagement event on facebook pages

22/23/183 Residents Communications

Nothing to report

22/23/184 Clerk Long Term Sick Leave Insurance

Councillor T Hooker – came across an article on a council that had a Clerk on long term sick leave and the implications of this to the council. The costs involved to cover the clerks absence was substantially increased costs. TH suggested we look into an insurance policy to cover this in the event of long-term sickness. The council agreed for the clerk to investigate this. The Clerk stated she would contact BAPTC and ask for advice from other Clerks on their insurance arrangements.

Action: Clerk to investigate Long Term Sick Leave Insurance and report back to council members

22/23/185 CASEBUG

Councillor T Hooker met with the CASEBUG group and invited them to attend the parish meeting. Three members of CASEBUG attended the meeting to give an overview of CASEBUG. The Chair of the group stated that the group was set up to support residents of Caddington and Slip parishes after a decision was made to remove the 231 bus service. Residents were concerned that they had no input in the decision process as they had not been consulted of this prior to the service stopping. Their aim is to Monitor, Promote and Improve.

Rachel Hopkins MP came along to speak to the group about their concerns. The groups aims, would be to have a 2 hourly service, 1 hour peak time Monday – Saturday on the 232 service.

Councillor S Minnighan said that both parishes have an ageing population who rely on the bus service and in its absence would rely more on the Good Neighbour Scheme for support for attending hospital appointments. Councillor P Shaw used the service recently and noted that a lot of young people were also using the service. The alternative 232 was always a good service getting to the hospital but not

getting back due to the timetable. The Chair of the group stated that the bad news is the 232 service is also up for review in May 23 as the contracts are up for renewal. It was felt that is unlikely that a decision be made in May due to council elections.

The Chair of the group stated Caddington Parish Council supported them and asked whether Slip End Parish Council would also support the group. SM asked the councillors if they were in agreement with what CASEBUG were trying to achieve. The councillors agreed unanimously they were and would like to support the group. It was agreed that once a service was in place that residents were to be encouraged to use the service to sustain it.

CASEBUG have had discussions with CASE (Case Community Group) about the 230 free bus service and discussed the possibility of reversing the service at Luton Station, so that you would not have a two hourly gap of service. It was put to the board but CASE were, keen not to make any changes until the service has run for 6 months. TH stated that there was more pressure on services now with the Caddington Woods build. Original discussions with councillors when Caddington Woods was built suggested that under the S106 agreement of the town and planning act set up by government, consideration would be given to all residents of the local parishes. The S106 was created for all services.

22/23/186 Closing Comments

Councillor C Brennan said her telephone number was incorrect in the Parish News and asked for this to be amended. Councillor S Minnighan asked CB to email the parish news direct.

The clerk said that the clerks contact number on the Slip End Parish website for clerk wrong. SM will address this. Councillor

Councillor S Minnighan thanked Peter Segal the Clerk retiring, for his contribution as Parish Clerk over the last 13 years and his role as Administrator at the Slip End Playing Fields committee at Peter Edwards Hall. SM wished him a happy retirement. Peter thanked everyone and said he enjoyed his time as Parish Clerk.

Action: Councillor C Brennan to contact Parish News for amendment of her contact details
Councillor S Minnighan to contact the website for amendment of clerks contact details

Meeting Closed

Date of next meeting – 6th April 2023 7 pm.

Signed.....
Cllr Sarah Milligan - CHAIR

Date.....

Appendix A **Slip End Parish Council**
Cheques for Payment / Approval
6th March 2023

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Cheq Num.</u>
Aley Green Cemetery	VAT Reclaim Jan – Dec 22	£2,049.83	100271
Peter Segal	Salary Feb 23	£1027.36	100272
Tracey O’Neill	Salary Feb 23	£738.24	100273
BATPC	Clerks Finance Course	£ 30.00	100274
Peter Segal	Expenses Feb 23	£93.40	100275
Tracey O’Neill	Expenses Feb 23	£325.38	100276
Lansdowne Services	Gardening – Feb 23	£737.50	100277
Mrs S Minnighan	Chairman Expense	£200.00	100278
Total Cheque Payments for February 2023		£4,464.21	
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Authorised:

Proposed: Councillor C Brennan

Seconded: Councillor P Shaw

**Appendix B Slip End Parish Council
Cheques to Bank
March 2023**

From	Reason	Amount
Aley Green Cemetery	50% Share of Iris Payroll Laser Payslips	£21.50
Peter Segal	Overpayment of Salary due to Pension payment not deducted	£64.21
Total Receipt Payments March 2023		£85.71 =====