



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 15th May 2023 at the Village Hall, Slip End.

Present: Councillors: Mrs. S Minnighan (CHAIR); Mr. P Shaw; Mr. S Patterson; Mrs. C Brennan; Mrs C Beeton; Mr K Collins; Mr. S Baird

Also Present: Mrs. T O`Neill (Clerk)

Apologies: Councillor: Mrs. V Malone (Ward Councillor)

Members of the public: 3 members of the public attended.

This meeting was chaired by Cllr. S Minnighan (CHAIR) who welcomed everyone to the meeting.

23/24/204 **Declarations of Interest**

None

23/24/205 **Meeting Open to the Public.**

No comments

23/24/206 **Minutes of recent meetings.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd April 2023 were read.

The following resolution was then proposed by Cllr. Paul Shaw and seconded by Cllr. Carol Beeton to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 3rd April 2023 and to authorise the Chair to sign them. The resolution was passed unanimously.

Co-option of Parish Councillors

Mr Steven Baird, expressed an interest to join the council as having been previously a councillor for Slip End. Cllr. S Minnighan, proposed Mr Baird to be co-opted and was seconded by Cllr. P Shaw. The council unanimously agreed that Mr Baird be co-opted as a new Councillor for Slip End Parish Council.

Action: The Clerk will inform Central Bedfordshire Council of his appointment

23/24/207 **Planning Matters**

CB/23/00527/FULL – 47 Woodside Road, Woodside, Luton, LU1 4DJ – Creation of vehicle Crossover with dropped kerb, new hard standing area to the front driveway and alteration to front boundary treatment.

The council decided they had no comments to make in relation to this planning application.

23/24/208 **Crawley Playground and Youth Shelter**

The ramp clips on the ramp in the playground have now been fitted. Edwin Thrift our gardening contractor is having problems with broken glass at the back of the shelter. He has also cleaned up vomit in the bus shelter. After a discussion the council agreed an item needed to be put on social

media to inform residents of antisocial behaviour. Any further incidents Edwin will provide the council with photos.

23/24/209 Parish Council Grants Update 2023

FoSELS –a further invoice was received to confirm last years' grant monies was spent on laptops. We are in budget of allocated budget reserves and the parish council approved the grant. Amelia England attended the meeting and said she would like the council to visit the school to see how the money is spent and the benefit to the school.

Action: The Clerk will issue monies to FoSELS

23/24/210 Good Neighbour Scheme

The scheme is busy as always with everyday business. There is a quiz night on the 24th June. Soup and Sandwich is carrying on to the end of May when it will revert to picnic in the pub until the end of June. This will then be put on hold during the summer and looked at again if we receive some further grants to continue.

23/24/211 Community Improvement Fund

The hanging baskets will be installed next month by Plantscape who will also water them. Some lampposts have had new clips installed which does not accommodate the baskets will be replaced with troughs. There are plans to eventually replace all the lamp posts with new clips which will mean a discussion going forward on planting.

23/24/212 Fly Tipping

The usual spot on Spearsy farm has more fly tipping. There has not been a repeat of dumping at St Andrews Church. We cannot get a decision from CBC on whether CCTV cameras can be installed in the key areas. If anyone sees any dumping, we encourage residents to report this on fix my street. The concrete on woodside road bend is working to prevent fly tipping. A mattress has been dumped on New Street and Cllr C Brennan will report this.

Action: Cllr C Brennan will report dumped mattress on fix my street

23/24/213 Highways and Footpaths

The broken chicane in Grove Road has not been fixed and Cllr. Minnighan will remind CBC.

A lot, of potholes, have been temporary filled in readiness for full repair.

Action: Cllr. S Minnighan will remind CBC of the chicane in Grove Road which has not been repaired to date.

23/24/214 Parish Trees and Gardening

Old School Walk Trees – Cllr S Minnighan carried out a consultation with the residents at Old School Walk to ask for their views on whether to remove the Fir trees and Birch tree. The residents responded stating that they did not wish the trees to be removed but trimmed back. The council decided to go ahead with the quote to trim all conifers and the birch for £672.00. This was proposed Cllr. C Beeton and Approved by Cllr. P Shaw. Edwin Thrist of Lansdowne will go ahead and remove the dead cherry tree and supply a tree at cost to replace it, in honour of Queen Elisabeth II. This was proposed Cllr. S Patterson and seconded by Cllr. C Beeton.

St Andrews Church –

The clerk has been in communication with the church wardens and have agreed that the work will be carried out to fell trees in the churchyard but over a two, year period to ensure the costs fall in two financial years. The wardens are waiting for confirmation from the Diocese as to when the work will commence.

23/24/215 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. C Beeton and seconded by Cllr. C Brennan. The cheques were duly signed.

Changes to Bank / Banking Arrangements Update

Unity bank – The Clerk has submitted an application to Unity Bank to open a bank account with full online banking access. The clerk is now submitting accompanying documents, to support the application and will update when the account is open.

Precept 2023 Receipt – The Clerk confirmed that the first precept payment of £25,000 was received in April.

Letter of Engagement for Internal Audit – The clerk asked the council to approve the engagement of Mr R Foster to carry out the internal audit of the Parish accounts. The council agreed and the Clerk will now send the accounts for inspection.

Action: Clerk to send supporting documents to Unity Bank

Action: Clerk to send accounts to Mr R Foster for inspection for the internal audit.

23/24/216 Report from Central Bedfordshire Councillor(s)

Cllr. K Collins thanked Cllr. S Baird for his continuing his work for the parish after leaving the parish council and welcomed him back

Grove Road/Mancroft Flooding

Flooding Issues – Cllr. Collins has raised with the interim head of service the fact that we have five major sites across Caddington and Slip End parishes which are at significant risk of flooding. They have been chased individually and highways have looked at these areas but have been slow to respond to putting resources in place to prevent the flooding. Cllr. Collins said it would be good to form a Flood Committee to discuss these issues and also be a single contact for Central Bedfordshire Council where we can receive regular updates. Cllr. Collins will email the Clerk by an update and further detailed updates to circulate to the council and the newly formed committee.

Flooding Kits – we have been given the opportunity to get obtain some flooding kits. The Emergency plan has been updated in order, to accompany the application for the flood kits. As part of the application we have, to show we have somewhere to store them. It was decided to store them in Woodside and we would require a lockable cabinet. Cllr. Collins said that he may be able to provide a grant for a cabinet.

Residents Parking Scheme – remains on the list of with Mr. Peter Orchid at Central Bedfordshire Council. With the elections out of the way, permanent appointments are being made with regard to areas of responsibility and we hope to get some movement on this then. The plan would be for the Parish Council to do a consultation with local residents on whether they want a residents parking scheme. Once we have received feedback and if the residents are in favour of a Parking Scheme then it will be put forward to the council.

Bus Services

CASEBUG are still working with the various contacts and are being supported by Cllr. Collins. There is no further update on the 232 bus service.

Fenching in Woodside Road

New photos have been taken and have gone to the planning department for comment.

Flooding Kits – we have been given the opportunity to get some flood kits. The Emergency Plan has been updated in order to put forward to apply for flood kits.

23/24/217 POLICING

PSCO Laura Tuck has been pro-active in her role in the parish. The Crime Stats have been good in the parish. Cllr. S Minnighan will email Cllr. S Baird Laura's details

Action: Cllr. Minnighan to send PSCO Laura Tuck's details to Cllr. Baird.

22/23/2018 Residents Communications

Mr D Price the Cub Leader of the Caddington Scouts contacted the council to ask if the cubs could take part in a litter pick in the parish. The plan would be to start at the crossroads by the village hall and in four work in each direction, collecting litter and disposing of it correctly via the local recycling centres. This council agreed and thanked Mr Price for doing this. It was held on Thursday 2nd April between 6.00 pm and 7.30 pm. Cllr. S Minnighan agreed for the scouts could leave the rubbish collected in Peter Edwards Hall rubbish bins.

Waste Bin Removal

It was pointed out by a local resident that the bins outside the Village Shop and one in Crawley Close needed replacing as they were rusty and broken. The Clerk contacted environmental health and placed an order for three new bins to be replaced and the old ones to be removed.

Crawley Close Hedge

The council received an enquiry with regards to a hedge adjoining their property which was encroaching on their property and overhanging the footpath where residents walk and asked if this was something the council could look at. Mrs. S Minnighan said she will look, into this.

Grass Verges

The council received a complaint with regards to the state of the grass verges in the Parish which are cut by Central Bedfordshire Council. The Clerk will contact the council to discuss the situation and will report back at the next meeting the response.

Action: Cllr. Minnighan to look into the Crawley Close Hedge

Action: The Clerk will contact Central Bedfordshire Council with regards to the grass verges

22/23/202 Clerk Updates**Dog Waste Bins**

After consultation with residents near to the placement of two new dog waste bins, they have now been ordered and will be installed by Central Bedfordshire Council.

The Clerk has received complaints from residents regarding the dropping of dog waste in grassland and other areas of the parish as opposed to using the dog waste bins or the ordinary waste bins which is also permitted. The Clerk will do a piece on the disposal of dog waste and the fines incurred when dog fouling occurs. This will go onto social media and the District Parish News.

New Parish Council Notice Boards

Three new parish council notice boards have been ordered to replace the old boards which have fallen into disrepair. The new boards will be polycarbonate and are weatherproof which will last longer than the existing wooden ones.

New Defib Casing at Peter Edwards Hall

The defib casing unit outside the Peter Edwards Hall has rusted and needs replacing. A new casing unit is on order.

23/24/203 Council Representative for the District Parish News

Updates to the Parish News were previously sent by Cllr. T Hooker who stepped down at the end of his term with the council. It was decided that the Chair and the Clerk would work together on monthly updates.

23/24/204 Website

Our website provider Alan from New Leaf Business is retiring, and we will using a new website provider an associate of Alan's from July.

23/24/205 Closing Comments**Flooding Committee**

Cllr. Minnighan stated she is happy to be the point of contact for the new flooding committee. Cllr. Minnighan and Cllr. Collins met on Friday 12th with of officers of Central Bedfordshire Council and residents to discuss flooding issues. The main discussions were Mancroft Road at Aley Green and Woodside Road at Lower Woodside. Mr. K Stephens had significant flooding at his home in Lower Woodside as it took the brunt of the water coming off the fields. If his property was not in the position, it was in, other properties in Lower Woodside would have been affected. Central Bedfordshire Council are now looking at various anti flooding options.

The parish council have now realised the points of flooding in the Parish and it is on their radar and will remain an agenda item for each meeting.

If any members wish to join the flooding committee, please let Cllr. Minnighan know. Mr Stephens, Mr Hooker, residents, Ward Councillors Mrs Malone and Mr Collins which also be part of the committee. The emergency contact numbers are on the Emergency plan and Cllr. Minnighan will whasapp all councillors in the event of an emergency. There is a CERT whatsapp group for the emergency response team. Mark Conway from Central Bedfordshire Council is the main contact. Cllr. Steve Baird will be added to these groups.

The Clerk will source some Hi Vis jackets for councillors in the event of an emergency.

Slip End School Swimming Pool Project

Amelia England outlined to the council FoSELS plans to look at refurbishing the pool at Slip End Village School. They have submitted an article to the District Parish News to gauge local interest. FoSELS want the pool to remain open and has looked at funding bids. Once re-opened the pool would be used for the school and potentially local groups and residents to generate income. It is on the school curriculum to do swimming and at present pupils have to be taken off site to swim. There is no money to remove the pool completely, but it could be repaired with additional funding and fund raising. Amelia offered to do a presentation to the council. Cllr. Minnighan asked for the article to put on social media.

Border Cutting in Lower Woodside

Mr. K Stephens said that the border which runs from Lower Woodside through to Woodside is cut regularly but Central Bedfordshire Council appear to only cut back past the sign and not before the sign which also forms part of the road. The council asked him to report this on fix my street.

Action: Clerk to look at Hi Vis jackets for council members in the event of an emergency

23/24/206 Date of next meeting – 5th June 2023 at 7 pm.

Meeting Closed

Signed.....
Cllr Sarah Milligan - CHAIR

Date.....

Appendix A Slip End Parish Council
Cheques for Payment / Approval
3rd April 2023

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Cheq Num.</u>
Iris Annual Invoice Aley Green will pay 50%	Payroll Software Annual Licence Fee	£364.80	100279
HM Rev & Customs	Qtr Fee	£928.39	100280
Peter Segal	Shred It	£130.14	100281
Peter Segal	Salary March 23	£577.59	100282
Peter Segal	Expenses March 23	£62.75	100283
Tracey O'Neill	Salary March 23	£1232.40	100284
Lansdowne Services Edwin has gone VAT registered so higher invoice – will reclaim VAT	Gardening – March 23	£885.00	100286
Tracey O'Neill	Parish Laptop	£168.00	100287
Tracey O'Neill	Expenses March 23	£226.26	100288
Aley Green Cemetery Joint Committee	Cemetery Precept 2023 / 2024	£1535.00	100289
Total Cheque Payments for March 2023	£	6110.33	
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Authorised:

Proposed: _____

Seconded: _____