



# Slip End Parish Council

Chairman: Mrs Sarah Minnighan

Vice-Chairman: Vacant

Clerk: Mrs Tracey O'Neill – [clerk@slipendparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@slipendparishcouncil.co.uk)

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## Minutes of the Meeting of Slip End Parish Council held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 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, Mrs V Malone

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

Apologies: Councillor: None

5 Members of the public members of the public attended.

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

### 23/24/224 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr S Minnighan and Cllr C Beeton declared their interest in item 17 of the agenda as trustees of the Slip End Playing Fields Committee.

### 23/24/225 **Meeting Open to the Public.**

No comments

### 23/24/226 **Minutes of recent meetings.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023 were read.

The following resolution was then proposed by Cllr. Beeton and seconded by Cllr Brennan to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and to authorise the Chair to sign them. The resolution was passed unanimously.

### **Co-option of Parish Councillors**

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

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

### 23/24/227 **Planning Matters**

- **CB/23/01357/PAEC** - Harrier Court, Woodside Road, Woodside, Luton, LU1 4DQ

**Prior Approval: Change of use commercial/business/service (Class E) to dwellinghouses (Class C3) (Internal alterations to the existing two storey building to provide two, one bedroom flats. No external alteration is needed to the building. The new development will use all existing doors and windows.)**

Previous units have been converted to dwelling houses. The council agreed it would be good to have additional one bed properties in the parish. They agreed to make no comment to the planning department.

**CB/TRE/23/00194 Proposal: Works to trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order SB/89/00015 G1 & G2: Installation a tree root barrier. Location: Land to the rear and side of 6 The Oaks, Slip End, Luton, LU1 4AB**

This application was received on the afternoon of the 5<sup>th</sup> June and therefore presented to the council at the meeting as comments were to be made by the 26<sup>th</sup> June.

Some residents in The Oaks are concerned about the roots of these trees, they are also causing some problems with satellite reception due to the size. The council agreed to make no comment to the planning department.

**23/24/228 Crawley Playground and Youth Shelter**

It was noted that the bin is not being used and there is rubbish being dropped on the playground area. Edwin Thrift our contractor has not reported any issues.

**23/24/229 Good Neighbour Scheme**

There is a minibus outing on the 12<sup>th</sup> June to poplars Nursery, followed by a cream tea. A Quiz night is being held at the Slip end Social Club on the 24<sup>th</sup> June and there are still places available for teams of four. Picnic in the park is still going well with quizzes and bingo. This will end at the end of June to give the volunteers a break during the summer and to source further funds to continue this event. The village day event is being held on the 8<sup>th</sup> July and the GNS will be having a Tomobola at the event. Any donations would be greatly received.

**23/24/230 Community Improvement Fund**

Clerk has had notification that the hanging baskets will be installed 19<sup>th</sup> June. Cllr S Minnighan will ask Edwin Thrift to trim the areas by the road signs.

**Action: Cllr S Minnighan to ask Edwin Thrift to trim the areas by the road signs prior to the hanging baskets installation.**

**23/24/231 Fly Tipping**

There are no major tips. ANPR camera has been fitted at Peter Edwards Hall to cover the hall and church and car park areas. The concrete barriers at Woodside bend are working really well to prevent fly tipping.

**23/24/232 Highways and Footpaths**

Cllr S Minnighan will remind Emma and Rick at CBC about cutting the footpath at Half Moon Lane north side.

**Action: Cllr S Minnighan will send a reminder to Emma and Rick at CBC**

**23/24/233 Parish Trees and Gardening**

Edwin Thrift has removed the dead cherry tree and will let us know when he has a replacement tree. The Birch trees were trimmed back.

**23/24/234 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 Brennan. and seconded by Cllr P Shaw. The cheques were duly signed.

**23/24/235 Report from Central Bedfordshire Councillor(s)**

Cllr Vicky Malone our new Ward Councillor attended the meeting and introduced herself. She is happy to address any issues we have within the parish with CBC. She highlighted that the Ward Councillors grants are open for application.

Cllr K Collins gave an update on the following:

**Grove Road/Mancroft Flooding**

Slip End Parish Council now have a Flooding Committee set up with councillors and local residents. Cllr Collins said that it would be good to combine the committee with Caddington and will speak to Caddington Parish Council at the next meeting to ask for volunteers.

**Action: Cllr Collins will ask Caddington for volunteers for the Flood Committee.**

**Flooding Issues** – The Head of Highways is aware of flooding issues in Woodside. Cllr S Minnighan put in an application for a flood kit and it was decided to position this in Woodside Road. Mr Kevin Stephens, resident of Woodside is happy for us to store the equipment on his land. The area on his land needs to be cleared of brambles before installation. He is not able to clear this area himself and the committee agreed for the gardening contractor to issue a quote. The size of the unit will then be decided. Cllr Collins said that we could apply for a Ward Councillors grant to pay for this. Mr Stephens spoke to contractors and confirmed that a requirement is that the storage unit needs to have CCTV. The drains in Woodside Road have been cleared. The Flooding is to remain as a separate item going forward.

**Action: the parish council will ask the gardening contractor for a quote for clearing the area at Mr K Stephens land.**

**Residents Parking Scheme**

Cllr Collins said that a consultation had to be carried out prior to putting a request for a residents, parking scheme in Slip End. CBC will only act after a consultation. The Clerk will put the residents parking scheme on next months' meeting agenda for discussion.

**Action: The Clerk will put Residents Parking Scheme on next months Agenda for discussion regarding the consultation.**

**Bus Services**

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

**Fencing in Woodside Road**

There has been no decision for the appeal. Until a decision is reached further action with regards to the fence is on hold.

**23/24/236****POLICING**

There were 15 reports of crime in the Slip End Crime figures this month which is much higher than usual. Cllr S Minnighan emailed PCSO Laura Tuck and asked her about the increasing amounts of litter and anti-social behaviour by St Andrews Church. PCSO L Tuck said they are still doing drive bys to monitor this. There are drug sales taking place in the woods by the Peter Edwards Hall and Playing Fields. Cllr Minnighan informed PCSO of the new camera that has been installed. Cllr S Lyons spoke to PCSO L Tuck who urged anyone who saw suspicious vehicles to report it.

**Luton Airport Expansion**

Cllr K Collins said that himself and Cllr V Malone were now on a committee for the Luton Airport Expansion. Cllr V Malone confirmed that Caddington, parish have noise monitoring equipment in the parish and it is recording higher than the acceptable levels.

Cllr P Shaw addressed the meeting and gave a recap on progress so far. There have been consultations in 2018 and 2019. The response of the airport was to release 15,000 pages of documentation in 2020 denying residents' concerns were valid. Luton Airport has applied to Luton Council to install a new terminal and supporting facilities to the north-east of the existing runway and make adjustments to the existing terminal to be able to increase passengers from 18 million up to 32 million over time. Due to the size of expansion this was called in by the Secretary of State with no outcome at present. The proposal is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project under the Planning Act of 2008. This means that a Development Consent Order is required to authorise the proposals. The planning department are still considering it. Local residents have received further consultation letters and are invited to make any comments by the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 23. A discussion was had by the parish council with contributions from local, residents present at the meeting. The general, consensus are concerns of noise and aviation pollution and that the consultation correspondence is very detailed and difficult to understand. The noise monitoring done by Luton Airport was mainly centred around areas near the airport and not the surrounding areas. Slip End Village has two noise monitoring systems in Manor Road Woodside and Pepperstock. They are

inappropriately placed and do not monitor effectively. We do not have equipment to monitor air pollution. The Slip End and Caddington parishes are, in agreement about their concerns. We need to get local, residents to complete the consultation with their views and concerns. Cllr P Shaw will put together a response from the Parish council.

There is a local action group that was set up called LADACAN who have a lot of information on their website. The council agreed that it needed to make a further response and that local, residents to be urged to respond. Cllr V Malone said she would source noise and pollution equipment to be installed. Cllr P Shaw will put together a response from the parish council.

**Action: Cllr Shaw to put together a response from the council. Cllr S Minnighan will put together something for social media.**

### **Peter Edwards New Equipment**

Approximately six years ago the Parish Council funded the purchase of a tractor and mower for the Slip End Playing Fields Committee to use at the playing field. The tractor and mower is not working to full capacity with numerous repairs and has run its course for what is required to complete grass cutting sufficiently. Mr Steve Inns and Mr Carl Inns who cut the grass have now completed a Level 2 Groundsman course and have the opportunity, to receive funding of up to 75% of costs for new equipment from the FA. Cllr S Minnighan asked the council if they would grant permission for the Playing Fields Committee to part exchange the equipment with the company who can supply new equipment to bring the costs down. Cllr Minnighan went through the costs and stated that with funds from the FA and a part exchange figure of £6k the Slip End Playing Field Management Committee will need to pay a balance of £4k or £5k. The current equipment is only expected to last one more season. One of the conditions when the equipment was first purchased was that the mower could be used in the parish. We have a gardening contractor, and the equipment has not been required. As the FA are contributing funds the equipment can only be used by qualified contractors and only at the Playing Fields. The storage unit is big enough to house the new equipment and will be fully insured. Cllr C Brennan asked if Slip End United cease to use the playing fields as their pitch would we have to give the equipment back to the FA. Cllr Minnighan stated it would be the property of Slip End Playing Fields. The current equipment will be removed from the parish council asset register. There is a requirement for three trained persons Mr S and Mr C Inns and Mr A Prothero, and the chair would like Mr Thrift of Lansdowne Services, our approved parish contractor, to undertake the training also. After a discussion the parish council agreed to the part exchange of the existing equipment and for the new equipment to be owned by the Slip End Playing Fields.

## **22/23/237 Residents Communications**

### **Grass verge cutting**

There have been concerns from residents the grass verge cutting has deteriorated over recent years. There was a change in contractors at CBC and they do not appear to be doing as good a job compared to the previous contractors. Cllr S Minnighan will send an email to the council expressing our concerns.

There are two areas in Half Moon Lane and Newlands Road by the church which need attention, these are also the responsibility of CBC and this will also be reported.

**Action: Cllr S Minnighan will send an email to CBC regarding grass verges in the parish.**

### **Notice boards**

Some of the parish council notice boards have been prised open and notices have been put in them. The boards are for parish notices only and local community events agreed by the parish council. A notice will be put in them to state that notices must be sent by email to the Clerk and will be considered if there is room to be posted.

**Action: The Clerk will put a notice in the notice boards asking residents to contact the Clerk for local notices.**

## **23/24/238 Closing Comments**

Cllr S Durdell thanked the council for co-opting him and is looking forward to being a part of the council.

**23/24/239** Date of next meeting – 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023 at 7 pm.  
Meeting Closed

**Signed**.....  
**Cllr Sarah Milligan - CHAIR**

**Date**.....

## Appendix A

### Slip End Parish Council Cheques for Payment / Approval 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Cheq Num.</u>
Tracey O'Neill	Salary May 23	£1175.42	100311
Tracey O'Neill	Expenses May 23 Extra cartridges and paper for council folders	£ 207.22	100312
Lansdowne Services	Gardening Contract May 23	£ 946.96	100313
Lansdowne Services	Trees Old School Walk	£ 672.00	100314
Lansdowne Services	Crawley Close Bungalows Cherry Tree Removal	£ 252.00	100315
Andy Prothero	Document Storage 23/23	£ 60.00	100319
FoSELS	Grant 23/23	£1978.80	100317
The Community Heartbeat Trust Solutions Ltd	New rescue pack Village Hall Debif	£ 17.94	100318
<b>Total Cheque Payments for June 2023</b>		<b>£5247.34.</b> =====	

Authorised:

**Proposed:** \_\_\_\_\_ Cllr C Brennan \_\_\_\_\_

**Seconded:** \_\_\_\_\_ Cllr P Shaw \_\_\_\_\_