

Minutes of the Meeting of Slip End Parish Council held on Monday 3rd October 2022 at the Village Hall, Slip End.

Present: Councillors: Mr. Paul Cooper (Chairman); Mrs. S Minnighan; Mrs C Beeton; Mr. P Shaw; Mr. T Hooker; Mrs C Brennan; Mr. S Patterson.
P Segal (Clerk)

Ward Councillors: Cllr K Collins (part meeting)

Apologies: Cllr E Perry;

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

This meeting was chaired by Cllr. Cooper

22/23/85 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.
He also said he will be unable to write the Parish Council article for the Parish News and Cllr. Minnighan agreed to do this for this. **(S.M)**
The Chair thanked Mr. Hooker for his previous articles.

22/23/86 Meeting Open to the Public.

None

22/23/87 Minutes of recent meetings.

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th September 2022 were read.
The following resolution was then proposed by Cllr. Minnighan and Cllr. Beeton;
To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 5th September 2022 and to authorise the Chair to sign them.
The resolution was passed unanimously.

22/23/88 Planning Matters

A). CB/22/03585/FULL – 40 Front Street, Slip End – Erection of a new detached house to the rear.

The Chair said this is a re-application. The previous application was flagged as "Object."

All the residents who attended, were residents affected by this proposed development.

Their main objection was that access to this development will be over their legally owned parking spaces in St. Andrews Walk.

Also, the proposed property will also overlook their gardens and be looking directly into their windows to the rear.

After a discussion, it was agreed to again object to this Planning Application on the grounds of:

1. The development constitutes inappropriate infill
- 2 The development is not in keeping with the area.
3. When completed, there will be a loss of privacy in adjoining gardens and their houses.
4. The access to the property, via existing parking spaces already owned by local residents of St. Andrews Walk is unacceptable. Common areas here are also maintained by these house holders.
5. The development is taking parking spaces away, not adding to them.

The Chair told residents that normally, Planning Applications are dealt with by a Case Officer. But in this case, we will ask the Ward Councillor to call this application in for consideration by the full Planning Committee, if it is recommended for approval.

Cllr. Hooker said that if the application is dealt with by the full Planning Committee, residents can apply to attend the meeting and speak for three minutes.

The Chair urged residents to reply directly to the consultation as well.

The Clerk was asked to send the two Deed documents to the case officer, as they show the legal entitlement of St. Andrews Walk residents to parking spaces leading to this proposed development.

(P.S)

Cllr. Collins joined the meeting and agreed to look at the papers, and consider calling this Planning Application in for consideration by the full Planning Committee, if it is recommended for approval by the case Officer.

The Chair asked Cllr. Collins if he had any update on development works taking place at the Park Homes site in Woodside Road.

He said he had no update but will look into it. **(K.C)**

Cllr. Collins said he could not meet up with the developers of Newlands Park, but CBC Planning Officers have made contact with LBC Planning Department and expressed their concerns at the increased level of heavy traffic expected with the proposed southern development and the widening of Newlands Road.

Ian Delgarno has also visited the area with Cllr. Collins and has seen the issues we are concerned about.

22/23/89 Report by Ward Councillor

Cllr. Collins said that Mike Bailey will be leaving the Planning Department shortly.

Charlotte Dunham has also left CBC.

The 231 bus is reducing the frequency of service.

CBC subsidies have preserved the extra parts of the route, but the service will stop running earlier and will not run on Saturdays.

The 230 service may be extended to take in some areas the 231 covers, but it is not clear at present if this will happen.

It is also not clear when these changes will take effect.

Cllr. Hooker said that the 231 is used predominately by elderly residents and many have no alternative transport.

Cllr. Minnighan asked about her application for a Community Asset Grant.

Cllr. Collins said he had not heard yet.

The Chair said that the link to a residents parking scheme questionnaire on the CBC website was not working.

Cllr. Collins will look into it **(K.C)**

Cllr. Beeton said that there are signs that people may be living in Caravans stored on the Caravan Storage site in Half Moon Lane.

22/23/90 Crawley Playground and Youth Shelter

The Kompan quote for repairing the playground equipment has been agreed.

Cllr. Minnighan said that children have emptied the contents of the Village Hall bin into the playground.

Our gardening contractor has cleaned up the mess.

CCTV did not identify the culprits.

22/23/91 Good Neighbour Scheme

Cllr. Patterson said that there will be a party at the Village Hall this week.

Next Sunday there will be an organised trip to the Leighton Buzzard railway with a picnic.

There has been a First Aid course and a Manual Handlers Course organised for GNS volunteers to attend.

There will also be a Christmas Party in the Village Hall in late November.

Cllr. Beeton said that the proposed lunches at the Rising Sun for elderly residents this winter, may well happen and discussions are ongoing.

22/23/92 Receipt of Precept

The Chair said we have received our second Precept instalment of £27,500.

- 22/23/93 Budget 2023/24**
The Chair said that the 2023/24 Budget will start to be prepared in late October.
Councillors should forward to the Clerk, any proposed projects and rough costings, so they can be included.
- 22/23/94 Recruitment of New Clerk**
The Chair said that our present Clerk will be retiring at the end of March 2023 and a new Clerk will have to be in place by 1st March to allow for a handover.
He also said that it is likely that he will step down from his position on the Parish Council and apply for the Clerks position.
For this reason, he will not take any part in the discussions for a new Clerk or any discussions or agreement for a remuneration package.
He also cannot take any part in the selection process.
He said that the present Clerks salary was broadly in line with the market, but the pension contribution by the Parish Council is way below Local Government levels and the working from home allowance has not been changed in twelve years, and so also needs revising.
After a discussion, it was agreed that Members meet outside of a regular Parish Council meeting to agree a remuneration package to be negotiated so as to be able to recruit a new Clerk.
This will be at the Frog and Rhubarb pub at 6.00pm on 24th October.
This will not be a public meeting.
The Clerk was asked to update the Job Description ahead of the meeting **(P.S)**.
- 22/23/95 Election 2023**
The Chair said that there will be elections in 2023. If we receive more than seven nominees for Councillors positions, then an election will be held.
The election will be on the first Thursday in May 2023.
He asked Members to indicate to him, if they are not likely to stand again.
- 22/23/96 Community Improvement Fund**
There were complaints last year that the biscuits box was a lot smaller than previous years.
A larger box will be £5.25 +VAT from our normal supplier.
The Chair said he had contacted supermarkets to get supply, with no success.
After discussion, it was agreed to buy 220 boxes of 550g biscuits from our usual supplier at £5.25.
- 22/23/97 Fly Tipping**
No Update.
Despite Woodside Road being closed because of a gas main replacement, rubbish continues to be fly tipped in the road that is still accessible.
- 22/23/98 Highways and Footpaths**
Three gates have been replaced by plastic ones. The place signs have been taken down for safe keeping and will be replaced soon.
The hanging baskets will be collected on 10th or 11th October.
Next year, we will need troughs at the base of the plastic gates.
Cllr Hooker said that the footpath between Harrow bus stop and the welcome to Woodside sign is overgrown with weeds and stinging nettles.
He was advised to report it to Emma Kines. **(T.H)**
- 22/23/99 Parish Trees**
The Chair said a resident in Old School Walk has complained of an overgrown hedge there.
He said he will look into it. **(P.C)**
- 22/23/100 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. Minnighan and seconded by Cllr. Brennan.
The cheques were signed by Cllr. Minnighan and Cllr. Paterson.
Previously, the Clerk had requested moving £30,000 from our Co-Op Account to our Barclays Account to even out our risk.
This was unanimously approved.

22/23/101 Policing

Cllr Minnighan said that the suspected drug dealer seen driving around Summer Street has been arrested.

Date of next meeting – 7th November 2022.

Signed.....
Chair

Date.....

Appendix A

**Cheques for Payment
October 2022**

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Cheq Num.</u>
Slip End Parish Council	Movement of funds	£30,000-00	100727
Chiltern Society	Membership 22/23	£30-00	100728
Lansdowne Services	Gardening Sept 22	£737-50	100729
P Segal	Clerks Salary Sept.	£963-15	100730
P Segal	Clerks Expenses Sept.	£104-93	100731
HMRC	PAYE and NI Q2	£1007-97	100732