

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

Present: Councillors: Mrs. S Minnighan; Mrs C Beeton; Mr. P Shaw; Mr. S Patterson; Mrs C Brennan P Segal (Clerk) Mrs T O`Neill

Ward Councillors: Cllr K Collins; Cllr E Perry.

Apologies: Mr. T Hooker.

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

This meeting was chaired by Cllr. Minnighan.

22/23/151 Declarations of Interest

None

22/23/152 Meeting Open to the Public.

No comments

22/23/153 Minutes of recent meetings.

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2022 were read.

The following resolution was then proposed by Cllr. Brennan and Cllr. Shaw;

To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 9th January 2022 and to authorise the Chair to sign them.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

22/23/154 Presentation by Tom Price, CBC

The Chair welcomed Tom Price, from the sustainable travel team, who asked to attend the meeting to present plans for CBC to install electric charge points in the Village Hall car park.

These would be installed and maintained by CBCs partner installer, BP Pulse.

He said that certain locations, like Village Hall car parks qualify for Govt. Grants towards the installation costs.

Slip End Village Hall had been assessed and is financially viable

The assessment found that there could be eight charging bays in the car park and that they would be slower charging, so would be ideal for overnight parking.

This raises an issue, as the car park is locked overnight to deter holiday and traveller parking.

There would be a revenue stream income for the VH as profits from charging points would go to the VH Committee.

Cllr Patterson said he was a Trustee on the VH Committee and requested a copy of the charge point documentation, as well as any cost benefit analysis so that the VH Committee can assess the pros and cons of such a scheme.

Mr. Price said he would attend the VH Committee meeting next Monday to answer any questions.

Installation of the charge points could commence 3-6 months after agreement.

A TRO can be enforced to stop holiday or non charge point long term parking in the VH car park, once it stays open overnight.

This TRO can be enforced by Traffic Warden visits.

Cllr. Perry had concerns about repairs to the charge points.

Mr. Price said that BP Pulse will be responsible for repairs, and said that breakdowns are usually down to fast charging points that are heavily used.

The Chair thanked Mr. Price for his time.

22/23/155 Presentation by CBC Ward Councillors

Cllr Collins said he had no update on the flooding issues in the Parish.

He advised that McDaid Screeding were appealing the Planning Application rejection, and if the Parish Council wish to add to the original comments, they should do so.

Luton Hoo are applying to host the Ryder Cup.

If they are successful, this will bring major investment into the area, and hospitality and hotel venues will greatly benefit.

The infrastructure will be greatly impacted and roads will be affected for a number of weeks.

The planning logjam caused by the legal implications of the Ashridge Estate decision, is starting to be resolved.

The result is likely to be that larger new developments will have to pay an additional fee.

A Planning Application for expansion may be lodged by Luton Airport in a couple of Months.

A bus service group called CASEBUG has been formed by residents to challenge the newly restricted and cancelled bus services and help communities that have been affected.

The Chair said that Cllr. Hooker had agreed to join the group on behalf of Slip End, and report back.

Cllr. Collins said that the 232 Service contract is up for renewal later this year.

Voter ID will be required by all residents voting in this year's local elections.

The Chair reminded Cllr. Collins that we are still awaiting costings for a Residents Parking Scheme, two years after asking.

We cannot ask residents for their views if we do not have any costings to put before them.

Cllr Shaw asked if CBC were aware of the fence erected on the old Harrow car park.

It was understood that this may soon be removed.

22/23/156 Election of new Chairman

Following the resignation of Cllr. Cooper, a new Chairman needs to be appointed.

Cllr. Minnighan asked if any Member wishes to be nominated for the position.

Cllr. Minnighan was the only Member nominated and the following resolution was then proposed by Cllr. Shaw and Cllr. Brennan;

To appoint Cllr. Sarah Minnighan as Chair of Slip End Parish Council.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

The Chair asked if any Member would like to be nominated as Vice Chair and there was no nominees. There will not be a Vice-Chair at the moment.

The Chair asked if all Members present will be standing again at the next election, and all said they would.

The Chair said that after the resignation of Cllr. Cooper, a third signatory is needed.

Cllr Brennan said she will be happy to do this.

22/23/157 New Clerk Recruitment

The Chair was pleased to announce that Mrs Tracey O`Neill has been appointed as the new Clerk when Mr. Segal retires in March.

Mrs. O`Neill will start on 13th February and Mr. Segal's last day with the Parish Council; will be on 17th March 2023.

22/23/158 Planning Matters

The only planning matter was the appeal by McDaid Screeding to the rejection of their recent Planning Application.

The Chair asked if Members would like to add to the previous comments made, and they agreed not to do so.

22/23/159 Crawley Playground and Youth Shelter

The Chair said that we have received a quote from Kompan to replace the worn-out treads on the zip wire.

The original ramp has had extensive use and now is slippery and dangerous.

The quote is for nearly £640 and the Clerk said although necessary, we have not budgeted for this expense.

After a short discussion, it was agreed to go ahead with the replacement parts.

22/23/160 Parish Council Grants

The Clerk said that he will be sending out the 2023 Grants requests later this week.

It was agreed that all applications should be back with us by close of business on 13th March 2023.

22/23/161 Good Neighbour Scheme

Cllr. Patterson said all was running well.

Clients with extra needs are being looked after, some on a daily basis.

Cllr Beeton said that the Soup and a Sandwich project may be extended as the need has been demonstrated, and there are still funds in the Budget.

So far £468 has been spent and they have received extra Grant funding to extend the project.

A "picnic in the pub" concept is being looked at for implementing later this year, and will be self-funding.

22/23/162 Community Improvement Fund

No issues

22/23/163 Fly Tipping

The Chair said that another Cannabis factory had been dumped in the entrance to a farmers field. This has been reported.

22/23/164 Highways and Footpaths

Cllr Patterson said that Ivy is covering the wall next to the Village Hall and Grove Road, and has covered floor of the bus stand waiting area.
He was advised that only the bus shelter was the Parish Councils responsibility, and the standing area was the responsibility of Highways.
He was advised to report it and attach his photographs.

22/23/165 Parish Trees and Gardening

Our gardening contractor, Edwin Thrift had originally quoted a +2% yearly increase in his contract. This was when inflation was at a far lower rate than the 10% level at present.
We asked him to re-quote for 2023/24 to show a more realistic inflation uplift that takes account of the latest levels.
He has proposed a +7% increase for 2023/24, but kept his 2024/25 increase to +2% at present.
After a short discussion, this increase was agreed.

22/23/166 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. Beeton and seconded by Cllr. Brennan.
The cheques were signed by Cllr. Minnighan and Cllr. Patterson.

22/23/167 Residents Communications

None

22/23/168 Closing Comments

None

Date of next meeting – 6th March 2023

Signed.....
Chair

Date.....

Appendix A

Cheques for Payment February 2023

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Cheq Num.</u>
S. Patterson	Extra Christmas Biscuits	£24-00	100758
Village Hall	Hire for Interviews	£60-00	100759
Lansdowne Services	Gardening Jan 23	£737.50	100267
Lansdowne Services	Tree Cutting – Churchyard	£1180-00	100268
P Segal	Clerks Salary – Jan 23	£963-15	100269
P Segal	Clerks Expenses – Jan 23	£162-59	100270