

**Minutes of the Meeting of Slip End Parish Council held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at the Village Hall, Slip End.**

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

Ward Councillors: Cllr K Collins

Apologies: Cllr E Perry; Mr. Paul Cooper; Mrs C Brennan

Members of the public: None

This meeting was chaired by Cllr. Minnighan

**21/22/171 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.

**21/22/172 Meeting Open to the Public.**

None

**21/22/173 Minutes of recent meetings.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022 were read.

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

**To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022 and to authorise the Chair to sign them.**

**The resolution was passed unanimously.**

**21/22/174 Planning Matters**

**a) CB/22/00386/FULL – 66 Markyate Road, Slip End – Demolition of existing detached garage. Single storey side and rear extension plus other work.**

After a short discussion, it was agreed to submit a "No Comment" to Planning for this application.

**21/22/175 Crawley Playground and Youth Shelter**

No Issues

**21/22/176 GNS Update**

Cllr. Patterson said the new GNS Bank Account is now operational.

There will be an Easter Tea party arranged for 13<sup>th</sup> April at the Village Hall.

A Jubilee event will be organised in the Summer and there will be a tombola stall at Village Day in July.

**21/22/177 Luton Airport Expansion Consultation**

Cllr Shaw said he attended the Consultation Event at the Village Hall.

It very much encompassed the new terminal as well as their expansion plans for increased passenger throughput.

After discussion, it was agreed that Cllr. Shaw will draft our response. **(P.S)**

Residents should respond directly to Luton Rising with their comments, and Cllr. Hooker will include this information in his Parish News article. **(T.H)**

**21/22/178 Community Improvement Fund**

The Chair said that the hanging baskets will be delivered by Plantscape in June.

Because of the number of lamp posts that have been converted to aluminium and split in the middle for easy maintenance, this may be the last contract period we will have for the baskets.

The displays on the gateways may well continue as they are not affected.

**21/22/179 Fly Tipping**

The Chair said that there had been more fly tipping in Woodside Road. Highways had said that the area is not suitable for covert cameras, but she had responded that there were plenty of places a camera could be hidden.

**21/22/180 Report by Central Beds Ward Councillor.**

Cllr Collins said he has had a response from BT Openreach about the defunct box in Woodside Road, and we hope this will be removed in the near future.

He has raised the concerns with LBC about displaced traffic when the Newlands Retail Park works starts.

He is concerned that traffic will divert down Front Street and Half Moon Lane, Hyde to avoid Newlands Road.

Regarding the Airport Expansion Consultation, he said that residents living under the flight path of the airport will be affected by the increase in air traffic.

They are affected just as much as Luton residents.

He made his point to LBC that they should also be paying for a residents parking scheme in Slip End to negate holiday parking in the Village.

Cllr Hooker said that during his 32 years living in Woodside, the level of noise by each plane had reduced, but the frequency of flights had increased.

The noise is more noticeable in Summer with increased night flights and the likelihood of the house windows being left open at night.

He asked Cllr. Collins to ensure concerns about the increase in noise and frequency of night flights be included in any response CBC makes to the consultation, and an attempt to get concrete assurances be made. **(K.C)**

The improvement works on Grove Road is due to start on 31<sup>st</sup> March and it is hoped that the broken gate will be replaced at the same time.

Cllr. Collins was asked by Cllr. Shaw if there had been any progress on re-configuring the Half Moon Lane junction.

He confirmed that there was no update so far.

**21/22/181 Highways and Footpaths**

The Clerk said that we have submitted our match funding request to Central Beds for the speed activated sign in Mancroft Road.

Charlotte Dunham had confirmed that we do not need to commission a speed survey at this stage as this will be done as part of our bid.

If we are unsuccessful in our request for funding, we would have to decide to either drop the project or to fund it ourselves, including the cost of a speed survey.

We have received a complaint about overgrown vegetation in Grove Road, opposite the Village Hall. CBC used to cut this back, but are now saying it's the house holders responsibility.

The Clerk will write to the house holder and request that they cut back the vegetation and branches. **(P.S)**

**21/22/182 Account 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. Patterson and seconded by Cllr. Shaw

Cheques were signed by Cllr Minnighan and Cllr. Patterson.

**21/22/183 Policing**

Cllr Hooker attended the recent online PCC briefing.

He said it was poorly attended.

One of the facts that came out of it was that Bedford has as much crime now as Luton!

It was acknowledged that rural areas had been neglected after the last round of Policing cuts and there will be an attempt to increase cover again in these areas.

He commented that we have not had Police attend any of our Parish Council meetings to hear of our concerns.

We will be given our Police contact details soon.

The Chair said that the recent crime statistics could not be accessed as the links were not working.

She has reported this, and we await new links.

There was concern that the motor biking season was starting again with bikes using the road

and private land on a Sunday in particular, causing noise and nuisance.  
Some of these bikes do not have licence plates and were probably having no insurance

**21/22/184 Residents Communications**

Jill Acton wants to hold a raffle at Village Day, and has asked the Parish Council if they will apply for a permit on her behalf.

The Chair felt that this should be discussed as we would be liable if things went wrong.

After discussion it was agreed to use the Parish Council as sponsor, as Jill will be noted on the application as the operator and so will have her name on the raffle tickets.

Cost of the permit will be from CPG residual funds.

Cllr Beeton said that residents had concerns at activity on the MDS Screeding site in Front Street.

A crane has been lifting porter cabins onto the site and there was a large amount of rubbish on the site.

The Chair advised that residents contact CBC direct with their concerns.

**Date of next meeting – 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022.**

**Signed**.....  
**Chair**

**Date**.....

**Appendix A**

**Cheques for Payment  
March 2022**

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Cheq Num.</u>
Aley Green Cemetery	VAT Repayment	£45-00	100241
A Prothero	Gardening Feb 2022	£648-05	100242
P Segal	Clerks Salary Feb 22	£900-14	100243
P Segal	Clerks Expenses Feb	£84-58	100244
Plantscape	Lamp Post Testing	£441-00	100245