

**Minutes of the Meeting of Slip End Parish Council held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023  
at the Village Hall, Slip End.**

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

Ward Councillors: Cllr K Collins

Apologies: Cllr E Perry.

Members of the public: No members of the public attended.

This meeting was chaired by Cllr. Cooper

**22/23/135 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.

**22/23/136 Meeting Open to the Public.**

None

**22/23/137 Minutes of recent meetings.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022 were read.

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

**To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022  
and to authorise the Chair to sign them.**

**The resolution was passed unanimously.**

**22/23/138 Planning Matters**

**A) CB/22/04901/FULL - Field to the South of Woodside Road, opposite Woodside farm  
and 171 Woodside Road, Woodside. Change of use of agricultural land to a dog exercise  
area, including laying a hard standing parking and manoeuvring area, fencing and  
improving the onsite access.**

Cllr. Minnighan said she had spoken to the farmer who`s land this is on, and he confirmed that since he  
has no cattle or sheep to graze the land and he will not be planting crops here, this venture is to gain  
income from what would have been an empty field.

Cllr. Hooker said we should stipulate a clause that says that if and when the field ceases to be used for  
dog exercise use, it should revert back to agricultural use.

The meeting agreed, and the Clerk was requested to state this in his reply to the Planning Consultation.

Cllr Collins felt that once a change of use has been agreed, this could not be reversed, but it was  
agreed that this request still be made to CBC Planning.

**22/23/139 Crawley Playground and Youth Shelter**

No Issues

**22/23/140 Good Neighbour Scheme**

Cllr. Patterson said that the biscuit distribution went well and he had to buy six extra tins.

Cllr Beeton said that 52 residents had attended the soup and a sandwich event at the Rising Sun over  
the past three weeks.

She had also purchased extra food and sweets for residents attending.

The Chair again thanked all the volunteers for their hard work in making this project happen.

**22/23/141 Report by Ward Councillor**

Cllr. Collins thanked Cllr. Minnighan for the photographs she sent of the recent flooding in Grove Road.  
He said that Thames Water had launched a Flooding Grant scheme and funds of up to £50,000 may be  
made available from this to do extra work in flood prone areas.

The 231 bus service has now ceased, and the 230 revised route has now been put in place. The net result is that Pepperstock is now less well connected. Alternative routes via the 232 is still being looked at. Cllr Hooker said that there have been a number of negative comments made on social media about the new time tables. Also, the stop bay at the Luton Interchange is confusing, and some of the timings are tight, with the Woodside stop needing to be tweaked in any later revision. Cllr Collins said that the stops in the time table are only a selected few key ones, but the bus will stop at any bus stop. Cllr. Hooker said he had received a report from a resident that a field owner had dumped hardcore in his field and asked if anything can be done. Cllr Collins advised concerned residents to keep a diary of dumping incidents so that Planning Enforcement can make a case if needed.

**22/23/142 New Clerk Recruitment**

The Clerk said that we have two applicants on the short list, and interviews are being held at the end of the month. He said that he would like the new Clerk to start on 13<sup>th</sup> February if possible, to enable him to leave mid- March. Also, he advised that a dedicated Clerks phone is no longer necessary as he receives only a few calls per month, and the line rental is currently £19.00 per month. It was agreed that the new Clerk use a pay-as-you-go mobile as the dedicated Clerks phone.

**22/23/143 Community Improvement Fund**

Good Elf have received our cheque so no replacement is required. Cllr. Minnighan said we need to move to on-line banking now, and with the banking changes we now need to make, it would be a good time to investigate this.

**22/23/144 Fly Tipping**

Cllr. Minnighan said that the fly tipped material in the farmers gate has been reported.

**22/23/145 Highways and Footpaths**

Cllr. Minnighan said the pot hole at Old School Walk has been reported. There are numerous pot holes now in Front Street, and these also have been reported. Cllr Minnighan and Cllr. Hooker will attend the Highways Teams meeting to discuss speed reduction alternatives in Mancroft Road. **(S.M, T.H)** The Chair has had an E-Mail from a resident complaining of the lack of gritting during the recent cold snap. He replied stating that the gritter had been out and it needed cars to dive over the grit so it can activate it.

**22/23/146 Parish Trees**

No Issues  
Cllr. Beeton said she had received an E-mail from a resident concerned about missing and rotten verge posts. This is the responsibility of CBC.

**22/23/147 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. Patterson.

**22/23/148 Policing**

Suspected drug dealing in the Rossway and St. Andrews Close area has been reported to the Police.

**22/23/149 Residents Communications**

Cllr. Patterson asked about full dog bins, and he was told that they have now been cleared. Cllr. Beeton said that elderly residents were pleased about the better quality Christmas Biscuits given out this year.

She also said that there has been concern that some elderly and vulnerable residents are still not being identified on the GNS lists.

She was concerned that they may not be getting the help that is available, and may be struggling.

Cllr. Minnighan said she will draft up an article for the Parish News with details of the GNS help available. **(S.M)**

**22/23/150 Closing Comments**

The Chair said that this would be his final meeting, as he is standing down from the Parish Council in February.

He thanked all the present and past Councillors for their help and support in the past, as well as the Clerk.

Members expressed their thanks to Cllr. Cooper and presented him with store vouchers as a token of their appreciation.

**Date of next meeting – 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

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

**Date**.....

**Appendix A**

**Cheques for Payment  
January 2023**

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Cheq Num.</u>
P. Cooper	Christmas Biscuits	£1398-60	100751
Norris + Fisher	GNS Insurance	£244-12	100752
Lansdowne Servs.	Gardening Dec 2022	£737-50	100753
Village Garden Services	Gritting (9 runs)	£885-60	100754
P Segal	Clerks Salary Dec 22	£963-15	100755
P Segal	Clerks Expenses Dec 22	£102-75	100756
HMRC	PAYE and NI Q3	£1071-69	100757