

Slip End Parish Council

Chairman: Mrs Sarah Minnighan
www.slipendparishcouncil.co.uk



COUNCILLORS, YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO ATTEND
the next meeting of the Parish Council to be held on
Monday 13th May 2024 at 7.00pm at the **Village Hall, Slip End.**
Tracey O'Neill
Clerk to the Council: clerk@slipendparishcouncil.co.uk

Present: Councillors: Cllr. S. Minnighan (CHAIR); Cllr. Patterson; Cllr. C Beeton; Cllr. P Shaw;
Cllr. C Brennan; Cllr. S. Durndell; Cllr. S. Baird; Cllr. V. Malone; Cllr. K. Collins.

Also Present: Tracey O'Neill – Clerk
2 members of the public were present.

24/25/023 Apologies for Absence
None

24/25/024 Declarations of Interest
Cllr. S Baird – Church Warden (St Andrews Church)
Cllr. S. Minnighan – Trustee of Management Committee – Slip End Playing Field
Cllr. C. Beeton – Trustee of Management Committee – Slip End Playing Field

24/25/025 Meeting Open to Public for Agenda Items only**

24/25/026 Minutes of Recent Meetings
The minutes of the meeting held on 8th April were read. Cllr. Beeton observed an error showing Cllr. Baird as present and not present. The Clerk will amend this to show Cllr. Baird as not present at the meeting. The following resolution was then proposed by Cllr. Patterson and seconded by Cllr. Beeton to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on the 8th April and to authorise the Chair to sign them. The resolution was passed unanimously.

24/25/027 Review and comment on Planning Matters:
[CB/24/00972/FULL – 66 Markyate Rd, Slip End, LU1 4BX](#)
No objection

24/25/028 Report from Central Bedfordshire Councillor(s)
Cllr. Vicky Malone
Cllrs Collins and Cllr Minnighan attended an information meeting with the organisers of the Radio 1 Big Weekend Festival and was told the following:
The entrance to Stockwood Park at Newlands Road is to be closed. The legal entrance will be in Farley Hill. The route along Newlands Road will be shut and residents and visitors to the festival will be redirected along Woodside Road. Traffic Restriction Orders will be in place for Church Road and Woodside Road and not Grove Road. Cllr. Collins is waiting for confirmation from the Head of Community Safety of the number of traffic wardens available. There will be no parking for residents on Church Road, they will have to find alternative routes. We are hoping that residents will not be targeted and ticketed.

No Ubers are allowed only registered Luton taxis. Slip End Parish Council have a limited supply of cones and will deploy these when we see where cars are likely to be parking. The council discussed printing a permit to give to Church Road residents to put in their cars to show they are residents. The Village Hall car park will be shut for the weekend. The Plough PH is not doing pop up camping after a visit from the Regional Manager of Stonegate Brewery who stated this was not allowed.

- 24/25/029 Flooding Working Committee Update**
A resident at Lower Woodside is in discussion with the Highways department at CBC regarding flooding to their property and proposed works. CBC is in discussions with airparks about tarmac areas in Grove Road. Cllr. Minnighan is chasing the Highways department to start additional work to combat the flooding. Further cones and aquasacs have been delivered and are in the flood container. The Clerk will arrange for a no parking in front of container notice to be put on the flood container.
- 24/25/030 CASEBUG Update**
Casebug sent their monthly / annual report (**Appendix B**). Slip End Parish Council continues to support them.
- 24/25/031 Crawley Playground and Youth Shelter Update**
ROSPA are carrying out their annual inspection of the playground in May and we await their report.
- 24/25/032 Good Neighbour Scheme Update**
Soup and Sandwich is continuing with approximately 29 attending each week.
- 24/25/033 Community Improvement Fund**
Trough Planting – Slip End Parish Council looked at installing troughs on village gates at the entrance to Pepperstock, Woodside and Front Street in Slip End. Having measured the troughs, we discovered the following. The new signage at Lower Woodside is not suitable as the verge would have to be dug out to on one side with the other side having a hedge. The gate on Front Street is too close to the road. Our planting contractors Plantscape are in their final year of contract and the Council after reviewing their quote unanimously agreed to engage them for a further three years.
Hanging Basket Request in Lower Woodside. A resident requested for hanging baskets in Woodside Road by the Woodside Animal Park. The council will look at the lampposts that are installed there to see if they can accommodate hanging baskets.
- 24/25/034 Fly Tipping**
We are still experiencing regular fly tipping in key areas in the parish with grab lorries attending each week to remove. Cllr. Malone is still pushing hard to get cameras installed. We urge residents to report any fly tipping on fix my street.
- 24/25/035 Highways and Footpaths**
Radio 1's Big Weekend at Stockwood Park – 24th – 26th May 24 (discussed in Ward Councillor Report above)
- 24/25/036 Gardening in the Parish**
The council reviewed the quote received from our Gardening Contractor for replacing the soil and plants in the coronation gardens. The quote of £1824.00 was approved by and works will commence in the next couple of months.
- St Andrews Church**
Emergency works of a dangerous tree was carried out by the church prior to Council approval. This was not budgeted for and the Council had a discussion about the responsibilities of where the maintenance graveyard lies. The Council are responsible for emergency works with regard, to health and safety with the grass being cut by our Gardening Contractor. Cllr. Baird the Church Warden will discuss with the Church committee what their remit / responsibilities are for the upkeep of the rest of the churchyard.
- The Council will continue with Phase 3 of tree felling which has been budgeted for. With regard, to the emergency repair, as the tree was on the Peter Edwards Playing Field land Cllr. Minnighan will discuss with their management committee about contributing towards the cost.
- 24/25/037 Accounts for Payment and Approval**
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. Brennan and seconded by Cllr. Shaw.

Approval of Internal Audit Report and authorisation of the Annual Governance Return to forward to Mazars the external Auditors.

The Clerk forwarded to Council Members prior to the meeting the internal audit report from Leena Baines and the Annual Governance Statement.

Annual Governance Statement Approval and Signature

The Clerk read out the Annual Governance Statement to the council and this was accepted.

Exercise of Public Rights Dates

The exercise of public rights dates were confirmed by the Clerk and were accepted.

Presentation of accounts 2023/2024

The Clerk went through the accounts and discussed any significant variations from last year.

Accounting Statement of the accounts 2023/2024 Approval and Signature

The Accounts for 2023/2024 had been previously circulated by the Clerk.

The following resolution was then proposed by Cllr. S Minnighan and seconded by Cllr. C Brennan.

RESOLVED:

To approve the 2023/24 Parish Council Accounts

The resolution was passed unanimously.

Parish Council Grants 2024

Two grants were deferred to the Council meeting in May awaiting further information.

Slip End Pre-School – requested a grant for Phonics Maths and Reading. Members agreed to award the Pre-school £1250.00. The council request copies of receipts when items are purchased.

Slip End United FC– requested a grant towards continuing costs for next Season. Members agreed to award SEU £1800.

Annual Invoice for Website Services

The Council received an invoice for Website services for £250.00. Council members authorised for payment.

Annual Invoice for Parish Council Insurance

The Council received a quote from Zurich Insurance for our annual insurance. After a discussion members approved the quote and agreed to go with the option to continue with Zurich Insurance for a further three years.

24/25/038

Policing

A New Police and Crime Commissioner, Mr John Tizzard has been appointed for Bedfordshire. The Council received a letter from his office introducing him.

24/25/039

Residents Communications

Airport Parks Lighting

Cllr. Minnighan has been chasing Airport Parks about when they are going to carry out the lighting survey.

Dacorum Planning Application - 24/00782/FULL – demolition of existing buildings and construction of 7 dwellings with associated parking and landscaping

There is a planning application with Dacorum Borough Council for development of land adjacent to Pepperstock to build new homes. Slip End Parish Council are not consultees for this application as it falls under Dacorum and not Central Bedfordshire. After a discussion with Council members Slip End Parish Council agreed to object to the application for the following reasons:

The proposal would constitute inappropriate development in the Greenbelt and would be harmful to its openness.

The site is part of an Ancient Woodland designation where the soil itself, like Ancient Woodlands take hundreds of years to establish, are relatively undisturbed and support a complex soil ecology and residual seed bank that cannot be found in the soils of recently planted woodlands. For this reason, the habitat is considered irreplaceable and the

proposal would result in degradation of this habitat which would have an impact on the integrity of the wider Ancient Woodland.

The Clerk sent the objection to Dacorum Borough Council's Planning Department.

24/25/040 Luton Airport Expansion Update

No further updates.

24/25/041 Residents Permit Parking Consultation

The consultation is still with Central Bedfordshire Council.

24/25/042 80th Anniversary DD Celebrations – Saturday 8th June 2024

The Parish Council are looking forward to welcoming residents to the event. The event has been advertised with Slip End School, Social Media, Notice Boards and the District News.

24/25/043 Closing Comments

None

24/25/044 Date of next meeting

Monday 3rd June 2024 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall.

Appendix A

Slip End Parish Council BAC's Payment / Approval 13th May 2024

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Clerks Salary	April 24	£1287.01
Clerks Expenses	April 24	£113.70
Lansdowne Services	Gardening Contract - April 24	£946.96
SE Village Hall Committee	Hire of Hall for Parish Council Meetings 24/25	£440.00
SE Village Hall Committee	Hire of Hall 8/6/24 D Day Celebrations	£100.00
SE District Parish News	SE Parish Grant Scheme	£2800.00
SE Village Hall Committee	SE Parish Grant Scheme	£3945.00
SE Carpet Bowls Paid direct to Slip End Village Hall	SE Parish Grant Scheme	£750.00
Good Neighbourhood Scheme	SE Parish Grant Scheme	£1200.00
Vintage Party Services	Crockery D Day	£107.50
Quillations Website	Annual Hosting and Support May 24- April 25	£250.00
Leena Bains	Internal Audit 2023-2024	£115.00
Total BACS Payments for April 24		£ 12055.17 =====

All payments will be made by BACS from Unity Bank

Authorised:

Proposed: Cllr. C. Brennan

Seconded: Cllr. P. Shaw

Appendix B

CaSeBuG Report to Slip End Parish Council

The past twelve months has been very challenging, and our journey can be likened to a ride on a rollercoaster. We started the year promisingly, engaging with CBC Transport Officers on a revised and improved 232 mini-bus service, together with improvements to the levels of service on the 230 Centrebus route.

It was agreed by CBC Transport Officers that a revision of the 232 service was long overdue; but that revisions to that service were costing increases ranging from 50% to 250% more, depending upon the service provider. Such cost increases were not sustainable by the local authority who initially called a halt to all activity.

With the improvements to the 230 service, additional funding sources were required. We have been actively pursuing different funding avenues to support the service provider, Caddington Woods in order to provide enhancements. Mid-year we were faced with having to defend the services that we currently enjoy, let alone improvements, mainly due to Council budget deficits.

However, we managed to weather the storm of the threatened loss of transport budgets altogether, and alternative funding sources were brought into play by the CBC Executive in order to plug their budget deficit.

The year ended on a more promising note with possible enhancements to our services being back on the table. We are actively engaged with the Pan Bedfordshire Bus Users Group and have been invited to participate in forming a new CBC transport plan.

We still await responses to our requests for improvements to our services from CBC Transport Officers and will keep you informed as soon as information becomes available.

CASEBUG
May 2024