

Draft Minutes

Attendees: Councillors Palmer, Nokes, Shires, Short, Kitchingham. Ward Councillors Gearey & Hoskins. PCSO Huckle. Responsible Financial Officer & acting Clerk Will Pike. Village Caretaker and 14 Members of the public.

1.

1.1 RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Councillor Pearce

1.2 RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None

1.3 APPROVE MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING – Minutes signed off & approved by the Chair.

2.

2.1 CHAIRMANS REPORT –

The Chair made an announcement concerning the recent and unexpected resignation of the Interim Clerk.

The Chair spoke in fond and respectful remembrance of the late Mr Kevin Durkin, a good friend of the village and the parish council, and a close and treasured friend of many villagers. He will be sadly missed.

The Chair reported on the immediate proposed recruitment of a permanent Clerk/RFO, which has always been the intention as the previous Clerk was acting on an interim basis but was now brought forward due to the unexpected resignation.

2.2 CLERKS REPORT –

There was no Interim Clerks report due to his absence through resignation.

2.3 CARETAKERS REPORT –

The Caretaker reported that he and the interim Clerk had approached MKCC regarding the poor ditch maintenance along Gun Lane. He confirmed that this approach had been met with a favourable response, and that MKCC have already attended to carry out works on the ditch and have committed to further work to the ditch and associated drainage to be carried out in the future, some of which will require a brief road closure.

The Caretaker reported on the commemorative Oak tree planted for HM Queen Elizabeth's Jubilee, which had suffered drought damage previously, and subsequent further physical damage, meaning that it will need replacing.

The Caretaker reported on other matters, such as public benches, which require maintenance work going

forward. **3. PROJECT GROUP UPDATES** –

3.1 Warm Spaces

The Chair reported on the proposed 2 warm spaces events planned for the Village Hall on the 16 and 17 of February, designed to coincide with the school half term holiday.

3.2 Highways

Councillor Short reported that SPC are continuing to explore the possibilities of obtaining digital speed control cameras/signs to help with the ongoing problem of speeding through the village.

3.3 Landscaping

The Chair reported that a local contractor had been instructed to carry out the essential pruning work identified as being required in the village.

3.4 Section 106 projects

No report.

3.5 Budget

No update.

4. FINANCE

Balances on accounts as at 31/01/23:	Current Account:	£15,593
	Savings Account:	£4,308
	Total:	£19,901

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Chair reported that all extant and new planning applications had been reviewed by the council, and that no comment or concerns had been identified.

CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE AND NEW CONSULTATIONS

No topic raised.

EXTERNAL MEETINGS

No topic raised.

COUNCILLORS ITEMS

No topic raised.

RECEIVE WARD COUNCILLORS REPORT

The Ward Councillors reported on the recent litter pick at and around Chicheley roundabout.

The Ward Councillors reported on the information evening arranged by MKCC regarding the forthcoming change in the waste and recycling collection bins. They confirmed that those homes deemed unsuitable for the new multiple bin system would be provided with plastic sacks in the same colour ways as the new bins.

The Ward Councillors reported that MKCC have available a £50,000 pot which will be available for the parishes to bid for funding for King's Coronation celebrations.

RECEIVE PCSO REPORT

PCSO Huckle reported that there had been three crime reports: 1 Concern for Safety, 1 Harassment, and 1 Damage to motor vehicle.

PCSO Huckle reported that the PCSOs are now once again located in Newport Pagnell.

PCSO Huckle reported that the development of the old Newport Pagnell police station site has been designed to leave the old police station building within the new development, and that the building will be handed over to the Local Authority for community use.

PCSO Huckle encouraged the council and the public to ensure that any and all crimes are reported to enable the police and PSCO's to see that every crime is properly followed up and investigated.

RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENT

MOP expressed regret at the Interim Clerk's departure and gratitude for the work he had done for the village during his time in the post. The Chair confirmed SPC's agreement with these comments, particularly his unexpected departure from the post, but explained that the Interim Clerk had made his decision for personal reasons.

MOP raised the issue of drainage in Gun Lane, and the Village Caretaker gave a very detailed explanation of the issues he has discovered in his investigation of the problem, the location and the status of the work that has already been addressed with the help of MKCC, and the anticipated ongoing work.

MOP asked Councillor Shires if he had any further information or comment on the matter of permissive paths. Councillor Shires replied that at this time he did not.

MOP remarked that he had been unable to find any minutes referencing the funding of Squirrel Stores relative to SPC. Councillor Nokes advised that he investigate this.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING -14 March 2023