

MINUTES

For: Steppingley Parish Council
 Held on: Thursday, 4 June 2020
 Meeting at: Village Hall, Steppingley

PRESENT

Pauline Henninger
 Hugh Jackson (Chair)
 Melissa Jordan
 Marcus Webb
 Chris Wood
 Lionel Yarde
 Julie Todd (Clerk)

IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr Neil Bunyan - CBC
 Cllr Charles Gomm - CBC
 Cllr Gareth Mackey - CBC
 Helen Webb
 Jim Farnsworth
 Gary Brown

APOLOGIES

This meeting was held over the internet using Zoom due to COVID-19		
Agenda Item	APOLOGIES	ACTION
1.	None	
2.	MEMBERS' INTERESTS None	
3.	<p>CBC COUNCILLORS' REPORT</p> <p><u>Steppingley Crematorium</u> – Cllr Gomm reported proposal currently being considered by CBC Planning. Flitwick TC, Steppingley PC and residents will be given 21 days to submit any amendments to proposed scheme. Cllr Mackey reported that the CBC briefing has not happened to date. FTC and the three ward councillors are all opposed to the scheme. Assets Management, CBC are driving the proposal. CBC want to amalgamate small farms into larger, more viable units yet they are proposing a crematorium on farming land. DMC are currently meeting virtually and the question raised would/how would site visits be carried out in this current climate?</p> <p>Cllr Gomm suggested a follow up letter to Cllr Ghent with cc James Jamieson be sent by Hugh Jackson.</p> <p><u>Froghall Wood</u> – plans to open up area for development – housing, rugby club, crematorium. The surfacing of the new cycleway link through Froghall Wood is imminent.</p> <p><u>Fordfield Road Light</u> – Hugh Jackson reported that CBC acted very promptly.</p> <p><u>Highways</u> – work has continued (potholes, line painting, etc) during these times.</p>	HJ

	<u>Tidy Tip</u> – now open.	
4.	MINUTES OF 26 MARCH 2020 MEETING Approved and duly signed.	
5.	MATTERS ARISING To be covered in reports.	
6.	REPORTS a) Planning <u>CB/TCA/20/00229 Fell Fir tree Location: 15 Peakes End, Steppingley, Bedford, MK45 5AX</u> – no objections.	
	b) Highways <u>Radar Speed Signs</u> – company is currently in lockdown. Chris Wood has been in contact with CBC highways: 1) CBC will need to carry out a speed count to check average speed of vehicles. This will cost £300 – this expenditure was agreed unanimously. Siting would be on Flitwick Road between the 30mph sign and Old Chapel. A second check on Eversholt Road would cost an additional £300. 2) The verges are owned by CBC and therefore CBC Highways will install the signs. 3) September would be the earliest that this work will be undertaken. <u>20 mph Speed Limit</u> – Awaiting reply from CBC.	
	c) Footpaths, P3, Hedges, Trees & Conservation In this time of lockdown, there has been increased usage of the footpaths. An issue has been that people wander off the footpaths and around reservoir in particular. This has necessitated Adam Webb, Beckerings Farm putting up signs. Lionel Yarde contacted Michelle Flynn, RoW Officer, CBC which resulted in two tweets re respecting footpaths/row and a Facebook article. Reservoir bridge handrail is loose. Lionel Yarde has reported this. Gypsy Lane rubbish – Hugh Jackson reported to both CBC and police. Rectory Road hedge will be cut in the next couple of weeks.	
	d) SVA <u>Pavilion</u> – fire alarm inspection has been carried out. It was noted that the pavilion was looking rather unkempt at present. Gary Brown confirmed there are a few maintenance jobs outstanding. The pavilion is a community	

	building for the village and it was agreed that it should be a high priority once lockdown is lifted.	
	<p>e) Recreation Ground <u>Play Equipment</u> – Melissa Jordan confirmed that the new play equipment has been ordered. The train was installed today and the remainder should be fitted by mid July. The annual ROSPA inspection has been deferred until all the new equipment has been installed. BATPC have circulated guidance re play areas. There is a five step plan to opening.</p> <p><u>Recreation Ground</u> – Gary Brown, Steppingley Cricket Club said they want to make the grounds rabbit proof as they are damaging the surface. In order to do this, new fencing is required from the gate at The French Horn, across the back of the bungalows to Rectory Road. This work will cost in the region of £1,000. It was agreed SPC would contribute to the cost and the cricket club would submit a quote and Melissa Jordan would raise with the SVA.</p> <p>Horses on recreation ground – to be monitored.</p> <p>The French Horn using the corner of the recreation ground – Hugh Jackson to follow up with Jean Claude.</p>	Gary Brown MJ
	<p>f) Steppingley Profile Nothing to report.</p>	
	<p>g) Communications Village WhatsApp group is proving very successful. Melissa Jordan had received details of a new group Steppingley Neighbour. It was agreed MJ would forward details to Pauline Henninger for review.</p>	MJ/PH
	<p>h) Finance Finance spreadsheet was circulated prior to the meeting. Balances: Current Account: £6,445.21 Reserve Account: £11,453.34</p> <p>To pay: Action Play & Leisure Ltd £3,357 Fire & Security Solutions Ltd £144</p>	
7.	<p>2019/20 ACCOUNTS <u>Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/20</u> Internal audit has been completed and the return was circulated prior to the meeting. The Annual Governance statement and the Accounting Statements were unanimously approved.</p>	

8.	CORRESPONDENCE Distributed by email.	
9.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS <u>St Lawrence's Church</u> – replastering work should start 08/06/20.	
10.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING Thursday, 30 July 2020	

The above are considered a true and accurate account of the meeting.

Signed
Hugh Jackson (Chairman)

Date