STEPPINGLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

For: Steppingley Parish Council Held on: Tuesday, 30 January 2024

PRESENTIN ATTENDANCEAPOLOGIESPauline HenningerCllr Ian Adams - CBCChris Wood

Hugh Jackson (Chair) Marcus Webb Lionel Yarde Julie Todd (Clerk)

Agenda	Apologies for Absence			
Item				
1.	Apologies were received from Cllr Wood.			
2.	Members' Interests			
	None			
3.	CBC Councillors' Reports Ward Councillor Adams reported: Licencing – if a public body does not share information, how can objections be made? 2024/25 Budget – reserves of £94m have been depleted with overspend in current financial year. Children's has a £10m overspend with £6m being spent on transport. 2024/25 Precept – there will be a 5% increase. Ampthill Station – Wixams station is more likely. Ampthill Heights – a thousand trees have been felled due to potential flooding risks. This work was undertaken without			
	consultation. Flitwick Road Potholes – Cllr Adams to follow up with CBC Highways re potholes opposite Revelstoke. Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans – Cllr Webb attended a meeting re proposed new rural bike ways and raised concerns about suitability and whether it was a good use of CBC budget. Cllr Adams to investigate.	IA IA		
4.	Minutes of Last Meeting: 14/11/23 Cllr Webb proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Cllr Henninger seconded and it was unanimously agreed. Cllr Jackson signed the minutes.			
5.	Reports a. Planning Nothing to report. b. Highways - Flitwick Road – see (3) above.	CW		
	- Flitwick Road SID - is not working.	CW		

- Flitwick Road Narrow Road Sign - needs to be turned back.

c. Footpaths, P3, Hedges, Tree Warden & Conservation

- FP1 is closed.
- Inclusive Farm Ltd it is believed Mr and Mrs Duxbury have moved to Scotland. Councillors wondered whether the visits from MK College would continue and what the arrangements were for the animals. It was agreed the Clerk would contact MK College.

Clerk

d. SVA Liaison

- Quiz night was held at end of 2023.
- Village hall clock has now been fixed.
- Pavilion it was agreed a key pad system for the key would be beneficial.

e. Recreation Ground

- Rabbit fencing has been completed.
- Martin Staples has kindly replaced the new tree and been thanked.
- Play equipment it was agreed to include "life expectancy" on this year's safety inspection which will take place in March. It was agreed that at the meeting following the report, the future plan for the area would be discussed.

f. Steppingley Profile

It was agreed the Christmas lights on the tree on The French Horn triangle were very festive.

g. Communications

Nothing to report.

h. Finance

The financial spreadsheet was circulated prior to the meeting.

Accounts

Current Account	£18,521.17
Reserve Account	£0

Invoices paid/agreed for payment:

07/12/23	Tim	Cricket Ground Rabbit	£1,140.00
	Buckingham	Fencing	
29/11/23	Hugh	Tree Lights + Battery	£259.11
	Jackson		
31/12/23	Julie Todd	October-December	£464.10
		Salary + Back Pay	
31/12/23	HMRC	Clerk's Tax	£116.00
22/12/23	Fire &	Pavilion Alarm, Lighting +	£222.00
	Security	Extinguisher Servicer	
	Solutions	-	
Total			£2,201.21

- Unity Trust Bank – both accounts are now with Unity. It was agreed:

	 One authoriser for sums up to £1,000, two authorisers for sums over £1,000. to transfer £10,000 to the Reserve Account. 2024/25 Potential Spend – areas of potential spend identified: play equipment 			
	fencing around play areapicnic benches for Pavilion.	Clerk		
6.	Pavilion WiFi It was unanimously agreed to have WiFi installed at The Pavilion and it was hoped this would encourage future bookings. The PC would bear the cost of £30 pm (Gigaclear are waiving activation fee).	Clerk/PH		
7.	Correspondence Distributed by email. CBC Biodiversity Initiatives 16/10/24 – it was agreed to sign up for No Mow May and Wildflower Verges.	Clerk		
8.	Matters to be Brought Forward to Next Meeting None			
9.	Date and Time of Next Meeting Tuesday, 12 March 2024 @ 7.30 pm in the village hall.			

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

Signed	 	 	 	
Data				