



GREAT DENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Great Denham Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 1st July 2019 in Great Denham Community Hall, 86-88 Saxon Way, Great Denham, MK40 4GP

Present: Parish Councillors

Donna Parsons (DP) - Chair; Steve Gallagher (SG); Michael Cuthbertson (MC); Jo Ruskin (JR); Chris Slinn (CSL); Chris Staite (CST)

Borough Councillor

Jim Weir (JW)

Parish Clerk

Anna O'Meara (AOM)

Members of the Public

One in attendance

		<u>Action</u>
	The meeting was adjourned for public questions as follows: 3 questions had been received by email; it was agreed to address these in this section of the meeting. 1. <u>Parking around Community Hall.</u> Resident had expressed concerns over parking on roads outside Community Hall and discussion at previous meeting on potential parking restrictions/control; they were concerned that objective was fund raising rather than safety. It was noted that Hall users do not always use the car park at rear of the Hall and this could be better sign-posted and utilised. It was also recognised that road parking on Saxon Way can be an issue, also people parking on pavements and the entrance to Danegeld Avenue; it was a concern that the situation is likely to deteriorate when the building work is completed and more houses are occupied. Councillors stated to reassure resident concerns that any restrictions would not be 24/7, that fundraising is not the priority driving any decision, it is road safety for both residents and Hall/Nursery users. Traffic/Parking is an agenda item. 2. <u>Pedestrian/Cycle Bridge planned – update from DWH</u> Resident asked on latest status re the pedestrian/cycle bridge as planning application for this was withdrawn by DWH, although S106 has provision of c.£400k for this project. It was noted that the Parish Council had objected previously to the plans and planning application, as they believe the £400k could be better utilised to provide other services, however, Kempston Town Council had been adamant that the bridge should be built. It was not clear why the planning application was withdrawn, although noted that a significant number of Kempston residents had objected to the planning application. This will be raised at next meeting with DWH (in diary for 19th July). JW will also speak to Borough Councillor for Kempston to get his views/support. 3. <u>Update on road adoption</u> The Council has received an outline adoption timeframe for roads in Great Denham. Greenkeepers is currently in 12-month pre-adoption maintenance phase. The issues raised by resident (blocked drains, streetlights not working, wooden bollards) have all been raised with DWH, awaiting response. It was noted that the role held by Ian Bennett had not been replaced and residents (and Parish Council) have been asked to record all issues with the DWH Customer Service team so that they are logged and tracked. Clerk will load map showing adoption phases to website, and DWH will be asked for updates at next liaison meeting (19th July). There were no further questions and the meeting was reopened.	JW Clerk
1.	<u>Apologies</u>	

	<u>Controlled Parking outside Community Hall/Toybox Nursery.</u> (see also response to question raised in Public Questions above). The Clerk confirmed that she had written to both Toybox and the Community Hall for information on any parking issues/concerns and also peak parking times/use of parking spaces by Parents and Hall hirers (respectively); a response has been received from the Manager of the Hall, which has suggested that use of the car park at rear of hall could be improved, and providing info on hire durations. There are occasional hires which go beyond 3 hours, most typically at weekends (parties/weddings) but also some evenings. Council discussed options in terms of possible timeframes for controlled parking (e.g. 8am to 10pm) and whether this would provide the necessary flexibility for both parents and hall users. It was noted that currently most concerns raised to the Council are about parking on the roads and not necessarily the spaces outside the Hall, however, the Council is aware of the potential future impact of the new housing on parking and also the impact that any potential CPZ at the Retail centre would have on these parking spaces. Whilst we now have some costings, the outcome from discussion was not to implement anything at this time; we will however seek to improve signage to the Car Park at the rear of the Hall. Resolved: Clerk to establish options/costs re signage outside the Hall re Hall Car Park, and to write to Hall Trustees to ask them to discuss at next Management Committee meeting and come up with options to address, as a joint approach. <u>No Pavement/No Verge Parking – Cantley Road and Danegeld Avenue.</u> This has been discussed at length at previous Council meetings and costs have been received; the Council has sufficient budget provision for this work. Resolved: it was agreed to implement No Pavement/No Verge Parking on Cantley Road/Danegeld Avenue and roads off (subject to suitability following survey); work to be done once building work completed and Danegeld Avenue is re-opened (timing to be reviewed in November in line with expected completion of building works). Budget was approved for this work. <u>Lindsey Close – issues raised by residents</u> The Council met with residents and the Highways Officer on 4th June to discuss concerns and options available. We are awaiting response from Highways Officer before deciding on any changes which might be made. <u>Community Speedwatch Vehicle/Speedwatch</u> It was noted that the Council has already requested the use of the Community Speedwatch vehicle (April meeting). We are still waiting to hear back from the Borough Council re this. We can also apply to the Police Speedwatch activity which can be manned by volunteers – anyone caught speeding via this will receive a letter from the Police. Resolved: It was agreed to apply for Speedwatch; Clerk to ask for further information in order to gauge interest from residents.	Clerk
		Clerk
7.	<u>Local services</u> a) <u>Update on Village Medical Centre/new GP contract</u> A Stakeholder Briefing has been received to confirm that a new permanent contract for GP Services is now in place at the Village Medical Centre, wef 1 July 2019. It was also noted that, after many years of extension of planning, the external cladding had now been done. b) <u>HMO Survey (Houses of Multiple Occupancy)</u> The Council has responded to previous consultations to request the inclusion of adequate parking provision as a future criterion for licensing. This is an opportunity to re-iterate these concerns in the current survey. Resolved: The Council response to the survey agreed, to include previous comments re parking and also impact on other infrastructure services to be taken into consideration (e.g. GP services, schools etc).	Clerk

8.	<u>Community Events and Engagement – Community Garden</u> JR reported that she and MC had had a positive meeting with a member of the Community Team from BBC re converting the village green off Kingswood Way into a Community Garden; it was noted that Claire from the Borough Council has been very helpful and responsive since the meeting. Clerk has written to the School inviting them to get involved, and has also received expressions on interest from a number of residents. Initial thoughts are for an informal space that with wildlife-friendly planting, benches, picnic tables, a sculpture and a permanent pathway from the Park and Ride across to the Pedestrian Crossing. Based on some initial research (path £6500, Bulb planting @ £35/m², benches/picnic tables @c.£500 each) an estimated budget of £10,000 to £15,000 may be required; this would use some of the monies due from the CIL payment expected later in the year. JW advised that applications for Highways/Green space contribution from the Ward fund close on 13th September. Resolved: it was agreed to set up a working group to develop and manage the project. DP, JR and SG will sit on this, the school has been invited to send a representative. Resolved: a provisional budget of £15k was agreed, to come from CIL monies. Clerk to confirm necessary process to ensure compliance with CIL requirements. Resolved: Clerk to apply for funding for Pathway from Ward Fund, in liaison with JW.	DP/JR/SG Clerk Clerk/JW
9.	<u>Code of Conduct/Ethics</u> Resolved: it was agreed to defer this item to a future meeting, as the event at Bedford Borough Council has been moved to 23rd July 2019.	
10.	<u>Planning/Infrastructure</u> – Bedford Borough Council Statement of Community Involvement Consultation Parish Councils are statutory consultees for all relevant planning applications. It was noted that this consultation is open until 5pm 25th July 2019. Councillors may respond to this consultation as private individuals.	
11.	<u>Borough Councillors Report</u> JW gave a report on the following items – a copy of the report is attached with the minutes. • Roadworks – he has received a number of complaints about the number and timing of roadworks in Bedford and surrounding areas. • Black Cat Roundabout upgrade and new bypass – current consultation ends 28th July 2019. • Statement of Community Involvement Consultation – see above • Bedfordshire Police Grant - £800k grant received to tackle gun, gang and knife crime. • Mental Health Resource for Children and Young People – new online mental health resource “Kooth” (https://www.kooth.com/) • Ward Fund – application deadlines/details • “Shared Lives” Initiative – provision of short- or long-term care support for individuals with adult learning disabilities. • Over 70s Exercise Classes – sessions include archery and table tennis at cost of £4 per session, held at the Athletics Stadium, Bunyan Centre and Bedford Central Library. • Boundary Commission review – a meeting has been arranged with the chairs of Stagsden, Turvey, Kempston Rural and Great Denham Parish Councils to discuss views and options on potential changes to ward boundaries. There will be a timetable for consultation in due course.	
12.	<u>Finance and Clerk’s Report</u> a) <u>Finance Report & payments</u> – signature of cheques/initial invoices/approve & initial Bacs payments	

	The Finance Report had been circulated and a copy is attached to these minutes. All receipts were available for inspection Resolved: All payments were approved and all Bacs payments approved by two councillors were initialled together with the invoices. b) <u>Quarterly Financial Checks</u>. SG confirmed that he had completed the check for June and all was in order. Resolved: Quarterly financial Check for June completed satisfactorily. c) <u>HSBC Banking</u>. The Council's banking arrangements with HSBC are working well and the signatories will be updated following resolution at last meeting. Resolved: Council agreed to continue current banking arrangements with HSBC. Updated Local Authority Mandate to be completed by Clerk and returned to Bank, along with signatory information. d) <u>Website Accessibility</u>: The Council must ensure that its website complies with the new requirements on Accessibility (The Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No.2) Accessibility Regulations 2018). This must be done by September 2020. The Clerk has identified a training webinar on this topic. Resolved: SLCC webinar for Clerk on this topic approved. e) <u>Clerking cover for October meeting</u> – a Clerk from an adjoining parish is available to cover the issue of the summons/agenda, the meeting and minute taking for the October meeting; costs will be at same hourly rate as permanent Clerk, paid hourly with estimate of 10-15 hours work. Resolved: Cover agreed, Clerk to make necessary arrangements. f) <u>Update on previous actions</u>: Clerk provided verbal update on any actions from previous meetings not covered by agenda items. Attached to these minutes.	
13.	Correspondence All correspondence was available at the meeting and a list is attached to these minutes. Resolved: No correspondence required discussion.	
14.	<u>Any other business – for exchange of information only</u> • CST reported that he had visited the Police Control room as a member of Streetwatch and had found it very informative. • DP reported that she had been contacted by Aldwyck Housing re youth activities but had received no further follow up. She has passed details to JW for any BBC involvement. • SG reported on a complaint he had received from a resident re the lifebelt by the river, which he has forwarded to James Lynch at the Borough Council. • MC reported that the railings provided by the developer along the new build area from Retail Centre to Country Park (Footpath 1 route) look out of place, as there are different styles on Left- and Right-hand side of the area. • The next Litter Pick will take place at the Community Hall on Sunday 7th July 2019 at 10am.	
	There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.50pm	