



**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on
Tuesday 9th February 2021**

This was a meeting held under the Covid-19 Regulations

Present: Cllrs Usherwood (Chairman), Horn, Vane, O’Driscoll, Dunne, Gordon, Heath
K Gray (Clerk to the Council)

2 Members of the Public Cllr Mrs J Brandis (Bucks Council)
C Lambert (Bucks Herald)

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive and accept apologies for absence notified to the Chairman or Clerk
All councillors present

2. Declarations of Interest

To receive any pecuniary or non-pecuniary declarations of interest

To grant any requests for pecuniary declaration dispensation as appropriate

- No dispensations requested.
- Cllrs Vane and Dunne declared an interest in planning application 20/04303/APP and Cllr Horn declared an interest in planning applications 21/00220/APP and 21/00360/AGN.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting 12th January 2021

RESOLVED: To accept and sign the minutes of 12/1/21 as a true record.

4. Clerk’s Report

To receive a report from the Clerk on matters dealt with and taking forward for the parish council.

The clerk reminded councillors that election packs had been sent to them and if they are considering standing again for the parish council then there is a timescale for completing the forms. The elections will take place on 6/5/21 and the first meeting of the newly elected parish council will be arranged for Tuesday 25th May 2021.

The last meeting of the current parish council will be the Annual Parish Meeting arranged for 13th April 2021.

RESOLVED: The Chairman to adjourn the meeting to receive questions from the public and receive any reports/questions from cllrs on matters relating to council business.

5. Questions from the public & any reports/questions from Councillors on matters not already listed on the agenda.

- Mr M Lambert spoke in respect of his planning application for agricultural/livestock buildings for Starveall Farm. He answered questions from the parish councillors concerning his application.
- Mrs C Lambert raised, again, the bad state of the roads within the parish as well as excess dog mess and litter.
- Cllr Mrs J Brandis (Bucks Councillor) gave an update on the repairs that had taken place on Upton Road as well as explain why some repairs could not be carried out due to the weather conditions. She also gave an update on her discussions with planning offers regarding the enforcement of planning breaches listed at item 13 of the agenda. She also spoke on the confusion around Bucks Councillors not knowing which areas and parishes they represent and hoped a list could be issued by Bucks Council to clear this matter up.
- Cllr Dunne reported concerns on the bad state of the roads in the area as well as excess litter and dog fouling. She also reminded councillors that she had reported the horse manure heap in the field on the Bucks Council “Fix-my-Street” system but had received a message that this matter was now closed. Other councillors, including Cllr Mrs Brandis, stated that this was still a concern and that it needed reporting to the Environment Agency. She agreed to raise the matter with the Cabinet Member at Bucks Council as well as officers and report back to the Clerk for any further action required by the parish council.
- Mr H Eccles spoke in respect of his planning application for Pond Cottage. He answered questions from the parish councillors concerning his application.
- Cllr Vane asked for articles for the Bigg Issue. She said the finance report had been received late.
- Cllr Heath also supported comments relating to the bad state of the roads, excess litter and increase in dog fouling.
- Cllr Horn reported that sewage pipes had been blocked in Ford, causing problems. Excess water had not helped the situation and that Thames Water should be contacted to investigate the sewage pipes as they may need cleaning out. He also reported on a resident raising concerns about the gate on the playground.
- Cllr Usherwood reported that the planning application for Rose Cottage had been withdrawn and also asked if Bucks Council could be contacted regarding the proposal for an antenna on Oxford Road. Cllr Mrs Brandis said she would speak to the planning department and obtain information on the process for this and whether Bucks Council have been made aware of this proposal.

RESOLVED: The Chairman to re-convene the meeting under Standing Orders

6. Finances and Orders for Payment

RESOLVED: Agree to pay the following orders and retrospective orders for payment presented by the RFO and/or Clerk

• Eon	Utilities	£9.77	100980
• PKF Littlejohn	Annual Audit	£240.00	100981
• Mr S Webb	Tree Works/Spinney	£75.00	100984
• Mrs J Turner	Finance Officer	£480.00	100985

RESOLVED: To receive, and agree, the monthly finance report to 21/1/21 from the Finance Officer & RFO.

7. Community Led Plan

To receive any updates on the plan from Cllr Dunne.
No meetings taking place at the moment.

8. Devolved Services

To receive any reports, if available, and agree any specific actions in relation to devolved services.
All works continue as agreed.

9. Playground Repairs

To receive a report, from Cllr Horn, on the playground repairs and agree any further spend for maintenance or replacement equipment, as required.

There was some discussion on the matter of the gate not closing properly, allowing dogs to enter. Cllr Horn reminded Members that responsible dog owners would not allow their dogs into the play area and he assured the council that many of the RoSPA annual audit repairs had been carried out and some further minor maintenance repairs were to be completed and the gate would be looked at in due course.

10. Roads & General Maintenance

Any specific matters for discussion relating to road maintenance concerns raised with the County Council and other stakeholders.

As reported in the public section of the meeting, there is still a lot of concern about the bad state of the roads, potholes, drains and ditches not being cleared as well as the excess litter and dog fouling. Concerns were also raised about professional dog walker using the parish field and some have up to 5 dogs at a time – concerns raised that often dog mess is not being picked up.

11. Parish Charter

Council to consider and agree to signing up to the Buckinghamshire Council Parish Charter. Charter copied to all parish councillors.

After lengthy discussion about the real need for Bucks Council to engage better with, and value and understand the role parish councils have, it was agreed that this was a positive start to changing culture in the higher authority and the parish council agreed to sign up to the Buckinghamshire Council Parish Charter.

RESOLVED: To sign and agree the Buckinghamshire Parish Charter.

12. Haddenham to Aylesbury Cycleway Proposal/Project

To discuss the latest updates on the above scheme and make appropriate decisions if needed.

Cllr Usherwood gave some background information on the Haddenham group involved with the proposed cycleway project running from Aylesbury to Thame. It was agreed that the parish councillors would be alert to any further information or consultation on this project and that the Haddenham Community Board should be attended every time to ensure we were up to date on any new proposals.

13. Planning Enforcement

Council to receive an update on the enforcement, by Buckinghamshire Council Planning Enforcement Officers, of specific planning breaches raised by the Parish Council.

1. Willow farm, Ford 20/00261/C0N3
2. Ford field, Main Road, Ford - 19/00304/C0N3
3. Land between Hare Folly and Westlington Cottage, Gibraltar, 15/00448/C0N3
4. Shepherds Hut, Gibraltar - 20/00456/C0NB
5. Woodland East of the Spinney, Ford - 20/00484/C0N3

Discussion took place on the above list of enforcement matters still to be resolved. Cllr Mrs J Brandis has had further discussions with planning officers and has expressed to Bucks Council planning officers that they need to deal, urgently, with the above to resolve the issues of concern.

There was also a discussion on a recent planning breach matter which Cllr Horn and local residents had highlighted to Buckinghamshire Council Cabinet Member for Planning, Cllr Warren Whyte and senior planning officers. The parish council was asked to also voice their concerns by way of a letter to Cllr Whyte to highlight the inconsistencies of planning procedures, policy, approach and dealing with planning breaches.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to Cllr Warren Whyte (Cabinet Member for Planning) and explain the particular issues raised by Cllr Horn and local residents, and ask Cllr Whyte to investigate the matter thoroughly.

14. Planning Applications

To receive, comment and to either object, support or oppose the following planning applications:

To accept and consider late applications presented by the Clerk.

To note any applications (decisions made and to be made) delegated to Councillors.

Cllrs Vane and Dunne did not take part in the discussion or decision on planning application 20/04303/APP

- **20/04303/APP**

Pasture Farm, School Lane, Dinton

Landscape works are proposed to update the gardens around the house and incorporate an outdoor swimming pool within the back garden. Part of the works include the repair and renovation of an existing outbuilding to create a studio and the installation of a small, timber clad garden machinery store on the footings of an old pigsty.

RESOLVED: No Objections

- **21/00136/ALB**

Rose Cottage, 1 High Street, Dinton

Two storey side extension

RESOLVED: No decision to make as the applicant has withdrawn the planning application

Signed: _____ Date: _____