

Minutes of the Caddington Parish Council Meeting held at Heathfield Centre on 12th June 2023



Present: Parish Councillors M Russell (Chair), M Tomlin, V Malone (also CBC Ward Cllr), A Palmer, H Palmer, R Catford, M Mackey, B Fitzsimmons, Clerk L Heartfield, CBC Ward Cllr K Collins, 27 members of public

Public participation:

- Heathfield Close (close to no 14) tree roots need rubbing out. Cllr Tomlin to check on walkabout.
- Heathfield Close residents now parking in the road so no new hardstanding needed.
- Kissing gate towards Slip End unsafe. Cllr Tomlin to check on walkabout.
- Recent verge cut by CBC unsatisfactory and very untidy.
- School sign in Elm Avenue needs adjusting. Cllr Tomlin to check on walkabout.
- Traffic management on Dunstable Road need repainting as not visible. Cllr Tomlin to check on walkabout.
- Folly Lane needs a bridleway sign.

23/24/43 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received.

23/24/44 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Russell declared an interest in payments for authorisation (agenda item 23/24/58).

23/24/45 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 15th May 2023 were a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

23/24/46 PROGRESS UPDATE FROM LAST MEETING – for information only

- UK Power Networks:
 - Lamp post on Dunstable Road near scout hut – UPN can't find the fault. Will visit again end of this week, beginning of next. Clerk to request that Traffic Management doesn't cause safety issues for users of the Scout Hut.
 - Old substation at the end of Ledwell Road – Clerk has been advised that there is an option to use the land under licence. Awaiting cost and whether fences can be removed.
 - An application for a new power supply in Edgecote Park has been submitted – awaiting response.
- Flood Kit: Has been ordered expecting to receive equipment worth £1800 including aqua sacs.
- Villager of the Year: Deadline is 30/6/2023.
- Chequers Public House: Current landlord leaves on Sunday 18th June. A card from the Parish Council has been sent. The new Landlady may take some holiday and the Pub may be shut for a short time.
- Road Closures – Circulated and notices displayed. Some are for August and times and days may change.
- Hyde Road CCTV quote for £850 received.
- Parish staff phone contract with 02 is up for renewal. New contract price with 02 is £22 per month.
- Long grass at Rushmore Park reported. Cllr Malone has chased. The Diocese are awaiting a new contractor.

23/24/47 ELECTION OF PLANNING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN & DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

It was **RESOLVED** that **Andy Palmer** be elected Chairman of the Planning Committee for the forthcoming year and he duly signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

23/24/48 CADDINGTON WATCH & POLICE

The Clerk had circulated Police crime data spreadsheet link to Cllrs. There had been 13 offences reported since the last meeting. Cllr Fitzsimmons read out the full crime statistic report from CaddWatch which had been forwarded to Councillors.

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23/24/49 CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

Ward Cllr Malone gave the a flooding update:

- Had received a briefing of the flooding history and possible solutions from the CBC Flood Risk Manager. CBC are seeking a government grant to purchase a hydraulic model to reproduce flooding events and simulate different response scenarios.
- CBC are working on a flood reduction plan, which covers from the start towards the golf course where the flash flooding gains momentum as water from surrounding fields joins the flow. Blocked gullies and culverts in Mancroft cause them to act like a funnel and by the time it reaches Aley Green the water overflows causing severe flash flooding damaging homes and garages.
- CBC are hoping to install a new holding tank at the far end of the bridleway, plus install 3 large V neck weirs which will slow the speed as the water builds up. This is dependent on land owners permission, but looks viable. Highways have instructed a new contractor (Milestone) to cost the work, ready for financial approval in September and completion early next year.
- CBC will reprofile the large culvert behind 48 Mancroft to prevent water scouring the banks, gouging it out and causing gaps which allows flood water to escape. This will also remove excavated earth left from previous works. These deposits are carried by the floodwater and further block the culverts and drains.
- A capital scheme to redesign the head wall and the bank is now needed as overdue maintenance has been left too long. There isn't one solution alone for the Aley Green end of Mancroft. The flood can be managed from the top end of Mancroft/The bridleway but 4 or 5 other flood areas have joined it by the time it gets to Aley Green and these all need to be looked at as a whole.
- The flood risk team will continue to investigate and suggest solutions but it's Highways that have the budget to carry out the works.

Ward Cllr Collins reported the following:

- Slip End PC have formed a Flooding Committee and they would like Caddington PC to join to facilitate co-ordinated responses to flooding events.
- Cllr Collins has written to Ian Berry Assistant Director of Assets at CBC regarding funding for the Heathfield Centre development.
- Abbey Mill have withdrawn from the project on the land adjoining Dunstable Road to the rear of the Scout Hut. He advised Cllr Palmer to expect a reserved matters approval application which will look the same as previously proposed.

23/24/50 CaSeBuG

The 230 service continues to run well apart from illegal parking at the bus stop outside the shops in Caddington. This holds up the bus and causes further problems as it waits in the road. A passenger was injured as they were unable to safely alight from the bus on to the pavement. There have been reports of problems navigating *legally* parked cars in Elm Avenue. The 231 is not used as much as there is no return journey in the afternoon.

There has still been no response from Central Bedfordshire Council regarding bus services. Cllr Collins offered to chase, CASEBUG to send latest requests to him.

23/24/51 HEATHFIELD DEVELOPMENT

Adrian Davey Managing Director at New Vista Homes to arranging a meeting to update Cllr Malone as a new Councillor. Cllr Malone has also discussed the project with senior members and staff at Central Bedfordshire Council. Cllr Collins has written to Ian Berry Assistant Director of Assets.

23/24/52 CADDINGTON SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

Cllr Tomlin reported that the club are proceeding with a formal planning application for new changing rooms as soon as the design has been agreed with the Football Foundation, who are anticipated to be a major contributor towards the financing of the project. Cllr Palmer advised that the club should emphasise exceptional circumstances when making this application.

23/24/53 HERITAGE GREENWAY

The Clerk had circulated an update from Colette Holt, Definitive Map Officer which shows 4 updated plans with some slight amendments. Cllr Collins questioned Ms Holt's understanding that CaSE Trust would be compensating landowners. **It was AGREED** that the Clerk will forward update to Cllr Collins.

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23/24/54 CADDINGTON ALLOTMENTS AND LEISURE GARDENS

The Allotments Committee have found a committee member to take over the allotment administration. The Caddington Clerk will only need to contact plot holders regarding unkempt plots. The Committee wish to seek compensation from Thames Water for soil testing next year and for bringing back unused overgrown plots left after the sewage leak. Cllr Palmer asked about bonfires; why is a fire needed? what is being burnt? could the waste be shredded instead? Finally the access track from Dunstable Road into the allotments is in a poor condition, deep ruts have formed either side of the track.

It was AGREED that the Clerk will; seek compensation; contact the Allotment Committee Chairman regarding bonfires and obtain quotes to repair access track.

23/24/55 PARISH EVENTS AND EQUIPMENT

The Clerk circulated the costs of a new marquee to match the existing, two carrying bags and two anchor kits. Cllr Tomlin asked the Council to consider purchasing a new marquee to prevent last minute hire costs as with the Coronation event. Cllr Russell said that the Parish could borrow the marquee belonging to CaSE trust although it wasn't exactly same size. Raymond Gill offered to fund the cost of the new marquee.

It was AGREED to accept Mr Gill's offer and purchase a new marquee (£555.00) and for the Parish to purchase the two carrying bags and two anchor kits (£217.98).

23/24/56 PLANNING ISSUES

CB/23/01720/GPDE Oakfield Farm, Luton Road, Caddington, Luton, LU1 4AD

Prior Notification of Householder Extension: Single storey rear extension, 8m beyond the rear wall of the original dwelling, maximum height of 3m & 3m to the eaves. No comment as GPDE.

CB/23/01609/FULL 42 The Crescent, Caddington, Luton, LU1 4JA

Part proposed, part retrospective detached outbuilding, front porch extension and boundary fencing. No objection.

Luton Rising Airport expansion - Notice of Acceptance for Development Consent
STRONGLY OBJECT on grounds previously discussed e.g. Noise and pollution.

CB/23/01469/FULL Sunnyside, Pipers Lane, Aley Green, Luton, LU1 4DS

Retrospective extension and change of use to existing stables, double garage & woodshed into an office & workshop space for a watch repair business (Class E). Officer decision as retrospective.

Luton Council Consultation Memo for 23/00630/REM Land Adjacent Junction 10 To 10A M1, Newlands Road
STRONGLY OBJECT on grounds of ribbon development; insufficient road infrastructure causing traffic jams etc; development on green belt; contravenes the Luton Plan.

23/24/57 CORRESPONDENCE – for information only

A list of correspondence this month had been circulated to councillors for information before the meeting.

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23/24/58 AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

It was **RESOLVED** by full council to authorise the following accounts for online payment.

Date	Payable to:	Payment Details	Total
26/05/2023	Dees Harpenden Ltd	AUTHORISATION ONLY (Paid last month) VAT for Marquee hire for Coronation Event	£ 100.00
01/06/2023	Village Garden Services	Ground maintenance	£ 801.74
01/06/2023	Castle Water	Allotment water supply	£ 46.21
13/06/2023	L Heartfield	Salary	£1,656.59
13/06/2023	Beds Pension Fund	Pension	£ 782.64
13/06/2023	HMRC	Tax NI	£ 815.40
13/06/2023	L Heartfield	Reimbursement New clerk office furniture	£ 66.99
13/06/2023	L Heartfield	Reimbursement SLCC New Clerk Training Session 2	£ 24.00
13/06/2023	L Heartfield	Reimbursement SLCC ILCA Clerk qualification	£ 144.00
13/06/2023	Village Garden Services	Parish Warden Cover May	£1,056.00
13/06/2023	Andrew Shaw Computer Services	Microsoft 365 & Virus checker (Inv 220252)	£ 21.38
13/06/2023	Andrew Shaw Computer Services	Bitdefender Mobile - Annual cost (Inv 220259)	£ 15.00
13/06/2023	Heathfield Centre	Printing costs Villager Mag May edition	£ 500.00
24/06/2023	O2	Clerk & Warden phones	£ 71.20
28/06/2023	James Macpherson	CCTV service contract	£ 200.00
30/06/2023	Unity Trust Bank	Service Charge	£ 28.65
		Total	£6,329.80

Public participation:

- Is there an update from the tree inspection at the Lodge? Report received from Andy Jones CBC that the four trees should be pollarded but should remain.
- Has Mallard Crescent, Caddington Woods been adopted by CBC? Cllr Collins to confirm.

Public meeting closed at 8.38pm

23/24/59 Co-option of new Councillors

Deferred to the next full Council meeting on Monday 10th July 2023.

Meeting closed at 9.08pm