Parish Council
Thursday 17-Jun-2021 @ 18:30
Dave Law Sports Pavilion, Park Crescent, Stewartby

MINUTES

1: Apologies
None

2: Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda
None

3: To Consider any applications for dispensation
None

4: Public Participation
One member of the public who has expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council was in attendance.

5: Minutes of the previous meeting

6: Matters arising from previous minutes
The Clerk read out an e-mail from Cllr Hill explaining how the Covid figures are calculated. Cllr Hill also provided details of the process to apply for monies from the Ward Fund.

Update on C94 – the remaining parts of the C94 will be resurfaced later this year as part of the resurfacing programme. If there are particular concerns about some of the potholes being dangerous then these should be reported to the Bedford Borough Council. They will be looked at to determine whether they need to be temporarily repaired.

7: Chairman's Report
Cllr Symonds advised the meeting that he had met with Warner's today as the Council is unhappy about the deterioration in the standard of work.

He advised that he had also attended a meeting at the Village Hall with a company to look at the heating.

Cllr Symonds advised that painting had started at the Village Hall. The walls have been sealed with a special paint. The guttering near the defibrillator needs to be repaired. He also advised that there was a blockage in the ladies/disabled toilets and it appears that the drain may have collapsed. This will need further investigation and repair.

Cllr Symonds advised that a False Widow Spiders nest had been found at the Sports Pavilion. This will need to removed.

8: Report from Bedford Borough Council
The Council considered Cllr Tim Hill's report

9: Clerk's Financial Report
9.1 Authorise payments for BACS transfer
The Clerk advised the meeting of the invoices that were due to be paid and talked them through the report.

9.2 Accounts
The balances of the Parish Council and Sports Fields account were shared with members.

9.3 Internal Audit Report
The report from the Internal Auditor was shared with members. The Clerk highlighted the main areas of concern and advised that they were similar to those raised the previous year. The Clerk advised that a meeting has been arranged with the Internal Auditor on 21st June 2021 to talk about quarterly internal audits and to ascertain the cost of this.

9.4 2020-21 Accounts
The 2020-21 Accounts and Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) was presented by the Clerk.

10: Quotations for authorisation
10.1 Pest Control quotes for the Village Hall and Sports Pavilion:

As no further quotes were presented to date

10.2 Remembrance

10.3 Replacement Laptop

10.4 Village Hall Drains

10.5 Quotes from Timberplay

10.6 Hydroboil for Sports Pavilion

10.7 Training
The Clerk highlighted some options for ROSPA training for routine inspections of play areas.

11: 11.1 Planning Applications

Planning Reference: 21/01200/ Erection of new outbuilding/store in rear garden at 6 Stewartby Way, Stewartby, Bedford MK43 9LJ amened/additional plans received.

Planning Reference: 21/01239/FUL Full Planning Application for one and two storey side and rear extensions and widening of drive and crossover at 6 Stewartby Way, Stewartby, Bedford MK43 9LJ. Amended/additional plans received.

Planning Reference: 21/00171/FUL Full Planning Application for removal of single storey side extension and conservatory and erection of one and two storey side and rear extensions. Retention of roof light in rear elevation at 7 Stewartby Way, Stewartby, Bedford MK43 9LJ

The Clerk advised that a notice of planning application for the installation of ground mounted solar PV array and associated infrastructure on land at Stewartby landfill had been received.

12: Amenities

12.1 Highways/Lighting
Cllr Rogers raised a concern about the hanging basket covering the “Low Bridge Sign”
Cllr Symonds advised that he has a meeting with Gareth Turner to discuss some concerns.

12.2 Recreation Area
None

12.3 Newsletter
The deadline for the next newsletter is 2nd July. The following articles were agreed:
• Marston Vale Community Rail Partnership – Clerk to follow up
• Room hire at the Sports Pavilion – Cllr Law
• Art packs for the Lower School – Cllr Law
• Stewartby Football Team – Cllr Birch
• What’s on information – Clerk
• Covanta – Cllr Symonds to follow up
• Article by Cllr Banks to be decided

12.4 Sports Field

12.5 Village Hall

12.6 Policing
None

13: Outdoor Gym Project

14: Ward Fund

Cllr Symonds to follow up application for the Ward Fund for a contribution towards the outdoor gym.

15: Policies for Approval

15.1 Sickness Absence Policy

16: Running Club

17: Sports Pavilion Opening
Arrangements for the Sports Pavilion opening on the 9th July 2021 as subject to change in light of the current Covid restrictions that have been extended to the 19th July 2021. Cllr Law to advise members once she has further information.

18: Community Events
The Clerk presented information about holding an Outdoor Cinema on the August Bank Holiday weekend. The cost of the screen is £1,500 plus VAT and approximately £139 per film.

The following will form an Events Committee to organise this event:
- Cllr Melville
- Cllr Barrett
- Clerk
- Lizzie

19: Personnel
The Clerk raised concerns about the status of the litter picker and advised that he should be an employee to ensure that he is adequately covered by insurance and that we are meeting our obligations to HMRC.

Cllr Melville advised that we had received a good response to the advert for someone to deliver the newsletters. He has asked someone to do a trial in July.

20: Close of Meeting and items for the next Agenda
- Parish Council Surgeries
- Co-opt New Councillor
- Parish Council Surgeries

Meeting closed at 10.15 pm

21: Date and Time of Next Meeting
Parish Council Meeting: Thursday 15th July 2021 @ 7.15 pm