

## **STEEPLE MORDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Steeple Morden Cricket Pavilion on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 7.00pm**

**Present:** Councillors: J Clayton (Chairman), K Austin, M Bird, N Badger, S Traverse-Healy, O Parsons, C Upchurch, M Carroll, N Sharkey

In attendance: Mrs S Walmesley (Clerk) with no members of the public.

#### **1 Apologies for absence, declarations under the code of conduct and requests for dispensations**

All Parish Councillors were in attendance.

Cllr Traverse-Healy declared a non pecuniary interest under Item 6.2 as he had a connection with the Allotment Society.

The Clerk reminded Councillors to complete their register of interests forms. She would forward the information to Councillors again. **-Clerk**

#### **2 Co –option of Councillor**

There had been one application for co-option from Mrs Nicola Sharkey. On a proposal by Cllr Traverse-Healy, seconded by Cllr Austin, Mrs Sharkey was co-opted onto Steeple Morden Parish Council. She signed the declaration of acceptance of office and joined the meeting.

Cllr Sharkey agreed to be part of the Parish Council Environment working group.

#### **3 County and District Councillors' reports**

The County and District Councillors were not in attendance.

#### **4 Comments and observations from parishioners and members of the public**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

#### **5 To approve the minutes of**

##### **5.1 The Parish Council Annual General Meeting held on the 6th May 2022**

On a proposal by Cllr Upchurch, seconded by Cllr Austin, the minutes as circulated were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

#### **6 Matters arising and carried forward from last meetings**

##### **6.1 Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Policy update**

There was no further news from South Cambridgeshire District Council on their policy.

##### **6.2 Replacement of Allotment Boundary fence mesh**

The Parish Council had been advised that on closer inspection it appeared that the fence on the northern boundary belonged to the adjacent property. The western boundary fence ownership was unclear. Either way a quote was being sought for the total replacement as over half the posts were rotten and the mesh needed to be replaced.

A discussion took place on the fence and responsibilities. It was agreed that a letter be sent to the owner of the property on the northern boundary asking him to confirm his ownership of the fence and request that he mends the mesh which was full of holes at the base from animal damage. **-Clerk**

Cllr Upchurch asked for clarification of the lease which Cllr Traverse-Healy provided. It was suggested that as the Allotment Society had their own funds the responsibility for the fencing in future be transferred to them. After further discussion it was agreed to ask the Allotment Society to progress the quotation for the Parish Council this time with a view to transferring responsibility for the fencing to the Allotment Society in future. **-Clerk**

## 7 Finances

7.1	<u>To receive the financial statement and to approve the payment of bills</u>	
	E-ON	
	Reading Room electricity June 2022 DD	£ 39.00
	PRO CLEANING	
	Disabled toilet clean May 22	£ 15.95
	THE PRINTWORKS (ROYSTON)LTD	
	Newsletters	£ 67.00
	INFORMATION COMMISSIONER	
	Renewal of data protection registration	£ 35.00
	WAVE	
	Sewage charge October 2021-May 2022	£ 34.43
	CAMBRIDGE WATER	
	Allotment water October 2021 –May 2022	£54.23
	Recreation Ground water	£119.91
	TOTAL	£174.14
		£365.52

Agreed. Proposed Cllr Traverse-Healy, Seconded Cllr Bird.

### 7.2 Update/Feedback on Invoices for Water/Electricity contributions

The Clerk confirmed that all payments from the 2019-21 invoices had been received. She would now prepare the invoices for the bills received in November 2021 and May 2022 using the new calculation. There had been no feedback from the sports clubs on the updated formula.

**-Clerk**

## 8 Recreation Ground/Conservation Area

### 8.1 Recreation Ground Checks

Cllr Badger reported that everything appeared fine following the Jubilee celebration the previous day. South Cambridgeshire District Council had been asked to empty the eurocontainer before the weekend when the Bluegrass Festival would be taking place.

### 8.2 Proposal for EV Chargers

The Chairman stated that feedback from the Annual Parish Meeting for the chargers was broadly very supportive. Cllr Bird believed that the Parish Council would be eligible for a grant. As part of this process a survey of residents would need to be carried out to prove that an attempt to gather feedback had been made. An additional grant for surfacing (trenching) could also be applied for. Cllr Bird added that South Cambridgeshire District Council was also very supportive. Cllr Bird would progress a survey.

**-CB**

### 8.3 Update on Recreation Ground Barrier Repair

Cllr Badger and the Clerk had tried to contact a company that had carried out similar work in another village without success. Cllr Badger had now found another contractor willing to quote and would do so once less busy following a rush of work needed for the Jubilee celebrations.

### 8.4 RoSPA Play Area Inspection 2022

The report had been circulated to Councillors.

Cllr Badger reported that generally the equipment was structurally sound and safe. He added that funds would need to be spent on some remedial work to some wooden equipment in the near future.

## 9 Maintenance

### 9.1 Traffic

#### 9.1.1 Missing Repeater Signs

The signs had still not been reinstated. Clerk to follow up.

**-Clerk**

#### 9.1.2 MVAS –Additional Poles for Odsey and North Brook End

Cllr Austin suggested that the poles holding the redundant flashing speed signs in Odsey could be used for the MVAS if the old equipment was removed. It was believed that this equipment could no longer be repaired.

The Clerk to find out the position from the CCC Projects Team. She would also see how a post for North Brook End could be arranged as there was nothing suitable there.

**-Clerk**

## 10 Parish Council Projects 2021/22

### 10.1 Update on Quotations for Car Park Resurfacing

Cllr Carroll had requested an updated quotation from the preferred contractor to include ground works for the EV chargers. Once received Cllr Carroll would work with Cllr Bird on the grant applications which closed in March 2023.

**-MC & MB**

There was no urgency for the resurfacing of the rest of the car park. The funds allocated in the budget would be carried forward until the work was carried out.

### 10.2 Update on Redecoration of Reading Room Quotations

Cllr Carroll had put the quotations on hold while the Parish Council investigated the suggestion of a replacement building. The Chairman reported that he had heard nothing further from the sports clubs directly about their requirements. The proposal had been raised at the Annual Parish Meeting so residents were aware and given a chance to respond.

A discussion took place on the condition of the buildings and their longevity. Cllr Badger advised that he had to remove two slates from the roof which were being held on by moss. He had observed a couple of people looking at the roof too.

After further discussion the Clerk was asked to contact the clubs again and remind them that the Parish Council was waiting to find out what they wanted to do and ask for a response by September 2022 even if they were working on a plan. If no proposal came forward then the exterior of the Pavilion and Reading Room would be decorated so that it would last a further ten years.

**-Clerk**

## 11 Matters Arising from Annual Parish Meeting 9th May 2022

The Postmistress had advised the meeting of her intention to retire in early 2023. The Post office would then close.

It was noted that the award of the Jubilee Shield had not taken place as the Clerk had not advised Cllr Upchurch of the person with the most votes from Councillors. The nomination information from the village had been circulated following the last meeting.

A discussion took place on the nominees and it was agreed that the Shield would be awarded to Mr Mike Smith.

The Clerk was asked to advise Mr Smith and invite him to the next Parish Council meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> July where the presentation would be made. Details of the award would also be put on the website and on social media.

**-Clerk**

## 12 Planning/Tree work Applications

### 12.1 To consider Planning Applications

#### 12.1.1 Planning Ref 22/01585.HFUL

94 Station Road –Single storey side extension to a detached residence

Cllr Traverse-Healy reminded Councillors that Odsey was unique as it did not have a development framework. Everything was in the countryside. He did not feel that this application would do any damage to the countryside.

**Recommendation -Support**

### 12.2 Clarification of Outcome of Planning Application

#### 12.2.1 Planning ref 22/01519/PRIOR

Land at North Brook End for an Agricultural building for milking process and storage

Cllr Traverse-Healy had investigated the application. The Planning/Conservation officers wanted the building moved as they felt that the existing location would ruin the countryside. A new application was therefore submitted and approved.

Cllr Traverse-Healy added that it would have been an idea to request a condition that of the building was no longer required for the purpose it would be taken down. It was too late now as planning consent had been given.

## 13 To consider correspondence received including;

### 13.1 Tween Towns Wood

Councillors had been advised by the group working with the Woodland Trust to purchase the land adjacent to Tween Towns Wood that they had almost reached the fundraising target and hoped that the purchase would be completed in the near future.

**14 Councillors' items for information and requiring the urgent attention of the Clerk**

**14.1 Light Aircraft Movements**

Cllr Badger reported that he had received concerns over light aircraft flying over the village. It was noted that there was nothing the Parish Council could do about this. It was believed that the route of complaint might be through the CAA so aggrieved residents could try following up their concerns with them.

**14.2 Website Update**

Cllr Bird was in the process of updating the information on Councillors held on the website. He asked for the entries to be checked carefully. Cllr Upchurch would continue to monitor the contacts to make sure that they were up to date. **-Cllrs**

**15 Date of next meeting –11th July 2022**

Chairman

Date