



ASPLEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Denise Batchelor
Tel: 01525 717905
Email: clerk@aspleyheath.org.uk

To: All Councillors

20th March 2025

The Next Meeting of the Aspley Heath Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 26th March 2025 at 8pm at the **Woburn Sands Town Council Offices next to the Ellen Pettit Memorial Hall, Street, Woburn Sands**

Signed:

- 2748 To Receive Apologies for Absence**
- 2749 To Note Declarations of Interest relating to Items on the Agenda**
- 2750 To Agree the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**
- 2751 To Co-Opt a New Councillor**
- 2752 Open Forum – Members of the Public are Invited to Speak to the Parish Council**

Actions carried forward:

2544a It was suggested that John Balham be invited to the AGM to talk about the Green Infrastructure Plan he had written for the Neighbourhood Plan. The Chair agreed to purchase refreshments for the AGM and would open the Church hall at 7.15pm to set up for an 8pm start. It was hoped that the following areas/issues would be discussed at the AGM; crime and the possible introduction of CCTV, the BOAT, 20mph on Church Road as well as the Neighbourhood Plan as a key item. The agenda would be agreed at the next meeting.

Action: SS/PCllrs

2651 No further information or update was available on the anti-social issues linked to the pub. This may be linked to the colder and wetter weather. PCllrs would keep an eye out for any resident complaints.

Action: PCllrs

- 2753 Central Bedfordshire Councillor Report**

2754 Chairman's Report

Actions carried forward:

2681 Chairman's Report

Julia Wilson had expressed interest in becoming a Councillor and attended the meeting. She would need to sign the necessary documentation at the next meeting but the Councillors agreed to co-opt her onto the Council.

Action: DB

2755 Roads and Footpaths

Actions carried forward:

2370b To Discuss New Signage for Sandy Lane to Restrict Unnecessary Access

The Clerk had contacted Francine Rainbow who had stated that the work had been ordered and that Chris Nicholl would be seeing this through. No action had been taken by CBC yet. The Clerk would contact Chris again to see if this was being actioned and copy in CBCllr Baker. The location and wording of the sign would need to be agreed. Several vehicles were accessing Sandy Lane every day and causing problems with erosion of the BOAT and access.

Action: DB/CBC

2739a The fly-tipping on the BOAT would be reported to CBC on FixMyStreet.

Action: SS

2739b The sumps and drains that were blocked on Sandy Lane were unable to be reported as FixMy Street did not recognise the location. The Clerk would let the RoW Officer at CBC know.

Action: DB

2756 Lighting

2757 To Discuss a Proposal for Installing CCTV

Actions carried forward:

2741 Research had been conducted into CCTV used by other Councils and the different technologies available. A full report would be brought to the next meeting. The reasons for CCTV to be used in the Parish were: a request by a resident, a deterrent to criminals, and to discourage anti-social behaviour. Video footage could be provided to relevant authorities such as CBC, the Police and also to Blueline Security. It was hoped that CCTV would provide reassurance to the residents. The CCTV unit would be positioned at the bottom of Church Road but would also capture access to Sandy Lane. The Parish Council has the relevant powers to install and use. It would need to adhere to the Surveillance Camera Code.

Several designs had been considered and it was felt that a unit which could be installed on a streetlight with own access to the footage and the ability to download images was preferred.

Provisional costings were approximately £2800 for a one-off installation and £2000 running costs per annum. Installation costs were made up of: camera £380, electronics £1600, Installation £690 + £180. Running costs per annum would be storage of data £92, 4G data sim £377, depreciation/saving for a new unit £568, registration with the Information Commissioner's Office £52 plus additional electricity usage and insurance. Policies and compliance documents would be needed. PCllr McKay would also produce an FAQ document for residents. Information would be made available for the next meeting.

Action: AM

2758 Planning

2742 The Lodge, Daneswood – the Parish Council added their support to this application for a replacement dwelling and were pleased to acknowledge the good practice made in designing the dwelling in accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan. Comments to be made by 25th March.

Action: DB

New Planning Applications

Recent Planning Applications

2759 Village Matters

Actions carried forward:

2687 PCllr Clough had the Twenty's Plenty signs. Central Beds Council had agreed these signs could be installed on Church Road and had said there were grounds for a 20mph speed limit as there was evidence of pedestrians having to walk in the road, blind bends, narrow pavements and houses opening directly onto the road. A petition had been submitted to CBC and the Traffic Management Meeting to discuss this would be held on 18th March. Photos of recent problems would be taken to the meeting.

Action: CBC

2729 Traffic on Church Road was causing problems again with cars backing both up and down the road with long delays occurring. Sundays were the worst day for this but it was not solely down to churchgoers but visitors to the Woods. A question was raised about CBC's intention to add passing places. It was known that the CBC Officer dealing with the traffic problems had moved on to another role. PCllr Smith agreed to speak to Reverend Young and ask if cones could be out to help with the problems on Sunday mornings.

Action: SS

2744 To Discuss Highways Issues

A Flooding meeting had recently been held. Both homes and businesses had been affected by the flood both in the Parish and neighbouring villages and towns. There was some concern that because the gullies and drains had not been cleared out in the Parish the lower roads in the neighbouring town and village were adversely affected. Anglian Water had been asked for but had not provided maps to show soakaways. A list of gullies and the maintenance schedule was needed from CBC.

Action: DB

2760 To Agree the Agenda for the AGM

2761 To Agree Whether the Neighbourhood Plan Needs a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

2761a To Receive an Update from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

2762 To Discuss Strengthening Links with the Community

2763 Finance

a. To approve payments to be made in March

Payee	Chq No	Amount	Description
D Batchelor	1363	£228.49	Clerk's Salary - March
HMRC	1364	£171.20	Clerk's PAYE January - March
D Batchelor	1365	£25.00	Clerk's Allowance – January - March
D Batchelor	1366	£22.69	Email domain renewal 3yrs NameCheap
Greensand Trust	1367	£720.00	NP Green Infrastructure Plan
S Chapman	1368	£1304.50	NP Meeting attendance, advice & submission of documents to March 2025

The above payments were **APPROVED**.

b. To agree the financial statement for February

2764 To Note Correspondence Received Since the Last Meeting

	From	Subject	Action
2352	NatWest	Bank Statements	
2353	Central Beds Watch	Crime Stats –February No crimes reported	
2354	Central Beds Council	Community Governance Review – starts on 30 th June 2025	
2355	Central Beds Council	Feedback Request on CBC Meetings	
2356	CPRE	Newsletter – early Spring	
2357	Central Beds Council	March update for Town and Parish Councils	
2358	NameCheap	Renewal notice for email domain – due 15 April 2025	
2359	Central Beds Council	Neighbourhood Plan SEA (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Consultation – response needed by 8 th April	
2360	Central Beds Council	Closure of Sandy Lane ByWay No. 33	