

**Minutes of the meeting of the COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE held in the Committee Room at Eskdale Community Centre on Tuesday 14 September 2021 at 7.30pm**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs B Ezra, J Magill, and P Wood.

Clerk: Mr Tony Skeggs

Absent: None.

Assistant: Mrs Ann-Marie Davies

Residents: None

<b>C21/35</b>	<b>ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN</b> Cllr Ezra was proposed as Chair by Cllr Wood and seconded by Cllr Magill.	
<b>C21/36</b>	<b>NEW COUNCILLOR TO THE MEETING</b> Cllr Chris Reeves was not in attendance.	
<b>C21/37</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b> Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Thorn.	
	<b>OPEN FORUM FOR PARISHIONERS</b> No residents in attendance. Cllr Magill commented on the recent concern which related to children walking to school along Lower Road and the speed of traffic. The Assistant Clerk confirmed the Parish Council had been contacted about this subject and would be following up with Buckinghamshire Councillors and the Local Community Board. Cllr Wood mentioned Tesco had a small pot of money that was earmarked for the local community. The Assistant Clerk proposed we ask for some litter picking equipment. This was <b>AGREED</b> and Cllr Wood would follow this up.	Cllr Wood
<b>C21/38</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION</b> There were no new declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.	
<b>C21/39</b>	<b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b> a) The minutes of the meeting of the Communities Committee held on the 8 June 2021 were unanimously <b>AGREED</b> and signed by the Chairman as a true record. b) The action plan was reviewed.	
<b>C21/40</b>	<b>QUEEN ELIZABETH II PLAYING FIELD</b> a) Benches around the Playing field – It was <b>NOTED</b> that the two concrete based benches needed replacing. It was <b>AGREED</b> to source quotes for two benches in recycled materials. b) Tennis nets – It was <b>NOTED</b> that the left-hand tennis court net had holes in it. As they had been in place for some time and were well used it was <b>AGREED</b> to seek quotes to replace both nets. c) Play Area – Cllr Ezra proposed that, considering the agreement from Buckinghamshire Council that s.106 funding could be used to buy new play area equipment, the Clerk and Assistant Clerk should start the ball rolling to progress the update of the play area. It was <b>AGREED</b> to seek the views of parents as to their needs for the play area and bring quotes to a future meeting. d) Relining – It was <b>NOTED</b> that the relining of the car park, the tennis court and the edging of the patio area had been completed.	Asst Clerk Asst Clerk Clerk/ Asst
<b>C21/41</b>	<b>COMMUNITY CENTRE INCREASING CAR PARKING AREA</b> a) To consider two quotes to increase car parking spaces – Cllr Ezra reported that there was cracking and deterioration of the current footpath on the playing field and proposed that until this was investigated, no further work should be issued to the contractor responsible. All Cllrs <b>AGREED</b> with this proposal. The Assistant Clerk <b>AGREED</b> to contact the contractor to arrange a site visit. b) To recommend a preferred contractor for above project – In line with the agreement above, this decision was put on hold.	Asst Clerk
<b>C21/42</b>	<b>POLLYANNA PRE-SCHOOL</b>	

	The clerk reported that VAHT had awarded the parish council a grant of £6,811 towards the Pollyanna Pre-school outside space project. Cllr Ezra reported that they still had an active bid into the SMOPC and asked the Clerk to remind them of this. Despite this and taking all other grants into consideration the Pre-school still had a shortfall of £300. It was <b>AGREED</b> the clerk would speak to Pollyanna to make them aware.	Clerk
<b>C21/43</b>	<b>COMMUNITY CENTRE DRAINS</b> Cllr Ezra highlighted the problems with the drainage system at the Community Centre was ongoing and that we now required investigative work to be carried out to replace faulty drains rather than continue to pick up repair costs. It was <b>AGREED</b> the Clerk would contact Agripower to ask them to make a site visit and report their plan plus costs to resolve the issue.	Clerk
<b>C21/44</b>	<b>REVITALISE THE PARISH</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Assistant Clerk reported that despite repeated requests to Buckinghamshire Council for updates on the village gates, there had been no response. It was <b>AGREED</b> the Assistant Clerk would send a request for an urgent response.</li> <li>All Cllrs supported the proposal to erect Christmas trees on the green outside of the village school and Hawkslade shops. The clerk reported that there was a resident who specialised in Christmas trees living in Eskdale Road. It was <b>AGREED</b> he would follow this up.</li> </ul>	Asst Clerk  Clerk
<b>C21/45</b>	<b>POINTS FOR INFORMATION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was <b>NOTED</b> that the clerk was having difficulty contacting Thames Water via their usual media channels. It was suggested he try Twitter. He <b>AGREED</b> to do so.</li> <li>It was <b>NOTED</b> that the clerk would be setting up a meeting with the Football Club. Cllr Ezra asked that he remind them of their commitment to car share where possible as there were at times that cars were being parked outside of the marked parking bays. The Clerk <b>AGREED</b> to do so.</li> <li>It was <b>NOTED</b> there was to be an interment of ashes at Swallow Lane on 20 September 2021 at 2pm.</li> <li>Network Rail had been in touch to report they would carry out works to the Station Road foliage in 3-4 weeks' time.</li> </ul>	Clerk
<b>C21/46</b>	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b> The next meeting will be on 9 November 2021 at 7.30pm.	

The meeting closed at 8.22pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: 14 September 2021

### Action List

Date	Minute	Description	By Whom	Status
09/03/21	C21/17	Obtain two further quotes for an access path to the allotments.	Asst Clerk	In Progress
08/06/21	C21/29	Order brown bin for burial ground	Clerk	In Progress
08/06/21	C21/32	Complete Project Initiation Document to find out costs of installing white gates in the Parish.	Asst Clerk	In Progress
08/06/21	C21/32	Meet up with Aylesbury Town Council to investigate a Christmas event in the Parish.	Clerk/Asst Clerk	In Progress
14/09/21	Forum	Cllr Wood would put forward bid to Tesco for litter equipment	Cllr Wood	In Progress
14/09/21	C21/40	Source quotes to replace two benches on playing field	Asst Clerk	In Progress

14/09/21	C21/40	Seek views of parents/carers for proposed new play area equipment and then seek costings.	Clerk/Asst	In Progress
14/09/21	C21/41	Contact contractor regarding cracking to footpath in the playing field	Asst Clerk	In Progress
14/09/21	C21/42	Advise Pollyanna Pre-school of their outstanding bid into SMOPC.	Clerk	Completed
14/09/21	C21/43	Contact Agripower to obtain costings to fix drainage problems at the Community Centre	Clerk	In Progress
14/09/21	C21/44	Send urgent request to Buckinghamshire Council on our PID towards white gates in the Parish	Asst Clerk	Completed
14/09/21	C21/44	Contact resident in Eskdale Road to progress erection of Christmas trees in the Parish	Clerk	In Progress
14/09/21	C21/46	Reiterate parking arrangements for football club at joint meeting	Clerk	In Progress