

## CHARTRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 8pm at Chartridge Reading Rooms

**Present:** Councillors Juliet Davies (Chair), Ellie White, Joan Lherbier, Alan Booth, Tim Corvin, Andy Savvides

**In attendance:** Mr B Damerell (Clerk) and no members of the public

**43. To receive apologies for absence:**

- Apologies received for Naresh Mistry, Lee Kemp **Bucks Cllrs:** MacBean & Birchley

**44. To approve minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting - subject to some amendments

**45. To receive declarations of interest**

- No interests were declared

**46. Notification of Any Other Urgent Business to be discussed at the end of the meeting**

- Parish Walkabout with Ross Tackley, Noticeboards, Website, Donate-a-gate

**47. To receive questions from members of the public:**

- **Q. Why does the PC want to own Franklin Field**
- A. Currently there is no sufficient lease or ownership of the field. In the build up to the Unitary Authority Chiltern District Council and Chartridge Parish Council had been in discussions regarding the transfer of Franklin Fields. The play area is currently in disrepair, and the Parish Council is not able to access grants without having an interest in the land whether through lease or ownership. The Parish Council would like the decision making to be under Parish Council's remit rather than Bucks Council. Ownership would also bring the Parish Council control over what occurs on the Playing Field and would like to encourage sports groups back to the field, smarten it up and try to improve the facilities. It would also give the Parish Council greater powers to pursue action over any criminal damage on the playing field particularly in light of the illegal demolition of the pavilion by a small number of residents.
- **Q. When will the Grips in the Parish be cleared?**
- A. We are currently still looking for a map of the Grips to enable the contractor to start clearing them.
- **Q. Who is responsible for cutting the hedges?**
- Landowners are responsible for cutting their own hedges, though if a hedge is not privately owned and is on a Highway, then this will be the responsibility of Bucks Council. If though there is a particular hedge of concern, then it can be added to the schedule for the Parish Council's contractors. It was also requested by residents to request either a sign for Children walking, or the elderly in addition to the Horse signs.
- **Q. A resident raised concern over an area of the verge at the top of Bloomfield Cottages not being cut, which is causing vision problems when joining Chesham Road. Also, the street sign for Bloomfield Cottages is not up to date and does not display all the property numbers.**
- The Council suggested the resident send the details on to the Clerk and this can be added to the hedge cutting and verge cutting schedule. In regards to the Street Sign the Clerk can report this on Fix My Street for Bucks Council to resolve.

**Action: The Clerk**

**48. Questions from the Parish Council to Framberg Design to regarding: Land adjoining Savcroft Farm Nugents Hill Chesham Road Bellingdon**

- Introduction by Stefan Bobolecki who stated that: This has been some time in preparation, and have had conversations with Bucks Council and others at higher Government Level. The plans also reflect the comments made within the South Bucks and Chiltern Districts Local Development Plan. Although this Local Development Plan was withdrawn, Bucks Council is working at haste to make the new Local Development Plan ready by 2025. When reviewing this project, Framberg have been taking into account the needs for both Buckinghamshire and Slough. They have therefore looked to be



- investigating along with Bucks Council what the likely housing requirements will be in towns in the County and for Slough.
- The 2009 and 2019 Local Plans are what is currently being looked at when developing the project. What they want to make clear in applying to build the units in Bellingdon, is that they are looking at this as infill land. Framberg does appreciate that all the land in the area is in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). They are also suggesting that they introduce the scheme within the village boundaries, not extending the boundaries to make a bridge to Chesham. They are aware however that this could be one of the solutions. Currently it is projected that there is a lack of approximately 5,500 properties in the South Bucks Area. The original Local Plan was to plan up to 2036.
  - The land in question is next to Savcroft Farm and is tucked within the basic boundaries of the village. They have carried out a lot of surveying work, to make use of some of the existing infill sites in Bellingdon. They have put together a plan of what they propose to do and it is now a question of coming to residents and presenting the idea and engage with feedback. As a plan they will accept it may not be viewed as perfect but are looking to engage with the public and looking to use the neighbouring parcel of land to provide an opportunity to 'give something back' to the village and the Parish Council and want to take into account and consideration the feelings of the PC and residents.
  - They also appreciate there is an onus on the Parish Council to allow more representations for developments at meetings in order to allow Councillors and residents the opportunity to ask questions and scrutinise plans before making a decision on whether to support or oppose.

#### Questions from the Parish Council

- **Q. On whose behalf are you acting on?**
- A On behalf of Bangla Housing Association.
- **Q. Are they a registered Housing association?**
- A. No, they are an unregistered Association.
- **Q. What does that mean?**
- A. That they are a Housing Association for the benefit of others but not registered under the Charity Commission.
- **Q Which Council representatives have you been talking to because it doesn't appear that it is Chartridge Parish Councillors?**
- A. No, we have been speaking to Bucks Council.
- **Q. You refer to the previous local plan being rejected on the basis that the District Council had not consulted with neighbouring councils. On what basis is this is infilling, as this plot of land was not included. Which Policy are you referring to?**
- A. The only particular plan of relevance would be the 2009 plan as the 2019 plan was withdrawn. The council went in to a lot of detail in 2016. We are using the last Chiltern and South Bucks Local Plan as well as the National Planning Policy Frame Work which had an update this year particular around Metropolitan and Green Belt Housing.
- **Q. In regards to infilling what is the current policy to which you are referring?**
- A. The Current Local Plan, in combination with what the Planning Inspector has identified for the needs in South Bucks.
- **Q. You mentioned possibly purchasing the adjacent plot, but not for building. What would this be used for and how could residents be sure this wouldn't be turned into Housing at a later date.**
- A. The reason for purchasing the adjacent plot would be to offer something back to the residents and specifically the Parish Council, and to improve the AONB as the site has been left in a relatively poor state. We could bring part of that site to back into an acceptable green belt state as currently it is not currently AAA standard agricultural land as it is has been left with no care being given to it. We have also considered setting up and wildlife Centre as well as the site is fairly central in the AONB, and we are absolutely certain by the time we look at the options we might have the tools to improve the nature and the wildlife on that piece of land. This would then allow us to put together a proposal to protect wildlife on this site.
- **Q. Have you approached Bucks Council regarding pre-planning?**
- We did consider applying for Pre planning, but withdrew this in favour of an outlying planning application
- **Q. Has there been an outlying planning application submitted?**
- Yes
- **Q. Will there be affordable housing?**



- A. There will be 5-6 units of affordable housing

- **Questions from Residents**

- **There is no indication to build affordable housing in your proposal and realistically the only way for residents to be able to make a decision is to see the planning application.**
- A. I understand that, but as part of the application we would need to fulfil our community engagement responsibility meeting with residents to inform and consult on the plans. It is important for the developers to be able consult and understand what sort of properties are those that are required locally.
- **A member of the public refuted the claim that the land is in a poor state and that it has only deteriorated over the years because the land has not been used and therefore could easily be brought back to a high quality state. It is only in the recent past that the field was used to grow a variety of different crops.**
- I understand that, but It is currently not AAA graded agricultural land.
- **Q. Have you put in outlying planning permission?**
- A. In order for it to have full registration then it was necessary to do so.
- **Q. Bellingdon is a small village, How will the traffic be managed with the significant increase in cars?**
- A. We are not legally obliged to bring in a Traffic Management Scheme, but this is something we are working on. Because of the nature of the road the speeding cars we will install a roundabout connecting to Chesham Road and are currently taking advice from Bucks Council on this.

**At 8:43 Representatives Framberg Design Left the meeting, after which the Council asked those residents present of their views of the proposal.**

- Residents provided negative feedback towards the plans including questions over the meaning of 'Affordable Houses', and asked what has been put in place to have these houses available for local residents.
- The Parish Council confirmed it was opposed to the proposal.
- Cllr Corvin suggested investigating further the claims from Framberg Design that they have been in discussions with Bucks Council and who these discussions have been with. The Council also resolved to establish if an outlying planning application has been submitted as this has been disputed by Bucks Cllr MacBean.
- The Clerk to also carry out a land registry search on the ownership of the neighbouring land

- **Action The Clerk**

**49. To receive an update from Bucks Councillors**

- Cllr Fayyaz updated that the decision regarding the ownership of Franklin Field will be sent by the end of October. The Clerk to send a chaser if no response is received by Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November
- **Action: The Clerk**
- The issues regarding Buslins Lane have been addressed and Bucks Council is looking into carrying out the work

**50. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023 (not otherwise on the agenda):**

- None

**51. Matters for discussion**

**a) Village Forum / Community Board**

- **Village Forum** – The Village Forum met and the most pressing matter affecting Chartridge was the change of the electoral boundaries. Following the actions of The Lee Parish Council making a complaint, the Parish Council resolved to follow suit to lodge a Stage 1 complaint to reverse the decision to move Chartridge out of the Chesham and Amersham Boundary. The Clerk to establish the process of making a complaint
- **Action: The Clerk**
- **Community Board** – Cllr Lherbier confirmed that she could not attend the meeting but there were no items of direct relevance on the Agenda.

- A
- b) **Franklin Fields (Play Area committee / Transfer of ownership / Pavilion/ Usage)**
    - o Ownership – As addressed in the Public comments
    - o Play Area repairs – The Clerk submitted the highlighted repairs from the RoSPA report to Wicksteed. Wicksteed have confirmed that an additional piece of information is required before providing a quote. Cllr White to measure the shacklepin height on the baby swing for the Clerk to provide to Wicksteed.
    - o **Action: Cllr White**
    - o **Action: The Clerk**
  - c) **Chartridge Allotments**
    - o No update to report
  - d) **Horse Riding Signage – Bellingdon**
    - o Cllr Savvides has chased this up but with no response yet. Cllr Savvides confirmed he will continue to monitor the situation and update the Council once any information has been received.
    - o **Action: Cllr Savvides**
  - e) **Littering – D of E / Scouts**
    - o The Clerk made contact with the Duke of Edinburgh Award Regional Team. They have confirmed they are aware of the situation and are taking action to try and remedy this including:
      - o Reducing the number of children on the Braid Wood Site
      - o Continue to visit the schools to reinforce the Countryside Code, as well as contacting the London regions to reiterate this is carried out in the London schools as well
      - o Deploy staff to areas which have received more complaints and issues (whether littering or behaviour)
      - o They have also confirmed they are happy for their email address to be posted on the Parish Council website for residents to be able to send through concerns as they happen.
    - o **Action: The Clerk**
  - f) **Pednor Loop / Heavy Good Vehicles**
    - o The Clerk has chased the LAT and will updated when any further information is received
  - g) **Speeding limits / Roundel Stickers for domestic bins**
    - o Cllr Savvides has contacted three Parish Councils who have adopted the roundels scheme and so far only one has responded to say it has been implemented but they haven't monitored the impact
    - o The Clerk to also follow up on the Devolved Services letters to Savcroft Farm and Sun Cottage to reiterate the need to cut their hedges.
    - o Cllr Lherbier reported that the last Speedwatch session in Asheridge had recorded a driver speeding through the 30mph zone at 67mph. It was agreed that purchasing speedwatch signs for each village would be looked into. Cllr Lherbier would forward details to the clerk.
    - o **Action: The Clerk**
    - o As stated the Parish Council to request additional signage for Children / Elderly walking on the verges in Bellingdon
  - h) **MVAS camera**
    - o The Clerk has completed the forms and is now just waiting for a date from SWARCO for the MVAS and post to be installed
  - i) **The Bell – Asset Community Value**
    - o No update to report
  - j) **Councillor to-do list**
    - o No update to report

## 52. Planning

Case Number	Location	Description of Development	PC Decision	PC Comments
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AS

PL/23/2817/FA	Hill Dale Rays Hill Braziers End Buckinghamshire HP5 2UJ	Partial side demolition and construction of single storey side extension, conversion of loft to habitable space and insertion of side and rear rooflights	Neutral	
PL/23/3058/FA	Ashthorne 321 Chartridge Lane Chartridge Buckinghamshire HP5 2SQ	Detached garage	Neutral	
PL/23/3212/UA	Land To The Front Of 3 Bloomfield Cottages Bellingdon Buckinghamshire	Regulation 5 notification for the installation of fixed-line broadband apparatus - new telegraph pole	N/A	

**53. Finance:**

**Budget Monitoring**

- It was agreed for Cllrs Booth and Corvin to work with the Clerk on the budget for 2024-25. The Clerk to draft a budget for review by the Cllrs Corvin & Booth ready for mid-November. Once it has been reviewed and agreed it will then be brought to the whole Council for ratification.
- **Action: The Clerk, Cllrs Booth & Corvin**

**Account Balances 30 September 2023**

- **Treasurers Account: £34,849.74**
- **Savings Account: £3,404.88**

**e. New invoices for payment**

Name	Reason	Amount
Payroll	£36.00	DCK Payroll
Clerk salary	£563.64	Bobs Damerell
PAYE	£19.20	HMRC
Dog Bin Emptying	£148.80	Bucks Council
External Audit	£252.00	PKF Littlejohn

**54. Any Other Urgent Business (if any)**

- a) **Parish Walkabout** – Cllr Davies and Lherbier updated on the Walkabout of the Parish with Ross Tackley, Chesham Community Board Manager. It started in Bellingdon & Asheridge visiting the Playground where it was confirmed that the Community Board would consider a funding application for equipment for older children.

Roundel stickers for bins were also discussed with the proposal that people could purchase them rather than receive them free.

The unhelpful sign preventing coaches from using Bank Green from Bellingdon was identified and a note to have it moved to a more appropriate position as coaches should not be accessing or leaving Braid Wood via Asheridge Hill.

The Blue Ball planning appeal was also covered and RT was shown how little it impinged on the location.

The problems of Asheridge Hill and Buslins Lane were highlighted on route to Chartridge.

Franklin Fields were discussed on viewing the playground. It is hoped that the play area will be at the top of the list for some Community Board funding.

The proposed zigzag lines at school entrance were also discussed as a scheme to help with school run parking congestion in Cogdells Lane. RT would chase this.

The problems of lorries using the Pednor Loop and the need for pictorial signs was also highlighted as RT was shown the unsuitability of the single track winding roads in the area.

- b) **Noticeboards** – Cllr Davies proposed employing a sign writer to quote reviving the Chartidge Parish Council name on the top of each noticeboard in the Parish.
- c) **Donate a Gate** – The Clerk to contact Nugents Farm and Widmore Farm to confirm their approval of the installation of the gate on their property.

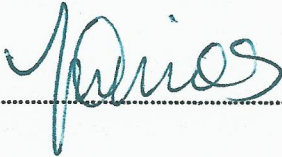
- **Action: The Clerk**

- d) **School** – Cllrs Davies & Booth to contact the school to arrange a meeting with the Headteacher, and possibly Ross Tackley, regarding the Zigzag lines outside the school.

55. Next meeting: 29 November 2023 at 8pm (St John's Church, Bellingdon)

Meeting closed at 10:03

Signed .....



Date .....

29/11/2023