

# **SOUTHOE & MIDLOE PARISH COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES of MEETING**

**Held on MONDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2014**

**In SOUTHOE VILLAGE HALL at 4.00pm**

**PRESENT:** - Councillors, Mr. D. Saw, Mrs H. Ramply ,Mrs. M. Farmery, Mr. A. Marnes (Chair), Mrs. S. Gadsby, County Councillor Wisson, the Clerk and one member of the public.

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There had been no apologies for absence received.

### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>th</sup> December 2013 and 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014**

These had been circulated to all Councillors, they were proposed by Mrs. Helen Ramply, seconded by Mrs. Sandra Gadsby, it was unanimously agreed to accept both minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting, the Chair signed.

### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None received for this meeting.

### **4. MATTERS ARISING**

Following the last meeting Mark Deas had been contacted to inform him of the Council's decision to proceed with housing needs survey of the parish.

The Clerk had responded to the resident letter discussed at the last meeting.

All other items to be discussed from the last meeting to be covered during the agenda.

### **5. ALLOTMENT PROVISION**

The Clerk updated that there was no update, it was noted that there are allotment plot vacancies at Little Paxton and Buckden.

### **6. POLICING ISSUES/NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

In the absence of Mr. M. Rawson, there was no update in regards to the quote from the speciality company from the last meeting looking at having cameras in the village at strategic points.

It was agreed that the Council would place an advert on the noticeboard asking for any residents who would like to express a wish in becoming a Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator.

### **7. A1 MATTERS**

It was reported that some of the equipment has been dropped off in readiness of the commencement of the average speed camera installation, further clarification had been sought on the scheme speed, it has been confirmed the correct level is 60mph. It was noted that the next A1 Safety Group meeting is scheduled for May.

### **8. HIGHWAYS**

Cllr. J. Wisson updated the Parish Council that the County Council panel considering the highway funds for safety improvements to the High Street should feedback shortly, hopefully in the next few months. Cllr. J. Wisson had asked for guidance and advice about what would fit best for Southoe, however, she had been advised to wait and see of the Parish Council are successful or not, then Officers would be able to discuss a more realistic scheme.

Mr. D. Saw expressed concern that Officer Ian Winfield had still not fed back to the Council on any of the items that had been raised during the site meeting last year, which is extremely disappointing, Cllr. J. Wisson agreed to support following this up. It was highlighted that there does need to be clarification regarding the ownership of the verges along Rectory Lane.

### **9. FINANCE**

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The Clerk reported that there had been confirmation received from the local authority detailing the Band D calculation for council tax for 2014/15 from the parish precept, and that the Council would be receiving the precept in two scheduled payments.

The following invoice was presented:

Huntingdonshire District Council grass cutting £1340.00

It was unanimously agreed to approve this to be paid.

There had been notification from Eon of a recent direct debits for £82.38 for the Village Hall electricity.

There were some grass cutting quotations for consideration, it was unanimously agreed to continue with the use of HDC for the grass cutting of the Playing Field (£107 per cut) and Mr Holdaway for the village grass (£110 per cut), both to be contacted to inform them their services would be required for 2014.

## **10. PLAYING FIELD**

Following the agreement at the last meeting to add some gravel stones to the area to help improve the surface, and to move a bin up to the Rectory Lane to the end of the park, this items were ongoing.

The discussion around that no further seating would be provided as the Council felt it is not appropriate to encourage dogs to run free in this area had been fed back to the resident, they had responded by letter, and the Clerk read out the response. After discussion, it was agreed by Councillors to seek quotes from Gladson for a bench to be concreted in, to provide additional seating provision within the field, the final position of the seat to be agreed.

The Councillors fed back how nice it was to see the pitch being used recently.

## **11. VILLAGE HALL**

Mrs. S. Gadsby reported that all committee members have had an update on the financial position such as expenditure on insurance, crockery, PAT testing and that there had been a donation received.

The committee had been advised that work is needed to be done to the guttering and fascia of the hall, the Parish Council agreed to consider financial support to this project on receipt of three quotes sourced for this proposed work, however, the Council were supportive in principle.

It was discussed following the recent use of the field, that anyone hiring the hall at the same time would have sole usage of the car park facilities on such occasions if the pitch were to be used again.

## **12. CHURCH MATTERS & BURIAL GROUND**

It was reported that the Bishop of Ely is visiting on 27<sup>th</sup> March at 9.30am.

## **13. PLANNING**

The Council's feedback to the two previously discussed applications at the last meeting had been feedback.

## **14. CORRESPONDENCE / EMAILS**

The Council reviewed letter from MAGPAS, it was unanimously agreed to support this worthwhile organisation with a donation of £100 approved.

A copy of the register of interest forms were circulated to SG, DS, MF and MR.

There had been a communication regarding the hedge in Bell Lane, it was noted that the Parish Council have no control over this matter. It was noted there had been an enquiry from the village website regarding sheep grazing in the village, a response had been sent giving details of land owners in the village.

## **15. WIND FARM UPDATE**

There had been no update on this item.

## **Chairman closed the meeting for the next item**

## **16. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Cllr. J. Wisson detailed that there are potential WREN and Awards For All funding opportunities for the parish, such as if the Village Hall Management Committee have any projects they need support with. Cllr. J. Wisson will be holding the a local surgery every second Tuesday of the month in Buckden from 6.30-7.30pm. Cllr. J. Wisson also

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feedback from recent meeting she had attended where Steve Ingram from HDC spoke about planning such as the move now more towards community led planning and the introduction of Community Infrastructure Levy. It was agreed that the Clerk to confirm that the Parish Council did opt in for CIL contributions.

It was reported that the summer fayre is being planned for 6<sup>th</sup> September this year,

**Chairman reopened the meeting**

**17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

It was detailed that there is a seven day a week ring and ride service for the village, that will wait for an hour at the destination, any further waiting time is at a cost of £1 for every 15 minutes, it is approximately £15 per return visit which it was commented is not very competitive.

**18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

This was agreed to be on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at 4.00pm, the meeting was closed at 5.10pm