

# **SOUTHOE & MIDLOE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

## **MINUTES of MEETING**

**Held on WEDNESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2015**

**In SOUTHOE VILLAGE HALL at 7.00pm**

**PRESENT:** - Parish Councillors, Mrs S. Penton, Mr D. Felce, Mr. I. Davies, Mrs. H. Ramply, Mr. A. Marnes, Mr M. Rawson, and County Councillor J. Wisson, the Clerk and four members of the public.

## **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Parish Councillors Mr. D. Saw and Councillor T. Hayward, had sent apologies which were accepted.

## **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No new declarations of interest were received for this meeting.

**The Chair closed the meeting for the next item**

## **3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was concern raised at some rubbish that appears to have been left for a period of time near a house on Bell Lane, Mr. A. Marnes agreed to follow this up.

**Chair reopened the meeting**

## **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

These had been circulated to all Councillors, it was unanimously agreed by all present to accept the minutes of the meeting as a true record of the meeting, resolution passed.

## **5. MATTERS ARISING**

The Clerk reported that the individual who had contacted the Council with questions relating to the future use of the Playing Field had been responded to, as had the resident who had raised questions relating to dog control orders and legislation relating to dogs in the village.

It was noted that there had been some communication between the meetings regarding an invoice from Hunts District Council, which it had now been confirmed had been paid in October 14.

The Clerk had submitted the response on behalf of the Parish Council to the electoral review public consultation within the required time frame.

All other items to be covered during the meeting.

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

Mr. D. Saw had sent a detailed report following the meeting held with the UKCCTV representative who had visited the village recently. Some Councillors had been present during the meeting and highlighted what a useful and informative meeting it had been, all collated questions from Councillors had been put to the individual and answered fully. It was noted that the initial scheme the Council were considering would allow there to be capacity for up to eight cameras, even though originally the Council had been looking at having just four in situ. UKCCTV will now do some sketching work and drawings of the proposed cabling locations so these can be provided to the Diocese for approval.

In terms of other policing matters, it was noted that there have been some break in's in other local parishes recently.

## **7. HIGHWAYS MATTERS REGARDING THE VILLAGE**

The issue raised at the last meeting regarding the dip in the High Street near the entrance to the Village Hall has been raised with the engineer who has stated the area will be excavated ahead of when the traffic calming measure is due to be installed. There was concern that this too long to wait as the road condition is worsening and there was worry that the road may sink dangerously before then if investigation is not carried out soon. It was agreed that the Clerk to

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Date: - 4<sup>th</sup> March 2015

follow the matter up with the engineer (Tony King) and ask for a site meeting to be held with some Parish Councillors so the matter could be assessed and a time-scale talked through.

The Chairman stated that he was against the speed hump as it does not make the village hall entrance area safer for all users which is what the original bid to C.C.C. was for.

Mr. D. Felce updated the Council that there had been repairs to the bridleway heading north at Midloe, these have now been completed and the right of way is now open again.

## **8. A1 MATTERS**

A report was read in the absence of Cllr. T. Hayward, he reported that he had met with the local MP who is encouraging residents to support the petition that something should be done to the A1 to improve it for the local residents, Mr. A. Marnes read the corresponding letter out to all present.

There was feedback given from the recent A1 Safety Group meeting, where it had been reported the cycle track would be resurfaced where necessary and kerbs re-aligned where necessary as well. Mr. A. Marnes had again raised the continuing issues of U-turns taking place. At the meeting it had been reported that there will be a road network review which would include the A1, with there being a £15 billion investment, there was no time-scale given as to when the strategic review of the A1 would be done. Some Councillors present expressed that they felt it would be better for any such strategic review to be carried out after the improvements planned to the A14 section have been implemented so the data would capture the most accurate traffic movements in order to base any future planned work on.

It was noted the Council had received a letter from the Highways Agency regarding the Draft A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Improvement Scheme, this was circulated amongst Councillors and if the Council wished to comment they needed to be submitted by mid-March.

## **9. FINANCE**

The following invoices were presented:

Barnicoat Ltd clerking service £190.86

Wicksteed Leisure play area unaccompanied inspection £54.00

Huntingdon District Council grass cutting of the Playing Field for the 2014 season £1608.00

These were unanimously agreed and approved that they be paid.

It was noted that the Clerk had made a VAT reclaim request of £760.91 to HMRC. The latest EON direct debit due was noted as £80.13.

It was reported that the Clerking advert is currently in draft format, this to be reviewed by Cllrs. Penton, Marnes and Davies, and to be circulated once finalised to interested local people, and be placed on the noticeboard and in the Gravepine as well as on the village website.

## **10. DOG CONTROL ORDERS IN THE VILLAGE**

Following the discussions at the last meeting the Clerk had received the appropriate maps of the village which illustrated the dogs on lead and dog exclusion areas, it was felt that some of the areas may not be widely known by residents, and that the Clerk to collate a summary document with this information on, which would be circulated to all Councillors for comments in the first instance, then it could be distributed to all residents for their information.

## **11. PLAYING FIELD**

The Clerk had tried to source replacement dog feet for the play equipment that had been highlighted in the latest inspection report, this had not been possible and the only option would be to remove the piece of play equipment and replace with an alternative item. It was agreed that in the first instance Mr. M. Rawson would look into a more practical solution.

The Clerk circulated some quotes for dog signage relating to the play area and that no dogs allowed, it was agreed that the Clerk to organise and order two no dog signs with pre drilled holes on in an A4 size. The Clerk to also try to locate some dogs on lead stickers.

Signed for and on behalf of Southoe & Midloe Parish Council.....

Date: - 4<sup>th</sup> March 2015

## 12. VILLAGE HALL

It was reported that the Committee had taken out new insurance, with the same broker as the Parish Council use, this new policy gives the Committee more cover, however, for the same money. The Charity Commission returns are now up to date it was noted, however, it was discussed that the Trustees detailed on the Charity Commissioners website were not accurate with the current Parish Council membership, therefore this had started to be updated correctly. One Councillor expressed that they did not wish to share some personal information, as the Parish Council are the Trustees of the Village Hall the best way forward was discussed, and it was agreed that the Clerk to make enquiries with CAMBS ACRE and seek clarification on this situation.

It was also noted the Village Hall will be hired out for the forthcoming May elections.

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

No items to report.

## **14. PLANNING**

There had been some information relating to the Local Plan consultation events circulated to all Councillors between meetings.

## **15. CORRESPONDENCE / EMAILS**

The correspondence was reviewed, it was noted that Mr. A. Marnes had received the accident statistics for the A1 which covered the installation of the average speed cameras, it was commented that it is pleasing to see that since the cameras have been introduced, this data has reduced noticeably.

## 16. WIND FARM UPDATE

Following the last meeting, there had been a drafted letter sent to all Councillors (except Mrs. H. Ramply due to her interest in the item), which had been agreed to be submitted on behalf of the Parish Council responding to the latest application relating to the wind monitoring mast. The Clerk had done this and received confirmation that it had been received by the Officer, it was agreed that the Clerk to follow this matter up and seek an update.

## **17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. A. Marnes detailed that after walking around the village he had noticed some piles of rubbish that have been left between the Pit and Little Paxton, it was agreed that the community payback team be asked to clear these areas by the path of the south lake.

**18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

This would be Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 7.00pm; the meeting was closed at 8.15pm  
Mr. D. Felce and Mr. I. Davies sent apologies in advance for this meeting.