

## Minutes of the meeting of Fairfield Parish Council held in Fairfield Community Hall on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at 7:30 pm

**Councillors present:** B E Dack (Chairman), C Bidwell, P Daffarn, N P Hanks, S L Jones and T Milliken.

**Officer present:** Katrina Henshaw (Parish Clerk)

**Also present for all or part of the meeting:** Ward Member Councillor S Dixon and two members of the public.

### **67 Apologies for Absence**

67.1 Apologies were received from Councillor P Mitchinson (holiday) and Ward Member Councillor B Saunders

### **68 Disclosures of Interest and Dispensation requests**

68.1 No disclosures of interest and no requests for dispensation were received.

### **69 Council Minutes**

69.1 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2016 had been circulated to all Councillors and it was

#### **RESOLVED**

**That these minutes be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and be duly signed by the Chairman.**

### **70 Public Participation**

70.1 No members of the Public requested to speak.

### **71 Central Bedfordshire Council Ward Members Report**

71.1 Public Transport Consultation is almost completed with a good response from people who use it. CBC wish to also find out views of those that don't use it though.

71.2 The Local Plan criteria has been issued.

71.3 The appeal for CBC's planning decision that refused the change of use of agricultural land to create 5 gypsy and traveller pitches with associated ancillary development on land at Astwick has been heard and a decision is expected in 6-8 weeks.

71.4 KS2 results have been issued but unable to compare them to previous years as marking schemes have changed. CBC appear to have come out better than Bedfordshire Borough.

71.5 Councillor Jones requested an update on the Hall. Councillor Dixon advised that PJ Livesey's main focus is the drainage at the moment. There has been a change of ownership within Livesey but this appears to be moving things forward. Councillor Dixon will request that a written monthly report is sent to FHMC. **Action: SD**

## 72 Christmas Tree Lights

- 72.1 FPC has received a quotation from Shanahan Contractors Ltd to install electric cables in Urban Park and has received details of battery powered lighting. After a discussion it was agreed to leave the installation of electric cables until it is known what is happening with changing the design of Urban Park. It was therefore agreed to proceed with the battery lights for this year and a budget of £300 was set. Councillor Bidwell to produce a risk assessment.  
**Action: PD / CB**

## 73 Ground Maintenance

- 73.1 Bowls Club Hedge – It was agreed that the bowls club should cut both sides of the hedge as the hedge is their responsibility.
- 73.2 West Orchard – It was agreed to request MBS do an additional cut unless FPC is advised at the meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> July not to on ecological grounds.
- 73.3 East Orchard – It was agreed to request MBS cut the weeds and brambles unless FPC is advised at the meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> July not to on ecological grounds.
- 73.4 Land areas 12 and 13 at the entrance to Fairfield – It was agreed that FPC will arrange for this to be cut once the land is transferred to FPC. Until then it is the responsibility of Hotbed / FHMC.

## 74 Public consultation for the new proposed Pix Brook Academy

- 74.1 The public consultation for the proposed development of a new co-educational, 9 -16 extended secondary school called the Pix Brook Academy is now open and can be found on <http://www.pixbrookacademy.co.uk>. It was agreed that FPC would write to Bemat to advise that Fairfield is a village and should have been a consultee and to advise that FPC support the proposal. **Action: KH**

## 75 Parking around the School

- 75.1 Councillors Mitchinson and Dack met with Fairfield Lower School (FLS) Head and governors on 4<sup>th</sup> July to discuss the issue of child safety on the roads. They considered various options and agreed to move forward on two in particular;

1. Trialling a school 'lollipop' person. FLS have had discussions regarding this provision with CBC in the past and have been told that they do not meet the criteria to have one. They will pursue a further discussion on the basis that it could be at no cost to CBC.
2. Making the lay-by in front of the school a no parking zone for drop-off only. This restriction may be time limited to the start and finish of the school day. The school thought that this was the original intention of the lay by and zig zag lines/notices would be put in place once the roads were adopted. They have not appeared as yet.

CBC can't find any evidence that this was included in planning consent. As the lay-by is currently unrestricted anyone can park there at any time. CBC has advised that options would be to install school keep clear markings which are commonly used immediately outside school entrances to ensure that the area remains clear of parked vehicles. However, these prohibit all stopping, including dropping off and picking up passengers. CBC normally make them operational Mon-Fri 8am-4.30pm, so they are available for parking at non-school times. However, this would stop parents using the lay-by and would force parents to park elsewhere which would put additional parking pressures on adjacent roads. CBC advised that another option would be to introduce time limited parking, say for 15 minutes, operational Mon-Friday 8.00 am - 9.30 am and 2.30 - 4.00 pm. Parking would be unrestricted outside of those times.

It was agreed to put an update on FPC's website to show that FPC, CBC and the school are discussing the problem. **Action: BD**

## 76 Anglian Water

76.1 Councillors Mitchinson and Dack met with Anglian Water on 1<sup>st</sup> July. They had a tour of the plant and some explanation of what had been done to overcome the problem. Deodorisers are in place and in operation and processes had been reviewed to try to improve the odour levels being experienced. FPC's website include details of this.

76.2 Concern was expressed that this problem may affect the new development, in particular the new planned school, when there is a SW wind. Councillor Dixon to speak to CBC Environmental Health and Education departments to request these concerns are investigated.

**Action: SD**

## 77 Orchard Future Work

77.1 Meeting with FPC, BRCC, CBC, Bob Lever and key residents scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> July at 10.30 am starting at the Community Hall.

## 78 20mph speed limit

78.1 The public notice period for the 20mph limit has now ended. CBC received several comments, none of which objected to the proposal, so they can now go ahead with the sign design and arrange for the works to be carried out. The next stage will be for CBC to ask its highway contractor to provide a cost to implement the speed limit.

## 79 Western bridleway

79.1 CBC has marked out the line of the bridle path and are now to establish their proposals. The legal line has been shown to go through existing shrubbery and CBC / BRCC are discussing whether to go through the legal process of issuing a notice of intention to divert the path as to preserve the existing tree and shrubbery.

## 80 Dog Fouling around Fairfield

80.1 FHMC and Hotbed has given permission for CBC enforcement officers to operate and act on the land that is under the freehold ownership of Hotbed.

80.2 FPRA is waiting for permission from the respective landowners to agree to CBC taking appropriate action of any offences committed on their land.

It was agreed to put an update report on dog fouling on FPC website. **Action: BD**

## 81 Leisure Strategy Document

81.1 Revised 'Fairfield Parish Open Spaces' documents awaited from CBC.

## 82 Allotments, Recreation Space and Cemetery

82.1 Further to the meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> May CBC is to provide suggested areas for this provision. CBC to identify all surrounding land owners. No response to date.

## 83 Section S106 outstanding matters and allied areas

83.1 All documents haven been agreed and signed between PJ Livesey and CBC. PJ Livesey now have six weeks to start the transfer of land to FPC.

83.2 Land transfer from Hotbed to FPC is proceeding and hopefully should happen soon.

## 84 Additional Parking at Kipling Crescent

84.1 Councillor Hanks has made a few minor amendments to the planning application as requested by CBC. The application should now be verified shortly.

## 85 The Neighbourhood Plan

85.1 Pre-submission stage consultation is now completed. A small number of responses have been received and will need to be considered prior to the final submission.

## 86 Lights on footpath alongside Cricket Pitch

86.1 Bollards and solar lights were discussed at the joint meeting. The majority of people present at the joint meeting believed that the objective was to light the path so the solar lights would be sufficient. There was a suggestion that the bollards would make it more secure though. FPC is now obtaining quotations. **Action: PM / KH**

## 87 Flytipping

87.1 The recent Flytipping on Eliot Way was removed by Scanlans as the road is still unadopted. Future Flytipping incidents should either be reported to the landowner or CBC. An article to be included in Fairfield Matters.

## 88 Presentation by Mr Wayne Humberstone, Special Chief Constable of Beds Police

88.1 Councillor Bidwell attended the presentation and advised that only four people were there. Beds Police are advertising for an additional 250 Specials, 20 of which will be allocated to Biggleswade. Due to shift patterns this actually means there will only be 1 extra Special on duty at any one time. These will be funded from the Central Police Budget. It appears that Specials are receiving more funding than PCSOs as they are considered better value for money and they have more powers.

## 89 Parish and Town Conference

89.1 Councillors Bidwell and Daffarn attended the conference which was very well attended. The focus was Community Planning as CBC has to produce a local plan. There are various stages but it should be completed by December 2018. Community Plans will need to be developed so CBC will be working in partnership with Town and Parish Councils as well as other interested parties. CBC has allocated 25,000 new homes already but it is expected that by 2035 25,000 – 32,000 new homes will be required leaving a shortfall of 7,000 plus any additional shortfall CBC may need to pick up from surrounding councils.

## 90 Fairfield Alive

90.1 This event was very well supported and good feedback after the event has been received.

## 91 Planning Applications

91.1 CB/TRE/16/00202 Land adjacent to 34 Middlemarch.  
Works to a Tree protected by a Preservation Order: Prune back one Beech Tree by the side of the house.  
FPC had no comments on this.

91.2 CB/16/02477/FULL East Lodge, Hitchin Road  
New garage/workshop with annex accommodation – footprint reduces, eaves height increased and dormers added to the previously approved application CB/14/01390/FULL.  
The planning advisers are looking at the application and will respond to CBC by 26<sup>th</sup> July.  
**Action: NH / CB / PM**

91.3 CB/16/02817/FULL 25 Dickens Boulevard  
Two story rear extension.  
The planning advisers are looking at the application and will respond to CBC by 2<sup>nd</sup> August.  
**Action: NH / CB / PM**

## 92 Planning Decisions

- 92.1 CB/15/04299/OUT West Orchard  
Outline: 2 No. Dormer Bungalows on the area vacant land in the northern part to the south of West Drive at Hardy Way; of the former orchard to the west of Fairfield Hall.  
**CBC refused planning permission 8<sup>th</sup> April 2016.**
- 92.2 CB/16/01454/FULL Land East of Hitchin Road South of the Former Pig Testing Unit  
Erection of 2-form entry Lower School and nursery with access, parking, all-weather pitch with changing facility, landscaping and associated works.  
To review 'Draft community use agreement, proposed new school'  
**CBC granted planning permission 29<sup>th</sup> June 2016.**
- 92.3 CB/16/1455/OUT Land East of Hitchin Road South of the Former Pig Testing Unit  
Outline Application: mixed-use development comprising flexible-use commercial unit (Use Class A1 (shop) A3 (Café) D1 (Surgery) B1 (Offices); 180 dwellings; landscaping; open spaces; access; parking and associated works (all matters reserves except access).  
**CBC granted planning permission 29<sup>th</sup> June 2016.**
- 92.4 CB/16/01500/ADV Meat and Livestock Commission, Hitchin Road  
Advertisement: Installation of advertisement hoarding's fronting Hitchin Road for a temporary period of 5 years.  
**CBC granted advertisement 29<sup>th</sup> June 2016.**

## 93 Finance

- 93.1 Receipts and Payments  
Councillors were provided with payments totally £2,257.29. It was  
**RESOLVED**  
**That all monies on the payments list be paid.**

## 94 Correspondence

- 94.1 BAPTC – 'Being a good employer' booklet.

## 95 Any other business

- 95.1 Councillor Daffarn advised that she had booked a First Aid course on 1<sup>st</sup> August at a cost of £30.00 so she will be able to be the official first aider at future events.

## 96 Date of next meeting

- 96.1 The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at 7.30 pm

Meeting closed at 8.55 pm