



Minutes of the Studham Parish Council General Meeting
Held at Studham Scout HQ
Tuesday 2nd July 2024

	<u>Councillors Present:</u> Lola Harris (LH), Susan Holliman (SH), Jennifer Rushmer (JR), Chris Morrell (CM), Jason Jackson (JJK) & Jane Jacoby (JJ) <u>Also in attendance:</u> Clerk – Brian Mew (BM) Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) Ward Councillor – Kevin Collins (KC) 1 Member of the Public (MoP)
	<u>Public Participation</u> 3 problem bonfires had been noted in the Holywell area over the past week. Further information on reporting bonfire nuisance would be included in the parish information email. Fly tipping was an ongoing problem in a number of locations, especially Buckwood Lane and Studham Lane.
47/202425	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Councillor Mo Rashid (MR) (CBC) Ward Councillor - Vicky Malone (VM)
48/202425	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS None.
49/202425	APPROVAL OF MINUTES It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 4th June 2024 were approved as a correct record and duly signed by the Chairman.
50/202425	REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN LH reported that there was still a lack of clarity in CBC as to which team dealt with road signs, and 6 to 8 month waits were being reported on road sign replacements. The triangle at the top of Pedley Hill had been cut by CBC. All councillors to advise LH of any minor gardening and landscape jobs that could be carried out by the gardener. Meads Path – ownership and responsibilities are unclear. Quotes for hedge cutting to be obtained and possible liaison with hedge owners. Meads Path to be discussed in more detail at next meeting. Grants to be considered at the October meeting.

51/202425	REPORT OF PORTFOLIO HOLDERS Councillor Holliman – Defibrillators. SH reported some recent confusion regarding communications, although there did not appear to be any issues regarding communication with Community Heartbeat. Councillor Jacoby – Salt Bins; Playing Fields/SSSC; Village Hall: BM reported no response yet regarding insurance position of salting team with CBC. JJ would attend Village Hall AGM on 26th July 2024 and would raise issue of the village hall re-build. JJ noted that publication of village hall financial information was overdue. Councillor Rushmer – Footpaths; Rights of Way; Welcome Packs; Studham, Kensworth, and Whipsnade Good Neighbours (SKAW): Footpaths and Rights of Way – JR reported that due to budget constraints, CBC were only undertaking 2 cuts of seasonal vegetation annually rather than 3, and were not paying landowners as of April for any grass cutting on their land. CBC are asking for volunteers to maintain Rights of Way in parishes. Councillors queried whether SANG funding should contribute to RoW costs. Problems had recently been reported in respect of footpaths 1, 4, and 12, and bridleway 6. Nothing to report on other portfolio areas. Councillor Morrell - CBC Grass & verge maintenance; Friends of Studham Common (FOSC) Liaison: No current complaints regarding verges. CBC had applied for funding for trees from the Treescapes Fund. Some funding may possibly be available for a few sites in Holywell. Councillor Jackson - Playing Fields/Studham Sports and Social Club Liaison; Planning. Playing Fields AGM was held last week. JJK obtaining quotes for Children’s Play Area bid..
52/202425	REPORT OF WARD COUNCILLORS KC would liaise with CBC Environmental Health and Pollution officers regarding previously discussed bonfire and fly tipping issues. KC reported on recent senior management and executive member changes at CBC.
53/202425	PLANNING APPLICATIONS – To review and comment on new planning applications received from Central Bedfordshire Council. i. CB/24/01490/FULL - Kingswood, 1 Oakway, Studham, Dunstable, LU6 2PE - Single storey side and rear extensions, following demolition of existing single storey side and part rear extension, with changed materials for the whole dwelling and replacement windows and doors. Central Bedfordshire Council Planning Pages SPC was happy for the CBC Planning Team to determine as appropriate within planning guidelines, including ensuring that the proposal is in accordance with Lawful Development certificate CB/24/00829/LDCP. ii. CB/24/01656 - Baroona, Swannells Wood, Studham, Dunstable, LU6 2QB - Ground floor extension with new flat roof, first floor rear extension with pitched roof, and replacement of garage roof. Central Bedfordshire Council Planning Pages SPC was happy for the CBC Planning Team to determine as appropriate, subject to clarification that the proposed space increase was in accordance with planning guidelines.
54/202425	UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND (UKSPF) AND RURAL ENGLAND PROSPERITY FUND (REPF) COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME It was RESOLVED to submit a bid for this funding to replace the children’s play area at Studham Playing Fields and to approve a Parish Council match funding contribution of 20% of the project cost, £7,000 - £8,000. This would be within the Council’s Section 137 expenditure limit, and could be met from available reserves without going below recommended levels.
55/202425	ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT It was RESOLVED to approve accounts for payment for June 2024.
56/202425	BANK RECONCILIATION It was RESOLVED that the Bank Reconciliation for the year to 30th June 2024 was verified as correct and duly signed.

57/202425	BUDGET STATEMENT It was RESOLVED to approve the financial statement of income and expenditure for the year to 30 th June 2024.
58/202425	CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence circulated to Councillors prior to meeting was received: Bedfordshire Association of Town and Parish Councils (BATPC) – Planning Training. It was agreed that JR and SH would attend this training if places were available. Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (BRCC) – News BRCC – Housing Needs Survey Follow Up It was agreed that the parish council would express interest in supporting BRCC in their follow up work. Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) – Adoption of Planning Obligations Chiltern Society - News Friends of Studham Common (FOSC) - Newsletter National Association of Local Councils (NALC) – Newsletters
59/202425	ITEMS FOR THE NEXT PARISH LINK - Overgrown Hedges - Fix My Street - Verges - Bonfires - Date of next meeting
60/202425	ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA - Neighbourhood Plan - Meads Path - Footpaths / Rights of Way - Notice Boards
61/202425	DATE AND TIME OF FUTURE MEETINGS General Meetings: Thursday 15th August 2024 at 7.00pm Tuesday 3rd September 2024 at 7.00pm Both at Studham Scout HQ Clements End Rd, Studham, Dunstable LU6 2NG
	Meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Signed by Presiding Chairman