



Minutes of the Studham Parish Council General Meeting
Held at Studham Scout HQ
Tuesday 3rd October 2023

	<u>Councillors Present:</u> Lola Harris (LH), Susan Holliman (SH), Jane Jacoby (JJ), Mo Rashid (MR), Jennifer Rushmer (JR) & Norma Thomas (NT) <u>Also in attendance:</u> Clerk – Brian Mew (BM) Ward Councillor – Kevin Collins (KC) 6 Members of the Public (MoP)
	<u>Public Participation</u> Subjects raised by MoP included: - Burning of rubbish at Equestrian Centre – MoP advised to contact CBC. - Concern over bonfires generally – reminder to be in November Parish Link. - Reason for 27 Holywell Road planning application not being on agenda – situation regarding this was outlined. - Update on Community Fibre - Village Shop – JJ updated that property was currently being marketed as a retail unit.
01/202324	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Ward Councillor – Vicky Malone (VM)
02/202324	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None
03/202324	APPROVAL OF MINUTES It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 18th July 2023 were approved as a correct record and duly signed by the Chairman.
04/202324	It was RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Mo Rashid as Vice Chair of the Parish Council for 2023/24.
05/202324	It was RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Jane Jacoby as Parish Council Representative to Studham Playing Fields Committee for 2023/24.
06/202324	It was RESOLVED to appoint the following Portfolio Holders for 2023/24: MR – Crime; School Liaison. FOSC Liaison JR – Footpaths; Rights of Way; Welcome Packs; SKAW. JJ – Salt Bins; Playing Fields/SSSC; Defibrillators. NT – CBC Grass & verge maintenance; Village Hall Liaison. SH – Defibrillators. LH – Highways; SPC Gardening Contract; Policies; Communications All – Planning; Special Projects BM as Clerk – Parish email; Website; Policies, Communications

07/202324	REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN Highways – LH reported on recent CBC Highways restructure – still some uncertainty regarding responsibilities. KC advised follow up with CBC to clarify, KC to follow up if not resolved. LH reported recent issues concerning potholes; retaining wall; street light; and stop cock hazard. Most village roads have now been resurfaced and relined, but CBC timescales needed to be realistic. LH queried CBC position on parishes undertaking more activity themselves and CBC highways overspent budget position. KC reported on current position and recommended dialogue with CBC regarding undertaking more functions. Hedges – CBC hedges have been cut, reminder in November Parish Link re: private overgrown hedges. Reported on undocumented footpath through allotment and hedge. Resident to be contacted. Playing Fields – LH had attended recent Playing Fields Committee meeting. Remembrance Sunday 12th November 2023 Resignation of Cllr John Newland – statutory Notice of election period ends 4th October, after which SPC will undertake co-options process.
08/202324	REPORT OF COUNCILLOR RASHID <u>Crime</u> – no criminal activity incidences in the village in September according to Police Crime statistics. One advertising board reported in AONB area, owner contacted and board removed. NT reported recent incident of oil siphoning.
09/202324	REPORT OF COUNCILLOR RUSHMER <u>Defibrillators</u> – Defibrillator located at SSSC repaired and back in cabinet. Loan defibrillator being returned. SH and JJ co-ordinating V.E.T.S. scheme and doing weekly service checks on the Holywell Road and SSSC defibrillators.
10/202324	REPORT OF WARD COUNCILLORS Councillor Collins Studham Common SANG Designation – KC provided update. Funds from planning permissions are beginning to come in, so SANGS fund beginning to grow. Funding available for site management, e.g., car park resurfacing, barriers, etc. Studham Common in existing state meets SANG criteria so no urgent work required. Next step for CBC is basic survey work for creating long term (10 year) management plan. Once long term plan agreed, countryside sites team will be required to submit an annual plan and bid for funds. Emergency funds can be requested if time-sensitive issues arise. CBC do not actively promote the site any more than is currently in place. In response to a query, KC advised that Siobhan Vincent of CBC's planning policy role on SANG had ended and that the Countryside Access Team were the principal point of contact. KC and BM to follow-up. Parliamentary Boundary – KC reported that the Parliamentary Boundary Review 2023 had placed Studham in the new Luton South and South Bedfordshire constituency. Proposed removal of BT Pay Phone – KC reported on proposal and current CBC survey. CBC does not have veto and very low usage of Studham pay phone.

11/202324	PLANNING APPLICATIONS – To review and comment on new planning applications received from Central Bedfordshire Council. i. CB/23/02709/FULL– Knoll House, Dunstable Road, Studham LU6 2QJ – Residential redevelopment of unviable care home, with 8 dwellings. Central Bedfordshire Council Planning Pages Parish Council decided to formally OBJECT to planning consent being granted, primarily due to consultee concerns regarding, Fire and Safety; Ecology and Biodiversity; Trees and Landscape; and Highways, and concerns regarding overdevelopment of site. ii. CB/23/02887/FULL - Setter Braes, Dunstable Road, Studham LU6 2QJ - Infill front extension and front open, canopy porch Central Bedfordshire Council Planning Pages Parish Council had no comments on proposal and happy that CBC Planning Team will determine as appropriate, other than to note that there is also a lawful development certificate application running concurrently. iii. CB/TRE/23/00431 – Golden Leaves, Swannells Wood, Studham LU6 2QB - Works to trees protected by Tree Preservation Order 16/1985 falling in group G3. TP Online Pages (centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) Parish Council decided to Object to felling of T1 and supported lopping of T2 and T3
12/202324	FUNDING FOR STUDHAM PLAYING FIELDS AND STUDHAM SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB It was RESOLVED to provide funding to Studham Playing Fields and Studham Sports and Social Club of £7,000 from Parish Council reserves hypothecated for Sceptic Tank / sewerage issues. It was clarified that this was one-off funding for this specific requirement only. The Council also discussed the possibility of submitting an application to the Community Grant Fund for replacement / relocation of the play equipment at the Playing Fields.
13/202324	ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT It was RESOLVED to approve accounts for payment for July, August, and September 2023.
14/202324	BANK RECONCILIATION It was RESOLVED that the Bank Reconciliations for the year to 31st August 2023 and 2nd October 2023 were verified as correct and duly signed.
15/202324	BUDGET STATEMENT It was RESOLVED to approve the financial statement of income and expenditure for the year to 31st August 2023.
16/202324	CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence circulated to Councillors prior to meeting was received: BATPC – Nominations for County Committee Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity News CBC – Strategic Plan Priorities Survey CBC – Public Space Protection Order Consultation CBC – Sustainability Topics Session CBC – Adoption of Supplementary Planning Documents CBC – UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund English Rural Housing – Conference on Affordable Rural Housing in Bedfordshire Luton BC – Luton Town Centre Supplementary Planning Document More recent Correspondence had been received since the agenda was issued, as follows: CBC – Community Grants Fund – this had been circulated more widely to parish organisations and via the parish email. The Parish Council would consider working up schemes for subsequent rounds of this funding. CBC – BT Pay Phone removal.

17/202324	REPORT OF CLERK a) Amendment of Standing Orders It was RESOLVED to approve amendments to the Council's the Model Standing Orders as updated by the National Association of Local Councils in respect of public procurements. The Standing Orders would be updated on the website.
18/202324	ITEMS FOR THE NEXT PARISH LINK - Hedges - Bonfires - Remembrance Sunday - Fly Tipping - Fix My Street - Defibrillator locations - Date of next meeting
19/202324	ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA - Whipsnade Mobile Phone Mast
20/202324	DATE AND TIME OF FUTURE MEETINGS Tuesday 7 th November 2023 at 7.00pm Studham Scout HQ 3 Clements End Rd, Studham, Dunstable LU6 2NG
	Meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Signed by Presiding Chairman