

	STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD MONDAY 4TH OCTOBER @ 7 PM	
	Councillors Present: Bob Wilkin (BW), Mark Poyner (MP), Mohammed Rashid (MR), Chrys Smith (CS), Lynne Smith (LS) & Alan Wright (AW) Ward Councillors: Eddie Perry (EP) Also, in attendance: 6 Members of public (MOP) Clerk – Sally Harrop (SH)	
1.	Apologies for absence. Geoff Shute and Kevin Collins	
2.	Declarations of Interest. <i>(Personal and / or Prejudicial)</i> 6 a) i Home Reddings - MP 6 c) iii Land to the rear of 48 Church Road - LS	
3.	Public question time. Bus service – MOP - A request was made for a more regular bus service to return. CBC are currently undertaking a survey regarding public transport. There is currently a regular but infrequent service on a loop from Hemel, also a service from Dunstable (dial a ride, but is a scheduled service). EP – only 2 paying passengers completed the last survey, the rest had passes. CBC don't have money to fund a larger bus service. Suggest residents write in or complete survey directly to CBC. EP could ask to add to agenda at Town & Parish Council Meeting. Unfortunately, there isn't any real demand for service. Hedges along Dunstable Road – MOP – This area is unpassable for pedestrians, especially any with disabilities. CS - Hedges need to be cut by landowners, it is difficult to engage with some of them. Council can only clear what is on the ground. Process is with CBC; they can write and ask landowners to maintain hedges and then do the work and invoice them if they don't comply. PC can only write a standard letter, which will have a limited effect. AW – suggested we should start the ball rolling and write. MP – suggested we should we cut it as a health and safety issue and pay. CS will research quotes. MR arrived at 7.25pm Equestrian Centre – MOP feels that the planning decision is unlawful and wondered if the PC would take legal advice, as they missed the window of opportunity to ask the Secretary of State to call in the application. Various options regarding legal advice discussed, but this would be too expensive. If this application had been not called in by EP, it would have been refused. EP – there is a monitoring officer at CBC (Edwina) who can investigate any complaints/concerns. BW advised that to do this we would need to demonstrate there has been misconduct under CBC's Code of Conduct. PC don't have a misconduct issue but are concerned with the councillor's judgement. MOP – Advised that they felt it was always the intention at the site for a 4-bedroom dwelling and business, which would not benefit the community. MP – at the DMC meeting, major factor for special circumstances seemed to be disabled access. When asked by a MOP, EP advised he called the planning application in as he thought it was a worthwhile development. As the PC did not attend the DMC meeting it was felt that EP should have presented the PC views, EP advised that he accepts this and has learnt from the process. AW asked EP to advise the PC as soon as he calls in any future planning applications and confirm his reasons for doing so. EP agreed to this. MOP – thought ward councillors were elected to support us. EP feels he does represent parish. MP – commented that a consultation for the development was held in March, approx. 30 residents attended, not many were supportive. 2 X MOP leave at 8pm EP – would like to sit in on future PC planning discussions. BW – suggested we need a protocol of how we react with ward councillors with the planning process. MP – considered KC should have abstained from voting. Now we should focus on the Highways condition in planning approval. If there is no solution on the highways condition the development can't go ahead. MOP – thanked BW & MP for all their work on this matter.	

4	Matters for the Ward Councillors - EP – Town and Parish Planning conference scheduled for tomorrow has been postponed and will now be held on 10th Nov at 18.30. - EP gave CS a copy of Key Performance Indicators re Highways. Understands there are no grants, although patching can be discussed. Anything else is major works. LS mentioned the Scout Hut is need of works and may want to lodge an interest if there are any grants for this. EP left meeting at 8.18pm	
4.	To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 6th September 2021. The draft wording of the minutes had been challenged by KC concerning the debate on the Equestrian Centre – PC reviewed KC’s concern but considered wording provided a fair record of matters stated at the meeting and decided to leave as drafted. The minutes were then accepted as a true record of the meeting and signed. MOP leaves at 8.18pm	
5.	REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN – Councillor Wilkin <u>Saturday Surgery</u> – Major topic is Community Fibre Broadband - only 10 attending so far. Send reminders via email and Facebook. An explanation was given as to what service provides. <u>Community Fibre Broadband</u> – see b) above. <u>HM The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee 2022</u> – BW wrote to seven interested parties in village and has received several responses – MR will take this forward. PC has a budget to support Royal Events. <u>Bank Account Signatories</u> – Need to be updated, remove JC, Helen Newnham, and Brian Lofthouse. Add AW and SH, give BW and LS full power. SH to get forms or CS will do if needs to be a signatory. SH needs online access to accounts and to make online payments (which will still be authorised by councillors as cheques are now.) <u>Zoom Account</u> – It was decided to continue with this for the time being and review in March 2022.	
6.	Report of the Vice-Chairman – Councillor Poyner. <u>New planning applications.</u> <u>CB/21/03597/FULL</u> – Home Reddings, Common Road, Studham LU6 2NQ – Erection of porch roof and removal of existing porch. Removal of conservatory and alterations to external materials. Following deliberation, the councillors have no materials concerns. <u>Telephone Mast</u> – No update will be received until an application has been made, this could be end of month, the mast will be in Old Hill Wood and thus in Whipsnade parish. <u>Other Planning Matters –</u> <u>CB/21/01831/FULL – Clements End Farm</u> – already discussed in Public Question Time (3). <u>Hedgeside</u> – MP has been approached by owner with an outline development plan for 15 bungalows. This was discussed and MP will respond flagging concerns about access, need for distance barriers with neighbouring properties, and also residents need to be consulted. <u>CB/21/01361/FULL – Land to the rear of 48 Church Road, Studham</u> – An appeal has been submitted for the proposed two 4 bedroom semi-detached houses. PC discussed and viewed more favourably the developer’s alternative of 3 Chalet Bungalows. MP will discuss with developer and invite them to do a village hall consultation. <u>Other Matters –</u> Section 106 money and possible balances available – use of section 106 monies being investigated.	MP MP
7.	NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – Councillor Poyner No update - MP will add a proper bus service and broadband bandwidth to Neighbourhood Plan expectations.	
8.	REPORT of Councillor Rashid <u>Crime</u> – Nothing to report. <u>School</u>. It was discussed that we need a point of contact within the school – MR volunteered.	
9.	REPORT OF Councillor Shute. GS circulated a report to the Councillors prior to the meeting, the contents of which were noted.	
10.	REPORT OF Councillor C. Smith. <u>Car Parking</u> – CS will report the streetlight in car park area near the village hall. <u>Highways</u> – Patching carried out in Church Road and Common Road. Church Lane is under discussion regarding the best way to repair the damaged corner. Road sign for Oakway replaced and a couple of ‘Cycle Route’ signs have been re hung. Drains at Linney Head cleared. The sinking of the soak away at Bell Corner is being looked into. Paving slabs in Dunstable Road are being monitored. <u>Playing Fields</u> - Plans being drawn up to upgrade the play equipment and area. <u>Sports & Social Club</u> – new steward in place – planning minor building upgarde and a grant has been requested from PC – awaiting further information on this from Mike Bailey. <u>Studham Charity Bingo</u> has raised the following money - £500 towards rebuild village hall and £500 towards playground.	

11.	REPORT OF Councillor L. Smith. <u>Village Hall</u> – Des Salmon has not been well and thus AGM postponed. Des is standing down as chair (will be treasurer instead), CS to be chair and LS vice chair. They would like to recruit some younger trustees. New back door to be installed on 13 th Oct. Window Cleaner also sourced. New signage installed. Some work still to be done, floor not signed off as yet. Question re having a Christmas Tree in Village Centre - for Health and Safety reasons this is not possible. Applying for 50/50 Lottery funding for the rebuild. 1X MOP leaves at 9.40pm	
12.	REPORT OF Councillor Wright. a) <u>Defibrillators</u> – Cabinet at Red Lion rusting away - possibly 6 years old. Stainless Steel replacement would be more expensive but won't rust. AW has quote, we can claim VAT back. Meeting agreed to procure stainless steel replacement. b) <u>DEFIB training 27th Oct</u> – 27 attendees so far. Publicise again nearer the date.	
13.	ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT (relating to September 2021) Formal approval of payments as the September Bank Statement is not yet available. Lloyds have been written to and responded with form to complete to change correspondence address.	
14.	BUDGET STATEMENT PERIOD 5 (Distributed) To approve the financial statement of income and expenditure for the year to 31st July 2021. NOTE – Income from VAT claimed for 2019/20 & 2020/21 (direct to bank account 5th July 2021.) To be held over until next meeting.	
15.	CORRESPONDENCE a) <u>Magpas Air Ambulance</u> – make donation of £75 and the same amount to East Anglia Ambulance. b) <u>Bedfordshire Police and Partnership Trust</u> – Previously donated, defer until we have accounts updated. c) <u>Royal British Legion</u> – Wreath ordered (minimum payment £25.00), contribute £50. d) <u>Studham Sports & Social Club</u> – Request for a grant – awaiting further information.	
16.	REPORT OF CLERK. IT support – SH to obtain quotations for next meeting. Order laptop if suitable model in stock. SH has had some Scribe training sessions which were very useful, more have been booked in the next few months.	
17.	REVIEW ONGOING ACTIONS LIST. Update next month.	
18.	ITEMS FOR THE NEXT PARISH LINK. Nov Issue – Volunteers for Diamond Jubilee to contact MR.	
19.	ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA. Correspondence from Bedfordshire Police and Partnership Trust. Invites for Christmas Drinks Monday 6 th December.	
20.	DATE AND TIME OF FUTURE MEETINGS. Monday 1 st November 2021 @ 7pm Monday 6 th December 2021 @ 6pm	Meeting closed 10.14pm