

Minutes of the Annual Hulcote & Salford Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11th May 2020 starting at 7.30pm.

In line with emergency Coronavirus Government Legislation, the Parish Council will not be holding face to face meetings for the foreseeable future. This virtual meeting is being held via Zoom Conference facility.

Present: Cllrs J Abbey, K Butten, P Harris, R Harrison, P Laing, J Martin & S Whiteman, Mrs Lyn Lyman (Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

In Attendance: CB Cllr R Morris.

349. To appoint Chairman:

Cllr Butten was proposed by Cllr Harris. This was seconded by Cllr Abbey with all in agreement. Cllr Butten duly accepted.

350 To accept Apologies:

Apologies were received from CB Cllrs S Clark & K Matthews.

Cllr Laing advised that she was stepping down from the Parish Council and that this would be her last meeting.

351. To Appoint Vice Chairman:

Cllr Harris was proposed by Cllr Butten. This was seconded by Cllr Harrison with all in agreement. Cllr Harris duly accepted.

352. To appoint Portfolio Holders:

Highways	Cllr Abbey
Planning	Cllrs Harris, Butten & Harrison
Technology/Energy/Facilities	Cllr Harrison
Footpaths/Rights of Way	Cllr Abbey
Salford Liaison	Cllr Martin
Hulcote Liaison	Cllr Whiteman
Village Hall	Cllr Harris
Charities	Cllr Harrison & Pat Laing would continue as a Non PC Representative
Church	Cllr Butten
School Liaison	Maurice O'Connell (Non PC Representative)
The Informer	Cllr Whiteman together with Richard Mann
Website Liaison:	Cllr Whiteman with The Clerk

353. Specific Declarations of Interest:

- a) **Declaration of member's interest of a non-pecuniary nature:** Cllr Martin (Planning) (Having membership of a club, charity etc or a close relationship).
- b) **Declaration of member's interest of a pecuniary nature:** None (Having a financial bearing on a member or their spouse/partner).

354. Open Forum:

Richard Fraser said he was interested in the village and would like to do anything to help. He would be interested in the Parish Councillor vacancy when it is advertised.

355. **To accept Minutes from previous meeting:**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th March 2020 be accepted as a true record and they will be duly signed.

356. **To Consider Matters Arising:**

308b Footpath 7: Cllr Abbey confirmed everything is now in order and the positioning of the kissing gate has been agreed with Michelle Flynn. It should be installed May/June.

357. **To Accept Reports:**

CB Cllr K Matthews: Had previously said he had been chasing the bund issue but the case officer hasn't come back to him. He will continue to follow this up. **Action: KM**

CB Cllr Morris: Due to Coronavirus restrictions and lower traffic volumes, Highways repairs are being carried out if they are disruptive ie road closures etc.

CB Cllr Clark: (Had sent the following message) The main thing I really wanted to raise was the strategic growth consultation for the expansion of Milton Keynes. If you haven't already responded to this, the deadline has been extended to the 22nd of May.

I am particularly concerned that they are forging ahead with this consultation - to my knowledge they have not consulted at all with any of our residents in Central Bedfordshire. You may recall the meeting I organised was cancelled as result of Covid and extending a deadline by a month does not improve the quality of the consultation. At this time of national emergency minds are focused on the immediate and not long term consultations and extending a consultation period is not going to increase the reach.

Highways: Cllr Abbey said volumes of traffic through the village have obviously dropped due to the Coronavirus situation but the speed has increased!

All potholes have now been filled.

There do appear to be quite a few lorries coming through the village. This is very dangerous and they are driving at fast speeds. Photos have been supplied to Cllr Abbey. It was agreed Trading Standards need advising which Cllr Abbey will do. **Action: JA**

The Freedom of Information Act request confirmed the number of vehicles which had been noted speeding by the Police during the hours of checks they had carried out and they confirmed the number of letters they had issued re speeding.

Cranfield Road bridge should be open by the end of July.

Planning:

Milton Keynes Futures – deadline 22nd May 2020. The consultation is going ahead. See above report from CB Cllr Clark. There has been no consultation to date and the proposed increase in housing will be detrimental to our area. Infrastructure needs to be to the forefront. There needs to be liaison within the higher echelon at CBC/MKC. Website is: MKfutures2050.com. Cllrs Batten & Harris will put together a further response. **Action: KB / PH**

CB/20/00549/Full The Clock House, 17 Wavendon Road: This planning application has been rejected by CBC.

CB/20/01506/VOC Waterhall Cottage, Wavendon Road. This is a new application which has only been received today.

No appeal for the Toureen site has been seen to date. Still a lot of equipment and concrete on site. Notice on CBC website dated 3rd February 2020 takes effect by 5th March 2020 unless an appeal takes place. Which effectively means the site should be cleared by 5th September 2020.

CB/19/03710/full The Red Lion, Wavendon Road. Significant works have been undertaken, including the planting of trees, the erect of which is to make the Public House appear to be a home but in a style that is not in keeping with the building history.

Technology/Energy/Facilities: Cllr Harrison said

A bad confrontational time with CBC (Trish Etheridge) has been experienced recently. Most of the work planned for Salford has been carried out but Mill Lane, Hulcote has been disastrous. A new connection which should have served 12/14 homes has only served 1 home. Cllr Harrison took it up with Openreach and CBC. For a very small sum, 5 premises can have fast fibre, but the way it has been routed, CBC will not authorised the expense. Cllr Harrison has been passed backwards and forward from Openreach/CBC continually. It was agreed we now need to go to a very senior level at CBC to ask exactly what Openreach were asked to do. Cllr Harrison will draft a letter, circulate it to all Cllrs. Once agreed the Clerk can forward it to CBC.

Action: BH/LL

4G coverage in our area is very poor, we wrote approving the mast to be upgraded to 5g. At the same time asking for qualifications to be met but they haven't been. The planning permission has been approved but Cllr Harrison is unable to find out when the work is likely to be started.

Rights of Way/Footpaths: Cllr Abbey explained that access on Mill Lane, Salford close to Toureen has been blocked off so that pedestrians cannot get through. It is understood this is to stop fly tipping and stop people getting on to a site as damage is being done and stock gates are being left open. Cllr Harris confirmed that this is private land and public access should not be taking place.

Footpath 6 is currently subject with CBC. The PC objected to the footpath being re-routed. The resident is concerned for their safety as there have been people breaking in.

It was pointed out that permission had originally been granted for a temporary entrance which has never been taken away and has opened up the time which has encouraged visitors. Hedges were ripped out, thus leaving security a grave issue. It was originally a small public footpath. Changing the route of the footpath doesn't improve security. Should we speak to the landowner further to see what plans there are for the future and how is security going to be improved? Temporary access should be re-installed. Cllr Abbey will speak to the landowner.

Action: JA

The bridge at the Old Mill, Salford was built 2 metres out and is now in the wrong position. The Parish Councils objections still stand regarding moving an historical footpath. An application to move the footpath has been submitted.

Salford Liaison: Cllr Laing said sadly the village lost a resident during the shut down. There have been breakins, issues with speeding cars, noise from bridge repairs etc. There have been issues of dogs biting pedestrian, gates being left open by people not respecting the country code. Although a lot of good will is being experienced within the village during lock down.

Hulcote Liaison: It was noted Hulcote lost a longstanding resident last week. Cllr Whiteman said they had just had their 5th water leak (Hulcote). They have had Mark McDonald out but he says he is unable to do anything. The bridge is damaged although Highways say it is perfectly adequate. CB Cllr Morris had been asked if he could take this forward.
Action: RM

CBC sent a contractor to cost up the repairs to the bridge but they were looking at the wrong bridge! When the contractor was advised it was the wrong bridge, he then looked at the correct bridge and agreed it needed repair. It was agreed Cllrs Whiteman and Harrison should write to Ian Delgarno and/or Richard Carr (CEO of CBC). Once this has been done, the Parish Council would follow it up with a letter.
Action: SW/BH/

Since Coronavirus lockdown, more people have been using the footpaths down from Cranfield and enjoying the facilities en route.

Village Hall: Cllr Harris said obviously, it had been very quiet but it has allowed time for redecorating to be carried out. This should be completed by the end of May.

Charities: Cllr Laing explained the bank interest rates will be checked in time for Christmas 2020. Christmas 2019 29 children and 33 adults benefited from the Charity.

Any feedback would be appreciated regarding anyone who needs assistance from the Charity in Hulcote & Salford and should be passed to the Trustees.

A special thank you was expressed to Cllrs Laing & Whiteman for the parts they are playing in the health care industry at this busy time.

Church: Cllr Butten confirmed the bells had been rung successfully for VE Day.

School Liaison: Due to Coronavirus lockdown, there will be no summer events taking place at the school.

The Informer: Cllr Whiteman and Richard Mann will work together to take the next edition of The Informer forward in the not too distant future.

Noise Working Party Update: Criteria states that meetings cannot go ahead without a Parish Cllr in attendance so Cllr Laing will need replacing. Cllr Harrison agreed to take this on on the proviso that if he cant attend a meeting, he will advise other Cllrs to arrange for another Cllr to attend in his place.

Both Cllrs Abbey and Harrison are interested in following up the Marshalls situation at Cranfield.

358. **To consider Correspondence:**
CBC Coronavirus related posters.

359. **To accept Finance:**
Approx Balances as at 30th April 2020: Current A/C £2,101.61
BS A/C £28,207.77 (which includes the £6,550.00 Neighbourhood Grant)

The y/e accounts have been virtually completed but the internal auditor is still to carry out her audit. (Coronavirus restrictions means that this will be done electronically so this is a work in progress situation). **Action: LL**

The Lidlington Action Group are looking for funding for an independent traffic report regarding the traffic generated from the 5,000 houses which O & H want to build in the vale. They have explained that if the costing is split between the various villages which this could affect, Hulcote & Salford share would be £214. It was agreed on the basis of it being proposed, we agree with that. Our understanding is that it will contain a detailed study on Junction13.

Subject to the study taking into consideration of Junction 13 this could be supported. The Clerk had checked and unfortunately, this does not address M1 Junction 13 at the present time. Independent studies have not come up with much in the past.

Income:

Precept £7,000.00

It was **RESOLVED** to pay the following invoices:

Expenditure:

HMRC PAYE	168.00	100492
Came & Company Annual Insurance	394.20	BACS
BATPC Affiliation Fees	93.00	
Mrs Lyman Clerks Allowance – April	20.00	s/o
Mrs Lyman Clerk allowance - May	20.00	s/o
Mrs Lyman Clerks Salary - April	224.60	s/o
Mrs Lyman Clerks Salary May	224.60	s/o
	<u>1,144.40</u>	

360. **Section 106 Funding:**

Through Section 106 funding we have £3,158.48 allocated to our parish but it can only be spent on Recreation Ground equipment. The Clerk had asked if it could be spent on a bench for The Green but this did not qualify. If the allocation is not spent by a given date, it has to be returned to the developer.

At present neither villages have recreational ground facilities although there may be a possibility of something in the future.

The Charity owns The Green and although it would be insured, if equipment was erected on The Green, it would restrict the holding of other activities there.

It was agreed to make the Charities aware and for them to decide whether they would like us to pursue.

361. **Village Liaison- Website Information:**

As discussed above, Cllr Whiteman agreed to provide information to the Clerk who will include it on the website.

362. **To receive the Neighbourhood Plan update:**

A Green Infrastructure meeting held last week by Zoom. Cllr Butten explained the Topics which had been included on the plan. (First draft of the GI Plan). Unfortunately Staff at The Woodland Trust have been furloughed at present so cannot take it further at the moment.

Cllr Butten will endeavour to speak to the Chairman of Aspley Guise Neighbourhood Plan regarding their Green Infrastructure plan.

363 **Date of next meeting:**

Monday 27th July 2020 starting at 7.30pm.

Subsequently due to Coronavirus, future face to face meetings have had to be postponed until further notice. For the time being, Parish Council work will be transacted by e.mail or Zoom conference call meetings.

The meeting closed at 10.10pm.