

LANE END PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2022 AT 7.30PM AT LANE END YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

ATTENDANCE: Cllr Detsiny – Chairman, Cllrs Achurch, Dunning, Coulter, Graham, Harries, Nicolson, Osborn, Stewart, Wright.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCILLOR – Cllr Dominic Barnes, Mark Turner.

CLERK: Mrs Hayley Glasgow

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: 12

1) Headmaster of Great Marlow School

The Chairman welcomed Mr Kevin Ford, Headmaster of Great Marlow School. Mr Ford gave a report, please see appendix 1.

2) Public Questions

A Parishioner commented that there are rumors in the Parish that the Conference Centre is closing on 9th December 2022 and houses might be built on the site. A comment was made that it is hoped that the purchaser would want to run it as a similar venture. The Parish Council has not been given any information about this. Cllr Detsiny will try and contact the Conference Centre directly to ascertain some information. If information is received, the Parish Council will update Parishioners via social media and the Clarion.

A Parishioner asked if there was an update from Hey Broadband. Cllr Nicolson reported that they were still working on connections throughout the Parish. Hey broadband, have had some delays due to not being able to get wayleaves in place. When the Parish Council receives more information, they will update Parishioners via social media and Clarion.

3) Apologies for absence

Cllrs Coulter & Hunt.

4) Declarations of any personal or prejudicial interests

Cllr Detsiny declared an interest in tree works.

5) Minutes –

5.1 Approval of the Full Parish Council Meeting on 26th September 2022.

Council approved the minutes to be a true and accurate record. The Chairman signed the minutes.

5.2 Approval of the Closed Parish Council Meeting on 26th September 2022.

Council approved the minutes to be a true and accurate record. The Chairman signed the minutes.

6) Matters arising from previous meeting

Cllr Detsiny reported regarding improving communication between LEPC and Parishioners. Cllrs Detsiny and Graham have sent a paper to Councillors with suggestions of how to be more inclusive with the public. They will look at formatting this for the next Parish Council Meeting.

7) Clerk's Report / Invitations to Meetings, Correspondence & Reports received

The items below summarise the Clerks activities since the last meeting.

1. Unfortunately, the preferred water urn for LEYCC is out of stock. LEYCC are currently in the process of choosing a different one.
2. The Parish Councils insurance policy has been renewed under the Long Term Agreement and the invoice settled as agreed. The 3G multi use games area has been listed as children's play equipment as per the instruction form the insurance company. This is also listed as 3G MUGA/children's play equipment in the Parish Councils Asset Register.
3. The Allotment Rents are currently being sent out to all allotment tenants, along with a copy of the amended tenancy agreement.
4. I have instructed the contractor to go ahead with the repairs on the fence at Chalky Field allotment site.
5. Please note the following groups have been invited to attend the upcoming Parish Council Meetings :
Monday 7th November – Cadmore End Village Hall. The Lane End Players Committee will be presenting a report.
Monday 5th December – LEYCC. The LEYCC Committee will be presenting a report.
6. Christmas in the Village is scheduled for Friday 9th December at Lane End Village Hall.

7. Buckinghamshire Council has advised that they have made improvements to Fix My Street, which will reduce the number of reports from the public going to the wrong Council and will also reduce the admin time it takes to reallocate these reports back to Buckinghamshire Council. Based on a set of rules, Fix My Street will automatically forward a copy of the report to the relevant Parish/Town Council via email.
8. The resurfacing works on Shotfield Road are scheduled for Wednesday 5th October 2022.
9. I have organised for an insurance evaluation for the Pavilion and for the 3G multi use games area. The cost for this is £450 plus VAT.
10. Cllr Dominic Barnes is liaising with Bucks Councils Legal Dept re an appeals process for the policy adopted at the previous meeting.
11. Sent a letter to Sovereign Play as agreed.
12. Cllr Osborn is working on the ownership issue of lower pond.
13. I have instructed Enerveo to carry out a lantern replacement at column no 109 Pusey Way. The cost is £392.48 plus VAT
14. I have checked the AED units.
15. The Parish Councils Facebook page is regularly updated. If Councillors would like to add an update please email the Clerk.

Invitations to Meetings, Correspondence & Reports received – September 22

1. Updates from Buckinghamshire Council:
 - a. Update on move to new single system for revenues and benefits
 - b. Multiply your maths skills and your opportunities.
 - c. Get your veg on with Grow It, Cook It, Eat It.
 - d. Latest news on Community Safety in Buckinghamshire.
 - e. Welcoming Spaces give a warm reception to all.
 - f. Household recycling centres switch to winter hours.
 - g. Access All Areas, an event for people with learning difficulties and autism.
 - h. Roadworks update.
2. Other correspondence:
 - a. SSE – information about rising electricity prices.
 - b. Rural forum meeting 13th October.
 - c. Community Board - Trial of Solar Impacting Bin - Higginson Park.
 - d. LEYCC AGM 25th November at 7pm.
 - e. Chiltern Rangers newsletter.
 - f. Chilterns Conservation Board newsletter.
 - g. Rural Services Network.

8) Finance –

8.1 Approval of the account for September 2022

Council approved the expenditure of £28,873,55. Council noted the income was £84,881.50 including the second half of the precept. Council noted the current account closing balance of £221,404.67 as of 28th September 2022.

8.2 Quotation for tree works – Moorend Common

Council agreed a quotation of £750 for tree works on Moorend Common.

Council agreed a quotation of £1200.00 for tree works near Moor Common.

The Clerk has authorised the clearance of two fallen trees at Lane End Playing Fields for £200.00.

8.3 Quotation for clearance of foliage – Pond

Council agreed the quotation of £690.00 for clearance of the foliage at the pond.

9) EV Charge points –

Buckinghamshire Council advise that they are in the process of asking Parish Councils to confirm the locations of EV charge points. Council agreed that the Finings Road Car Park (Doctors Surgery side) and Edmonds Road Car Park would be the ideal locations for EV charge points. Considerations such as available space and 24 hour access have been taken into account.

10) Matters Raised by Councillors –

Cllr Detsiny reported that NK Homes were concerned that the planning process on Chalky Fields had reached an impasse and was in danger of refusal. The Highways Officer was insisting on an additional footpath that was not in the design specification. Cllrs Detsiny, Stewart and Coulter accordingly met NK on site on 26th September at their request.

The group suggested a compromise solution that could be put to Highways that would be less costly to construct. NK Homes thought this to be a positive development but pointed out that, if acceptable to Highways, it would be an exceptional cost that would have to be borne by LEPC. Given the urgency of the situation we told NK Homes we thought Council would agree and asked them to put the proposal to Highways. On 7th October 2022, NK Homes informed LEPC that Highways had accepted the compromise and therefore a major impediment to the planning process had been removed. Council will be asked to authorise this reduction in proceeds in closed session on 7th November. Cllr Detsiny reported the reduction was approx. 3% of the agreed Sale price. Cllr Dunning reported that the resurfacing works on Shotfield Road hasn't been completed to a good standard again. The Clerk will contact Highways.

11) Planning: To consider new planning applications

Please see appendix 2.

12) NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Monday 7th November 2022 at Cadmore End Village Hall.

Meeting Closed at 20.29.

Meeting to be closed – *Exclusion of Public and Press, to exclude public and press in accordance with s1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the item set out in Agenda item 13, due to the confidential nature of this item.*

It is proposed by the Chairman that the Public and Press be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as matters which will be discussed are considered to be confidential.

13) Finings Wood

The Chairman.....Date.....

Appendix 1 – Report from Mr Kevin Ford, Headmaster of Great Marlow School

Good evening and thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak to you this evening. So, I thought I would start with how I have come to be here this evening. Simply, through a chance meeting with Mike, last summer and a conversation around the facility developments that we have overseen at Great Marlow School (GMS) over the past ten years and the positive impacts of these developments on Marlow and the wider area and community, particularly on the children and young people, which obviously as the HT of GMS was my number one priority.

During the conversation, I explained to Mike that the money for most of the facility development had come from the sale of a small piece of the school field which was sold for approx. £8.5m which the school shared with Bucks CC as they were then but approximately £4.5m the school spent on developing its sporting facilities for the primary benefit of the school's students but also children in other schools in Marlow and beyond. Mike then explained the exciting situation that Lane End Parish Council are in. As part of the conversation, we discussed how positive an impact this money could have on the opportunities for the children of Lane End and I asked the question, 'how is the parish council gathering the views of the children that live in Lane End to support the decision-making process on how the money should be spent?'. That's when Mike asked for my help, as I also explained that most children that attend Lane End Primary School transition at 11 years of age to GMS.

We have approximately 150 students each year that live in Lane End, from a cohort of 1450 students. Last summer, I invited students who lived in Lane End to attend a meeting with me and explained the situation and the potential developments in Lane End and asked them to complete an online questionnaire.

In all 54 children between 11 and 15 completed the simple questionnaire, at the time due to COVID and Year 11 and Year 13 were doing their exams and not in school, the sample available was a little smaller.

The questionnaire had 3 direct questions:

1. What do you like about living in Lane End?
2. What would make living in Lane End better?
3. Are there any specific facilities (sporting, play, cultural or other) that you would like the parish council to look to provide?

Final question 4. Any other comments or information?

Question 1

What do you like about living in Lane End?

The responses centered around:

- Friends
- Shops particularly mentioned chip shop, Londis and Mr D's
- The village, duck pond and woods

One child particularly mentioned the pub which I found a very interesting response!

Question 2

What would make living in Lane End better?

The responses centered around:

- Safer environment, get rid of drugs, less vandalism and less litter.
- More sporting facilities, more shops and an improved park/skate park
- More things to do, particularly for teenagers

Question 3

Are there any specific facilities (sporting, play, cultural or other) that you would like the parish council to look to provide?

The responses centered around 3 main responses:

- Sporting facilities specifically mentioned areas for netball, basketball and football but also swimming and trampoline park
- Free or cheaper astro to be available
- New or improved park including skate park

Question 4

Any other comments/information

Responses centered:

- Lack of things for children to do
- Not being safe and too much vandalism

In the conversation with the children after they had completed the questionnaires it became clearer that many of the children were concerned about the behaviour of other children/teenagers in Lane End. Many of them said that they did not feel safe at night in certain parts of Lane End, that drugs were a problem and that new things that were put in were vandalised, this really upset them. The lack of things for teenagers was something they felt led to the poor behaviour of some children in the village.

I was very pleased to read and hear the requests for more sporting facilities from the children/students because I have seen first-hand with the facility developments at GMS the impact that engaging children in physical activity, sport and exercise can have on their physical health, mental health and on their academic outcomes.

It has been long recognised that physical activity improves cardiovascular and respiratory health, helps people maintain a healthy weight and body composition. It is increasingly being recognised that physical activity helps mental health and wellbeing - physical activity releases feel-good hormones that make you feel better in yourself, increasing self-esteem and self-confidence. Regular physical activity and exercise aids sleep which is so important for how we feel during the day in work or school, people have far more energy. Sleep is also vital for children to aid brain development, and this is where the third benefit of regular physical activity after improved physical wellbeing and mental wellbeing, it also makes you more intelligent. You don't have to take my word for that, please look up Professor John Ratey (Harvard Professor) whose work over many years has proven this to be the case. At GMS, our rowers whose levels of physical activity over the course of a week, are without doubt the highest in school, year on year they make more academic progress than any other group of students between Year 7 and 11 (1st and 5th Year in old money) In simple terms, physical activity can make you healthier, happier and brainier!

I am sure I don't need to tell you, but Lane End is a village with significant contrasts, as is Great Marlow School, particularly in terms of the backgrounds and lived experiences of the children. Approximately, 25% of children that attend GMS are Pupil Premium (PP) and receive free school meals, that means the household income of that family is incredibly low (...) The percentage of children attending Lane End Primary School who are PP and receive free school meals is 38% more than 1 in 3. At GMS we will have children from Lane End whose families are receiving food parcels from the One Can trust and they will be in the same classes as children whose family's household income is in the top 5% of households in the country.

For me there is a moral imperative to do all that can be done for the most vulnerable and particularly the most vulnerable children. This money invested in the right way could be transformational for all the children of Lane End but particularly the most vulnerable and provide the catalyst for a future that will pay the Lane End community dividends in so many ways.

I saw a quote in an article the other day that really resonated with me...and I would like to share...

The true measure of the prosperity of any nation is not the wealth of its millionaires, but the absence of poverty, the prevalence of health, the inclusion of its education system, the care it offers to its most vulnerable members, and the equality of opportunity it extends to all.

I really appreciate the opportunity you have given me to speak to you this evening in some way on behalf of children who live Lane End.

Appendix 2 – Planning

22/07275/FUL

4 Chequers Lane Cadmore End

Householder application for roof alterations including increase in ridge height and extended gable to rear, construction of two storey side, single storey side and two storey front extensions and external alterations

Objection - The previous application, despite no objections from the PC only "a neighbour`s concerns over potential loss of light/privacy noted" were rejected by the planning authority :-

"the application is recommended for refusal on the grounds of impact to street scene, locality and out of keeping with the application dwelling.

The new plans do little to answer this refusal & as suggested would be better sighting the extension on the other side of the existing dwelling.

22/07144/FUL

Alison Park Lane Lane End

Householder application for construction of part single, part two storey side/rear extension and front porch extension

No fundamental objections to the proposed plans. However, the changes add considerably to the existing property & the concerns of neighbouring parishioners over boundary & possible encroachment onto common land need to be clarified (with Dashwood estates).