

MINUTES

Studham Parish Council Minutes

Monday 5th September 2011

The meeting was called to order by Councillor Salmon at 7:00 p.m.

Councillors Present

Mr. Des Salmon (Chairman)
Mr. Tony Gatehouse (Vice Chairman)
Mrs. Andrea Maxted, Mr. Mark Poyner, Mr. Geoff Shute and Mrs. Chrys Smith

In attendance

Central Beds. Councillor: Mrs Ruth Gammons (part meeting)
Mrs. Julie Cooper (Clerk)

One member of public present (part meeting)

		Action
1	Apologies for Absence. Central Beds. Councillor: Mr. Richard Stay PCSO Dodkins	
2	Declaration of Interest. (Personal and / or Prejudicial) Parish Councils (model code of conduct) Order 2007 Cllrs. Maxted & Smith notified their interest regarding Agenda Item 11.3	
3	Public Question Time. There were no members of public present at this time.	
4	Matters for the Central Bedfordshire Councillors. Cllr. Gammons advised that due to several meetings being scheduled for this evening she and Cllr Stay had split the load between them so was representing them both at our meeting. 4.1 With the next year budget setting coming up the council needs to save a further 12 million for 2012 / 2013 financial year. The council is consulting with tax payers locally hoping to take feedback into account when making any cuts to services. 4.2 Documents have been circulated via e mail to Parish Councils with regard to issues surrounding parking management. Feedback has been requested. 4.3 Houghton Regis Leisure Centre 'dry side' remains open until March 2013, the council is going out to tender in the hope of retaining this facility. 4.4 Reminder that the next 'Let's Talk Together' meeting will be held on 29 th November at Heathfield School in Caddington from 7pm to 9pm. The councilors would be pleased to receive suggestions of items for discussion. Cllrs. Salmon & gatehouse are booked to attend. 4.5 Both Kensworth & Whipsnade Parish Council have requested training with regard to planning. Two sessions will be run on Wednesdays 14 th & 21 st September at Chicksands. Starting with refreshments at 6pm there will be stands to view, staff to talk too and 2 interactive workshops. Anyone wishing to attend would need to contact Rachel Brydges by 6 th September to register their interest. 4.6 Cllr. Smith asked Cllr Gammons if there would be any opportunity for residents of rural properties with larger gardens to have a bigger 'Green' bin. The recycling team has been advising that the larger size which is available as an 'Orange' bin is not available. 4.7 'Dog poo' bags can be obtained from the recycling team. 4.8 Cllr. Smith offered sincere thanks to Cllr. Gammons for her assistance in resolving some of the issues regarding the landscaping at Woodland Rise. 4.9 Cllr. Gammons offered apologies in advance as she will be unable to attend the October meeting.	DS/TG

	A member of the public arrived at this time Cllr. Gammons left the meeting. (7.15pm)	
5	Police Matters. No police present.	
6	Report of Nick Carafolo, Area Steward (Amey) Unfortunately a misunderstanding meant that Nick would be unable to attend this meeting as planned.	
7	To Approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 1st August 2011 The minutes were approved as an accurate account of the previous meeting. It was requested that page numbers be added in the future.	JC
8	Matters Arising from the Minutes. (for information only)	
8.1	(7.3) Cllr. Smith will prepare the flyer to advertise the next Parish Surgery (17 TH September). Cllrs. Maxted & Smith will prepare refreshments as usual. The clerk was requested to advise the name of the company who printed the flyers last time.	CS AM/CS JC
8.2	(7.4) Cllr. Salmon still awaiting a response from Cllr. Radford.	
9	Report of the Chairman. (Report of any major happenings / concerns raised affecting Studham)	
9.1	The Village Hall Committee has given approval for the map to be hung on the wall in the committee room. Cllr. Shute to assist with this.	DS/GS
10	Report of the Representatives.	
10.1	Highways (Cllr. Smith) It has been a busy month for meetings; (a) At Woodland Rise discussions were held with the Arboretum Team with a request for assistance. It has been agreed to return the area to its original plan, get grass cut as it should be and following discussion with local residents, remove deadwood. An open meeting will be arranged to advise residents of the 3 year plan and request their assistance in clearing away rubbish which has accumulated. Volunteers will also be drafted in to assist with this. (b) An enquiry regarding treatment of JKW has been received regarding land adjacent to 240 Dunstable Road. On approaching the 'Waste Services' Cllr Smith was advised that they were not dealing with any KNW. The Church Mead area has not and will not be treated. Cllr. Salmon suggested that a professional contractor should be employed to deal with this issue. Cllr Shute suggested that in the first instance he would contact John Creasey to clarify the situation. If this is something the PC needs to remedy written evidence to that effect would be required. (c) It was noted that the overhanging trees in Church Road and Church Mead Footpath had now been cut back. A Thank you letter to be sent to both residents. (d) Holywell path has now been repaired. (e) 1 pothole has been reported, entrance to Westhill Farm.	GS JC
10.2	Special Projects (Cllr. Poyner) (a) Cllr. Poyner presented the replacement plaque for the approval of the councillors. All extremely pleased. It was agreed that it should be erected before Remembrance Day when it could be re dedicated at the memorial service. Prior to this the bus shelter is in need of good clean. Thanks were extended to Cllr. Poyner for achieving this outcome. (b) The Village Centre 'Name Sign' ought to be replaced with as near as possible a replica to the original. It was suggested that some of the literature which is circulated has this type of thing advertised and would be a good place to start the search. Clerk to forward to Cllr. Poyner.	MP JC
10.3	Road Safety sub-committee (Cllr. Salmon) Following a meeting of the subcommittee it was agreed to send a letter to Mike Penning, Transport Minister. Cllrs. Smith & Gatehouse attended a meeting recently following a similar request made for Water End in Hemel Hempstead, they will follow up on this.	CS/TG
10.4	Studham Common (Cllr. Shute) (a) An e mail has been circulated with details of suggested structure and planting for the triangle. The addition of timber edging to discourage parking has meant the previous estimate of cost has increased. Cllr. Shute suggested £800 be ring fenced at this stage. He will investigate alternative types of edging and circulate any additional information by the end of September. It was suggested the work be carried out in two stages, Phase one would cost around £500	GS

	<p>and between £250 & £300 for Phase two. Cllr Salmon suggested that once the planting has been completed a proper schedule should be agreed for the grass cutting.</p> <p>(b) FOSC have a meeting scheduled for tomorrow when a discussion will take place regarding the format of documentation which is hoped will provide better communication of works being carried out on the commons. It was noted that much less has been done this year.</p> <p>(c) Despite several promises from Paul Burgess at CBC the hay has still not been cut. This was scheduled for the third week in July.</p> <p>(d) Cllr. Maxted requested the foliage along Church Road be cut back as it is restricting the width of the carriageway. FOSC are unable to assist with this due to Health & Safety regulations but it will be reported to Paul Burgess with a copy to Joe Pitt.</p>	GS
10.5	Playing Fields (Cllr. Smith) Nothing to report.	
10.6	Village Hall (Cllr. Salmon) <p>(a) The Management committee has decided to fit an external tap rather than the water butt they had originally planned as they felt it would be more practical. It was noted that it could be a problem with freezing in the winter. The cost of the tap is £60 against the agreed £50 for the butt.</p> <p>(b) Two firms have been contacted with regard to advice and a quote for a replacement floor, one did not respond at all and the other has not yet submitted a quote.</p> <p>(c) Diary Note: Carols in the Hall, same format as last year. Sunday 11th December in the afternoon. This will be run in conjunction with The Friends of Studham Church.</p>	
11	Correspondence <i>(For information only) (Correspondence received since the last meeting of the Parish Council)</i>	
11.1	Due to the volume of correspondence being received Cllr. Salmon suggested that a comment sheet be added to the mailbox where councillors could indicate their wish for any discussion at the next meeting. If nobody wishes it to be raised at the meeting the Chair & Vice Chair will decide on the best course of action.	
11.2	Cllrs. Maxted & Poyner received congratulations on the completion of the 'Well Being' training.	
11.3	Diamond Jubilee Committee has made a request for financial contribution from the PC towards the running of the 2012 celebrations. It was agreed to wait and see what has been received.	
11.4	Temporary Road closure requests for Remembrance Day Services. Official request required this year as the rededication of the Bus shelter memorial will add to the time and will affect Dunstable Road.	DS
11.5	Complaint regarding the 'Smartwater' security marking product. Discuss at Surgery on 17 th Sept.	
11.6	A request from Studham PCC for the PC to provide a display as part of the Harvest Festival Service on 2 nd October. Cllrs. Maxted & Smith will provide this. Clerk to send positive response.	AM/CS
11.7	Annual satisfaction survey from CBC	JC
11.8	Brokerage Questionnaire – no action taken	DS
11.9	Bedfordshire & Luton Compact, it was suggested that a new councillor might wish to take this on.	
12	Beds Rural Transport Partnership Delegated Fund <i>(To discuss application for funding)</i> Cllrs. Maxted & Smith have established the following facts with regard to applications for this fund; For new or significant improvements, eg. Bus shelter, over £1K 75% matched funding is granted. Generally the maximum grant is £2K but in exceptional circumstances this could be increased to £3K 25% matched funded can be in cash / kind therefore a nominal fee could be charged for library trips. Applications under £1K would be funded at 100% Cllr. Smith will follow up by telephone to establish further / more specific criteria. It was agreed to add a 'Stop Press' item to the Parish Surgery Flyer to determine how many people might be interested in using a mini bus library service.	CS
	The member of public left the meeting at this point after thanking all of the councillors for the time they put in doing an excellent job for the local community. He also gave his contact details and offered his help where possible whilst regrettably not being able to commit the time to join the Council as a member. This offer was much appreciated by councillors. (9.25pm)	
13	Planning <i>(To receive the Report of the Planning Committee and Central Bedfordshire decisions)</i> Cllr. Gatehouse stated that he was very impressed that Donna Lavender at CBC had followed up on all the points raised by the PC following their site visit to Barwythe Hall. It was agreed to inform the local resident affected by the Barwythe applications, who attended the previous meeting that all of his issues were raised and that a fully researched response had been	

