

## QUANTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held at the Memorial Hall at 8pm on 17th February 2022**

**Present:**

Councillors: John Knox (chairman), Nick Butler, Nicolette Smith, Sue Weldon, Lee Whitlock, Brian Fludgate (acting clerk).

Members of the public - 5

**1. Chairman's Introduction**

The chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

**2. Apologies for Absence**

<b>RESOLVED c/2022/03 to accept apologies from Ward Member Cllr Iain Macpherson</b>
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**3. Declarations of Interests**

There were no declarations of interest.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meetings had been circulated prior to the meeting, and duly signed by the chairman as a true and accurate record.

<b>RESOLVED c/2022/04 to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13th January 2022 and the extraordinary meeting held on 17th January 2022</b>
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**5. Public Forum**

**The following issues raised from the floor:**

- 5.1 Contractors cutting hedges and not collecting debris left on the road. The parish council has no powers to enforce any clear up and may be reported to Buckinghamshire Council.
- 5.2 The height of the new houses at 151 Station Road in some cases rise above the existing dwellings on Station Road. The development should comply with height versus distance rules from nearby properties, and the issue had been reported to the ward councillor.
- 5.3 The 16 bus service not being able to use Station Road due to the 3 ton weight restriction at the railway bridge continues to cause major inconvenience and distress to residents. A proposal to use the Railway Centre car park as a turnaround point is being investigated but progress is not publicly known. The clerk offered to pursue this issue with the ward councillor.

Chairman's initials:

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## **6. Buckinghamshire Council matters**

### **6.1 *Record of PC response to Boundary Commission consultation on ward constituencies***

- Prefer single member constituency. The current multi member experience since the last election has resulted in a lack of focus among ward councillors.
- Quainton is a rural parish and would want to be part of a rural constituency
- At the previous local government boundary reorganisation Quainton was separated from its close neighbours and added to the geographically elongated Great Brickhill Ward.
- Quainton's natural gravitation is to the parishes of Grendon Underwood and Waddesdon with whom there are many shared services and activities including the GP Practice, Sports teams and Theatrical Group
- Quainton is currently the only Gt Brickhill parish in the Buckinghamshire Haddenham & Waddesdon Community Board and were in the same position with the predecessor Local Area Forum.

### **6.2 Community Board**

Cllr Smith raised the issue of having a clear sign off process for Community Board grants to other parishes and sponsored charities in advance of PC meetings and agreed the best method would be via email. This generated a discussion on the Bucks Railway Centre, and Cllr Weldon offered to contact the BRC to discuss its relationship with the parish council.

## **7. Reported Matters Outstanding**

### **7.1 *Clerk vacancy***

It was announced Ms Katherine Richardson had been interviewed and offered the clerk position (see Clerk's report).

### **7.2 *Councillor allocation of responsibilities***

It was agreed this matter would subject to a separate meeting to allocate tasks and responsibilities.

## **8. Transport & Infrastructure**

### **8.1 *HS2 works***

Cllr Knox provided a briefing on current works and upcoming road closures which are posted on the village website.

Several road closures at Edgcott, Station Road and Snakes Lane were being questioned as to their necessity.

The design of the Station Road re-alignment is unlikely to change from the variation proposed last year compared to the design in the HS2 Act.

### **8.2 *Other***

The Transport for Bucks stakeholder virtual event for the Aylesbury area is scheduled for 5pm 28th February via MS Teams. Connection details had been previously circulated.

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### **8.3 Footpath alterations and traffic calming measures – Station Road**

Request from developer Barwood Homes to meet to discuss the planned measures and resident response to the BC consultation. Meeting on site is scheduled for Friday 25th February.

Summary of consultation results:

14 responses of which 11 were against and 3 in support. Of those against, 6 required no measures and 5 suggested alternative measures.

It was decided the parish council would continue to oppose the measures but to seek footpath improvements and gulley clearance as the priorities.

### **8.4 Speed Indicator Device (SID) data recording and analysis**

Cllr Whitlock had previously circulated the cost quote from Traffic Technology (TT) for a combined maintenance and data analysis package for approval which would cover visits every 2 months at a cost of £1875 excluding vat per annum. This would cover the existing SID and the 2 units on order.

It was decided to investigate if the village Speedwatch volunteers could undertake the data capture and reporting, and if TT could exclude the maintenance cost element in favour of call out charges as and when a unit went faulty It was also recommended advice be obtained from other parishes as to how they manage the SID data and maintenance.

## **9. Planning Matters**

### **9.1 Ref. 21/04903/APP Erection of detached ancillary granny annexe – Oxleys Shipton Lee**

It was agreed to object to the application in support of the heritage officer comments.

### **9.2 Ref. 22/00170/APP Erection of new garages and carport – 5 Glebe Cottage and 7 Bakers Barn Upper Street**

It was agreed no objection to the application

### **9.3 Ref. 22/00172/CPE Certificate of Lawfulness for existing use of contractors depot - Land to east of Oving Road**

It was agreed not to support the application and raise the question of whether a change of use should have been submitted.

### **9.4 Ref. 22/00258/ALB Repairs to timber frame, brickwork, replace roadside gable windows etc – The Little Cottage Church Street**

It was agreed no objection to the application

### **9.5 Ref. 22/00190/APP Variation of Condition 14 (erection of 40 dwellings) – 151 and land to the rear of 151 Station Road**

It was agreed no objection to the application which sought to change the trigger point to install pedestrian safety measures and traffic calming from first occupation to first 30 occupants (75%). It was decided to request the trigger point be first 20 (50% occupation).

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#### 9.6 **Ref. 22/00353/APP Part single, part 2 storey extension – 50 Lower Street**

It was agreed no objection to the application

#### 9.7 **Ref. 22/00472/Variation on Conditions 3 (new licence) and Condition 8 (materials) erection of 6 dwellings – Land at North End Nurseries**

It was agreed no objection to the application

#### 9.8 **Melling Farm Station Road**

BC planning have been asked to re-visit the application (16/03886/A17) due to the land being included in VALP as a site suitable for development (Policy D-QUA014-016 refers). Also, the land is allocated for housing in the emerging modified Quainton Neighbourhood Plan (at R16 consultation stage). Secondly, some of the land has been taken by HS2 for safeguarding as part of the Station Road re-alignment. HS2 have now issued CPOs to affected landowners including this site.

#### 9.9 **Consultee Access**

The clerk had previously circulated new online access arrangements where there is now a single generic account and password for councillors to use.

#### 9.10 **The Modified Quainton Neighbourhood Plan**

The Plan is currently at Regulation 16 public consultation until 28th February when it will then be subject to independent examination.

### **10. Clerks Report**

#### 10.1 **Clerk transfer of responsibilities**

Pending the appointment of the new clerk, it was recommended a minimum of 8 weeks will be required to allow a proper transfer of knowledge and processes.

#### 10.2 **Councillor vacancies**

The resignation of Cllr Robinson-Boyce w.e.f 16th December 2021 prompted a vacancy notice and provided there has been no public request to Buckinghamshire Council to hold an election, the vacancy may be filled by co-option.

#### 10.3 **Correspondence**

- Email from resident regarding the erection of a fence in Mallets End. Response provided by the clerk.
- Email from resident regarding poor state of road to Blackgrove crossroads. Response provided by Cllr Knox.
- Email from resident regarding SID not working on Lower Street. Resolved by Cllr Whitlock.
- Email from resident offering to provide planters in space at bottom of The Green.

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Forwarded to School Lands Charity.

## **11. Finance**

11.1 The February finance report had been previously circulated for review.

<b>11.2 <i>Payments pending previously circulated</i></b>	<b>11.3 <i>Receipts reported</i></b>
£ 165.58 – Castle Water (part payment)	£ 0.19 – Bank interest (reserve account)
£ 80.52 – Parish phone bill	£ 50.00 – Allotment rents
£ 54.00 – QMH room bookings	
£ 104.40 – Clerk salary (Jan)	
£ 69.60 – HMRC PAYE (Jan)	
£ 12.52 – Office expenses	
£ 40.66 – Castle water (full payment)	

**RESOLVED c/2022/05 to approve the payments pending as recorded.**

### **11.4 Bank Reconciliation (£)**

Brought forward 2020/21	33271.80	Reserve account	21942.20
Receipts to date	36396.74	Current account	20635.05
total	<b>69668.54</b>	total	<b>42577.25</b>
Less payments to date	27091.29	Plus received not banked	nil
<b>Bank balance at 4th February 2022</b>	<b>42577.25</b>		<b>42577.25</b>

### **11.5 *Limits on expenditure***

Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 allows councils to incur a limited amount of expenditure every fiscal year on anything they consider is in the interest of or will directly benefit the parish.

The amount of money that the council can spend under S137 for 2022/23 is £8.82 x no of electors. This then equates to the maximum amount of money that the council can spend under

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S137 activities.

### 11.6 *Quotes and donation requests*

**RESOLVED c/2022/06** to approve the quote from Ross Lawry and appoint as hedging contractor for 2022.

**RESOLVED c/2022/07** to approve a donation of up to £40 for CPRE

**RESOLVED c/2022/08** to decline a donation request from the Bonfire & Fireworks Committee for Platinum Jubilee emblems for the Beacon

## **12. Recreational Facilities**

### 12.1 *Recreational Reports*

The orchard and skatepark reports were circulated by Cllr Butler on 7th February. These covered key activities such as:

- Request to cut the football pitch
- Possible Multi Games Area
- Water supply to Tennis Club

### 12.2 *Quinton Beer Festival*

Cllr Weldon advised the event was planned for 6th July and the preferred traditional venue would be The Green. However, this may be dependent on the George & Dragon PH having sufficient staff to offer the use of its facilities and provide a bar service. It was urged the parish council help in any way to recruit volunteers to help with serving in the pub.

## **13. Business for next meeting**

Cllr Knox announced his intention to resign as both chairman and councillor before the next meeting and therefore a new chairman would need to be elected as first business on the agenda.

Being no further business, the chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.25pm.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting due to be held on **Thursday 10th March 2022** may need to be re-scheduled and the clerk will confirm the next meeting date.

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Date: