

**LAVENDON PARISH COUNCIL**

Clerk

The Pavilion

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Lavendon

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Minutes of the Monthly meeting of **Lavendon Parish Council** held at The Pavilion on **13th March 2023**

**Present**: -

* Steve Axtell (Chairman)
* Ann Kelcey (Cllr)
* Mike Rutherford (Cllr)
* Martino Ginepro (Cllr)
* Alex Mountcastle Cllr)
* Michelle Ramsden (Cllr)
* David Hoskin (Ward Councillor)
* Pam Ayres (Clerk)

**Apologies: -**

* Louise O’Boyle (Cllr)
* Arlene Ormston (PCSO)
* Keith McLean (Ward Councillor)
* Peter Geary (Ward Councillor)

Meeting commenced at 19:30

1. **Introductions & Welcome**

The Chair welcomed those present.

1. **Minutes of previous meeting** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th February 2023 were confirmed as correct and signed by the Chairman, Steve Axtell.
2. **Declaration of Interest**

No declarations of interest were received.

1. **Public Question Time**

There were two members of the public present.

The residents present wanted to make Cllrs aware that seven children from the village within the catchment area of Ousedale secondary school, have not been offered a school place for September 2023. Instead, they have been allocated places at Stantonbury which is 13 miles away. The residents stated that the decision not only effects this year’s intake but future years too and those with siblings already at Ousedale. Cllr Rutherford asked if the residents were aware of any other villages that may have been effected. One resident replied that 25 children in total within catchment have not been offered places. The villages affected include Moulsoe, North Crawley, Stoke Goldington, Astwood and Sherington. Ward Cllr Hoskin commented that he had been blindsided by the decision and was not given any prior warning by either MKCC or Ousedale. Ward Cllr Hoskin went on to state that as Ousedale are an Academy, MKCC do not have any authority over how many children the school takes. Ward Cllr Hoskin further stated that all Ward Councillors agree that the situation is not acceptable. Local MP, Ben Everitt has arranged an urgent meeting with Andy Burton, Headteacher of Ousedale School to discuss the issue, followed by a meeting with parents of those children affected by the decision. Ward Cllr Hoskin suggested that the Parish Council write to the Headteacher, Andy Burton, asking him to reconsider the decision. The letter should be emailed to Ben Everitt MP in the first instance who will present it to Andy Burton at the meeting on 15th March. Chairman, Steve Axtell thanked the residents for bringing the matter to the attention of the Parish Council, confirming that a letter will be sent to Andy Burton setting out the Parish Councils objections and urging him to reconsider and allow the 7 children to attend the school in September.

**AP1**: Chairman, Steve Axtell to write to Andy Burton.

**5. Ward Councillors Report**

Ward Cllr Hoskin report included the following items: -

**5.1 Wheelie Bins**

Ward Cllr Hoskin stated that he’d received feedback from a resident from Cold Brayfield who had recently attended the Bins on Tour information session held at the Baptist Church. Chairman, Steve Axtell commented that the event was well attended and had given residents the opportunity to ask questions and raise concerns. Ward Cllr Hoskin commented that MKCC is doing its best to ensure that people can have single use sacks if bins are not considered feasible. Ward Cllr Hoskin went on to state that an online postcode checker is due to be launched shortly which will give residents the opportunity to check whether they will be receiving sacks or bins. Anyone not happy with the decision will be able to appeal.

**5.2 MKCC Budget 2023-24**

MKCC has set its budget for 2023-24 which includes a 4.99% increase in council tax. There is to be no new money in the budget for rural bus services. Cllr Kelcey asked if this would affect the 41-bus service. Ward Cllr Hoskin replied that this shouldn’t affect the intention of Britannia on its application for tender.

**5.3 A509**

There was extensive flooding on the section of road between the A509 Chicheley Hill roundabout down to Sherington last Friday evening, causing serve disruption. The problem was exacerbated by a drop in temperature overnight, causing icing conditions. It’s unclear what caused the excess water to flood the road. Ward Cllrs have contacted Highways asking for a report on what happened.

Ward Cllr Hoskin further report that on the same stretch of road, litter is a problem. This section of the A509 will be closed overnight during the week commencing 27th March to allow for the safe clearance of litter.

**5.4 Coronation celebrations**

Cllr Kelcey stated that she was aware that MKCC has available £50,000 of funding towards the forthcoming Coronation celebrations and asked Ward Cllr Hoskin if he knew when Parishes would be able to apply for funding. Ward Cllr Hoskin confirmed Cllr’s Kelcey understanding was correct but was unable to advise when the application process would be open for bids, suggesting that the Parish Council contacts Pete Brown at MKCC, who would be best placed to advise.

**AP2**: Clerk to contact Pete Brown at MKCC for details of the application process for funding.

1. **PCSO’s Report**

PCSO Arlene Ormston was unable to attend the meeting.

**7. Finance Report**

**7.1 Receipts & Payments**

The Parish Council received the schedule of receipts and payments for February 2023.

**Resolved:** That the schedule of receipts and payments made during February 2023 as circulated, be approved.

**7.2** **Scrutinising volunteer**

Cllr Rutherford.

**7.3** **Purchases for approval**

None

**8. Clerk’s Report**

**8.1 Replacement Basket Swing**

The Clerk reported that she had received 2 quotes for a replacement basket swing and was waiting for a third. Once received she will report back to the Parish Council.

**AP3.** Clerk to check whether it’s possible to obtain S106 grant funding for the purchase of the swing.

**8.2** **Warm Welcome Space**

A further £100 of additional funding has been provided by MKCC to help support the Warm Welcome Space initiative run by the Baptist Church.

**8.3 Dog fouling**

There have been reports of dog fouling on land behind the Horseshoe Pub. A considerable number of poo bags have been discarded in the cut through to the Copse with some left hanging from branches. The Clerk reported that the issue is currently being investigated.

**8.4 Parish Precept**

Parish Precept for the financial year 2023-24 has been confirmed. The Parish Council is to receive £40,697. This is to be paid in two instalments.

**8.5.** **Community Payback Program**

A team from the Community Payback Program having been doing a great job of helping with the planting of trees and brushes around the village and are due to return over the next few Saturdays to help with tidying the Copse and other areas around the village.

**9. Specific Agenda items**

**9.1 Community Infrastructure Fund 23/24**

Application packs for the CIF 24/25 will be sent out at the end of April. The maximum contribution

will be £20,000 per parish. Cllrs discussed various projects that the funding could be directed towards. Cllr Rutherford suggested that one possible option could be the landscaping and marking out of the land adjacent to the cemetery which is nearing capacity.

**AP4.** Clerk to obtain quotes for landscaping and marking out of the land adjacent to the cemetery.

**10. Planning Applications**

a. Application no: 23/00379/PRIOR - Prior approval for change of use of an agricultural building to a flexible commercial use (B1,B8) At: Northey Farm London Road Bozeat Wellingborough NN29 7NP – It was agreed that there were **no objections** to the application.

b. Application no: 23/00418/HOU **-** The erection of a proposed single storey front/side extension At: 7 Harrold Road the- It was agreed that there were **no objections** to the application.

c. Application no: 23/00367/HOU - The erection of a part single storey, part two storey rear extension with roof lights, loft conversion with side dormers with roof lights and single storey side extension and overcladding to existing garage At: 5 Joiners Way - It was agreed that there were **no** **objections** to the application.

**11. Parish related matters**

**11.1 Best Kept Village competition 2023**

Following discussion, it was agreed not to enter the competition.

**11.2 Dogs behaving badly**

Cllr Ramsden reported that there had been several complaints concerning dogs off the lead in the playing park, not coming back when called.

**AP5.**  Clerk to investigate signage and take advice from PCSO.

**11.3 Block Drain**

Cllr Ramsden reported that following the recent bad weather, it had been noted that the drain along Castle Road (Just passed Joiners Way) was blocked and overflowing.

**AP6.** Clerk to report the issue to MKCC

**11.4** **Litter Pick**

Cllr Kelcey informed the meeting that the first litter pick of the season coincides with Keep Britain Tidy on 25th March 2023.

**AP6**. Cllr Kelcey to apply to MKCC for new litter picking equipment.

Chairman, Steve Axtell closed the meeting at 21:28 reminding Cllrs that the next Meeting due to be held on 10th April has been moved to **17th April 2023**

Signed: ………………………………………………………… Chairman

Dated: ……………………………………………………………