

SOUTHILL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 13TH MAY 2013 @ 7.00PM AT SOUTHILL LOWER SCHOOL

Present: Cllrs. Egar (Chairman), Cakebread, Green, Hickman, Hunt, Jones, Rodenberg, Rook, Central Beds. Cllr. Turner and the Parish Clerk. There were three members of the public present.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Andrews and Syms

2. Election of Chairman

Cllr. Egar was proposed as Chairman by Cllr. Rook and seconded by Cllr. Jones. There being no other nominations, Cllr. Egar was unanimously elected Chairman.

3. Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr. Egar proposed and Cllr. Hickman seconded Cllr. Rook. There being no other nominations, Cllr. Rook was unanimously elected Vice Chairman.

4. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th March 2013 were confirmed as a true record and duly signed.

5. Declarations of Interest from Members

Declarations were as follows : Cllr. Egar Item 12(b), Cllr. Hickman Item 9(d)iii, Cllr. Jones Item 9(d)ii

6. Councillor Vacancy

A Broom parishioner has expressed interest in becoming co-opted onto the Council. It was agreed that Cllrs Green and Jones visit the parishioner to determine suitability.

7. Police Report

There was no police presence but crime figures were presented to Councillors which were duly noted. Crime prevention leaflets had recently been delivered to properties in the Parish but not all had received them. The Chairman would forward copies to all Councillors.

8. Matters arising from the Minutes

a) Community Speed Watch

The first training session will take place on 15th June 2013, but unfortunately not all the volunteers will be able to attend. The Chairman will forward the volunteers contact details to the training organisers so that liaison about other potential dates can be agreed directly.

b) Play Equipment

Cllrs. Hickman and Rook reported that the available Section 106 monies totalling £3,740 was to be allocated to Stanford Playing Field. The funding would provide purchase and set up costs for the first phase of an adventure trail. Planning permission will be required and further details will be reported to future meetings of the Council.

9. Special Interest Groups' Reports

a) School

In Cllr. Andrews absence there was no report.

b) Broom Quarry Liaison

Cllr. Hickman reported that several concerns had been raised with Tarmac over breaches of the terms and conditions relating to recently commenced work on the Broom South quarry. Tarmac responded quickly and the issues have now been resolved. There are now two liaison groups in operation – one for the existing quarry and the other for Broom South with the latter meeting next on 23rd May. There is an application form for potential grants from the Section 106 monies available and Cllr. Hickman will forward a copy to each Councillor. Councillors were reminded that any grant applications have to be approved by the Parish Council before consideration by the group.

c) Grass cutting

Cllr. Green reported that two cuts had now taken place. Some areas of Stanford had been missed and

Cllr. Green will investigate.

d) Halls and Playing Fields

i) Southill - The cabin of the boat on the playing field had been removed as a safety measure. The ROSPA inspection was imminent.

ii) Broom – There was nothing to report.

iii) Stanford – the weed spraying course for the groundsman to be funded by a Council grant has been postponed. Cllr. Hickman will report on this matter to the next meeting. The ROSPA inspection was due in the coming weeks.

e) Ivel Parish Forum

Cllr. Rook attended and the meeting focused on the newly elected Police and Crime Commissioner who outlined his role in Bedfordshire. It was noted that speeding through villages was still the major concern for most parishes.

10. Litter Pick

It was agreed that the most suitable time for a litter pick was late autumn/winter.

11. Highway Maintenance

There were no current areas of concern.

12. Planning Matters

a) Applications considered

Shooting Range, Ireland

Change of hours to existing shooting range & erection of facilities to act as firing points with acoustic buffers. Installation of portable toilet & office unit, three storage container and an increase in height of the existing backdrop. Improvements to the highway access and an additional gate.

No objection

Little Dene Farm, Southill Road, Broom

Erection of storage barn

No objection

b) Central Beds. Council Decisions – Approvals

Stanfordbury Farm, Stanford Road, Shefford

Erection of grain store

c) Refusals

None to report

d) Local Development Framework

Nothing to report

13. Financial Matters

a) Bank Balances

The Clerk reported bank balances as follows :

	£
Community Account	20,791.63
Business Premium Account	14,828.16

b) Payments

The following accounts have been received and were approved for payment :

		£
Southill Lower School	Hire of room	35.00
Aon Insurance	Premium renewal	1499.32
M J Granger Grounds Mtce.Ltd.	Grass cutting	1026.00
Beds. ATPC	Affiliation fees 2013-2014	236.00
RSB (Old Rowney) Ltd.	Refurbish Broom noticeboard	288.00
P.D. Knightley	Clerk's duties & expenses April 2013	450.39
HM Revenues & Customs	Tax deductions April 2013	76.60
P.D.Knightley	Clerk's duties & expenses May 2013	416.39
HM Revenues & Customs	Tax deductions May 2013	76.60

c) Annual Report and Statement of Assurance for the year ended 31st March 2013

Following receipt of a 'clean report' from the internal auditor, the Council approved the accounts and their release for external audit. The Statement of Assurance for the year ended 31st March 2013 was

duly approved and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

14 Correspondence

The Clerk reported on the correspondence. :

a) Central Beds. Council

Highways Programme 2013/2014
Local Transport Plan Rural Match Fund & Bidding Guidelines
Together Ezine – bumper spring edition

b) General Correspondence

Beds. ATPC

‘Bedfordshire Bugle’ – May edition

Beds. RCC

‘Network’ Spring 2013

Parish Online

Newsletter – April 2013

15. Next Meeting – Tuesday 2nd July 2013 – 7.00pm Broom Village Hall

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.30pm

At a general meeting before the Parish Council meeting the following point was raised by a member of the public.

- A question was raised as to how an accusation of Councillor misconduct had been dealt with. This would be addressed at the next meeting.