

SOUTHILL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER 2013 @ 7.00PM AT BROOM VILLAGE HALL

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

1. Apologies

An apology was received from Councillors Andrews, Cakebread and Macan-Lind.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd September 2013 were confirmed as a true record and duly signed.

3. Declarations of Interest from Members

Declarations were as follows : Cllr. Egar Items 9 and 11(b), Cllr. Hickman Item 7(d)(iii).

4. Welcome to new Councillors/Councillor vacancy

The Chairman introduced and welcomed Councillor Anthony Grant who would be representing the Southill ward. Unfortunately the other new Councillor, Kevin Macan-Lind was unable to attend due to work commitments. The Chairman announced that Cllr. Syms had now resigned as she was moving to the USA. This means there is a vacancy in Broom.

5. Police Report

PCSO Coppenhall was unable to attend the meeting but crime figures for September/October were presented to Councillors. The figures showed a significant reduction compared to the equivalent period twelve months ago .

6. Matters arising from the Minutes

a) Community Speed Watch

There had been no progress in arranging training sessions but PCSO Coppenhall was attempting to arrange and deliver the training in a more suitable and acceptable way.

7. Special Interest Groups' Reports

a) School

Cllr. Andrews was unable to attend but had forwarded details of the report to all Councillors. The report stated that 59 children were currently attending the school. The school had recently been awarded a bronze medal for PE provision in the school. Harvest festival was celebrated in October and a science day was also held during that month. Children in the Swifts class had visited the archaeological dig currently taking place at the new extension to Broom Quarry and had been allowed to handle some of the artefacts that had been found.

b) Broom Quarry Liaison

A meeting of the Broom South Liaison Group had taken place in early September and considered two funding applications to be met from the £60,000 Community Fund. The application from St. Mary's Church in Southill was awarded the full grant that had been submitted. It was noted that the vehicle activated speed signs were still not in place. The Clerk was asked to raise the matter with Tarmac and Central Bedfordshire.

c) Grass cutting

Cllr. Green reported that the cut which had taken place in late October would probably be the last. However, if Cllr. Green considered another was necessary he was given authority to go ahead. The Chairman thanked Cllr. Green for all his hard work in ensuring the grass cutting was monitored successfully.

d) Halls and Playing Fields

i) Southill - Cllr. Egar reported that the usual contractor would not be able to carry out quarterly inspections and the Clerk would obtain quotes from RoSPA and one other appropriate contractor.

ii) Broom – There was nothing to report.

iii) Stanford – Cllr. Hickman reported that the annual duck race and fund raising event took place on 22nd September and raised £863 . The Playing Field Assoc. thanked the Parish Council for funding the

planning application fee for the adventure trail, the first phase of which was hoped to be completed by Christmas.

e) Ivel Parish Forum

The next meeting will take place on 16th January in Broom Village Hall.

8. Donation received from Motley & Hope, Solicitors

The Chairman explained that the solicitors based in Biggleswade had celebrated their 200 year history by donating £200 to ten local Town & Parish Councils of which Southill was one. After a brief discussion it was agreed to accept the donation but no decision was taken at this stage on how the money should be spent.

9. Proposed footpath – Broom to Jordan's Mill

The Chairman reminded Councillors that a petition had been received at the commencement of the meeting from residents who wished to see a footpath from Broom to Holme Mill (Jordans) and that the group supporting the footpath had asked for the Council's backing. Cllr. Green reported that he had held meetings with Central Beds. officers regarding possible routes for the footpath both to the north and south of Southill Road. The officers had agreed to approach the relevant land owners. Following discussion the Council agreed to support the principal of public access from Broom to Holme Mill with ideally the route being a bridleway. The Council also agreed to support the group of local residents as best they could as the group took the matter forward.

10. Highway Maintenance

Patching work had been carried out at Bancroft Avenue, Broom but was unsatisfactory and the site meeting requested with Cllr. Green had not taken place. The Clerk was asked to write again to Central Beds. regarding the matter.

The road surface at The Woodlands, Broom needed attention. There were flooding concerns near Old Southill Station on the road to Ireland. There were deep seated drainage problems here which needed to be resolved.

11. Planning Matters

a) Applications considered

Land adjacent at Old School Lane, Stanford

Construction of an 'adventure trail' (play equipment)

No objection

Estate Office, Southill Park, Southill

Installation of four CCTV security cameras mounted on exterior walls in and around the stable yard complex

No objection

21 The Crescent, Stanford

Detached one bedroom annexe with garage

No objection

b) Central Beds. Council Decisions – Approvals

4 The Maynards, Broom

Convert garage part first floor two storey annexe extension to side. Insert two roof lights into rear single rear roof over kitchen

Land adjacent at Old School Lane, Stanford

Construction of an 'adventure trail' (play equipment)

c) Refusals

Nothing to report

d) Local Development Framework

Nothing to report

11. Financial Matters

a) Bank Balances

The Clerk reported bank balances as follows :

Community Account

£

15,776.51

Business Premium Account

14,831.86

b) Payments

The following accounts have been received and were approved for payment :		£
Broom Village Hall	Hire of room	25.00
M J Granger Grounds Mtce.Ltd.	Grass cutting	513.60
M J Granger Grounds Mtce. Ltd.	Grass cutting	274.80
M J Granger Grounds Mtce. Ltd.	Grass cutting	513.60
M J Granger Grounds Mtce. Ltd.	Grass cutting	189.60
M J Granger Grounds Mtce. Ltd.	Grass cutting	513.60
Southill Lower School	Contribution towards cost of grass cutting the playing field	400.00
Southill Lower School	Contribution towards cost of litter clearance of the playing field	100.00
Browns Refurbishments Ltd.	Various repairs to equipment at Southill play area	135.00
Royal British Legion	Cost of poppy wreath	18.00
P.D. Knightley	Clerk's duties & expenses Oct. 2013	414.29
HM Revenues & Customs	Tax deductions Oct. 2013	76.60
P.D.Knightley	Clerk's duties & expenses Nov. 2013	416.39
HM Revenues & Customs	Tax deductions Nov. 2013	76.60

c) Review of expenditure in 2013/2014

The Clerk's review of expenditure to date and probable out-turn was noted by the Council. The Chairman asked that any suggestions to be included in next year's precept be passed to the Clerk by 1st December 2013.

13 Correspondence

The Clerk reported on the correspondence. :

a) Central Beds. Council

Town & Parish Council Conference – 27/11/2013, 6pm – 9pm
Local Development Framework – Draft Design Guide consultation
Leisure Strategy – consultation
Minerals & Waste Local Plan – Inspector's final report
Polling District Review
Ezine magazine – autumn edition

b) General Correspondence

Beds. ATPC 'Bedfordshire Bugle' – September edition
Parish online newsletter
Beds. Police Request for financial donation towards the 'Bobby Scheme'
It was agreed to consider this further at a future meeting

14. Dates for meetings in 2014

The following dates were agreed :

Monday 6 th January	Southill	Tuesday 11 th March	Broom
Tuesday 6 th May	Broom	Monday 7 th July	Southill
Tuesday 9 th September	Broom	Monday 3 rd November	Southill

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.50pm

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

- A petition with over 200 signatures was presented to Councillors which was requesting a footpath from Broom to Holme Mill. The Parish Council's support was asked for to achieve this.

