

**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 February 2023

**Present**: -

* Steve Axtell (Chairman)
* Ann Kelcey (Cllr)
* Louise O’Boyle (Cllr)
* Mick Rutherford (Cllr)
* David Hoskin (Ward Councillor)
* Peter Geary (Ward Councillor)
* Pam Ayres (Clerk)

**Apologies: -**

* Alex Mountcastle Cllr)
* Michelle Ramsden (Cllr)
* Martino Ginepro (Cllr)
* Keith McLean (Ward Councillor)
* Arlene Ormston (PCSO)

Meeting commenced at 19:30pm

1. **Introductions & Welcome**

 The Chair welcomed those present.

1. **Minutes of previous meeting**

 The Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th January 2023 were confirmed as correct and signed by the Chairman, Steve Axtell.

1. **Declaration of Interest**

No declarations of interest were received.

1. **Public Question Time**

 There were no members of the public present.

1. **Ward Councillors Report**

 Ward Cllr Hoskin report included the following items: -

**5.1 Wheelie Bins**

MKCC will be providing sacks instead of bins for properties with access and storage issues. An online postcode checker is due to be launched in the next few weeks which will enable residents to check whether they will be receiving sacks or bins. Anyone who is not happy with what is being allocated will be able to appeal.

**5.2 No. 41 Bus Service**

Discussions are currently taking place with Britannia regarding a partial bus service between Bedford and Northampton. The plan, if approved, would be to operate the service from April. There will be 2 single decker buses which will go through Olney, Lavendon and Cold Bayfield and will run every 2 hours. Concessionary bus passes will be accepted. The service needs to sustainable in the long term. The message was clear, use it or lose it.

**5.3 Aldi planning application**

The application is currently on holdpending an archaeological report which needs to be considered by Historic England and MKCC’s own Archaeological Officer before any recommendations can be made.

**5.4 Coronation**

MKCC to provide £50,000 of grant funding for the Coronation celebrations. Details to be published shortly.

**5.5 Ward Councillors Grant 2022-23**

Lavendon Parish Council was successful in its bid for grant funding and is to receive an award of £250. Chairman, Steve Axtell thanked Ward Cllrs for the grant. It was agreed that the funding would be put towards the cost of purchasing trees and shrubs to mark the coronation of King Charles.

**5.6 A509 Major Road works**

Cllr Rutherford asked if there was any update on the planned roadworks. Ward Cllr Geary advised that work is due to start in March and scheduled to be completed in January 2025.

1. **Thames Valley Police Crime Report**

The meeting considered and acknowledged the crime report for the period 12/12/22 - 10/02/23.

 1 x hare coursing December 2022

 3 x burglary business (building sites) January 2023

 1 x burglary business (building site) February 2023

 **Other Incidents not crime related in Lavendon**

* Road Traffic Collision (2 x vehicles) January 2023

**Other Incidents in surrounding villages**

* Burglary on building sites (theft of tools / diesel Lavendon, Olney & Newport Pagnell)
* Theft of catalytic converters - Olney
* Attempted burglary – Olney
1. **Finance Report**

**7.1 Receipts & Payments**

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

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

**7.2 Purchases for approval**

 Following the meeting of 9th January, Cllr Ginepro provided the Clerk with a quote for the purchase of trees and shrubs which was circulated ahead of the meeting. The quote was for £534.70 with an additional £150 for sundries (Weed mats, guards, etc).

 **Resolved to recommend**: That the purchase of trees and shrubs be approved and the cost be part funded from the Ward Councillors’ grant of £250 (Para 5.5 refers).

**7.3 Scrutinising volunteer**

Cllr Mick Rutherford to inspect the payments and receipts for February 2023.

**7.4 Banking**

 It was agreed that the reserves built up in the current Account should be moved to the savings account. The reserve amount to be ring fenced for future projects.

 **AP1**. Clerk to transfer £25,000 from current account to savings account.

**8 Clerk’s Report**

**8.1 Dog & Litter waste bins**

 There have been several complaints concerning the waste bin outside the Post Office. The bin is often overflowing with rubbish and dog poo bags being left on top of the bin. The Clerk reported that she had spoken to Marcus Young Landscapes and was advised that of late there has been a noticeable increase in the volume of waste, not just in relation to the bin outside the Post Office but in general. Chairman, Steve Axtell commented that in addition to Marcus Young Landscapes emptying the bin on a Thursday, MKCC should also be emptying the bin on a Monday.

 **AP2**: Clerk to contact MKCC to check when and how often the bin is being emptied.

**8.2 Parking on the corner of New Row near the junction**

Thames Valley Police (TVP) have advisedthat a call needs to be made to 101 making sure the caller goes through to TVP and giving the registration plate and where possible provide a photo of where the vehicle is parked as there might not be anyone on duty that can come straight out at the time of the call.

**8.3 Parking Controls**

MKCC have advised that the request for parking controls to be considered at the junction of Olney Road and Northampton Road (Opposite the Post Office) and the corner of Castle Road (Near the junction with Northampton Road) has been passed to Traffic Management to investigate.

**8.4 Play Equipment**

 The hole in front the bike ramp has now been filled. MKCC have advise that the table football will be removed but this won’t be until the ground is dry. Cllr O’Boyle asked if the basket swing in the park was going to be replaced. The Clerk reported that she had contracted MKCC and had been advised that whilst MKCC are responsible maintaining the play equipment, anything needing replacing was down to the Parish Council.

 **AP3:** Clerk to obtain quotes for a replacement basket swing and check with MKCC what the position is with regards to the maintenance of a new swing.

**8.5 Community Payback Program**

The Probation Services Community Payback Scheme have agreed to return to help with various projects around the village, including tidying up the Copse. Dates to be agreed.

**8.6 Litter Picking**

 Volunteers have been out and about litter picking in various areas around the village.

**9. Specific Agenda items**

**9.1 Landscaping and ground maintenance services**

It was acknowledged that there had been no real progress on this and that a decision was needed imminently. A discussion took place and various options were considered which included keeping the grass cutting in house or alternatively, outsourcing the ground maintenance entirely. Several questions were raised regarding the scope of works needed; what was essential and what, if anything, could be cut back on or done by others (i.e. volunteers or Community Action). It was agreed that to reach a final decision, further clarification was needed from Cllr Ginepro who had compiled the scope of works but was absent from the meeting.

 **AP4**. Clerk to seek clarification from Cllr Ginepro as to what ground works are essential and what, if anything, can be cut back on or done by others and report back to Councillors ahead of the next meeting.

**9.2 Appointment of internal auditor for 2022-23**

 The Clerk recommended that Julie Betts be appointed as internal auditor for the 2022/23.

 **Resolved:** ThatJulie Betts be appointed asinternal auditor for 2022/23.

**9.3 Coronation celebrations**

In an email to Cllrs ahead of the meeting**,** Cllr Kelsey raised the question as to whether, following the announcement by Buckingham Palace that the Big Help Out day is to take place on Monday 8th May, the date of the planned coronation celebrations should be changed. A discussion took place, and it was agreed to keep the date. It was further agreed that as volunteering was the key theme of the day, to arrange a community litter pick to take place before and after the celebrations.

 **AP5:** Cllr Kelcey to arrange a community little pick.

**10. Planning Applications**

 Nothing to report.

Next Monthly Meeting is to be held on **Monday 13th March 2023 at 7:30 pm**.

The meeting closed at 21:15

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

Dated: ……………………………………………………………