

Slapton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Elizabeth Griffin Memorial Hall on Wednesday 12th January 2022 at 8.00pm

PRESENT:

Slapton Parish Council Councillors: F Wakefield (Chairman), M Cleland, M Godsland, E Griffin, T Harris, R King and A Packham.

Buckinghamshire Councillors P Brazier and C Poll.

Slapton Parish Clerk Mrs B Knight.

Four members of the public.

C/001/22 Chairman's Welcome and announcements.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

C/002/22 Attendance and Apologies.

No apologies were received.

C/003/22 Disclosures of interest/dispensations pertaining to this agenda.

The Chairman and Councillor Griffin declared they are trustees of the Elizabeth Griffin Memorial Hall.

C/004/22 To Approve the Minutes of the Slapton Parish Council Meeting held on 8th December 2021.

The minutes for the Slapton Parish Council Meeting held on the 8th December 2021 were approved as correct and were signed by the Chairman PROPOSED BY Councillor Cleland and SECONDED BY Councillor King and carried unanimously.

C/005/22 To Co-Opt New Slapton Parish Councillor.

A vote took place and Tom Harris was co-opted as a Slapton Parish Councillor PROPOSED BY Councillor Wakefield and SECONDED BY Councillor Cleland and carried unanimously.

Councillor Harris signed the Declaration of Office which was witnessed and signed by Slapton Parish Clerk.

C/006/22 Public Question Time.

A Horton resident referred to the old Horton allotment site which he explained has been leased from Buckinghamshire Council (and the council's predecessors) since the 1950s. In May 2021 the leaseholder asked to buy the land and is awaiting a reply from Buckinghamshire Council. The land is used as a small holding. Access is obtained through a shared gate which is not accessible to the public, the access main gate has not been used since the 1950s. The Chairman thanked the residents and added that this will be included in a future agenda.

A Slapton resident explained he and other residents met with Greg Smith MP and had a good meeting.

C/007/22 Report from Buckinghamshire Councillor(s).

Buckinghamshire Councillor Brazier explained Cheddington Parish Council has a new application for 91 houses located on the orchard near Church Path to the Scout Hut. Councillor Brazier encouraged residents to comment.

Signed by Chairman: _____

Councillor Brazier asked whether Slapton Parish Council would like to raise the issue of tree planting outside of the new homes in Mill Road. The Chairman confirmed he has requested the resident report this directly to Buckinghamshire Council and this is not a matter for Slapton Parish Council.

C/008/22 Planning Application(s):

21/04883/APP – Three Farthings, 16 Bury Farm Close, Slapton, Buckinghamshire, LU7 9DS. Part demolition of double garage and erection of part single, part two storey annex extension. Support PROPOSED BY Councillor Packham and SECONDED BY Councillor King and carried unanimously.

C/009/22 Footpaths, Bridleways and Roads.

Horton speed limit change application is proceeding through the Community Boards and Bucks Councillor Poll will ask the Community Board Co-Ordinator for an update and he will share this with the Parish Clerk.

S Bend hedge clearance and sightlines – Buckinghamshire Council legal team are expected to take action with no further update.

Village signs – Councillor Packham has asked for feedback on the proposed signs. Councillor Cleland stated the feedback from Horton was negative with other priorities for the village. Councillor King reported that Grove residents are in favour of the new village sign which will be located on the entrance to Grove on the junction of the B488. Councillor Griffin asked whether Slapton signs can be located at the village entrances. It was agreed to order a sign for Grove and Slapton and not Horton.

Councillor Godsland proposed to apply for TPOs for two Oak Trees in Slapton and Councillor Cleland suggested a TPO for the tree by the entrance to Horton Hall. This will be added to the February agenda. Councillor Cleland will confirm the species of tree in Horton for the future application.

Dog Bins – Councillor Packham suggested a new bin for the recreation ground and Councillor King requested a dog bin to be located by the entrance to Grove. PROPOSED BY Councillor Packham and SECONDED BY Councillor King and carried unanimously.

C/010/22 Slapton Recreation Ground.

Councillor King reported that Fresh Air Ltd have confirmed their quotation is the same. Wicksteed Leisure quotation has increased by approx. 10%. The Parish Clerk will ask the Community Board Co-Ordinator for an update on the funding for the project.

Councillor Packham reported a resident asked whether a circular path can be created around the perimeter of the recreation ground to create an all-weather accessible footpath. Councillor King will undertake a feasibility study.

Slapton Brazier – it was agreed to purchase the equipment to enable the brazier to use gas. Councillor Packham will order the equipment at a cost of £60 and he will be reimbursed by Slapton Parish Council.

Mill Road access to Recreation Ground – It was agreed to write to Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust to request additional security measures around the garages to deter anti-social behaviour.

Signed by Chairman: _____

C/011/22 Managed Nature Area.

Councillor Godsland explained her idea for a managed nature area based on one at Great Brickhill which has inspired her project with a new pond and areas for wildlife. The idea was supported and enquiries will be made to potentially re-negotiate the lease. The Parish Clerk will write to the landowner to seek permission and to request the extra piece of land located northwest of the footpath could be used by the Women's Institute as a community orchard.

C/012/22 HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Councillor Griffin explained about the plans in the community for a celebratory event including a children's entertainer, 1950s tea dance, band and lighting the new Slapton brazier at 9pm.

C/013/22 Allotments Site/Jubilee Field – requisition from Buckinghamshire Council.

No update.

C/014/22 Bee Slapton

No update.

C/015/22 Slapton Parish Council Website and Emails.

It was agreed to increase storage for the Councillors and Clerk email accounts.

C/016/22 Clerk's Report.

This was circulated prior to the meeting and there were no further questions.

C/017/22 Budget and Precept.

It was agreed to set the precept demand at £31,550.

C/018/22 Financial Matters.

It was agreed to add Councillors Griffin, Godsland and Harris as new signatories to the Unity Trust Bank Accounts.

The following accounts were approved for payment PROPOSED BY Councillor King and SECONDED BY Councillor Godsland and carried unanimously.

Payee	Details	Amount
Alec Packham/Freeola	Emails and storage	£12.24
John O'Dwyer	Inspections	£25.00
John Furniss	Reimburse Microsoft Office Licence	£113.76
Hammer and Tongs	50% deposit for Slapton Brazier	£966.00
SSE SWALEC	Streetlight Electricity	£119.12
B Knight	Reimburse office expenses	£20.75
Bucks Council	Dog Bins 22-23	£234.65

Balances	
Cambridge & Counties	£27,306.05
Barclays (30.04.21 statement)	£58,683.68
Barclays (30.04.21 statement)	£4,560.84
Unity Trust Current Account	£5,202.65
Unity Trust Savings Account	£4,990.31
	£100,743.53

The meeting ended at 9.22pm.

Signed by Chairman: _____

The next Slapton Parish Council Meetings will be held on 8th February 2022 in The Elizabeth Griffin Memorial Hall at 8pm.

Signed by Chairman: _____