

STEEPLE CLAYDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting 5TH April 2016

<p>Present 2016/90</p>	<p>Cllrs Tanner (Chair), Spencer, Weingart, Firth, Hodges, Clarke, Drinkwater. Parishoners Linda O’Dell, Kate Smith, Betty Webb, Malcolm Webb, Ben Weber (SCFC) Frank Mahon (SCCC) Mark Davies, Robin Davies, Jan Morrisonhine, Paul Connolly, Sarah Connolly, R Gibbs, C Tanner, M Spencer, G Baldwin, Tony Carroll, Julie Boulter, E Bennion, T Smith, Lorna Piper, Linda Faiers, Colin Faiers, A Salkeld, M S Baughan, Ray Everett, Paul Templar, Derek Turney, Emma Weingart, Chris Coombs, Paula Axtell, District Cllr Angela MacPherson, District Councillor John Chilver.</p>
<p>Apologies 0091</p>	<p>Cllr Townsend Cllr Thiebaut</p>
<p>Declaration of interest personal - prejudicial 0092</p>	<p>Nil</p>
<p>Minutes of meeting 1st March 2016 0093</p>	<p>The minutes were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair. Proposed Cllr Tanner, seconded Cllr Weingart</p>

<p>Public Participation 0094</p>	<p>1) Frank Mahon thanked the Parish Council for use of hall with regard to Phoenixbury and £474 had been raised. 2) Cricket Club had met with football club and both clubs would work in harmony. Ben Weber (SCFC) had looked at electrical appliances in pavilion and confirmed not owned by football clubs so they could be disposed of as far as they were concerned. The container RHS should be retained by SCFC but the LHS one which was worse for wear was originally the Juniors but is now locked and will speak to Mr Bennion the Caretaker with regard disposal. 3) PC asked by Mr Turney why Council tax had gone up by 15.1%. Cllr Firth responded on behalf of the council and explained the detail and depth of discussion that had gone into the precept and highlighted the amount of investment going on in the village. Also extra responsibilities passed to PC by Bucks County Council and this was what money was being spent on. Miss Weingart wanted to know if similar sized Parishes had increased their precepts by 15%. And was the patching of assets sensible? Cllr Tanner responded with reference to the needs of health and safety and insurance requirements and without maintenance the alternative was to close facilities down. Mr Templar wanted greater clarity as to what the Parish Council was spending its money on and in particular the strategy with regard to the pavilion longer term. Cllr Drinkwater said work being done now would last for a number of years but agreed better communication of the project details would be useful. Clerk responded to comment and said he was happy for books to be inspected by anyone and he was close to finalising figures to end of March 2016. PC agreed to be more open with activities.</p> <p>Clerk clarified that a 15% increase in Parish Council taxation was about £20 per annum and Cllr Drinkwater referred to his own bill which showed an increase of £14 for a band C property. Mrs Smith was not a supporter of the spend on the hall entry system and said the cleaning bill would not have been in such big figures had the cottage caretaker been replaced promptly. Discussion re previous years precept increase. 4) Mr Davies wished to speak about the piece of land on Meadoway and made reference to the previous minutes and his and others vehement opposition to the proposals made by the Steeple Claydon Remembrance Group. Wanted to know why the recreation ground had not been considered. Cllr Firth asked for clarification as to what the intentions were for the land in question from the owners of No 20 and No 18 Chaloners Hill. Mr Davies said they were not looking to acquire the land for development. Mr Mahon said it was never the intention to interfere with peoples privacy or to cause anti social behaviour</p>
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<p>Parish Clerk correspondence 0095</p>	<p>Clerk addressed the meeting. 1) Meeting with Mr Mazillius arranged for 7th April. 2) E Mail received from Ivan Crome, local area technician TfBucks – following meeting with Cllr Tanner and visit to village. Has reviewed parking on Meadoway, also ongoing parking problem on Chaloners Hill near the Co-op store and issues re yellow lines and enforcement. Vicarage lane adjacent to the doctors surgery and further down also discussed re parking intensity. Cllr Tanner explained the need for ‘orders to be passed’ and costs involved. Letter from Parishoner about rise in council tax and response would be prepared in line with comments made earlier. 3)Letter from baby and toddler group wishing to use bar area V/H for sensory room which could be used with children who have special needs. To be passed to People and Assets working group to consider and make recommendation to next meeting. 4)Support letter for Cartaker reinstatement which also appeared on social media. 5) Letter from Pat Butler (librarian) who has some issues and wishes to speak with the full Parish Council and as it had HR subject it would be held over into the private session. 6) Circular letter from Buckingham county museum re Art of Islam festival. 7) Clerk asked for date for Parish Assembly which had not yet been set. Options discussed and public showed preference as well. Weekday evening preferred. Agreed Tuesday 24th May at 7:30pm in the village hall (preferred). 8) Letter from hirer re Sunday usage which did not happen as door locked. Alternative more expensive venue had to be used and agreed to reduce future bills by £45 by way of apology and compensation. 9)Parish Councillor induction training certificates passed to Cllr Tanner and Cllr Clarke. 10)Agreed meeting with cub scouts to arrange project re bins and street light recording – details to follow- Clerk to arrange.</p>
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Working groups reports
0096

Finance

Clerk addressed the meeting. 1) Balances as at end of March 2016 – current £83,136. Lloyds £50,000, Barclays deposit £21,009, NSC’s £5298. Tennis account £5504. 2) Clerk advised change in audit procedure for 2016 and account statement and annual governance statement would be signed at the May meeting (May 3rd) ahead of the internal audit which is diarised for 11th May. 3) There are still frustrations with main bankers (poor customer service) and Lloyds account may be regenerated. Trouble getting internet banking and getting paperwork explanation. 4) Clerk provided cheque run of £5,530 for payment of current creditors and went through detailed breakdown. Door entry system records had revealed anomalies which meant the Parish Council was able to ask for and receive rebate of £285. Clerk asked that these payments may be made. Proposed Cllr Hodges, seconded Cllr Spencer.- unanimous 5) UK Power e mail setting up register for vulnerable and over 60. Posters to come. 6) Library telephone tariff can be reviewed and reduced (1:08:17) and Clerk asked if he should proceed. We are duty bound to provide phone because of sole worker status of the librarian. Min 24 months. Cllr Firth said a voip network could be set up based on the Broadband network . Agreed to take no further action with BT at this stage pending discussions. 7) Youth Space bus would be coming to village and parking in recreation ground – 4 dates agreed.

People and Assets working group

Cllr Drinkwater addressed the meeting. 1) Group had been looking at ways to increase use of community library. Duke of Edinburgh scheme had been introduced and discussions with toddler group as well. First group identified lack of books for 12- 16 year olds and had identified purchase list. They had designed poster for encouraging teenage library use. Proposed that poster be put in Parish magazine subject to wording approved by Parish Clerk. Proposed BD seconded JH - unanimous. 2) Proposed that books up to the value of £75 be purchased in line with recommendations received by the Parish Council. Proposed BD seconded JH – unanimous. 3) Baby and Toddler Group keen to access library during their sessions on Monday and Thursday mornings. Baby and toddler group would be responsible for health and safety requirements. Proposed BD that Toddler Group be given access to and are allowed to use or borrow items.

Seconded FS – unanimous. 4) Heating and plumbing as per previous minutes , work commencing 18th April inc servicing of boilers and looking at faults. Fire alarm installation, previously agreed, will begin on same date. 5) Job description prepared for

<p>Land on Meadoway opposite Recreation Ground- update 0097</p>	<p>The Parish Council decided that following a representation from a local group wishing to put up a war memorial on the site, that it would take advice from its solicitor. SCPC was aware of objections as well as the support for this project. The Clerk confirmed he had been at that meeting with DT and BD ,Chair and deputy chair SCPC on 11th February 2016. Clerk read in full solicitors letter prepared by way of summary after the meeting. In the solicitors opinion it was not land in the ownership of SCPC and the advice was ‘you need to have nothing to do with it’. It is important that ‘no liability for this land and or memorial befalls the Parish Council and I advise that if this is what they wish to do it is a matter for them and not for the Parish Council. (2:01:38). It was proposed by Cllr Weingart and seconded Cllr Hodges that solicitors advice should be followed. – unanimous.</p>
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<p>Review by Parish Council of future use of premises on Queen Catherine Road 0098</p>	<p>Clerk addressed the meeting. He wished to mention the Public consultation and questionnaire that had been prepared and distributed in the Parish re proposals for future use of that part of the premises on Queen Catherine Road previously inhabited by the Caretaker and family. Clerk had monitored e mail responses as well as returned questionnaires. Clerk had not monitored any comments on social media. There was talk by public relating to the awareness of the questionnaire and Cllr Firth advised all where this information had been posted. Clerk had responses from 65 people (including 9 e mail responses). 54 people were in favour of a caretaker position being re-established , 10 are in favour of it being used as a community asset and 1 person thought a commercial rent was the best use. Within these figures it suggested that 26 people were either interested or knew of someone who would like to perform the caretaker role. The questionnaires would not be for public scrutiny. Cllr Firth believed there was a clear mandate from the village to reinstate the caretaker. There was a debate as to a new caretaker job description and this would be taken away and read by Councillors . It was important that a decision was made. It was mentioned there were a lot of comments on the questionnaires which should be considered. Cllr Tanner believed that the Parish Council should offer as many facilities to the public as possible - not one family, one house. Situation had been caused by the resignation of the previous Caretaker and it appeared sensible to review future use at that stage. Members of public attempted to speak and were asked to cease by the Chair as a point of order. Cllr Firth proposed that <i>'the PC makes steps to restore the cottage to habitable condition in order that it can offer tenancy to someone who will accept that on the basis of a caretaker role for the Parish Council as defined in the job description prepared by the people and assets working group.'</i> Seconded by Cllr Weingart. Cllr Tanner would like to see a Caretaker recruited but not with the house as part of the package – seconded by Cllr Drinkwater. The Parish Council voted 4:2 in favour of the Caretaker being reappointed as per Cllr Firth proposal. There was 1 abstention. The proposal from Cllr Firth was carried.</p>
<p>Matters of a confidential nature 0099</p>	<p>Members of the public were asked to leave before this item was discussed.</p>

Signed..... Dated.....