

# MEPPERSHALL PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES OF A STATUTORY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, MEPPERSHALL ON MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2022

**PRESENT:**      **Councillors:** Thompson (Chair), Chapman, Crossley, Merryweather,  
Morgan, Standbridge and Wright  
                  **The Clerk:** A Marabese.  
                  **Others:** Ward Councillor Liddiard, and 6 members of the public.

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7:03pm.

## 778. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

- a. Election of the Chairman for the year 2022-2023.  
*Proposed Cllr Chapman/Seconded Cllr Merryweather. Resolved to elect Cllr Thompson as Chairman for the year 2022-2023. Carried.*
- b. Receipt of Chairman Declaration of Acceptance of Office.  
Cllr Thompson signed the Chairman Declaration of Acceptance of Office before the Proper Officer and Clerk of the Council.

## 779. ELECTION OF VICE - CHAIRMAN

- a. Election of the Vice - Chairman for the year 2022-2023.  
*Proposed Cllr Thompson/Seconded Cllr Morgan. Resolved to elect Cllr Parsons as Vice-Chairman for the year 2022-2023. Carried.*
- b. Receipt of Vice - Chairman Declaration of Acceptance of Office.  
The Clerk confirmed that she would make arrangements with Cllr Parsons to sign the Vice-Chairman Declaration of Acceptance of Office before her as the Proper Officer and Clerk of the Council.

## 780. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- a. Councillors Addy, Parsons and Shephard and Ward Councillor Brown provided apologies for absence that were accepted by Council.

## 781. CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman read the Parish Council notice and announcement in relation to meetings in connection to openness and transparency, and then advised those present of the following:

- a. To resolve to extend the meeting finish time beyond 2 hours.  
*Proposed Cllr Thompson/Seconded Cllr Chapman. Resolved to extend the meeting finish time beyond 2 hours, if required. Carried.*
- b. Other information.
  - The Chairman reported on the Annual Parish Meeting that had taken place on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022. The meeting was poorly attended by residents although the number of attendees was greater than last years' meeting. No significant questions were raised at the meeting. Virtually all village organisations provided reports at the meeting which will form part of the minutes available on the Parish Councils website. Organisations who did not provide reports have been reminded of the importance to do so in the future.
  - The Chairman advised that an MPC Personnel Committee meeting was held on 5<sup>th</sup> May. Due to the content of the meeting it was deemed a private and confidential meeting and the public and press were excluded. The committee discussed staff performance reviews and made decisions on staff salaries, pension contributions. The Chairman wished to congratulate Mrs Thorne on becoming a permanent member of

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staff subsequent to completing a probation period. It was also noted that parishioners have noticed a difference in the villages' appearance since Mrs Thorne started working for MPC and this is great to hear.

- Yesterday the Chairman attended, on behalf of MPC, the CBC Civic Service in honour of HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. All CBC area dignitaries were present together with 35 parish council representatives.
- Finally it is great to see that the COVID 19 data provided by CBC show that the downward trend in infections continues.

### 782. MEMBERS INTERESTS

- a. To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda and requests for dispensation.  
None received.

### 783. PUBLIC SESSION

At this point (7:16pm) the Chairman suspended Standing Orders to receive reports from Ward Councillors, village organisations and to allow members of the public to address the Council in relation to items on the agenda or request matters to be discussed at a subsequent meeting.

Ward Councillor Liddiard advised the meeting that:

- Ukrainian Refugees in CBC area – There are currently 122 sponsored families with 190 guests living in the CBC area. 28 children have been given school places. A task force has been set up at Luton Airport to provide support and the CBC team are ensuring that sponsors are checked appropriately.
- Children's Services – A new director of CBC Children's Services has been appointed (Sarah Jane Smegmore). This department is a statutory service provided by CBC and covers amongst other things children looked after, safeguarding and liaison with the Police. The service has been visited by Ofsted recently and was awarded 'Good' in various areas.
- Community Asset Grant Scheme – This is currently open until 25<sup>th</sup> July 2022.
- Greensands – The Greensands Country festival will take place in May / June with lots of activities planned.
- COVID – Whilst data shows a reduction in infection rates it is important to note that there were 4 deaths in the CBC area this month therefore residents are still urged to take care.
- Community Action Day – This was held in Shefford with a variety of CBC departments, the Police and other local services on hand to meet with residents. Ward Councillors have been provided with details of issues raised that included anti-social behaviour, speeding and highways issues. All will be investigated.
- Business Grants – CBC have been successful in allocating business grants and have been working with organisations to deliver training courses and research of use to our local business community e.g.: scheme for global trade and high tech research. There is investment in supporting companies to increase productivity, especially the leisure industry, and how to attract people into working for them.

The following questions were raised or comments made by members of the public:

- Can Meppershall Academy apply for the Community Asset Grant? *Cllr Liddiard to find out and advise accordingly.*

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- Speeding was raised at the Community Action day however CBC do not believe we have an issue with speeding in the village? *ML – Most Meppershall roads have in the last 12 months had traffic / speed monitoring assessments conducted on them and the results of the assessments indicate that the only stretch of road that is eligible for speed reduction measures is the entrance to the village at Shefford Road. The Clerk and MPC Councillors have been provided with the assessment data for review and articles have been published locally on the matter. The CBC highways portfolio holder visited and walked the village with Cllr Liddiard, the Clerk and Cllr Morgan to review resident reported highways issues and meetings with highways officers were held after this. As a result a scheme is being brought forward to install a new vehicle activated sign with appropriate signage etc. at the village entrance on Shefford Road that will be partly funded by the OPCC grant received by the Council. MPC has also submitted two RMF applications to CBC for additional highways improvements at the Shefford Road village entrance (40mph buffer zone and village gateway) that will be considered by June 2022. There will also be two speed tables installed near the entrance of the new development at 32 Shefford Road. Whilst resident and Speedwatch concerns about speeding are understandable these concerns are not evident in the assessment data and Highways Officers are guided by assessment data, road traffic accident data and government guidelines about what can and cannot be installed on roads. The Government has recently given local authorities the ability to use fixed and mobile cameras on areas like school crossings however whilst the cost to install these is paid for by the local authority the income from ticket fines does not go to the local authority.*
- Is not the real issue with highways in the village, congestion and bottlenecks caused by parked vehicles e.g.: at the school and on the High Street, and all this whilst you allow more development in the village? *Clerk – The issue of congestion and visibility on the High Street opposite the village stores is well documented and one often raised at parish council meetings however there seems to be no solution to the problem that would make residents happy and not create more problems. If parking spaces were removed, where would residents with no access to off street parking park (problem would be moved up the road) and would an issue of speeding be created as the parked cars would no longer provide physical stop points? The 20mph speed limit and parking scheme at the School was a scheme introduced a number of years ago by CBC. Unfortunately it is not the scheme that does not work but road users who ignore speed limits and a lack of enforcement.*
- Why was the scheme at the School not properly consulted upon? *Chairman – The appropriate consultation was conducted by CBC with notices displayed and statutory consultees informed.*
- There has been lots of effort in the village recently with litter picking however there is no bin outside the village stores anymore. Can this be reinstated? *Clerk will contact CBC and request re-instatement.*
- What is MPC's view on the planning application submitted for 100 High Street, as they seem to have allowed development everywhere else in the village? *Clerk – MPC has been opposed to all significant developments in the village (except the Walnut Tree development that has provided the new Village Hall and other village amenities). It is important to remember that MPC is only a statutory consultee on planning applications and is not the decision maker – this is the role of CBC or if at appeal the Planning Inspectorate. MPC can only object to planning applications based upon 'material objections' and much time and effort goes into our review and responses to planning applications. We also work with organisations such as*

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*CPRE to assist in raising objections. Unfortunately there is an apathy amongst some residents in responding and possibly objecting to planning applications in the village and even participating in the Village and Neighbourhood Plan. This is more evident after the Planning Inspector granted permission for the 145 dwellings at Stocken House after which the Meppershall Action Group closed – it would be great to see this revived but it is not something that can be run and organised by MPC. Other villages have had much more community involvement in objections e.g.: responses to the Greenwoods application crashed CBC's planning portal. The decision on Stocken House was also hugely disappointing for MPC and CBC (who spent in excess of £50k trying to uphold their refusal to the development). However, this said we have been successful in preventing development at 40 Shefford Road and 100 High Street at appeal with the Planning Inspector. With regards to 100 High Street this application is the most recent in a number of applications for this site and whilst MPC has not yet reviewed the application during this meeting, in the past they have always objected to planning on this site for a whole host of reasons.*

Standing orders were reinstated at 8:05pm.

### 784. MINUTES

- a. To receive and approve distributed minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Meppershall Parish Council held on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

*Proposed Cllr Morgan/Seconded Cllr Merryweather. Resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Meppershall Parish Council held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022 are an accurate record of the proceedings and that they be signed by the Chairman. Carried.*

### 785. DELEGATION ARRANGEMENTS

- a. To appoint Personnel Committee members.

*Proposed Cllr Chapman/Seconded Cllr Merryweather. Resolved to appoint Cllrs Chapman, Parson, Merryweather and if required Thompson to the Personnel Committee. Carried.*

- b. To appoint Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group members.

*Proposed Cllr Chapman/Seconded Cllr Merryweather. Resolved to appoint Cllrs Parsons and Standbridge to the Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group. Carried.*

- c. To appoint representative and trustee to Meppershall Village Hall Committee.

*Proposed Cllr Chapman/Seconded Cllr Merryweather. Resolved to re-appoint Cllr Thompson as representative and trustee to Meppershall Village Hall Committee. Carried.*

- d. To appoint Spokesmen and members to the following Working Groups:

- i. Environment and Leisure.
- ii. Planning and Housing.
- iii. Highways and Transport.
- iv. Finance Working Group.
- v. Community Safety and Risk Management.
- vi. Procedures and Legal.
- vii. IT.
- viii. Defibrillator Inspector.

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Environment & Leisure working group	Cllr Morgan - Spokesman	Clerk
	Cllr Merryweather	Environment & Community Officer
	Cllr Addy	Mrs R Cooper-Keeble
Planning & Housing working group	Cllr Thompson - Spokesman	Clerk
	Cllr Chapman	
	Cllr Crossley	
Highways & Transport working group	Cllr Morgan	Clerk - Spokesman
	Cllr Shephard	
Finance working group	Cllr Thompson - Spokesman	Clerk
	Cllr Parsons	
	Cllr Wright	
Community Safety & Risk Management working group (includes Neighbourhood Watch and Policing)	Cllr Chapman - Risk Spokesman	Clerk - Community Safety Spokesman
	Cllr Wirght	
	Cllr Shephard	
Procedures & Legal working group	Cllr Thompson	Clerk - Spokesman
	Cllr Parsons	
IT working group	Cllr Standbridge - Spokesman	Clerk
Defibrillator Inspector	Cllr Parsons	

*Proposed Cllr Chapman/Seconded Cllr Merryweather. Resolved to appoint spokesmen and members to working groups as above. Carried.*

## 786. PROCEDURES, CONSULTATIONS & LEGAL

### a. Procedures - Review and adoption of:

- i. Code of Conduct v2.0  
*Deferred to next meeting due to NALC Legal Topic Note issued last week requiring review.*
- ii. Dispensation Guidance and Form v2.0  
*Proposed Cllr Thompson/Seconded Cllr Chapman. Resolved to re-adopt Dispensation Guidance and Form v2.0. Carried.*
- iii. Engagement with Developers v1.1
- iv. *Proposed Cllr Thompson/Seconded Cllr Chapman. Resolved to re-adopt Engagement with Developers v1.1. Carried.*
- v. Financial Regulations v3.3  
*Proposed Cllr Chapman/Seconded Thompson. Resolved to adopt Financial Regulations v3.3. Carried.*
- vi. Standing Orders 4.2  
*Proposed Cllr Chapman/Seconded Morgan. Resolved to adopt Standing Orders v4.2. Carried.*
- vii. Personnel Committee Terms of Reference  
*Proposed Cllr Chapman/Seconded Morgan. Resolved to re-adopt Personnel Committee Terms of Reference v1.1. Carried.*
- viii. Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee  
*Proposed Cllr Chapman/Seconded Morgan. Resolved to re-adopt Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Terms of Reference v2.1. Carried.*
- ix. Scheme of Delegation v1.0 (NEW)  
*Deferred to next meeting.*



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### **b. IT and Communications**

- i. Update from Cllr Standbridge.

Cllr Standbridge advised that visits to the website are up. Accessibility checks have been run on the website and all is OK. The Clerk and Cllr Standbridge will be assisting councillors to set up gov.uk emails and the MPC mobile now that the Clerk has received the MultiPay card.

### **c. Beds Police Community Priority Setting Meeting**

- i. To confirm attendance at meeting to be held on Wednesday 25th May, 18:00 – 20:00 hours at The Rufus Centre, Flitwick.

*It was agreed that Cllr Thompson would attend the Beds Police Community Priority Setting Meeting and that village priorities were ASB, drug dealing and speeding.*

### **d. CBC Cheering Volunteering Event 2022**

- i. To consider nominating individuals to attend the Cheering Volunteering 2022

afternoon tea event will take place on Tuesday 7 June at the Rufus Centre in Flitwick.

*It was agreed Mr Pain and Cllr Thompson would be nominated to attend this Cheering Volunteering event and that any further nominations should be forwarded to the Clerk.*

### **e. Stocken House Green Space**

- i. Update from Clerk and Cllr Thompson on Agreement including formal request made to CBC regarding adoption

Davidsons are pending confirmation from previous landowners regarding changes to entrance fence on retained land to prevent unauthorised access with vehicles. CBC Planning have advised Davidson's that they have not had a formal request from the Parish regarding the detail of the request to adopt the green space for the CBC to review. The Clerk has responded to CBC and their solicitors providing information they may require to complete a revised Unilateral Undertaking etc. Update from Davidsons and CBC pending.

### **f. Electrical Connection from Old Road Meadow**

- i. Update from Clerk on negotiations regarding electricity connection from Old Road Meadow to The Mow site and to consider proposal made by Blakeney Estates.

The Draft Heads of Terms are complete. The Draft Deed of Easement is completed and with Blakeney Estates. A Wayleave Agreement is still required with UKPN and our Solicitor has reviewed this for us and found no issues.

*Proposed Cllr Thompson/Seconded Chapman. Resolved that MPC approve the UKPN Wayleave together with other documents with Blakeney Estates for signing. Carried.*

## **787. FINANCE**

### **a. Purchase Orders**

- i. To approve purchase of grass spray paint to mark areas of dog fouling. Cost circa £20 for 3 cans.

*Proposed Cllr Merryweather/Seconded Cllr Chapman. Resolved to approve purchase of spray paint and holder as required. Carried.*

- i. To approve all other purchase requests.

*Proposed Cllr Thompson/Seconded Cllr Merryweather. Resolved to approve cost to purchase of; sprinkler / hosepipe for use on Centenary Field, circa 16 tonnes of plainings for the allotment track, PPE Masks for employees, wooden stakes for the allotments and new councillor induction training for Cllr Shephard. Carried.*

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### b. Budget v Actual

- i. To receive 2021-2022 budget v actual reports and consider any amendments required to 2022-2023 budget.

The Clerk provided a report on the previous financial year budget v actual which were noted. No changes were made to the 2022-2023 budget.

### c. Asset Register

- i. Review of asset register.

The Clerk presented the current Asset Register to councillors for review and its' contents were noted.

*Proposed Cllr Merryweather/Seconded Cllr Chapman. Resolved the Council conduct a physical audit of all assets, record with pictures and log the location with mapping software. Carried.*

### d. Reserves

- i. Review and approval of adjustment to Earmarked Reserves.

*Proposed Cllr Merryweather/Seconded Cllr Morgan. Resolved to approve Reserves for 2022/2023 as proposed by the Clerk. Carried*

EARMARKED RESERVES MOVEMENTS		2021/2022	2022/2023
		cf	Recommend ed Start Position
312	Recreation Ground	£ 11,700	£ 14,000
313	Hoo Road/ Highways improvement	£ 8,500	£ 8,500
318	Local Election Costs	£ 1,650	£ 1,650
320	Contingency	£ 5,000	£ 6,000
322	Traffic Calming Programme	£ 3,250	£ 3,250
324	Environmental Maintenance capital expenditure	£ 10,000	£ 10,000
330	Neighbourhood Plan Grant	£ 4,342	£ 2,517
332	Allotment Deposits	£ 1,400	£ 1,400
333	Locum Clerk	£ 6,000	£ 6,000
334	OPCC Grant Funding	£ 20,000	£ 20,000
NEW	Centenary Field		£ 65,000
<b>Total reserved funds</b>		<b>£ 71,842</b>	<b>£ 138,317</b>

- ii. To consider updating MPC 'capital projects'.

*Clerk to update and propose.*

### e. Banking Mandate

- i. To approve banking mandate changes - removing old councillors, adding new and updating permissions accordingly.

*Proposed Cllr Chapman/Seconded Cllr Merryweather. Resolved that the Clerk update the banking mandate to include new councillors and provide Cllr Wright with permission to authorise online payments. Carried*

### f. Internal Auditor report

- i. To receive report and any associated action plan.

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The Chairman expressed thanks to the Clerk for having received an Internal Auditor Report without issues.

*Proposed Cllr Chapman/Seconded Cllr Merryweather. Resolved to receive the Internal Auditor Report on 2021-2022 and note that no issues were identified. Carried*

### **g. Annual Governance Statement 2021/2022**

- i. To approve the Governance Statement for submission to the External Auditor.

*Proposed Cllr Chapman/Seconded Cllr Morgan. Resolved to approve the Governance Statement 2021/2022 as circulated for submission to the External Auditor and that it be signed by the Clerk and Chairman of the meeting. Carried*

### **h. Accounting Statements 2021/2022**

- i. To approve the Accounting Statements for submission to the External Auditor.

*Proposed Cllr Chapman/Seconded Cllr Morgan. Resolved to approve the Accounting Statements 2021/2022 as presented to council by the Responsible Financial Officer (& Clerk) for submission to the External Auditor and that it be signed by the Chairman of the meeting. Carried.*

### **i. Exercise of Public Rights to Inspect MPC Accounts**

- i. To receive details of the dates set for the exercise of public rights.

Councillors noted the dates set by the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer regarding the exercise of public rights to inspect MPC accounts as 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022 to 14<sup>th</sup> July inclusive.

### **j. Document approval**

- i. To approve journal entries, bank reconciliations and bank statements.

*Proposed Cllr Chapman/Seconded Cllr Merryweather. Resolved that journals 70 to 76 be approved. Carried.*

*Proposed Cllr Chapman/Seconded Cllr Wright. Resolved to approve direct debit and standing orders including direct debit for NEST. Carried.*

### **k. Orders for the payment of money**

- i. A schedule of payments was distributed at the meeting for approval and authorisation.

Payments presented for payment were checked by Cllrs Chapman and Standbridge.  
*Proposed Cllr Chapman/Seconded Cllr Merryweather. Resolved that the schedule of payments as presented be approved and authorised for payment by Cllrs Thompson. Carried.*

Payment requests received before agenda published			
BACS636	Groundworks UK	Return of NP Grant Money	£2,517.78
BACS637	Meppershall Wanderbus	Grant	£1,000.00
BACS638	A & B Gardening Ltd	April grass cutting	£1,075.62
BACS639	Meppershall Village Hall	Hall Hire - april	£64.00
BACS640	CPRE Bedfordshire	Wildflower workshop	£90.00
BACS641	ACM Business Services Limited	Internet, Landline and mobile fee 2021-22	£192.00
Payment requests received after agenda published			
FA01-2205	Mrs V Thorne	Salary (Payable 10/05/22)	
FA02-2205	NEST	EE Pension contribution (Directr Debit)	
FA03-2205	NEST	ER Pension contribution (Direct Debit)	
SO01-2205	Miss A Marabese	Salary (Payable 15/05/22)	
BACS642	Auditing solutions	Internal Audit Fee	£444.00



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## 788. PLANNING AND HOUSING

### a. Applications since last Council meeting for consideration

- i. CB/22/01261/OUT - 100 High Street, SG17 5LZ - Outline Application: Development of 23 dwellings and associated works following the demolition of 100 High Street with all matters reserved except access.  
*Proposed Cllr Chapman/Seconded Cllr Thompson. Resolved that the Council objects to planning application 22/01261. Carried.*
- ii. CB/22/01195/FULL - 84A Fildyke Road, SG17 5LU - Erection of boundary fence.  
*Proposed Cllr Chapman/Seconded Cllr Merryweather. Resolved that the Council has no objection to planning application 22/01195. Carried.*
- iii. CB/22/01516/FULL - 113 High Street, SG17 5LZ - Single storey front, side and rear extensions, part two storey side & rear extension, loft extension and conversion.  
*Proposed Cllr Crossley/Seconded Cllr Thompson. Resolved that the Council has no objection to planning application 22/01516. Carried.*
- iv. CB/22/01505/FULL - 34 Brookmead, SG17 5SA - Single storey front extension and garage conversion.  
*Proposed Cllr Crossley/Seconded Cllr Merryweather. Resolved that the Council has no objection to planning application 22/01505. Carried.*
- v. CB/22/01623/FULL - 43 Walnut Tree Way, SG17 5AB - Two storey side and single storey rear extension, to replace car port structure.  
*Proposed Cllr Thompson/Seconded Cllr Chapman. Resolved that the Council has no objection to planning application 22/01623. Carried.*

*Note: For planning applications that are submitted between meetings and for which an extension to the comment's deadline date is not given, powers have been delegated to the Clerk (with a proposed response circulated to the Council) to submit comments to CBC Planning.*

## 789. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

### a. Report from the Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group – Clerk

The plan is under review by the Clerk and Mrs Chapman. Re-consultation of MNP Draft Plan policy H1 will start on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022. The end of 2021-2022 grant submission has been completed and funds not spent will need to be returned. A new grant application for 2022-2023 has been submitted and is pending approval.

## 790. HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

### a. OPCC and RMF grant funding updates for the Clerk

The Clerk has received an email from CBC Highways to say that they are reviewing RMF applications and expect to make announcements in June. No update on OPCC grant funding scheme from CBC Highways.

### b. To consider proposed action to deal with vehicles driving along the Hoo Road bridleway.

The Clerk has been discussing the issue of vehicles using the Hoo road bridleway with our CBC Right of Way Officer as this poses a road safety issue near the entrance to Old Road Meadow nature reserve and play area. Safety of pedestrians will become more of an issue when the footpath linking the 68 new homes built at 32 Shefford Road and Hoo Road is opened. The CBC Rights of Way Officer is suggesting that the bridleway needs attention in certain areas and that the installation of a gate would prevent vehicles from using the bridleway. The Clerk proposes that MPC consider a

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contribution (to CBC) for the installation of a gate instead of bollards that have been damaged beyond repair.

*Proposed Cllr Merryweather/Seconded Cllr Chapman. Resolved that the Council contributes to the cost of a gate installation if requested from CBC. Carried.*

**c. To consider current bus stop locations in the village and provide feedback to CBC.**

Bus stop pole, flag and timetable cases have been installed at the entrance and opposite the Polehanger Farm entrance. CBC's Senior Public Transport Officer considers them to be in a perfectly safe location. Reasons for installation were:

- Historically this location had been registered as a bus stop. CBC have been gradually upgrading stops from unmarked to marked
- Raise awareness of public transport in all areas.
- Help promote local companies such as Whitbread Wanderbus.
- The area is popular with walkers and this location is a good starting point for those that wish to walk the countryside.
- Polehanger Farm is a luxury glamping location and it may appeal to those that stay at this location.

Polehanger Farms have objected to this location but Grant Palmer and the Wanderbus do not actually stop at this location. Also the Clerk has received correspondence from residents asking why a bus stop has been placed near Polehanger but not near the Care Home.

*Cllrs agreed that the Clerk should respond to CBC and request an online meeting with officers and Ward Councillors to discuss the matter.*

**d. To review Road Signs report and agree on any actions required.**

Mrs Thorne has removed old fading signs and has provided an update on other village signs including village entry signs. Many signs have old rusting posts with missing caps. Some signs are damaged and need repair / replacement. The Festival of Britain sign in the centre of the village is also showing signs of needing repair.

*Proposed Cllr Merryweather/ Seconded Cllr Crossley. Cllrs agreed that the Clerk should report issues of street signage to CBC where possible. Council resolved to approve repair to The Festival of Britain sign and other signs that are the responsibility of MPC.*

### 791. ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE

**a. Centenary Field - Update from the Clerk and Cllr Morgan on works**

The Clerk and Cllr Morgan reported that:

- Facebook post issued on 1<sup>st</sup> May regarding pending works to Centenary Field.
- Sherriffs have sprayed off grass areas where landscaping is to take place. They will then commence on landscaping and track around the pitches. Areas will be fenced off and Sherriffs have been asked to erect lots of signage.
- New gym equipment installation. Pending installation confirmation date.

**b. Signage update and costings**

Cllr Standbridge and the Clerk are working on final designs of signage for quotations.

### 792. CLOSE OF THE MEETING

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10:00pm and reminded everyone that the next meeting would be the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022 in the Village Hall.

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Where no signature exists in this electronic version, a hard copy version is available for inspection from the Clerk.

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### Glossary

- CBC = Central Bedfordshire Council
- GPC = Gravenhurst Parish Council
- MPC = Meppershall Parish Council
- MVH = Meppershall Village Hall & MVHT = Meppershall Village Hall Trustees
- NP = Neighbourhood Plan
- ORM = Old Read Meadow Nature Reserve
- VAS = Vehicle activated sign