**CALVERT GREEN PARISH COUNCIL Minutes of Meeting held on 20th May 2021**

**Face to face and Virtual Zoom meeting 1930**

**Signed: Chairman Phil Gaskin**……………………………………………………………………………

The meeting is being recorded and will be uploaded to the website.

The meeting proper then began.

Attendance and apologies

**Attendees:**

Chairman Phil Gaskin (PG)

Cllr Liza Bangham (LB)

Cllr Kirsten Gittins (KG)

Cllr Adele Decent (AD)

Cllr Carl Blakeley (CB)

Clerk Tracy Horsfield (TH)

Cllr MacPherson

5 members of the public

Meeting started recording

1. **Declarations of interest**

None

1. **Minutes of meeting held on 1st April 2021**

Agreed and signed

1. **Cllr MacPherson**

We now have three Councillor’s for Buckinghamshire, I now have Calvert Green and Cllr Rand and McMahon have other Parishes. PG I would like to thank you for your support over the last year and pleased you are back and looking after our Parish.

1. **ARC**

**PG** This is the Cambridge to Oxford ARC which is the area that has been highlighted for huge development. It has been flagged as a priority for us to keep an eye on it. Agenda point 15 is councillor responsibilities and this can then be given to a councillor going forward.

1. **Public participation**

**DR** bollards, I can see this is on the agenda. Also, the road safety point. **PG** yes, I think we will save it to that point in the agenda. **LB** should we put the hedges on the agenda. **PG** I have seen on other community forums there have been updates. It is the responsibility of the landowner to keep these tidy. With all of the rain recently there has been significant growth. Previously the clerk dropped a letter into the resident’s houses. **TH** to add to Agenda. **KG** in a months’ time hopefully the weather will be good and people will do their gardens. **DR**, I have been contacting HS2 and Fusion about trucks coming through the village, they deny they employ them. **PG** I am always onto HS2 about Hgv’s, it is very frustrating to get emails saying its nothing to do with them. It clearly states in their charter they will only follow up if they are provided with the licence plate. **PG** we need residents to follow up these incidents. **PG** Bucks council have recruited Marshall’s. **AMC** we are in the recruitment process. **PG** they then would be able to pursue these complaints, I would like to think we would have one in our area. **AMC** I will make sure we have one. **JH** can I just ask about the new playgrounds, the grass isn’t being cut regularly. **TH** to find out when the schedule is. **JH** we pay bucks CC to pay for a free football event and had to cut the grass ourselves. **PG** the PC have never paid for the green to be cut, but we do pay for the verges.

1. **EWR/HS2**

**PG** All of the local parishes are chasing HS2 and EWR. The new things that are impacting us, the construction on the batching plant has started. It is the most frustrating part is we petitioned as a **PC** against the construction. The second thing is the tunnelling work on Brackley Lane, this will take about a year to complete. There are issues, the road closure was for a short period initially but bucks cc has extended the parking restriction until next year, **AMC** can you take a look at that? We thought there would be periods of works and parking wouldn’t be affected. **AMC** I will look into this, we have seen it with EWR adding periods of time onto their works, when pressed they can be adaptable. We can raise this at the CALM meetings. **PG** along with a councillor from Charndon I attended the main HS2 compound, socially distanced PPE session. It was helpful to see what is going on where, it was hard to accept the devastation and scale of the project. The pandemic hasn’t helped with community engagement. They do virtual events but you can’t speak. I have suggested they come back out to the community. They have said that there is a threat to their staff. **AMC** we are pushing them to do roadshows about the IMD. That is going to be with us in perpetuity and could have a massive impact on the community. **PG** a final point at a recent meeting HS2 disagreed with us about a change of use of the IMD. It will just be a maintenance depot. **AMC** yes but also a training centre, we need to understand the implications of this.

1. **Dunsty Hill**

**PG > KG** I have heard nothing at present. We still haven’t heard anything following our objections. LB can you tell us the objections. **KG** they are a matter of public record.

1. **Prison Application**

**PG** contrary to opinion that it had been cancelled, it has just been parked. **AMC** we were expecting an outline planning application by now. There has been an unprecedented rebuttal of this and the Minister is surprised by the public opposition to this. Lots of FOI requests into the MOJ into alternative sites, we have had no information back even to our MP. We shall see how the wheels of government work on this I would have expected that application by now.

1. **Solar farm**

**KG** we didn’t object to the planning, as it is not within sight of Calvert. **PG** our response was based on the information shared that all connectivity was on the FCC land and would be accessed via the A41. Also, would potentially stop any development on that land.

1. **Verge Bollards**

**CB** I completed the form to the council, I received an email back saying a PID is in process. **PG** we talked about covering the cost of these from the interest from the 1m mitigation fund.  **DR** I haven’t looked into it as yet, **PG** there are various grants out there for road safety. **CB** once we know the costings we will know if we can afford how many we can have. **DR** I have found various schemes for funding, **LB** the PID maybe a scope of work document. **PG** so just waiting on costs.

1. **Neighbourhood plan**

**LB** I am pleased to say that our grant funding has been approved, PC need to agree to the T&C’s, I also need to revue the due diligence. **TH** can you provide bank details. **TH** yes. **LB** Once all of this has been done, I have updated our action plan, shared earlier. This is also a contact document, outlines who the steering group are, this also includes landowners. This can then be put on the website for the public to view. The steering group will meet early to mid-June, this depends on our meeting with Neil Homer in Tuesday evening. The Plan needs to be completed by next March. **PG** the funding that we get is subject to us completing by the end of the financial year. **PG** we should make the point that this is a huge priority for us. **PG** because we gained agreement from Charndon PC we have an opportunity to claim more funding**. LB** yes, Neil has said we can decide that later. **PG** does the clerk need to attend on Tuesday. **LB** Neil has said it is just a quick meeting.

1. **Community boards and funding requests**

**PG** as we have moved to the Buckingham board, we haven’t had a meeting as yet. **AMC** looks like the 22nd June.

1. **£1 million mitigation fund**

**PG** We have got our allocation, we still don’t have a detailed design of HS2 in the area, but we need to make sure we can use these funds. **CB** has the interest been paid into our account. **PG** yes.

1. **Road safety**

**PG** This was put in due to the fatal accident, there is camera’s there **AMC** yes, the data didn’t say that there were any significant breaches of the speed limit of 50 mph. So, there isn’t a lot we can do, I have asked for signage. Sadly, the evidence isn’t there to support any road safety initiatives. We do have the EWR digital signs asking drivers to slow down.  **DR** the verges sometimes need cutting. **AMC** you must report it the highways. We do get a bit of push and pull from residents around leaving the verges as natural as possible. **AD** when you come to that cross roads and look to the right there is a sign there that is quite intrusive for the sight line. **PG** will look into it. DR could there not be a mini roundabout, PG that was one of the reasons for the road safety cameras and that showed there wasn’t justification for the cost. AD signage. **PG** good point it could be made more obvious. **AMC** I have taken this up with the highways team and signage is probably the one win we can get.

1. **Councillor responsibilities**

**PG** We will hold a meeting separately to establish responsibilities. We have a spreadsheet but it needs updating. Agreed by the group.

1. **Village updates**

**TH** we have had a few emails from the public, **JH** asked if we could install a plug socket outside in car park. This will be for Bloom Valley and CGCA will pay for it. **PG** I have no issues with it**. JH** We haven’t got all of the details as yet. **KG** so there won’t be leads across the car park. **JH** it would have to go from the socket to where they park. **PG** we need to be mindful of about where it will be, the CGCA will need to make sure all of the safety guidelines are in place. **PG** A 20-amp socket we have no objections as long as it is isolated. **JH** There will be a switch inside the plant room. **PG** as long as it is installed properly and isn’t available for all to plug into. **PG** proposed and **KG** seconded. **TH** Darren Rothwell has emailed a suggestion about a red telephone box that can be converted to a library. He wanted to know if we can place one next to the noticeboard. **TH** to check who owns the land. Had some residents emailing about the traffic lights. **PG** I have personally raised this with them, it is very frustrating. **PG** we will bring this up at the next CALM meeting. **CB** the lights, we could surely manage without the lights, they don’t seem to be working in the road**. PG** I asked the same, but they refused. **TH** email from a resident about the lights in the community centre, **JH** they have been put right since then.

1. **Logo and signage**

**KG AD** Have you put out the competition for the logo, **AD** yes put it on Facebook. **AD** I will put it out again . **AD** can we invest in some signage, some A frames with posters on to advertise the PC meetings. **PG** I don’t have a problem with it **LB** or **CB** do you have any questions. **CB** the CGCA have theirs, we used to use them. We could borrow theirs; they keep them at the back of the hall. **TH** to add an action.  **LB** my view is anything that helps the community to know when our meetings are is good.

1. **Parks, Garden and Allotments**

**PG** funding for the new park is approved but wont start until the summer**. AD** can I email him and ask about the tendering. **PG** yes. **TH** Joe did respond to three residents. PG Petanque pit, we have voted on it to become a memorial garden, HS2 still haven’t come back to me, but I have now included Gregg Smith’s office. **PG** I do think HS2 should do it. **PG** I have a meeting next week, I will raise it again and give them a deadline for the end of July. **AD** if they can’t do it, they could give us the money. **PG** yes, I agree. **TH** to add allotments to the list of responsibilities. **PG** there is funding and support available if we can show a need.

1. **Town and Parish Charter**

**PG** this can now be removed from the agenda.

1. **AOB**

**PG>CB** Rubbish bin, yes, the bin **TH** has emailed the council**. CB** we will have to pay for it. **CB** we could have the same one as the one at the bus stop. **TH>CB** do you have any email correspondence? **CB** yes, I will have a look. **CB** can we agree formally to replace. DR on the point of allotments I put my name down. **PG** yes, we have the list, we just need to identify land. **CB** can we not use the land where they are tunnelling? **PG** we are going to end up with hoarding around it. PG the ransom strip between us a Dunsty hill could be an option**. PG** the houses at the top of Brackley Lane, Frank asked if the fixtures and fittings could be shared to the needy in the area. **PG** I will pick this up with Frank.

1. **Financials**

Were checked and agreed for sign off.

**Meeting ended 21.30**

**Next meeting 24/6/2021 @19.30**