**CALVERT GREEN PARISH COUNCIL Minutes of Meeting held on 3rd December 2020**

**– Virtual Zoom meeting 1930**

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

The meeting proper then began.

Attendance and apologies

**Attendees:**

Chairman Phil Gaskin (PG)

Cllr Liza Bangham (LB)

Cllr Kirsten Gittins (KG)

Cllr Thelma Watson (TW)

Cllr Carl Blakeley (CB)

Cllr Sheila Thiyagarajah (ST)

Clerk Tracy Horsfield (TH)

4 members of the public

**Apologies**

Cllr Adele Decent (AD)

Cllr Angela Macpherson (AMP)

1. **Declarations of interest**

None

1. **Minutes of meeting held on 5th November 2020**

Agreed and signed

1. **Apologies**

Cllr MacPherson

Cllr Decent

1. **Cllr Macpherson update**

Areas where the council are working hard is distributing government funding to support local businesses, grant aid for vulnerable families and children on free school meals, support and advice for social care providers particularly care homes and Dom care providers. The deployment of marshals too and environmental health officers to enforce Covid laws and remind retailers etc about gov guidance.

Community boards have a second tranche of Covid crisis fund which is focussed on this lockdown period through to Christmas and the New Year. Parishes and any Community group or individual helping provide food etc to vulnerable members of their community can apply to the community board co-ordinator Elaine Hassall or through their local councillor, me.

I have progressed Calvert Green’s request to move from Haddenham and Waddesdon community board to Buckingham. I hope that Marco Dias has contacted you now about this - if not please let me know.

Other current work is budget preparations. Like government, as the current environment is uncertain and volatile, the council is focussing on a one-year plan.

This will come to Cabinet and full council in the New Year.

Additionally worth pointing out the VALP timeline as above.

HS2/EWR obviously I’ve been involved in several of the recent meetings with PG and hope you can update the PC on our recent meeting with Greg Smith and the asks from the parishes. Your possible appearance at select committee ! And the CALM meetings with EKFB.

1. **HS2.**

PG Lots of problems with the state of the roads, including closures. HGV access illegal, lack of notification of closures. Issues with the use of standpipes. Based on all of the issues, I was part of a presentation with Greg Smith, we went through all of the challenges. In particular £1m fund, we should have access in an easier way. We have now been given the interest back. We asked for a senior role in the area potentially with Bucks council. No one is policing what they are doing. We have asked for noise mitigation, vibration assessment. Compensation for any damages available now. HS2/EW Rail Government Minister to attend the site to see the blight on our village. It is a start but still work to be done. Vegetation works to start this weekend, the batching plant to start construction after Christmas, will be functioning at the end of the year.

1. **East/West rail**

**PG** In our parish and surrounding area, we don’t have to deal with E/W rail as it comes under HS2 for our parish. It is however causing problems for local businesses and residents. HGV don’t have to have signage that they are working for E/W rail.

1. **Play areas/questionnaire**

No update -

1. **Emergency Community planning**

**KG** shared a document to all councillors, this will be shared on Facebook, Website, Notice board and the Claydons magazine.

1. **Website/ Minutes**

**PG** there are some issues with creating content, **TH** to contact the designer

1. **Neighbourhood plan/Surveys**

LB shared the updated action plan. Effectively we started this just before lockdown, some delays due to lockdown. We have identified an external consultant; we have submitted our plan to the council. The consultation is open on the Bucks Council website, David Walker is our lead contact at the Council, once this has been approved, we can apply for formal funding. It can take 4 to 6 weeks for approval. End of January we should be able to engage the consultant to create a formal NP. No additional cost to the Parish, between now and getting him onboard we will set up the steering group. 30-day notification process, I would like to post this on the website. The steering group will progress the NP plan and content. We will be guided by the consultant. **CB** the website it has an error code on the neighbourhood plan, is the survey on there? **TH** it is on there. **LB** Any questions? **DR** Can we download it and email back to **TH**.

1. **AVDC Land Lease**

Last meeting, we agreed to pay for the insurance policy, there is a restrictive title. Land registry doesn’t have it, no one will provide cover without the document. We have to wait for the process the title goes back 100 years.

1. **Dunsty Hill development/Calvert Green Residents Action Group**

**KG** presented a presentation from the last meeting she had with the developers, first one shows where we are and where the houses will potentially be built. I have to reiterate no planning application has been submitted. On the tree line they have said they will be adding 7 metres of woodland on top of the current woodland, so more of a buffer along that area. Courtyard style 4 x 1 beds, 8 x 2 beds etc. I have had a conversation with another Councillor who has stated the developers are using the exception rule incorrectly. It should be a housing association not a developer. I have received an email from the developers to say they will be putting in an application before Christmas, I would like to propose that due to us not meeting till? January, we object to it as a PC. **PG** are you suggesting we vote now as it is an imminent planning application. KG I did send an email to a resident from the CGR-AG to have a meeting with the developers but have not had a response. **PG** yes, we should vote, **KG** Proposed, we have a strong case to object due to them not using the correct process. **PG** just wanted to stress for the record as a PC their can be no predetermination, due to the developer imminently submitting planning can I ask for a vote, unanimous vote against. **PG** we have been under criticism from the residents but we have followed the correct procedure. We already have 30%+ of affordable housing, we also identified lack of immunities and public transport. We have a big development in Steeple Claydon, we have a lot of development in the area and the proposed plan shows a lack of integration with the existing village. Inadequate road network, there was never a formal application on their first proposal which included the Oxford/Cambridge expressway HS2 and E/W rail as justification, none of these benefit our local community. We have been constantly saying these things throughout. **CB** the VALP also states only a few houses, **PG** the VALP still has not been adopted so we have nothing to cover this. **PG** CGR-AP, we don’t seem to have anyone from this group on the meeting today. **PG** I am aware of an email that came in today, specifically asking for the PC to object. We will respond with our decision and reasons why. We should still communicate with the developer. **PG** does any member of the public have any questions? **DR** Yes, is it rumour that that land is a flood plain? **KG** no I don’t believe so. DR HS2 vehicles, is it possible for them to put signs up. **DB** there could be water in that area. **PG** this is why the /neighbourhood plan is so important. PG anything else on this point? No more questions from the public.

1. **Financials**

Were checked and agreed for sign off.

1. **AOB**

**Stand pipe Cotswold way**

Couple of complaints around legal and illegal stand pipe use, **PG** has been in touch. Fusion have applied for a formal permit and have now been given it, we took the concerns on and raised concerns over the locations of the standpipes, discharging water on the roads and pavements especially near school bus pick up points. This has been acknowledged, Aquam are investigating. Fusion asked where can we use? **MTB** that is accurate they are still using it illegally. They need to be upgraded for facility services. At present they are only for the emergency services. **PG** I have a meeting with Fusion tomorrow, I will ask the question again. If the standpipes could be labelled for emergency services only.

**Community boards / Funding requests**

**KG** now attending the meetings.

**Parish Precept**

Element of the Council Tax we receive, we put it up last year to cover additional hours for Parish Clerk. Also to accrue towards some extra bollards, **TH** email received to say due to pandemic we will get less. **PG** if we have time to make a decision at next meeting, deadline 31st January 2021.

**Play around the Parishes**

Traditionally this is something we do 50/50 with the CGCA, didn’t happen earlier, TH received an email for a virtual Christmas theme and next year. Do we as a PC want to continue with this, **PG** it is always organised well, **TH** to contact CGCA .

**Street light not working in Fletton End**

**TH** contacted Council, has contacted David Wilson who is sending someone out to look at it. TH to also ask about brass cutting in the area.

**KG** asked if we could purchase a new notice board due to the existing one being too small, **TH** to get some quotes.

Number 4 Cotswolds could possibly help. **KG** On Facebook, there is an online survey re a new prison in Springhill. Consultation online, PC to put on Website and Facebook. **MTB** Is Facebook a safe way to communicate information. **PG** Anything on Facebook is information we share to the public anyway, **TH** can you take an action on putting information on Facebook please.

**PG** potentially do a Bi-monthly newsletter, to communicate topical information, **KG** should we not be coming away from paper? Surely, we are a digital age and should be using social media. **LB** newsletter on website. **CB** don’t we put an update in the magazine. **TH** we do have a newsletter section on the website. **PG** we need to make the website work for us. **DR** maybe some Aframe boards? **PG** this is something we can look at.

**Recording the PC Meetings/publishing on the website**

This was agreed and will commence next month if website allows

**Speed watch**

Action for next meeting

**Next meeting 7/1/2021 @19.30**