**CALVERT GREEN PARISH COUNCIL Minutes of Parish**

**Council Meeting held on 27th August 2024 @1930**

**Signed: Charman Phil Gaskin**……………………………………………………………………………

The meeting proper then began.

Attendance and apologies

**Attendees:**

Cllr Phil Gaskin (Chair) **(PG)**

Cllr Carl Blakeley **(CB)**

Cllr David Russell **(DR)**

Cllr Gary Atkins **(GA)**

Cllr Ross Yarker **(RY)**

Cllr Kirsten Gittins (Deputy Chair) **(KG)**

Cllr Colin Sharples **(CS)**

Cllr Frank Mahon **(Cllr FM)**

Clerk Tracy Horsfield **(TH)**

Members of the public

**Apologies**

None

**25.24 Declarations of interest**

**None**

**Minutes of meeting held on 30th July 2024**

Agreed and signed

**26.24 Public Participation**

Any news on the Broadband? DR spoke with BT they are quoting 2026, as long as there is potential for broadband other than Gigaclear. **Cllr Mahon** Steeple Claydon has three providers, 90% of Steeple Claydon is well serviced**. PG** BT refused to come and Gigaclear were willing. **Cllr Mahon**, there is one more option, not sure when it is going to happen, there was a consortium putting together a plan to put masts on the EWR line. So, it is a watch and wait.

Resident – recently I have been suffering from some breathing difficulties, is there constant monitoring of the cement works? **PG** yes there is, **Cllr Mahon** and I have discussed. **Cllr Mahon** two issues, white dust from the batching plant and red dust, we have no idea where the red dust comes from. **KG** I suggest contacting the GPs. **Cllr Mahon** I have it unofficially that a nurse has made a statement that there is an area in Calvert Green that seems to have more issues with breathing problems. We are trying to sort out sometime to door knock. Resident – is it not compulsory to have air monitoring? **PG** yes, **Cllr Mahon** I did put it on the agenda for the last CALM meeting. **Cllr GA** doesn’t it take an average? **Cllr Mahon** yes, this is where the problem could be. **PG** the meeting reference that **Cllr GA** was going to attend, it was organised because they were quoting that air quality in this area is getting better. **KG** could it be the incinerator. **Cllr Mahon**, we need to visit these houses, get the facts together and go back to HS2/EWR. **Cllr Mahon**, what work has been done on Dunsty hill, the feedback I am getting is the red dust is brick dust. **PG** its quite a small operation. **Cllr Mahon**, We, have known for years that they are taking the average. **CS** can we do a survey? **PG** yes, can the CGCA send out an email?

**27.24 Cllr Mahon update**

I receive a lot of complaints about road closures and traffic lights not working, I went to a meeting last week, Bucks CC are adopting s lane rental scheme (LRS) this is where bucks CC can charge up to £2400 per day for utilities to work at peak times. A permit at night is cheap, so we are encouraging them to work at night. It will not come into effect until possibly June/July 2025. I asked the question, do HS2/EWR have to pay, I was told no this is disappointing. The next thing is HS2, has anyone seen the news? It seems the doors are not wide enough, this will cost the taxpayer £200m. A senior engineer has been sacked, it seems HS2 must knock down 3 bridges due to using the wrong cement and steel. **PG** Sandhill road, I think this road is dangerous still as they have not changed the barrier, in the dark it is dangerous, this should be realigned. I have gone to helping hands to ask for more help for residents, this money must be spent by September. I asked for more money to help over the winter of 24/25. I have been given some money, it will be going out on social media, if a Parish Councillor knows of or has been asked, please share helping hands details. They will vet the person; they can collect the vouchers from me. You can only buy food no alcohol or cigarettes and no cash back. **PG** it is a good initiative especially following the governments decision to take away the fuel allowance. **CB** just wanted to say that the roads are a lot better. **Cllr Mahon**, at present they are core drilling on roads. PG I want to understand whose responsibility it is for the road signs? when HS2 does its signage e.g. coming from Charndon to come straight across to Calvert Green, there are umpteen signs and it blocks the view of the road. **CS** its not just an HS2 issue. **Cllr Mahon left the meeting**.

**28.24 Solar Farm/National grid**

**KG** attended the National Grid meeting; they discussed the need to replace the substation due to it not being fit for purpose. **KG** I asked if you don’t do it what will happen? They said it will just stop working. The substation is for the whole of the south east, they did say that this will not be ready and open for business until 2030 so will not be ready for the planned solar farm. They were very clear this is not being done to help them. Consultation will start spring/summer next year, then 2027/30 will be construction. **CB** will the land be returned to farmland, **KG** no brownfield. **KG** passed the proposal around the PC.

**GA** no update on the Solar farm.

**29.24 Neighbourhood plan**

**PG** we should appoint actions to councillors, discussed as a group action appointed and **CS** agreed to share. **TH** to organise an update meeting, just to see everyone is ok with their actions. Agreed for Wednesday the 11th September at 1930.

**30.24 Dunsty Hill**

No update.

**31.24 HS2/EWR**

**PG** I pushed them on an update on the design, they agreed not to approve the sound barriers, we have asked them to make it better. I spoke to **Greg Smith MP** about it. They are going to do another resident consultation with there bus. **TH** is attending a meeting tomorrow on HS2 Mitigation.

**32.24 Tracker**

**Street lights** Cotswold way one has been fixed, but the accident a few weeks ago taking out a street light is still awaiting attention. **CB** has reported again on fix my street.

**Bollards CB** to chase the LAT.

**Allotments DR** there was talk of a different area. PG when we had the last meeting, they said they were looking at building 2 or 3 houses, they did say potentially we could have some land there, but it wouldn’t be on our parish. **CB** did you ask again about the old sports pitch? **PG** yes but they have said it will be too expensive so not viable.

**Funding** **TH** has emailed, showing our preference in order. We placed the walk way along the main road first then traffic calming second and third.

**Litter bins CB** to chase.

**Memorial Gdn TH** John is attending weekly.

**Green/verges TH** John has now completed the first cut on behalf of the Parish Council. **TH** John also discussed the area around the Community centre and the area around the shop. Parish Council agreed for both to be done.

**Oakpark To be discussed at same time as CCTV.**

**Speed limit** On hold

**Bus stop markings CB** to email to follow up.

**21.24 CGCA**

No CGCA attendance**, TH** the music quiz was very good and felt they are doing very well. **PG** ladies toilet seat is not attached, this need replacing. **PG/TH** to take a look.

**22.24 Financials**

**All agreed , TH** to look at claiming VAT back

**23.24 Next meeting**

27th August 2024 at 1930

**24.24 AOB**

**CCTV**

**TH** I contacted the CCTV company re upgrading the system, he powered down the system and it took 10 minutes to power up. **PG** I am in agreement to replace the system and feel it needs to be installed and maintained. **PG** asked for a vote, Parish Council voted to investigate other options. **DR** to ask his CCTV contact to come and quote. **TH** to contact Insurance company to see if we should have an intruder alarm. **DR** met with Oakpark and they can install the system to monitor the fire alarm. **Parish Council** agreed to pay for installation and then going forward a yearly charge for monitoring.

**Councillor Correspondence**

**TH** has booked new councillor training for **GA** and **RY.**

**PG** Container? **CB** to contact and arrange delivery. **PG** agreement that it will go in to the parking space next to the disabled space. Also, we should look at getting it painted.

**TH** Floor cleaner, I have researched**. Parish Council** agreed funding,CGCA to pay half. **PG** a resident has about 50 bricks that we can have, they can be kept in the container for now.

**PG** anti-social behaviour has been on the increase.Heard that a local resident Police Officer had given them a very serious talking to. **PG** there is also anti- social behaviour from people accessing FCC. FCC have agreed to place a new fence along the affected residents gardens.

**Meeting ended 21.00 Next Meeting 27th August 2024 @1930**