



# HADDENHAM Parish Council

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## MINUTES PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020, 7.30pm The meeting was held remotely by Zoom

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**Present:** Cllrs Mrs. Aston, Mr. Brown, Mr. Hoare, Mr O'Loughlin, Mr. Lyons, Mr. O'Hanlon, Ms. Poole, Mr. Sharp, Mr. Truesdale (Chair), and Mr. Young.  
**Bucks Cllrs:** Mrs. Brandis and Mr Foster.  
**Clerk:** Ms. Gilbert.  
**Deputy Clerk:** Mrs. Marsden.  
**Acting Deputy Clerk:** Ms. Allman.  
**Assistant Clerk:** Ms. Griffiths.  
5 members of the public.

### PC21 1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Mr Wheeler.  
Mr O'Loughlin, Ms Poole and Mr Young joined the meeting late due to technical difficulties.

### PC21 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in addition to those already disclosed.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Three members of the public requested to take part.

- 1) A representative from Red Kite Radio explained they were requesting a grant from the Parish Council as the station's revenue has been badly affected by the coronavirus. Following a request, the representative agreed to send further financial information to the Clerk. It was explained that Red Kite Radio has so far been unsuccessful in securing funding from Buckinghamshire Council. The second representative from Red Kite Radio advised that Longwick and Chinnor Parish Councils have agreed to support the station. The request for a grant will be discussed later on in the agenda.
- 2) A resident expressed concern about the on-going problem with noise from GGR's premises. The resident was also concerned about the condition of Rudds Ponds, including the duck house. Ponds will be discussed later on in the agenda under the update on village amenities. An update on the noise disturbance caused by GGR is provided later on in the agenda under reports from Buckinghamshire Council.

Mr Young joined the meeting during public participation.

### PC21 3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and the Extraordinary meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020 were AGREED as a true record. The Chair will sign the agreed minutes in the Parish Council office at a later date.

Mr O'Loughlin joined the meeting after the minutes were agreed.

#### **PC21 4 COVID-19 UPDATE**

- (i) The Local Government and Police and Crime Commissioner (Coronavirus) (Postponement of Elections and Referendums) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 which postponed the parish council elections scheduled for May 2020 until May 2021 were noted. As a result, all current Parish Councillors will continue in their roles.
  
- (ii) The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 were noted. The regulations are in effect for meetings held before 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021 and in summary:
  - (a) Allow parish councils to meet remotely
  - (b) Allow parish councils to decide on the method of holding a remote meeting.
  - (c) Removes requirement to hold an Annual Meeting.
  
- (iii) The Parish Council is working closely with the FISH scheme whose DBS checked volunteers have provided support to the elderly for many years and have well established processes in place. The PC has 94 registered volunteers to call upon if needed. There have been 31 contacts needing help and these have been managed with the FISH scheme volunteers. The biggest problem initially was the pressure on the pharmacy to deal with a large increase in prescription requests. Through the FISH scheme, we have arranged help with the packaging and delivery of prescriptions.
  
- (iv) The approval of the proposal for the Haddenham Hamper website was noted. Modelled on the 'Risborough Basket', the Haddenham Hamper is designed to help the residents shop locally and support local businesses by providing information about local shops and what they have on offer in a single place, with easy methods of contact. The Parish Council approved this project at the start of May and the website is expected to go live later in June. It is hoped that some grant funding may be available from Buckinghamshire Council's Heart of Bucks fund.
  
- (v) Updates to the the COVID-19 policy were AGREED .

#### **PC21 5 REPORT FROM BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL**

Mrs Brandis has been in contact with Transport for Buckinghamshire regarding the condition of the roads in Haddenham. Confirmation has been received that several roads, including Willis Road, Aston road, Stanbridge Road, Dollicott and Thame Road as well as Risborough road (Aston Sandford) and Haddenham Road (Kingsey), are scheduled for work in 2020/21. Mrs Brandis has also been in contact with the Principal Environmental Health Officer, Neil Green, regarding the noise disturbance to local residents from GGR after receiving a video of the noise from a resident of Platers Road. Neil Green has contacted the resident and will be investigating the complaint. Mrs Brandis has also contacted the MP for Buckingham, Greg Smith, regarding the conversion of offices to residential units at Waterslade House. Mrs Brandis also explained that Parish Councils can no longer request to speak at committee when objecting to a planning applications as Aylesbury Vale area was out voted by the other district areas when setting the policy for the new Buckinghamshire Council. Mrs Brandis has also met with Dandara regarding re-opening the footpath behind Willis Road. Dandara may be able to complete it by the end of October 2020.

Mr Foster advised he is on the local planning committee, the education select committee and the community board now the new Buckinghamshire Council is up and running.

Mr Lyons advised residents affected by disturbances from GGR to keep a diary of every incident as evidence to submit to Buckinghamshire Council. Mr Lyons is on the transport, environment and climate change committees. He has received 6 emails from Haddenham residents regarding the installation of 20mph limits around the village. Mr Lyons will raise the issue at a meeting on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2020. The first full meeting of Buckinghamshire Council will be on 15<sup>th</sup> July.

Ms Poole joined the meeting during the reports from the Buckinghamshire Councillors.

## PC21 6 PLANNING COMMITTEE

- (i) The responses submitted to applications received since the last Planning Committee meeting were noted:

19/04303/APP & 19/04304/ALB 2 Fern Lane Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8EL

Demolition of conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension and internal alterations.

*The Parish Council maintains its previous objection:*

*The Parish Council OPPOSES this application as it is contrary to AVDC's design guide for residential extensions in relation to both the depth of the proposed extension and the loss of southerly light to the neighbouring property.*

20/00787/APP 9 Gibson Lane Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8AP

Demolition of the existing car port/studio and the erection of a two/three-bedroom dwelling with parking and amenity space

*The Parish Council OPPOSES the application for the following reasons:*

*The proposal would harm the character and appearance of the local area, the Conservation Area and nearby listed buildings. The PC endorses the concerns of the Heritage Officer in respect of both the original submission and the recent amendments in terms of the scale and details of the proposals. The metal roof is particularly inappropriate.*

*In addition, the PC wishes to raise further concerns:*

- 1. Skittles Green itself is registered Common Land and is the responsibility of the Parish Council, as is the Black Walnut tree in the centre of the green which is protected by a TPO. The Arboriculture Report neither mentions the TPO, and appears not to appreciate that it's the responsibility of a separate party. The report does however show it as one of two "Category A" (highest priority) trees. This tree's canopy stretches, and at relatively low level, over the access to the site. The PC notes the proposed mitigation measures, but is very concerned that there is every likelihood of damage to our tree and to the setting of Skittles Green.*
- 2. 3 further trees will be lost and a 4<sup>th</sup> cut back in a landscape described in the documents as little changed since the 19<sup>th</sup> century; and indeed probably well before.*
- 3. The truncated garden of the existing property at 9 Gibson Lane will lose southerly light and be overshadowed by the new dwelling.*

*In the appeal decision dated 16<sup>th</sup> July 2019 (Appeal Ref APP/30405/W/19/3226315) the Inspector attached "considerable importance and weight to the statutory duty imposed by section 72(1) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 that special attention should be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of a Conservation Area".*

*Since the appeal, the new National Design Guide has been published in October 2019 as part of the Government's collection of Planning Practice Guidance and must be taken into account by local planning authorities when taking decisions. The Guide stresses that Para 130 of the NPPF "states clearly that permission should be refused for development of poor design that fails to take the opportunities available for improving the character and quality of an area". Buckinghamshire Council should act accordingly.*

*If permission is granted, the PC suggests Informatives to the effect that:*

- 1. No site access should take place from the north via The Croft.*
- 2. No parking of contractor's vehicles or plant at Skittles Green.*
- 3. The owners of both properties will assume riparian responsibilities for the watercourse to the west of the site which takes surface run off in times of heavy rainfall and, we understand, is to be part of the overflow arrangements for the HAD007 development site.*

20/00816/ALB 2 Gibson Lane Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8AP

Provision of en-suite shower room to first floor front right bedroom

*The Parish Council has no objection.*

20/00838/APP Land North Of Pegasus Way Haddenham Airfield Haddenham Buckinghamshire\_Variation of Condition 5 of planning permission 18/01772/APP - Changing of plant species and removing area of existing path and replacing with Landscaping. Change drawing referenced to P17-0532\_01-C

*The Parish Council has no objection.*

20/00968/APP 7 Churchway Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8AB

Demolition of the existing garage and rear single storey extension and outbuildings. Erection of single storey front and rear extensions

Initial comments: *The Parish Council submits a holding objection until further information is provided about the car parking provision following the demolition of the double garage. The Design and Access Statement says: "The proposed works are not affecting the car parking arrangements" and "There are enough car parking spaces in the road". This is not acceptable. The proposal needs to show clearly where the 2 lost parking spaces will be re-located within the curtilage of the site.*

Following amendments to the application, the Council altered its response: *The Parish Council withdraws its previous objection.*

20/00970/APP Laurel House Stanbridge Road Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8HN

Single storey rear extension

*The Parish Council has no objection.*

20/00980/APP Buckinghamshire County Council Haddenham Library Banks Road Haddenham

Buckinghamshire HP17 8EE

Single storey rear extension

*The Parish Council has no objection.*

20/01050/ALB Byre House Dollicott Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8JG

Removal of existing openings on the ground floor south elevation and formation of new openings, together with internal alteration

*The Parish Council would prefer to see the proposed large opening done more sympathetically with a timber rather than aluminium frame, given that this is a listed building.*

20/01059/AAD The Cooperative Pegasus Way Haddenham Buckinghamshire

Two fascia signs, one totem sign, five wall mounted signs and two car park directional signs

*The Parish Council objects specifically to the totem pole on the grounds of its large size and illumination which are inappropriate to a village environment. This feels very "urban" and the Parish Council has resisted larger illuminated signs elsewhere in Haddenham as contrary to the Neighbourhood Plan objective of retaining our village ethos. We are also concerned that the size of the illuminated display would be visually intrusive (particularly after dark) to the residential flats above the shop, and potentially to the nearby units in the approved adjoining Care Home. The Parish Council has no objection to the other signs; nor would it object to a smaller non-illuminated totem (or similar) sign.*

20/01109/APP 4 Franklin Road Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8LE

Single storey front, part single storey and part two storey rear extensions (amendment to approval 19/03865/APP)

*The Parish Council has no objection.*

20/01129/APP 19 And 20 Fort End Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8EJ

Mixed use development including the demolition, extension, alteration and conversion of 19/20 Fort End, Haddenham and comprising an A3 unit with five dwellings together with parking and amenity space.

*The Parish Council OPPOSES the application for the following reasons:*

1. **Contrary to Neighbourhood Plan.** *The loss of this A3 use is contrary to Policy HWS2 "Protecting Community Assets" in the made Neighbourhood Plan, which is also part of AVDC's approved*

development plan. This reason was upheld in the previous public inquiry. No sufficient justification has been submitted to change that decision or cause it to be reviewed.

2. **Contrary to spatial strategy in Draft VALP.** The draft VALP is at an advanced stage. Nothing in the Modifications stage will affect Haddenham's designation as a "strategic settlement" due to take over 1000 homes. These will be provided principally on 3 large sites, 2 of which are already under construction, while the third has been approved at outline stage. The strategic settlement designation rested on the presence of existing services and facilities, including this restaurant (and former pub). Unlike the other strategic settlements, Haddenham lacks a core central business/retail/service centre typically found in a high street or market square. Given the quantum of growth proposed, Haddenham cannot afford to lose even part of a community amenity at this time. Within a short time, there will be a large population influx, not only in Haddenham but in the surrounding area, providing plenty of opportunity for an enterprising restaurant. Loss of this amenity would soon be regretted and should not be countenanced.
3. **Harm to the Conservation Area.** The site is within the Conservation Area with listed buildings nearby. Para 9.3.1 in the Neighbourhood Plan immediately preceding Policy HW2S refers to the importance of community amenities in the context of the Conservation Area and of conserving and enhancing the historic environment. Draft VALP contains similar policies. At one time Fort End was the lively centre of the village with a forge, shops, banks and coal yard. This proposal would see yet further erosion of community life, and its replacement by residential "monoculture". There have been several appeals upheld in Conservation Areas nationally (the PC can provide examples) where proposals would have meant the loss of community life and its associated vibrancy along with its comings and goings.
4. **Highway safety.** Exit from the site onto the highway (a busy road and on a frequent bus route) is on a blind bend with very poor visibility splays when leaving or entering. For this reason alone, intensification of uses on this site should not be permitted.
5. **Inadequate parking.** On-site parking is insufficient for 5 flats and a restaurant, irrespective of whether spaces are "allocated" or "shared/unallocated" per Neighbourhood Plan Policy TGA1. Two spaces are created by "longitudinal" parking which is never satisfactory.
6. **Inadequate design standards for residential units.** Generally, the flats feel cramped and "packed in". In particular:
  - Three of the proposed flats are potentially family accommodation with children likely to be present. Amenity space is poor quality, with no opportunity for planting, and a poor environment for families with children, or indeed any-one;
  - Headroom and useable floorspace in the three 2<sup>nd</sup> floor bedrooms will be limited, with clothes storage a particular likely problem;
  - Flat 6 places a living room over a bedroom in flat 2, with likely noise transmission problems, particularly in a building of traditional construction;
  - Lateral separation between flat 2 and the restaurant is to be achieved by means of a partial wall within the existing restaurant fireplace;
  - No flues, vents or air conditioning units are shown, but could clearly be a cause of future smells and/or noise problems to the residential units.

*The Parish Council would want to be represented if this application goes to Committee or to Appeal.*

20/01298/COUOR Waterslade House Thame Road Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8NT  
Determination as to whether prior approval (Class O) is required in respect of transport & highway impact, contamination risk, flooding and noise for the conversion of B1 offices to form 36 apartments (C3).  
*The Parish Council notes that the application refers to the former Buckinghamshire County Council parking standards but makes no reference to compliance with Haddenham Neighbourhood Plan Policy TGA1 on Car and Cycle Parking Standards which the Parish Council assumes should apply.*

20/01267/APP 15 Yolsum Close Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8DG

Erection of garage

*The Parish Council objects to the application for the following reasons:*

- *It is a large 5m front extension, contrary to the Design Guide for Residential Extensions which generally does not permit front extensions.*

- *The application sets an undesirable precedent for converting an old garage and then building another beyond the building line to the front of the property.*
- *The extension will block southerly light to the kitchen. This will affect any future residents, as well as the existing applicants.*
- *Insufficient detail has been provided to assess whether the extension complies with the Design Guide for Residential Extensions in respect of daylighting infringement (45 degree angle) to the neighbouring property*

19/04063/APP 36 Station Road Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8AN

Two storey side extension and new rooflights

*The Parish Council maintains its previous objection.*

20/01303/ALB Fern Farm 4 Fern Lane Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8EL

Installation of new wood burning stove within existing inglenook fire place including a new section of brickwork and chimney onto existing chimney

*The Parish Council has no objection.*

20/01394/APP 14 Rosemary Lane Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8JS

First floor rear extension

*The Parish Council has no objection.*

(ii) The following Local Planning Authority decisions were noted:

18/02385/APP - 19 And 20 Fort End Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8EJ

Mixed use development including the demolition, extension, alteration and conversion of 19/20 Fort End, Haddenham, and comprising an A3 unit with five dwellings together with parking and amenity space.

**Application withdrawn**

19/04006/ALB 14 Rosemary Lane Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8JS

Re-opening the existing garden wall to form access gate (adjoining listed wall)

**AVDC - listed building consent**

20/00147/ALB 21 Churchway Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8AB

Removal of cement based pointing from rear elevation stonework. Re-pointing of rear elevation stonework in lime. Render of decayed stonework of half gable end in lime. Restoration of front elevation windows (no. 5). Replacement of decayed rear elevation windows (no. 6). Replacement of modern French doors, rear elevation of ground floor sitting room. Replacement of decayed flat roof, rear elevation of first floor dormer window. Removal of hardboard and plasterboard from sitting room walls and ceiling. Opening up of dining room fireplace. Removal of later brick infill from sitting room fireplace. Repair of damaged brickwork on front elevation garden wall. Preparation and painting of wrought iron railings on front elevation garden wall. Replacement of existing cast and plastic rainwater goods with Alutec cast aluminium rainwater system, front and rear elevations.

**AVDC - listed building consent**

20/00584/APP 7 Roberts Road Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8HH

Demolish existing conservatory and bbq servery and erection of single storey rear extension

**Bucks Council - Householder approved**

20/00980/APP Buckinghamshire County Council Haddenham Library Banks Road Haddenham

Buckinghamshire HP17 8EE

Single storey rear extension

**Bucks Council - Approved**

18/03253/ALB and 18/03252/APP

The Beehive 23A Churchway Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8AB

Formation of a separate, self-contained dwelling together with the provision of a new garden boundary fence

**Bucks Council – Approved and Listed Building Consent**

20/00638/APP 4 Wyre Close Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8AU

first floor rear dormer

**Bucks Council – Householder approved**

20/00407/APP 4 Yolsum Close Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8DG

Single storey front and single storey side extension

**Bucks Council – Householder approved**

20/00970/APP Laurel House Stanbridge Road Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8HN

Single storey rear extension

**Bucks Council – Householder approved**

20/00439/APP & 20/00440/ALB 11 Rudds Lane Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8JP

Demolition of rear single storey extensions. Erection of two storey & single storey rear & side extensions and chimney. Part conversion & extension to outbuilding.

**Bucks Council - Householder approved and Listed Building Consent**

19/02757/APP - Mill Barn Mill Lane Haddenham Buckinghamshire OX9 3SA

Erection of a field shelter/stable with storage

**Bucks Council - approved**

20/00062/APP GGR UNIC House Haddenham Business Park Pegasus Way Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8LJ

Erection of utility building located (retrospective)

**Bucks Council – approved**

20/00378/APP Land North Of Pegasus Way Haddenham Buckinghamshire

Variation of Condition 2 to include plan CR03 Rev 05 and plant noise impact assessment project ref 87808/rev: 03 dated December 2019 and condition 9 to include the plant noise impact assessment project ref 87808/rev: 03 dated December 2019 relating to permission 18/01772/APP

**Bucks Council – approved**

20/00816/ALB 2 Gibson Lane Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8AP

Provision of en-suite shower room to first floor front right bedroom

**Bucks Council – Listed Building Consent**

20/00968/APP 7 Churchway Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8AB

Demolition of the existing garage and rear single storey extension and outbuildings. Erection of single storey front and rear extensions

**Bucks Council – Householder approved**

20/01109/APP 4 Franklin Road Haddenham Buckinghamshire HP17 8LE

Single storey front, part single storey and part two storey rear extensions (amendment to approval

19/03865/APP)

**Bucks Council – Householder approved**

(iii) The following update on major local developments was received:

#### **Airfield site**

Construction teams have returned to the Airfield site. The sales office has re-opened with reduced hours and social distancing measures in place.

### **Dollicott site - CALA homes**

20mph speed limit change on Dollicott was expected to be implemented at end of March / start of April but has been delayed and is still waiting for Member sign off.

### **Stanbridge Road sites - Rectory Homes**

30mph speed limit change on Stanbridge Road was expected to be implemented at end of March / start of April but has been delayed and is still waiting for Member sign off.

### **Aston Road Glebe Site – Dandara**

Construction has restarted and the sales office is open by appointment only.

### **Land West of Churchway (HAD007)**

The decision notice has still not been issued.

### **Land South of Lower Road**

No update.

The planning applications for Bigstrup farm and Aston Road are due to go to committee in the near future.

- (iv) It was noted that the application at 41 High Street has gone to appeal for non-determination.

## **PC21 7 FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

- (i) The list of payments is not yet available as invoices from Buckinghamshire Council have not been available to be able to complete bank reconciliations for April, the Clerk has contacted the BC finance department to resolve the issue.
- (ii) It was noted that the closure of the year end accounts was carried out successfully by RBS remotely on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020 and that the internal audit will be carried out remotely on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2020.
- (iii) It was noted that the deadline for submission of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2020 to the external auditor has been extended to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020 under the emergency coronavirus legislation SI 2020/404 The Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020.
- (iv) It was noted that the first precept payment was received on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020, a day after the legislated deadline.
- (v) It was AGREED to award Red Kite Radio a grant of £500 in the first instance. Once the additional financial information that has been requested is received, the Council will consider whether a further grant can be made at the next meeting.
- (vi) At the time of the meeting, the painting of the mini-courts at the Tennis Club had been delayed due to rain and will be re-scheduled

## **PC21 8 ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

- (i) An update on the maintenance of the village amenities was provided:

### **VILLAGE MAINTENANCE**

A skip was hired to collect green waste while the household recycling centres are closed. Unfortunately, there has been 2 incidents of green waste dumping. As green waste collections resumed 11 May 2020 and recycling centres have now re-opened, hopefully this won't be an ongoing problem.

Additional Work:



Jet washing of bus shelters and benches has been carried out according to HPC schedule.

Stockwell - steps and path clearance and improvement works.

Banks Park – beds clearance, edging and planting

Fly-tipping – collection and disposal of garden waste dumped at Whitecross Road and across village

Repairing of trip hazard adjacent to Village Hall

Repair of bin – Tacks Lane

### **TREE WORKS**

#### **Mallards Croft:**

The Clerk and Assistant Clerk met with two residents of Mallards Croft prior to the lockdown to discuss their concerns about several trees. We will obtain quotes for options for work later in summer, with a view to any work taking place after the bird nesting season has finished.

#### **Townside:**

The hazel by the footpath to Slave Hill was coppiced to prevent it from covering the street light. A sumac was felled on the wall opposite.

#### **Allotments:**

Willows along the border with Townside were pollarded in March.

#### **Sheerstock**

An arboricultural report has been carried out on the leylandii on the border of the industrial estate. This will be used to agree work to be carried out to address the concerns of parties on both sides of the boundary. All trees surveyed were placed in risk category 2 (minimal).

### **PONDS**

The condition of the ponds has been a concern again this year. Water levels are low due to lack of rainfall and the resulting lack of water flow leading to the build-up of duck weed.

#### Pond Inspection May 2020

An initial inspection of all three ponds, their current condition and future maintenance required was carried out. The recommendations of the pond inspection are:

#### Church End Village Pond

The condition of the pond edges and volume of vegetation is good and does not require any maintenance at present. The major problem is the volume of silt and debris that has accumulated, including fly tipping into the pond. The pond had major clearing in 1987 but none since, it is recommended that the pond be pumped out and digging equipment used to remove all the build-up. The liner will also need to be checked to ensure its continuing effectiveness. The birds would also have to be removed until work was completed

The specialist speculates that there would be between 50 and 80 lorry loads of silt to remove. It was recommended that this work should be done within the next three years. This will be at a very high cost which could be in the region of £80,000.

#### Rudd's Pond

The pond was emptied and cleared four and a half years ago. The requirement now is for general clearance of debris, branches and cutting back trees and grown around the edges. The previous chlorine reading of 5ppm was noted. Specialist equipment is not required just manpower and a skip to remove debris.

#### Banks Parade Pond

The duck weed is an annual problem due to the low water level causing the water to stagnate, as it cannot flow out the outlet. The solution would be an industrial (rather than decorative) fountain that would agitate the water and therefore stop the duck weed growing. The issue is a power source; solar power fountains would be a possibility but to get one of sufficient power would cost four times more than for an equivalent fountain with a standard electrical box. In terms of general maintenance, specialist equipment is not needed. Men in waders can clear most of the reeds and debris and cut back overhanging branches. A skip would be needed.

#### Quote for work to Banks Parade and Rudd's Pond

Weed, debris removal and tidy up of both ponds: £2,300

High jet pump plus 2 aerators with 6 air discs: £2500

It was AGREED to use delegated authority to accept the quote for the tidy up of both ponds at £2,300 using funds from the pond reserve.

Further investigation will be needed into setting up an electricity supply and installing a pump to aerate the Banks Park pond. Further information will also need to be gathered on what needs to be done to maintain the Church End Pond in a good condition.

## **PLAY AREAS**

**All play areas have been closed until lockdown restrictions are reduced to level 4.**

Quotes were obtained to check whether ARD was still offering a competitive price for quarterly playground inspections. The two other quotes received were more expensive so the arrangement with ARD has been renewed for the next year.

### **Woodways**

A Resistograph test has been carried out at Woodways to test the condition of the wooden equipment. The majority of the timbers were found to be in good condition, however several pieces of equipment had a post that displayed evidence of decay. Where this was minor, the report recommended monitoring only. Where this was more severe, the report recommended monitoring and planning to replace. It should be possible to replace the individual decaying posts rather than replacing the equipment as a whole. A quote has been requested from ARD for the work.

The equipment has since been cleaned and treated with a fungicidal wash, as well as wood brightener, which will hopefully help prevent further decay.

The replacement grass matting due to be installed under the swing set was delayed due to ARD temporarily closing. This should be installed in the near future.

### **Banks Park**

HAGS have attended to deal with the grinding and stiffness when the roundabout is used. It was recommended that the maintenance team regularly grease the central mechanism to stop this happening.

### **Sheerstock**

The 2 new benches have been installed, funded by the Rotary Club and a bequeathment.

A fault with the roundabout has been reported to Proludic. The contracts manager was due to visit the week the country went into lockdown. This has been chased and now restrictions are being eased, hopefully the visit can be re-arranged shortly.

## **COMMUNITY ORCHARD**

The Handlebards performance has been re-scheduled for next year.

A risk assessment for continuing some volunteer work through lockdown has been carried out with 2 people at a time working with social distancing.

There have been reports of family groups hanging out for too long in the orchard making it more difficult for others to use the space, and also of bicycles being used around the site.

## **PARKING PHASE 2**

In March the PC received the Project Initiation Document from Transport for Bucks / Local Area Forum. The estimated cost for the project is just under £26,000, with the application to the LAF to fund 50% of this. We will now have to wait until the new Community Boards are up and running before the funding application is considered, the first meeting has been delayed until July so it's not likely to be discussed until September.

## **VILLAGE GATES ON STANBRIDGE ROAD**

The new gate will be installed with the signage for the speed limit change. There have been delays at Bucks Council getting sign-off from the new unitary members but it is now hoped implementation of the speed limit change and installation of the gate will happen in July.

## **SNAKEMOOR**

Robyn Thorogood has retired from managing Snakemoor after 27 years. Julian Watson has taken over from Robyn. When lockdown measures are relaxed to allow group meetings a proper handover and thank you to Robyn will be arranged.

There have been complaints about people cycling around Snakemoor – it may be worth installing a cycle rack here so that people have a place to leave their bikes securely at the entrance whilst enjoying the nature reserve.

## **VANDALISM**

There has been a series of petty vandalism to locks across PC's assets around the village. The radar lock on the kissing gate on green lane has been broken. This was reported to Bucks Council (Bucks Council have ordered a new lock – Mark Nicholson will fit the replacement). Padlocks and locks have been smashed or filled with super-glue or paper clips at Green Lane, the PC office door, gates to Snakemoor, the allotments and to the Tennis Courts. Locksmiths have been needed twice and new padlocks purchased. A report has been made to the police.

## **PRINTERS PIECE STEPS CYCLE RAMP**

The Clerk received a request from the Safe Walking and Cycling Group (SWACG) to install a cycle ramp

alongside the steps from Stockwell into Printers Piece to be funded by the Parish Council. The Clerk explained that permission from Bucks Council (as the highways authority) would be needed as this is highway verge and as it is an access to a private road the land owner should also be asked for their view. A quote for the proposal was requested from SWACG.

As a result of miscommunication between SWACG and the contractor asked to quote, the contractor installed the cycle ramp before permission was obtained or the funding approved by the PC. Retrospective permission is being sought from Bucks Council and the PC has been asked to retrospectively approve the cost of £275. Buckinghamshire Council will need to confirm that it adopts the ramp and the management committee and landowner will also need to confirm they are happy for the ramp to be there before the PC could consider contributing towards the ramp.

It was noted when carrying out the work that the wooden edges of the steps are rotting and need replacing. The Clerk will ask TfB to carry out the repair.

Grass cutting continues to divide opinion. We have received complaints about grass being cut and not being cut. A review will be needed to get the balance right.

We have received a request to add water to Rudds Pond but have been waiting for advice from the pond expert.

- (ii) It was noted that the village maintenance contract with Aspire had been extended for one year to May 2021.
- (iii) It was noted that all play areas have been closed during lockdown and will remain closed until government restrictions are lifted.

#### **PC21 9 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

It was AGREED to resume the schedule of Parish Council and committee meetings as remote meetings.

Planning Committee	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2020 Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2020 Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> August 2020
Finance and General Purposes Committee	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2020
Parish Council	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2020 (AGAR only) Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2020
Environment Committee	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> August 2020

#### **CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

None.

#### **CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

The meeting closed at 9.08pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020