

# CASTLETHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of a Parish Council General Meeting held Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillors Ayles, Hinds, Keane & Sweetland. The Clerk Mr S Bradbury and two members of the public were also in attendance.

The meeting commenced with a public session at 7.30:

A question was asked whether the parish council were looking to replace street lights with more energy efficient solar lamps. Cllr Keane replied that the street light strategy was with MK Council. It was agreed that this would be worth investigating if the responsibility (and cost) of street lighting is transferred to the parishes. There were no more questions so the meeting proper commenced at 7.35.

		<b>ACTION</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>	
1.1	Cllrs Stacey and Markham, reason work commitments. Accepted.	
<b>2</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> by Councillors in any agenda items below	
2.1	Cllr Ayles declared a personal interest in item 7.6. He would be able to speak on the resolution but would not be permitted a vote.	
<b>3</b>	<b>APPROVE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</b>	
3.1	The minutes of the general meeting on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2015 were proposed by Cllr Keane, seconded Cllr Sweetland and agreed unanimously.	
<b>4</b>	<b>TO RECEIVE REPORTS</b>	
4.1.	<b>Clerks Report &amp; Review of Actions. (see Appendix A1).</b> Matters arising:	
4.1.1.	Item 1 – Cllr Sweetland reported that MKC were dealing with two of the three Fox Covert Lane street lamps	
4.1.2.	Item 2 – Sports Ground business rates: A meeting had been held where it had been decided to look at forming an Unincorporated Association to manage the sports ground. Draft ‘Heads of Agreement’ are being prepared for consideration.	
4.1.3.	Item 3 – Paddock Close: Cllr Sweetland reported that the management company had told her that they were only responsible for the parking and highways areas (until they are adopted). They had said that Carington Estates were responsible for the two areas of land at the entrance to Paddock Close. Cllr Sweetland to continue to pursue.	Cllr Sweetland
4.1.4.	Item 4: the Clerk’s Report should read that we are waiting to hear the outcome of the applications for 2014/15 Highways projects. Clerk had brought up matter with Rob Ward at MKC who had offered to look into it.	Clerk
4.1.5.	Item 6: Village Hall bell tower: it was unanimously agreed that the Clerk should ask the contractor to do the work on the week commencing 17 <sup>th</sup> July (first week of school holiday). The Clerk will notify the users that are booked in on that week after receiving conversation.	Clerk
4.1.6.	Item 9 – Drains at Bullington End Road: the drains are to be pumped out. A letter had been sent by MKC to Fox Covert Lane residents, Cllr Sweetland will ask if they are happy for the contents to be disclosed to Cllr Green. An engineer was to come out and inspect the drains but it was not clear which organisation he was from. It was agreed that Cllr Ayles write to Cllr Green to ensure that the engineer will investigate the entire problem (with no pre-assumptions) and to enquire whether a parish councillor can be present	Cllr Sweetland Cllr Ayles
4.1.8.	Item 10 – It was agreed that the parish council record their thanks to Cllr Stacey for buying and erecting the gate between the Village Hall and Castle Field.	
4.1.9.	Item 18 – Cllr Sweetland had written to Euan Darling at MKC requesting a quote to cut back the hedge at Thrupp Close whilst its ownership is being resolved. It was thought that the current owners should pay the bill but Cllr Sweetland said that if not the case Open Gardens Committee had offered to do so.	
4.2.	<b>Neighbourhood Plan report (see appendix A2).</b>	
4.2.1.	Some fine tuning was still to be done on draft 2 of the pre-submission statement. When this has been done the Clerk will distribute the draft and	

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arrange a meeting, hopefully before the end of April.

**4.3. FILE NOTE: MKC Flood Alleviation Scheme project report (see appendix A3)**

4.3.1. The second bund at Littlewood Farm has been completed. Cllr Ayles had written to ask what was happening about the introduction of a further bund at Leamington Farm. He had also made a request to create additional culverts to the north side.

**4.4. Police report on recent incidents in the village (see Appendix A4)**

4.4.1. It was remarked that further to the report, two suspicious incidents had been observed at the Carrington Arms. These had been reported to the Thames Valley Police (TVP) who were investigating. TVP had also offered to conduct home visits to check on people's security measures for anyone interested.

**4.5. Note on email exchanges on adoption of Fox Covert Lane (Appendix A5)**

4.5.1. MKC had confirmed that all of Fox Covert Lane will be adopted within the next 12 months. Cllr Ayles is still pursuing the adoption of Tyrell Close. **Further note:** The Tyrell Close adoption is being discussed with residents as MKC say it was never proposed for adoption and they may be significant compliance costs (widening footway and erecting streetlight).

Clerk

Cllr Ayles

**5 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS (previously viewed on line by Cllrs)**

5.1. **15/00325/CLUP** - Certificate of lawfulness for single storey rear extension: 3 Prospect Place Castlethorpe – no comments

5.2. **15/00381/FUL** - Single storey front extension: The Hayloft 1 Maltings Court Castlethorpe – it was agreed by a majority that the application should be supported with the following conditions attached:

-(supporting the recommendation of the Archaeological Officer) in light of what has been found in recent property development schemes that the applicant have an archaeological survey done at their own expense. This to be done prior to commencement of the development.

-(supporting the comments that are on file from a neighbour) in that the flue from the log burner must be positioned where it will not cause any interference to any of the neighbours

5.3. **15/00413/FUL** – Single storey rear extension: 24 Bullington End Road Castlethorpe – no objections

5.4. **15/00507/FUL** – Single storey rear extension: 7 Shepperton Close Castlethorpe - no objections

**6** 6.1. **14/01341/FUL** First floor rear extension and change of use of agricultural land to garden land (part retrospective) 20 Lodge Farm Court Castlethorpe – application permitted. Noted.

6.2. **15/00108/FUL** Ground mounted solar park with a rated output of approx. 750KW Land Adj To Lodge Farm House Wolverton Road Castlethorpe – pending consideration. No further significant updates on record. No further comment.

**7 TO CONSIDER RESOLUTIONS**

7.1. A public excluded part 2 of the meeting to discuss matters in accordance with Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as defined in paragraphs 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act was proposed by Cllr Ayles, seconded by Cllr Keane and agreed unanimously.

7.2. Cllr Sweetland had established that a grass cut was scheduled for w/c 15<sup>th</sup> June which is timely for the Open Gardens, but had been told that the cut would not take place if the grass had not reached a certain height. It was agreed that Cllr Sweetland request that at least a cut of selective areas be done in that week regardless.

Cllr Sweetland

7.3. Cllr Ayles said that a member of the public had requested more litter bins in the village. MKC/Serco had confirmed that they would empty additional bins as long as they are on their existing route. He further suggested that current plastic bins be replaced by the black and gold models recently

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sited at the corner of North St and Station Road. It was unanimously agreed that Cllr Keane would provide the Clerk with a map of where all of the bins are currently sited and that the Clerk will then order 3 of the black and gold bins. In the meantime Cllr Keane will liaise with the member of the public about where any new bins should be located.

- 7.4. Applications have been invited for the next round of Parish Partnership Fund (PPF) grants. Cllr Ayles suggested another attempt to get the footpath between South St and the railway bridge re-tarmac'ed. Another possibility that was raised was the replacement of the posts and chains in front of the bus shelter in North St (Haversham end). It was mentioned that the leader of the Youth Club had said that he would like to arrange another outward bound course for the members. Clerk to get indicative quotes for the first two items and discuss the latter with the YC leader. Clerk to put further item on next agenda.
- 7.5. Cllr Sweetland had received a request from Pre-school to erect a play house in the VH garden. It was unanimously agreed that permission be given. Cllr Sweetland to arrange for the removal of the compost.
- 7.6. Cllr Ayles presented a case for the renewal of membership to MK Association of Local Councils (MKALC) and then withdrew from the conversation/vote as he is Chair of the organisation. He stated that MKALC had lobbied MKC on a number of matters and had been heavily involved in reversing the bus subsidy removals and in negotiating Local Council Tax Support grants. He then commended that the parish council re-join and withdrew from the subsequent discussion and vote. Cllr Keane said that he agreed with everything that Cllr Ayles had said and proposed that the parish council re-join. This was agreed unanimously.
- 7.7. The following items were considered in preparation for the Best Kept Village competition
- 7.7.1. Cllr Sweetland asked the Cllrs Hinds, Keane & Markham keep an eye on the play areas
- 7.7.2. Cllr Sweetland will regularly monitor notice boards
- 7.7.3. Cllr Sweetland will ~~contact BT to request the removal of the telephone kiosk~~ [investigate the condition of the telephone kiosk](#)
- 7.7.4. Cllr Sweetland said that the Open Gardens have been looking at introducing planters. She suggested that two parish councillors attend their meetings and work with them. It was agreed that this should be herself and Russell Forgham who is to become a parish cllr in May. They would also progress the matter of fences and signage at the village entrances. Cllr Ayles said that there is s.106 planning gain available if necessary.
- 7.7.5. Cllr Keane will write to the owner of the Carrington Arms to see what can be done with the pub.
- 7.7.6. Clerk to put an item on the next agenda
- 7.8. A resolution to provide a grant for the forthcoming VE70 celebrations was withdrawn as the funds will be provided from elsewhere
- 7.9. Cllr Sweetland said that there had been two emails raising concerns about putting curtains up in the Village Hall. It was suggested that it may be better to put a curtain rail up and then if the curtains were required for an event they could be put up just before. It was unanimously agreed that the rail can be affixed but that the curtains should only be put up as and when required.
- 7.10. It was agreed that there is no point completing the MKC gritting survey as the same weight is given to all responders regardless of whether it is a council or an individual.

Cllr Keane

Clerk  
Cllr Keane

Clerk  
Clerk

Cllr Sweetland

Cllrs Keane,  
Hinds,Markham

Cllr Sweetland  
Cllr Sweetland

Cllr Keane

Clerk

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- 8      8.1      The RFO Payments Schedule was proposed by Cllr Sweetland, seconded by Cllr Hinds and agreed unanimously with the addition of the MKALC renewal fee and the Best Kept Village application fee

Payee	Description	Invoice	Amount
S Bradbury	Salary Mar 2015	per pay slip	£522.08
F.Price	Mar 2015 invoice cleaning	per attached invoice 029	£184.00
J.Foakes	SID re-siting Mar 2015	per attached invoice 1002	£25.00
J.Foakes	SG Hedge cutting	per attached invoice 1002	£120.00
J.Foakes	SG Mowing	per attached invoice 1002	£40.00
J.Foakes	Sg consumables oil, grease, diesel	per attached invoice 1002	£40.22
AH Contracts	Dog bins Feb 2015	per attached invoice 7838	£35.00
AH Contracts	Dog bins Mar 2015	per attached invoice 7891	£52.50
BT	Clerk's phone	per attached receipt	£104.55
Wesley	Service SG boiler & test heating	per attached invoice 178	£60.00
B P Shayler	Replace VH cold water pipes	per attached invoice	£826.00
NBR Printing	Print March newsletter	per attached invoice 0663	£190.00
NBR Printing	Print PC election leaflet	per attached invoice 0663	£25.00
Pollards	VH Consumables	per attached invoice 80188	£25.76
<b>Grand Total</b>			£2,250.11
<b>Total</b>			£500.00

E.ON	gas VH - Mar DD	89208742670	£112.00
E.ON	elec VH - Mar DD	415172577000	£62.08

- 9      **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**
- 9.1.      An email has been received from the Labour Prospective Parliamentary Candidate encouraging parish councils to hold local hustings. It was agreed that although sympathetic to the request there are no day time slots available at the Hall and also there is insufficient time to get anything set up
- 9.2.      An email has been received from the tennis coach that conducted coaching sessions last year indicating that he will be running courses again this year. The Clerk reported that the sessions were not all that well attended and would not be making much profit so suggested that no charges be made at the moment. Also that the courses maintained interest in the tennis courts and were healthy for continued/new membership. It was agreed that the courses continue as they are and the Clerk keep a watching brief on attendance/profitability.
- 10      **ANY OTHER BUSINESS (for noting, or for inclusion on a future agenda)**
- 10.1.      None
- 11      **TO AGREE DATE AND ATTENDANCE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**
- 11.1      Next General Parish Council meeting 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at 7.30 p.m.

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There being no further business to discuss part 1 of the meeting closed at 9.22

### PART 2

- 12 **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** by Councillors in any of the agenda items below
- 12.1 None
- 13 **TO CONSIDER RESOLUTIONS**
- 13.1. It was unanimously agreed to extend the contract with Messrs. A.H. Contracts to clear dog bins for a further 3 years at existing rates
- 13.2. A proposal from Community Impact Bucks to amend the payment stages for their commissioned work on the Neighbourhood Plan was agreed unanimously with the proviso that the disclaimer be re-stated that support will continue within the fixed cost should the Plan fail in its final stages through some fault or omission not of the parish council's making

Part 2 of the meeting closed at 9.26

## Appendix A – Schedule of Reports & File Notes

### APPENDIX A1 – CLERK'S REPORT 13/4/2015

1. Lamp posts at Fox Covert Lane & Paddock Close: Cllr Ayles has written to MKC about adopting the lamp posts. Paddock Close lamp posts are still the responsibility of the developers.
2. Rates: An informal meeting was held between parish councillors and the sports teams where it was agreed to look into the possibility of setting up an autonomous body to run the sports ground and thence be responsible for paying rates. Cllr Stacey is facilitating matters.
3. Paddock Close: The management company set up by developers Rivar Ltd have stated that it is not their responsibility to attend to the two plots of land at the entrance to Paddock Close. This means that we have now gone full circle. Cllr Sweetland attending.
4. Highways Projects: Still awaiting to hear outcome of the five applications made for the Highways Capital projects in their 2015/16 programme.
5. Extra parking spaces – Clerk has asked Station Yard developer to contact Rod Aitken at MKC.
6. VH bell tower: The work to replace the water pipe from the mains to the VH kitchen prevented the work being done over the Easter holiday. **Parish Council now to determine when they would like the work to be done.**
7. Tennis court lights: we now have two quotes but a third contractor has let us down (again).
8. Football Pavillion: No further progress on covering the football pavillion floor. Clerk has asked tradesman to replace the padding around an air vent that had been 'eaten away'. Sports Ground Committee still to consider the possibility that water may be getting in by blowing through the a gap in the badly fitting front door. No progress this month.
9. Drains at Bullington End Road: Ward Cllr Green is taking the matter forward. The Clerk, following an action at the last meeting, has advised Cllr Green that there is a second (and different) problem with the drains at South Street following the development of Paddock Close and Maltings Court. Cllr Green has said that she will have to concentrate on the first problem for the moment.
10. Cllr Stacey has purchased and fitted a new 'kissing gate' between the Village Hall and Castle Field. His generosity in doing so at no expense to the parish is most appreciated.

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11. Additional Notice Boards: The tradesman has picked up the notice board and has been told where to site it. The board will be erected in the immediate future.
  12. Sports Ground Committee Meeting – the major problem has been addressed by the meeting at item 2. Meeting still required though.
  13. Electrical contractor has provided a quote to install lights at the cricket pavilion which has been accepted. Work to be scheduled through the Clerk.
  14. Item on this month's agenda to discuss VH curtains.
  15. Cllr Ayles has been in touch with the Lodge Farm business park owner about looking into including panels on the public buildings as part of the project he is undertaking to erect a solar panel farm – carried forward.
  16. The Youth Club are keen that the basketball hoops be fitted at the tennis courts. Action with Cllr Stacey – carried forward
  17. Three electrical contractors have been asked for quotes for additional safety equipment at the Village Hall. Sports ground work still to be re-assessed.
  18. Thrupp Close hedge: The owners of the hedge have now been found by MKC who have written to them offering to adopt the land if they do not want it. It is not expected that this will happen quickly and the hedge is still in need of pruning back.
  19. Village entrances: Cllr Sweetland is working with the Open Gardens Committee on ideas for the erection of both the agreed fencing and the village signage .
  20. The Clerk had written again to the owner of the Carrington Arms asking for a copy of the surveyor's report as offered and for an update on the remedial work that was identified.
  21. Cllr Ayles has written again to MKC asking that they replace the posts at the plot of land near the railway bridge that were removed to accommodate heavy plant during the village centre work.
  22. Clerk has not yet had time to make applications for the Ringway 'community projects' identified by the last meeting
  23. Hedge between Village Hall and Church – it has been established that the hedge does not belong to MKC. To be further discussed with land owner.
  24. Clerk had provided the approved list of jobs to be done to the handyman with approval to go ahead as agreed at the last meeting. The handyman has indicated that all jobs will be completed by the end of April
  25. There was to be a review of the shelving used by the various groups at the Village Hall and the outcome has been passed to the handyman who has said that he will complete the work by the end of April to the maximum cost agreed.
  26. The Clerk had contacted Mark Turner at MKC about establishing a transport plan for work at Hanslope Park. He had replied that he felt it was not reasonable to require a plan for the small development that was in question but had provided details of the site agent. The Clerk had contacted this person who told him that he would get someone from Hanslope Park to call him back. This has not happened.
  27. Clerk has provided to Cllr Sweetland an entry form for the 'Best Kept Village'
  28. Clerk had asked Cllr Markham to pick up the baby oak tree to plant in Castle Field
  29. Clerk had not had time to contact Northants CC or the owners of the Navigation about the state of the road
  30. The damaged pipe between the mains water feed and the Village Hall kitchen has been replaced over the Easter holiday.
- No progress on outstanding actions:

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- No progress on creating a new account for MKC fault logging
- Village walkabout to be written up and rationalised against previous fault list.
- Purchase of Sage accounting software awaiting clerk to establish a 'clean point' with finances
- Review MKC fault list inc. state of Sustrans cycle track
- Still to appeal against the MKC reply to the objections raised by the parish council to planning application 14/01199 for change of use of land at 21 Lodge Farm Court that were not been taken forward.
- Still no progress on getting further quotes to re-route the Village Hall side drainpipe.
- Clerk still to give Cllr Sweetland details to open two further Lloyds bank accounts to have the s.106 Planning Gain transferred into

Steve Bradbury  
13/4/15

#### **APPENDIX A2 – NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REPORT 13/4/2015**

- A 'visioning meeting' was held at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March involving Community Impact Bucks (CIB), their consultant and the Steering Group.
- An action was taken for members of the Steering Group to draft a 'pre-submission statement' which has been done
- A further meeting now needs to be held to review the draft document and other actions from the meeting so that the pre-submission plan can be drawn up by CIB
- CIB have provided new payment terms to be agreed by the parish council (item 13.2 on agenda)

Steve Bradbury 13/4/15

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### Appendix A3 MKC Flood Alleviation Project Highlight Report

<b>Project Name &amp; Code</b>	Milton Keynes Flood Alleviation Project
<b>Project Sponsor</b>	Andy Dickinson (Milton Keynes Council)
<b>Project Manager</b>	Kate Davidson (Milton Keynes Council)
<b>Project objective in a sentence</b>	To reduce the risk of flooding in the rural areas of Milton Keynes and the consequential damage to homes, by installing flood attenuation systems that work in conjunction with the existing drainage network to appropriately distribute excess rain water.
<b>Reporting Period</b>	January 2015

#### Overall RAG Rating and supporting statement

<b>Overall Current RAG rating</b>	Amber / Red
<b>Previous RAG rating</b>	Amber / Red

#### **RAG Definition**

<b>Green</b>	All key criteria (Time, Cost, Scope and Benefits) will be achieved. Risks are being managed
<b>Amber / Green</b>	One of the key criteria cannot be delivered within tolerance; project risks are being managed
<b>Amber / Red</b>	Two or Three of the key criteria cannot be delivered within tolerance. Risks need to be escalated
<b>Red</b>	All four key criteria cannot be delivered without further significant intervention (Consider whether the project should continue). Risks need to be escalated.

#### **RAG Supporting Statement:**

##### **Littlewood Farm (Tathall End)**

The Littlewood Farm Flood Attenuation bund was installed by the Council's Highways contractor (Ringway) between 9<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015. The ditch line was cleared out during this time. Due to the initial wet conditions on Littlewood Farm, temporary road panels were installed along the access route to the bund area, in order to minimise disturbance to the farmland from heavy duty vehicles.

##### **Flood Alleviation Scheme 3 (Tathall End)**

A survey of the watercourse in Tathall End was completed during March 2015 in preparation for the testing and hydraulic modelling of the third scheme for the area. WSP, the Council's Flood Risk Consultant, will be carrying out the design work over the spring, and will be developing proposals to be reviewed by the Environment Agency by the summer. If the proposals are accepted, the Council will seek the necessary Planning Permissions to install the new flood asset.

##### **Footbridge (Tathall End)**

Following discussions with Ward and Parish Councillors the about decision to replace the footbridge, the Council is considering applying to 'stop up' the Right of Way that leads to the footbridge in Tathall End. This involves implementation of Section 116 of the Highways Act 1980. If this option is taken forward following a consultation process, the existing footbridge will be removed in the short term, and no diversion of the Right of Way will be required.



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#### **Devils Dip**

The Council is at present in the process of developing an options appraisal for improvements to the drainage system at Devils Dip. Costing exercises are being undertaken and discussions with local landowners will shortly be initiated.

#### **Milestones & Schedule:**

<b>Key Milestones</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Forecast</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Construction of flood attenuation bund at Ram Alley, Stoke Goldington	Sep 14	Sep 14	Sep 14
Construction of a flood alleviation bund at Yew Tree Farm, Tathall End (scheme 1)	Sep 14	Oct 14	Nov 14
Construction of a flood alleviation bund at Littlewood Farm, Tathall End (scheme 2)	Sep 14	Apr 15	Mar 15
Construction of flood alleviation measure in the vicinity of the bridleway (scheme 3)	Sep 14	Oct 15	
Removal of the Right of Way footbridge over the watercourse near The Greyhound, Tathall End	Dec 14	Apr 15	
Improvements to the drainage at Devils Dip	Sep 15	Sep 15	

#### **Activities achieved during last period**

- Littlewood Farm Flood Alleviation Bund constructed
- Watercourse survey carried out in preparation for scheme 3 for Tathall End
- Options appraisal for Devils Dip started
- Option for Tathall End footbridge revised

#### **Activities planned for next period**

- WSP to carry out further testing and modelling for scheme 3 in Tathall End
- Landowners close to Devils Dip to be contacted regarding options for drainage improvements
- Revised decision for Tathall End footbridge to be shared with stakeholders and application to 'Stop Up' the Highway to be taken forward in conjunction with Legal Services
- Footbridge in Tathall End to be removed

#### **Risks and Issues**

<b>Description of risk &amp; consequence</b>	<b>Action required</b>
Proposals for Scheme 3 in Tathall End may not be available until autumn 2015, causing	Project Manager to liaise with WSP regarding timeframe.

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a delay to the proposed construction period	
Restricted access to land in Tathall End may delay design work for scheme 3.	Project Manager to liaise with landowners regarding access requirements.
Application to STOP UP the Highway in Tathall End could be unsuccessful.	If necessary the Council will replace the footbridge.
Drainage improvements required at Devils Dip may be too costly to deliver within additional capital expenditure	Cost / Benefit analysis to be completed as part of options appraisal.

Description of Issue & impact	Action required
Footbridge condition determined by engineer as poor.	Highway to be 'Stopped Up' and footbridge to be removed.
The third flood alleviation scheme for Tathall End is to be re-modelled by flood consultant WSP. After more detailed surveying it was determined that a bund on the bridleway may not be effective at holding water off the main road.	WSP require more time to carry out a detailed baseline assessment, procure topographical survey information, analyse the existing hydraulic restrictions and profile flows through Tathall End and downstream.
Flooding is a regular occurrence at Devils Dip	Council to develop a scheme to improve the drainage system in the area.

#### **Are Changes or Decisions required?**

None at present
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#### **Benefits**

Target Benefit	Current Status (e.g. not achievable/ change to the target required/ on track)
To reduce the risk of flooding and the consequential damage to the homes of citizens of the Borough of Milton Keynes.	Achievable
To reduce the risk of flooding to the highways within the Borough of Milton Keynes that provides access for the emergency services.	Achievable

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#### **Appendix A4 Police report on recent incidents in the village (email to Cllr Ayles)**

Phil,

In terms of incidents within the village, TVP have logged 98 records on the Command & Control system between 01/04/2014 and 31/03/2015 relating to the Parish of Castlethorpe.

These are made up of 64 miscellaneous incidents that could range from suspicious circumstances, complaints against police, fear for welfares etc but which aren't crimes.

The other 34 are made up as follows;

- 12 calls re Domestic incidents
- 3 calls re dwelling burglaries
- 2 calls re dog bites
- 6 calls re drink drive incidents
- 2 calls re assaults
- 5 calls re road traffic collisions
- 4 calls re theft from motor vehicles.

Now, without going into the individual reports, I can't say how many of the domestic incidents relate to crimes, but some will and some will not, and more than one will relate to a specific address.

The drink drive calls generally relate to a specific person/address and I am aware that this person has been dealt with officially.

I am aware that one of the two assaults relates to an incident outside of the parish and believe that the other one was of a minor nature.

The three dwelling burglaries are concerning and took place between the end of December 2014 and March 2015.

Our local CID department investigates dwelling burglaries, but I have looked at these, and although cannot and will not disclose individual details or addresses, it appears that the one from December has been filed with no suspects identified and the other two are still actively being investigated.

In terms of advice, the normal advice will apply, that is to say;

- 1) Lock doors and windows when out,
- 2) Have good quality locks fitted,
- 3) Consider alarms and possibly CCTV if applicable,
- 4) Property mark items and record make/model/serial number of electrical and photograph valuables (jewellery etc).
- 5) Consider Neighbourhood Watch schemes (via TVP).
- 6) Sign up to TVP Alerts.
- 7) Call in suspicious people/vehicles in the area.

Having said all that, I would still suggest that Castlethorpe is a low crime area and still a pleasant and peaceful place to live.

I am unable to attend your annual meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> but please can my thanks be passed to the Parish Council and residents for the support received over the past few years as I will be gone very shortly!

Regards,

Andy

## **CASTLETHORPE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of a Parish Council General Meeting held Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall**

#### **Appendix A5: NOTE ON EMAIL EXCHANGES ON ADOPTION OF FOX COVERT LANE**

Following the recent incident of damage to a streetlight outside No 10, Fox Covert, I have been pursuing MKC about the adoption of the whole of Fox Covert as the existing adoption ends just before No 10 and The Paddocks, developed by Rivar, only starts beyond No 16 potentially leaving the highway between No10 and No16 permanently unadopted.

I have now received the following message from Jonjo McBride, the Highways Adoption Officer at MKC. "According to the section 38 agreements signed by Rivar LTD the area of road and footway in front of houses 10 – 16 will be adopted as well. There won't be a small part of un-adopted land"

An earlier email from Heather Baker stated that the adoption process had started but it takes about a year to complete presumably so that any problems are resolved by the developer and not passed onto MKC. So all of Fox Covert should be adopted in about a year.

I am trying to ascertain who is responsible for the maintenance of the highway, basically the streetlights (which were damaged in recent high winds) between No 10 and No 16 for the next year until adoption.

Philip Ayles

8th April 2015

#### **Appendix A6: Complaint about littering – item 7.3. refers (email from resident to Cllr Ayles)**

Dear Phil

I've been really fed up at seeing depressing amounts of rubbish, inconsiderately left abandoned on my way up from the Chequers every day, over the railway to the village shop. No doubt the same for others using this route as well. To help therefore, last Saturday, I spent a useful hour collecting a complete black sack, full of the stuff. Frustratingly, I repeated this exercise only last Christmas Time.

Getting it home and just now, emptying it on the garage floor, I can see few sweet wrappers but surprisingly, many food wrappings, bottles, soft drink or beer cans including 'Special Brew'. See picture below.

A lot of it I collected along the steel fence leading up up the Old Goods Yard and a mass of it from the other side of the footbridge in Gobbey's Field. The

locked gate at the base of the footbridge, giving access to the tracks, had a concentration of bottles and cans, with the food wrappings having blown alongside and beyond the Play Area fence adjoining. There is still an accumulation of litter I had to leave, beyond the fence, under the Elder in that corner of the Play Area. Quite a bit also still remains in the Goods Yard beyond the steel fence.

Over the years, I've invariably blamed errant children for this, but from my weekend collection and speaking around, it looks far more like thoughtless adults. Deadheads or even BR personnel accessing the tracks possibly? For the latter, they do park their vehicles roadside near the Old Goods Yard and have to access the tracks (over the bridge by the kissing gate to Gobbey's Field). This I would imagine, often at night and out of sight! Whoever does it, the litter seems to accumulate more in these areas, but the Dog Bin leading down to the footbridge seems to be well used and it remains very un-littered.

I would ask therefore, for the Parish Council to discuss this aspect of Village littering and perhaps resolve to afford before too long, provision of more litter bins at the locations I've highlighted. Prominent anti-litter notices at the spots mentioned perhaps would help. A copy of my letter to the Rail Authority to alert them, if it can be determined exactly who would be responsible for any public nuisances arising in our parish from railway personnel might help as well.

I hope you will be able to get talk started and/or even raised for the village to be informed/debate at the Annual Parish Meeting. Is that soon by the way?

I look forward to hearing from you.

All good wishes