**CALVERT GREEN PARISH COUNCIL Minutes of Meeting held on 1st April 2021**

**– 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 Thelma Watson (TW)

Cllr Adele Decent (AD)

Cllr Sheila Thiyagarajah (ST)

Cllr Carl Blakeley (CB)

Clerk Tracy Horsfield (TH)

Cllr Frank Mahon

Cllr Rand

3 members of the public

**Apologies**

Cllr Angela Macpherson (AMP)

Meeting started recording

1. **Declarations of interest**

**None**

1. **Minutes of meeting held on 4th March 2020**

Agreed and signed

1. **Apologies**

Cllr MacPherson possibly join later.

1. **Cllr Macpherson update**

**PG** asked **Cllr Rand** and **Cllr McMahon** if they had any updates to add.

**Cllr Rand**, we are going into purdah so can’t cover a lot. Coronavirus cases have been reducing.

1. **ARC**

**PG** I did attend a planning meeting which talked about the VALP, which has still not been adopted yet. What I gathered was the New Bucks plan will be affected from 2025 and go through to 2040. It should be a consideration in our neighbourhood plan. The one thing we do know is the expressway has been stopped. We still have EWR which does follow that **ARC**, potentially a lot of development in the future. **TH** to make sure this is on the next agenda so a Councillor can pick this up. **Cllr Rand** I have a little knowledge, the plan is taking its time to get through due to the amount of housing be proposed. It has gone out to consultation there were 90 objections which all had to be looked through so this is taking time. Some areas didn’t get their plans through in time. When the new bucks plan comes in you will have to adapt your neighbourhood plan to suit that plan, but will be possibly 5 years. **PG** so we should be going ahead with ours. **Cllr Rand** Yes.

1. **Public participation**

**DR** bollards, I can see this is on the agenda. **PG** I would like to thank you for the work you have done around grants and safety schemes. **PG > TH** can you add David to the website. **AD** I saw an email that we are not allowed virtual meetings, **TH** an email has been sent this evening. **AD** we need to comment. **PG** If we do need to have F2F meetings they would need to be in the hall. **TH** to clarify with CGCA. **PG** what is everyone’s feeling. **KG** you should be able to see how many views on you tube. **KG** virtual is good it does make life a lot easier, even if it is a F2F possibly a zoom as well. **LB** childcare as well. **PG > TH** please add to agenda. **Cllr McMahon**, the previous five years we have had 3 public members, when we went virtual, we have had in excess of 20 members of the public. On a second point I challenged Chris James of EKFB in the CALM meeting as to what he was going to do with fixtures and fittings in the houses that are to be demolished. I have now had had confirmation back that he is going to allow them to be distributed through the needy in the three villages, I am proposing a committee to be set up and decide the process. **PG** a really great initiative, thank you for pushing it through.

**KG** For next meeting, I think we need to revisit the responsibilities of the councillors. **TH** to add to the agenda. **CD** a few nights ago I came in and found a large nail, wedged up against my tyre, I don’t think I was targeted as an individual. I have reported to the police. I chatted to the neighbour opposite and he had said there were a lot of nails lying in the road. **ST** I had a nail in my tyre. **PG>TH** put on website please. **LB** Just outside the old children’s playpark, they have taken down the fences. They are stacked up precariously and the kids are playing all over them. **KG** a good bug hotel, maybe **AD** you good with things like this, **AD** lets move them to the petangue pit. **PG** we are still waiting for HS2, I will follow this up. It needs to be made safe.

1. **EWR/HS2**

**PG** With EWR we are not really impacted as a village, we are all affected by the speeding and HGV’s. Our MP Gregg Smith pulled together a meeting with all the PC’s and we now have an action plan. They are recruiting two brand ambassadors, you may have noticed the large digital signs these are part of their commitment to communicate to the drivers around 20 is plenty. **Cllr McMahon**, yes one of the important things is we can tap into them, If I had an accident, I could call a call centre to have a different message put up to avoid the road. **EWR** are beginning to realise that the residents aren’t happy. **PG** is it too late to apply. **Cllr McMahon**, no you can apply for them, we need to demand this equipment. **PG** do they need power, **Cllr McMahon** no they are solar. **PG** we should definitely apply, **Cllr McMahon** will forward details.

**PG HS2,** the work has been relentless, because of all the work around vegetation clearance there has been a section 61 nearly every weekend. I understand the Bridle path is still closed. The batching plant, this was never in the plans, we have been fighting against it for a long time now. We had a meeting with CGRAG and Greg Smith to see if we could block it but sadly not. We couldn’t use the lack of planning permission but possibly moved further away. The construction of that structure will start soon and be completed by October time. The two areas on Brackley Lane have been cleared, they will be tunnelling through to move the utilities. This will be drilling and tunnelling for 6 months, parking will have to be suspended. A lot of disruption for residents. I have a works notice that came today giving all the details. This was supposed to be a temporary diversion but they are saying now this will be permanent. Brackley lane won’t be closed but will be under traffic light control, scheduled to start end of April. **PG** I will share on the website. **Cllr McMahon** as you know we challenged all of them at the CALM meeting they still do not have a section 61. Letters will be going out early next week, the environmental officer has queried a lot of noise issues recently. Is Bucks Council becoming a little harder and winning some battles. PC needs to make people aware that they don’t have approval. **PG** your right particularly around the diversion, the concrete batching plant the environmental officer was not very helpful to our cause. **Cllr McMahon**, I don’t believe the batching plant will go when HS2 is finished. **Cllr McMahon**, HS2 are taking land and saying they will give it back. The batching plant was originally going at Shepherds Furze this has been cleared ready then they changed their minds. Has it been challenged? **PG** yes. **PG** I have asked about it being a temporary structure and awaiting an answer. **AD** I have noticed that when you drive from Steeple to Calvert, they have put a fence up, **PG** as part of the original environmental study they were going to put in a walk way between Steeple and Calvert. **PG** I will ask at next meeting.

1. **Dunsty Hill**

**PG > KG** I have heard nothing at present. I have emailed the planning team but not had a response. **PG** I don’t think that the VALP that is due to be adopted this year. The first opportunity for anything to change will be 2025. **CB** wasn’t an email about affordable housing. **PG** yes and something in the news about building on greenbelt. **PG** in light of the elections we would have to go through the vote again. **Cllr Rand**, purdah starts 23rd March and I am sitting on a meeting next week so purdah doesn’t affect planning.

1. **Prison Application**

**ST** haven’t seen anything as yet. **ST** we have had communication that they have postponed it. **Cllr McMahon**, they have withdrawn their outline planning application. **ST** yes that is right, they will be reviewing all of the consultation points. **Cllr McMahon** their presentation was awful, that’s where it became flawed.

1. **Solar farm**

**KG** they have said they submitted an application on the 9th March 2021, but as yet the planning application has not been validated. **TH** no planning application as yet. **Cllr Rand**, Officers have to make sure there is sufficient information before the planning is validated.

1. **Verge Bollards**

I contacted the highways; they have sent me a form. **PG > CB** and **DR** can you get together and complete the form **CB** yes. **PG** lets do these and look to expanding later. **CB** to check others that are in need of replacement.

1. **Neighbourhood plan**

**LB** I am working through the funding document, Neil Homer isn’t open to helping, so if anyone is used to filling out funding documents, I would welcome that. **PG** anyone with specific experience? **PG** lets have a meeting to go through the forms, **TH** please organise a meeting. **LB** I spoke to Neil about support he is happy to engage if we underwrite the work that he does. **PG** If we were to make a decision on that, is it five days to do this. **LB** no he would be more inclined to help. **LB** I will go back and ask. CB Marie may be prepared to sit in and help. **TH** ask Steeple Claydon, **Cllr McMahon** yes, I will forward the details.

1. **Community boards and funding requests**

**PG** We will leave this for now until we have moved to the Buckingham Forum. **KG** will they just email me? **PG** yes, they will just switch us.

1. **£1 million mitigation fund**

**PG>TH** have we received the interest, **TH** yes. **PG** This money can be used for anything, so this money will go towards the bollards. **PG** Charndon PC have agreed we can go ahead with our supplication to tidy up the bridle way, they also said the owners maybe liable. I also spoke to Bob Evans Chair; he has agreed that we can go up and have a look at their trim trail.

1. **Road safety**

**PG>TH** can you contact them to get the speed signs. Possibly have one outside the community centre. **CB** can we check about 20 mph speed limit? There are rules and regulations we have to adhere to. **Cllr McMahon** you are right it is not enforceable but it does have an impact. **AD** if they are willing to fund a smiley are they willing to fund anything else. **PG** we have the opportunity to get them for free. I think two on the front and outside the hall.

1. **Noticeboard**

**PG** the new notice board looks great. Much better to be bigger, Angus has done a good job. **TH** yes I have managed to get lots in Including Calvert news. **PG** good to use a local tradesman. **KG** can we plant some bulbs in where the other board was. **PG** can we mention him on our Facebook page. **Cllr McMahon** can I have his details please **TH** to forward.

1. **Logo**

Sadly the logo we are using we didn’t have permission to use it. We need to discuss a new logo. **AD** asked if we could have a competition for the community. **PG** yes, a good idea. **AD** I will take this on, deadline after the election. **PG** there should be a prize. **KG** a gift voucher. **KG** 16 and under. **PG** 17 and under due to them still being in school. **AD** who judges, **PG** PC. **PG** it needs to reflect Calvert Green, include PC within the design.

1. **Village updates**

**PG** a resident from Charndon parish, they are doing a clear up day with a view to tidying the area along the bridle path. **TH** we have had a few emails about the parks, I have forwarded them to Jo Houston. **PG** there was consultation on the parks and it was always going to be a phased project. **PG** it is not our land. **AD** it was a take it or leave it, our parks are too old and wouldn’t be maintained. TH Had an email from Martin re the water trucks. **PG** I have seen the trucks in the past. As Bucks CC has the vacancy for the Marshalls, they will be in place soon and we could ask them to have a look. **DR** they used the one at the end of my road, when I asked him he said he was a builder from Bicester. **TH** another email from a concerned resident, about parents allowing their children to urinate on the green in the park. I have forwarded it to the parks team. **PG** I assume these people live within a two- or three-minute walk. **KG** it is not acceptable we need to promote ‘be kind’. **CD** we have monitored those comments and deleted it. **CD** we have a chap who wants to run keep fit on the green, do they have the right to do that? **PG** well it’s a grey area, if he is charging then he should contact the bucks CC.

1. **Website**

**PG** if we give the host a list of things, we want they will do it for us. They are conscious that we were one of the first so they are happy to do. **CB** these meetings are recorded are they on the website? **TH** yes.

1. **Parish and town charter**

**PG** take as an action for all to check email, review and feedback

1. **Financials**

Were checked and agreed for sign off.

**Meeting ended 21.45**

**Next meeting 20/5/2021 @19.30**