**CALVERT GREEN PARISH COUNCIL Minutes of Meeting held on 27th February 2024**

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

The meeting proper then began.

Attendance and apologies

**Attendees:**

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

Cllr Frank Mahon **(Cllr FM)**

Cllr Carl Blakeley **(CB)**

Cllr David Russell **(DR)**

Cllr Colin Sharples **(CS)**

Cllr Gary Atkins **(GA)**

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

Clerk Tracy Horsfield **(TH)**

Members of the public

**Apologies**

1. **Declarations of interest**

**PG** None declared

**Minutes of meeting held on 30th January 2023**

Agreed and signed

1. **Public participation**

**PG** > members of the public, I sent an email out to HS2 about the state of the Gawcott Road. **PG** I received an email from HS2 outlining the sweeper area. I will feedback to them your points. **Cllr Mahon** I have just driven that area by the compound and skidded. I will add this to the agenda for the CALM meeting next week. **PG** The general state of the roads . **Cllr Mahon** I had a meeting with EKFB I mentioned the 4 way traffic lights, I asked if they could fill the potholes on this bit of road. The reply was they have asked HS2 and got a flat no!. **PG** Perry Hill is dangerous now and unsafe. **Cllr Mahon** I received an email from a resident in Calvert about the roads, I have been out on a Langston and Tasker bus, how the children stay in their seats. **PG** can someone say these roads are unsafe? **Cllr Mahon** HS2 have the act and the act says HS2 do not have to fix the roads until the end. Someone at Bucks Council has to step up, they have to hold HS2 and EWR to account. **PG** How do we get this done. **Cllr Mahon** I propose all local villages write to me and ask for a meeting with the Leader of the Council, Steve Broadbent and Highways. **Cllr Mahon**, I need the backing of the Parish Councils. **Cllr Mahon** I always thought the roads had to be made safe before diversions are put in place. If you write to me and say enough is enough we want a meeting I will endeavour to arrange. **DR** who paid for the passing bays? **Cllr Mahon** EWR, **DR** so knowing that the roads were not fit for HGVs they did that, why didn’t HS2? **Cllr Mahon** because of the act. **PG > Cllr Mahon** can we get this added to the agenda at the CALM meeting.

1. **Cllr Mahon**

I attended full council last Wednesday to set the budget for 24/25, some really hard decisions had to be made, but we managed to balance the books, we are struggling to balance due to statutory items that must be budgeted for i.e. social care. However, with the backing of my colleagues we lobbied for an extra £5m for the road fund. We argued for this because the roads have taken a hammering due to the weather, we must be mindful of the taxpayer’s money. EWR have repaired the roads they have been using, Bucks CC will not be repairing the HS2 roads because in a year they will be as bad again. As soon as HS2 finish and HGVs are not on the roads the roads will be fixed. This is why we need the PCs to write and ask for a meeting. I have had a conversation with my colleagues and we want to know what allocation is for this ward. The weekly update shows a good share of the repairs are in the South, but when there is a big piece of infrastructure to be built this ward is the likely place. I will write two letters one as a PC Chairman and as a Councillor for the Unitary council **TH** to also write a letter. **TH** asked if it was worth copying in the Health and Safety executive. **PG** before you go we still need the LAT to come out**. Cllr Mahon** I had a conversation with Steve Broadbent the other night about just having one LAT, I have received tonight an email to say the Marshalls have to write a report every week, I will share this with you. **PG** can this be shared publicly? **Cllr Mahon** yes, this is fine. **CB** did you check with parks re devolved services. **Cllr Mahon** the LAT has been under tremendous pressure due to the flooding.

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1. **Flooding**

**PG** to my knowledge two properties have had flooding inside the property and a few more outside and in garages, the brook on FCC land has overflowed, it drains down to HS2 then to Padbury brook, when we contacted FCC to come and dredge the brook, they confirmed in writing that HS2 had blocked this brook, they also contacted the environment agency. EKFB have said this is not the case. This has now been escalated to Greg Smith MP, the strategic flood management team at Bucks CC are aware of the flooding, and have visited the houses that have had flooding. They are basically saying it is not a quick fix and need to find out who is responsible. Public, the sandbags are keeping it at bay, **PG** I have suggested he brook needs dredging, this is FCC land so their responsibility. **PG** my other suggestion is the other piece of land at the back is owned by developers and they have given him permission to do what ever needs to be done, as FCC have the equipment so ultimately can do this. Calvert Green has never had flooding like this before**. Cllr Mahon > Public** are you satisfied with the level of help you have received from Bucks CC. Yes, but in one email it does state it is the home owner’s responsibility. **PG** FCC is happy to go on record, they reported to the environment agency straight away. **Cllr Mahon** do you want me to write to FCC? Yes. **PG** we need to get to the bottom of it and who is responsible. **Cllr Mahon**, could you post on Facebook for a public meeting in the village hall with representatives from All concerned and the MP purely focussed on flooding. **Cllr Mahon >PG** we can set this up. **PG** we do have a pot of money and have received some interest on it, I would like to propose a couple of flood defence kits, seconded by **CS**. **TH** to order. **Cllr Mahon** I am proposing in Steeple Claydon to put a metal cage bolted to the side of our pavilion, we are going to put a padlock on it that has a combination code to give to residents. **PG** yes, we should research a container also. **TH** to research. **Cllr Mahon left the meeting**.

1. **Neighbourhood plan**

**CS** Had a good meeting with the neighbourhood planning team at Bucks CC, they have said it is ready for consultation, a couple of things to do. The green space we have designated needs to be explained a bit more, they have provided all the statutory groups that need to be involved. **KG** we have received an email from the Dunsty Hill developers, **CS** I would like help with posting on the website and Facebook groups, **TH** yes send that to me. **CS>CB** are you close to a magazine drop that we can pop a flyer into. **TH>CS** get it across to me and I can get the printing done. **CS>PG** Parish online I can do it but slowly could you help me with it? **PG** yes, **CB** can you share the log in details with me please.

1. **Tracker**

**Street lights** **TH** LAT visit

**Bollards PG** LAT visit.

**Allotments** **PG** > **DR** not had a response, **DR** to make contact again.

**Funding** **TH** emailed

**Litter bins** **TH** LAT visit

**Memorial Garden** **TH** shared the quote for the railings, proposed by **PG** and seconded by **CB**. **CB** can we ask them to do the sleepers**. TH** to ask. **PG** to ask HS2 to deliver the bricks from the bridge.

**Kissing gate TH** John feels he can fix this, quote shared. £419 to fix it, **TH** to email Bucks

**Green** **TH** no update on register of interest yet.

**Oakpark**/

**Hall Ceiling to be taken off Tracker**

**Speed Limit** **CB** re assess in 6 months

**Bus stop markings TH** LAT visit

1. **HS2/EWR**

**PG** > HS2 we have covered quite a lot already, hopefully with Frank’s help we can get some traction with the roads. There isn’t much to add. Road closures include Gawcott road. **KG** I have noticed some vibration. **PG** at the weekend it was EWR testing the tracks.

1. **Solar Farm**

**PG > GA** Any updates?No update yet**. PG** there has been some information shared on social media about the noise they generate and the fire hazard it can cause. No planning yet.

**Financials**

All signed off

**AOB**

**Guttering, TH** has been done, he has noted that only half of the gutters have the snakes in, can we agree for him to replace. **TH** to email him to do it.

**Correspondence received** A request for a defib at the entrance to Calvert Green **PG** they need a power supply. I have replied and have said we have two which is more than most villages.

**Boiler TH** has emailed, **PG** to share details of his chap. **PG** to share details to **TH.**

**Next meeting 26th Mar 2024**

**Meeting ended 21.50**