

SEER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE 127th ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 3rd MAY 2022 IN JUBILEE HALL

Present: Cllr M Thomas (Chairman), Cllr T Norton, Cllr A Anderson, Cllr L Hungin, Cllr Baddeley and Cllr J Holder.

In attendance: County Councillor Tim Butcher and Mrs E Bates (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr O Davison-Oakley, Cllr C Hughes and Cllr T Brewis.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the 126th Annual Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 11th May 2021 were approved. Proposed by Cllr Baddeley, seconded by Cllr Hungin.

2. Chairman's Report

Chairman, Cllr Thomas reviewed the activities of the Parish Council during the year ended 31st March 2022.

Despite the continued disruption to our everyday lives, a further lockdown and constant threats of more to come, Seer Green Parish Council continued to go quietly about its business in both maintaining and improving properties and open spaces.

The main beneficiary of Parish Council spending during 2021/22 was our Pavilion, necessitated not only by many years of neglect by the previous tenant but also by the incoming tenant's business needs involving the creation of two rooms from the main hall. A new and 'fit for purpose' lease was finalised with Little Ducklings who opened for business in September.

The interim period between the previous tenant vacating the premises and the new one taking possession gave us the much needed opportunity to repair and upgrade various items in the building. New, brighter and more economical LED lights were fitted and repairs were made to leaking plumbing. The whole area, including the two newly created rooms, were decorated in bright primary colours to create a much needed lift to the tired looking interior and the faded blue curtains were replaced with light coloured, modern blinds. Emergency lighting was upgraded and the previously defunct double doors to the rear of the building were replaced with a pair of double glazed doors providing an additional fire exit. Outside, the rather dilapidated fence around the garden was replaced with a new, scalloped shiplap fence.

Meanwhile, the Recreation ground became the recipient of two lovely new benches, courtesy of the Community Board and Jordans Environment Trust respectively. The purchase and installation of a brand new junior goal has also proved immensely popular with children and their parents alike as well as alleviating the wear and tear previously being inflicted on areas where the adult goals are located.

Jubilee Hall continues to flourish with bookings back to, if not better than, pre-Covid levels and making a profit which is invested back in to the hall. This year has seen the installation of new internal fire doors and door to the electrics cupboard as well as other new electrical upgrades.

(I say this with fingers firmly crossed) this year saw the end of the bane of everyone who has ever had the misfortune to have to traverse the flooded areas of Chalfont Road and School Lane when Transport for Bucks undertook extensive works to upgrade the drainage systems to try to permanently resolve the issues in both locations. However, careless and dangerous parking in the centre of the village is of continuing and ongoing concern to residents which on a regular basis cause delays for traffic as buses, emergency vehicles and delivery lorries are unable to get through the narrow gap left and pedestrians are forced into the middle of the road to

negotiate cars parked on the pavement. An application submitted to our local Community Board for funding remains outstanding after nearly a year despite assurances it will be dealt with – January 2022 was the last date given for an outcome! On this vein, yet another funding application for an upgrade to the CCTV we currently have installed at the Pavilion to one which offers greater clarity also remains outstanding since July 2021, despite the cost being a mere £3960 at the time of the request. Since that date, there have been numerous criminal occurrences where the ability to recognise and record number plates would have been of enormous value in helping secure the arrest and possible conviction of the offenders.

The Council also suffered a financial set back when a leak suspected to be located somewhere between the Pavilion and the Scout hut went undetected for a considerable time resulting in an eye watering and unbudgeted bill of £2,848.

Looking forward – whilst in April 2021 we had to say a sad farewell to the group of Ash trees which had provided a truly majestic landmark upon entering the village, with hope we look forward to being able to plant a new specimen tree in Green Meadow to mark the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee for future generations to enjoy. Finally I should like to thank all my fellow Councillors for the amazing job they do, particularly the time and hard work they put into making Seer Green such a fantastic place to live. As ever we are eternally grateful to our wonderful Clerk, whose energy, patience and compassion is boundless, like the long hours she works far in excess of those for which she is contracted.

A big thank you to all Councillors who work as one big team to provide the very best for the whole community.

As for this coming year, let’s hope it is a better one than last.

3. Financial Statement

This year has proved to be a busy year financially, with a substantial amount of unforeseen expenditure. This includes:

- the sale of the Nursery School business to Little Ducklings and a modern lease written by Blaser Mills
- the changes and refurbishment of the Pavilion
- several insurance incidents including the water leak to the Scouts and a new pipe being laid.
- new goal
- the replacement of five obsolete streetlight lanterns instead of the usual 2/3

However, our expenditure has been careful and as can be seen in the financial figures, we have ended the year with a small surplus of £3,534. Our balance sheet at the end of the year showed £68,712 total assets in the bank.

Any Other Business. There was no AOB.

Election of Officers

a) Chairman: The completed nomination form received by the Clerk being for Cllr Thomas, (proposed by Cllr Brewis and seconded by Cllr Norton). Cllr Thomas consented to take on the position of Chairman.

b) Vice-Chairman: The completed nomination form received by the Clerk being for Cllr Hungin, (proposed by Cllr Brewis and seconded by Cllr Norton), Cllr Hungin consented to take on the position of Vice Chairman.

c) Treasurer: The completed nomination form received by the Clerk being for Cllr Davison-Oakley, (proposed by Cllr Brewis and seconded by Cllr Norton), Cllr Davison-Oakley had previously consented to continue the position as Treasurer.

The Officers were duly elected.