

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MOGGERHANGER PARISH HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 19TH MARCH 2014 IN THE VILLAGE HALL.**

Present: Sixteen members of the public, the Chairman, Central Beds Councillor Mrs Turner and the Clerk.

- 1) Minutes of the meeting held on 20th March 2013.** These were read out by the Clerk. Approval was agreed by those present.

- 2) Chairman's report.**

Mr Mease gave a report on the work of the Parish Council during the year. Many more planning applications than in the past had been commented upon including plans for White Gables Farm haulage business. Park Farm was to become a training centre for agriculture and horticulture, comment was made on CBC Gypsy and Traveller Plan. Members had attended the Scrutiny Meeting of CBC when the Plan was discussed which included a site in Blunham Road. That site has now been removed from the Plan. Members had also attended the Ivel Forum and CBC Town and Parish Council Conference.

The Chairman paid tribute to Mrs Barrance for her service to the village as a councilor , her retirement left a vacancy on the council. Mr Paul Pertrie was co opted onto the council. Peter Dean continues to monitor highway matters and organized a Speed watch morning. The village website now receives a report from the Parish Council.

The Chairman concluded by thanking his colleagues for their support and to the Clerk.

- 3) Financial report.**

The Clerk gave details of the success of the Internal and External audits , and the contracts that the council had agreed for 2014/15 which had only shown small increases in costs.

The council gave a Grant to the Village Hall Committee as a contribution towards the cost of purchasing the field alongside the hall for a car park. They also agreed to pay £5 per month for the website. Refurbishment of the bus shelters, seats and notice board had been carried out, the council

will now start refurbishing or replace the councils street lights. The budget had been set with £15000 for the lights and safety work in the playarea.

4) Central Beds Councillor report.

Mrs Turner mentioned the number of planning applications for the Parish, and the Gypsy and Traveller provision.

The CBC has carried out a Leisure Strategy to provide an evidence base and standards to secure new/improved indoor and outdoor sports and recreational space facilities.

A Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy which outlines the vision for improving health and well being and health inequalities in Central Beds.

Work has been done with the police to support efforts to reduce crime.

Funding has been secured for the central phase of East/ West Rail.

A medium term budget has been agreed recommending more than £186M investment next year for diverse services including libraries, roads and social care. £63M is going on social Care Health and housing of the investment. The Grant from Central Government was reduced to just over £38m which include £1m for freezing council tax. This will mean our total planned spend before savings amounts to £200m, the plan includes savings £17m without cutting services.

Value for money has been the priority with £60m being taken off the annual running costs by changing the way services are delivered.

5) Playing field report.

The field is in reasonable condition , but the playarea requires some refurbishment. Thanks were given to Mr Key for helping out with grasscutting of the Play area and to Mr Anderson for allowing the continued use of his tractor to cut the field. This service will not be available for 2014. Quotes will be sought.

The football club has been reformed as Moggerhanger United FC. Thanks were expressed to Paul Beith for keeping the dressing rooms clean and tidy. It is hoped there will be two teams for next year.

Dog Fouling seems to be under control, but the council do not want to participate with CBC with the new Dog Control Regulations.

Mr Dean thanked parishioners for keeping him in touch with any problems that arise.

6)Village Hall report.

Mr Bashford the Chairman stated that there had been a continued and increasing use of the hall and is now a well established community asset in the area, with the Trustees responding to the desires and aspirations of the villages by providing the type of functions they requested.

The hall now has its own licensed bar which attracts outside organizations to use the hall. A number of major events, when hot meals have been served, have been held during the year, Whist Drives, Bingo and monthly Folk Sessions have been organized with 40 to 70 villagers attending. Big Band events have continued to be sold out.

- * A website has been set up and a Google calendar is available for simple booking and checking planned event times.

There has been a problem with the ceiling in the foyer which has a wet patch. Plans are already in hand to remedy the problem. The reason for the problem stems from mistakes with the original build specification.

Independent Surveys have been engaged.

A major problem for the hall has been the lack of parking facilities. The Trustees have looked at the land adjacent to the hall, and with the assistance of Mrs Turner and the Grant from the Parish Council are taking action to

purchase 1 acre of the site. Although the halls finances are now more solvent than in the past, the purchase and development of the land will not be without considerable cost. Mr Bashford expressed his thanks to the village community/enthusiasts who have now donated many thousands of pounds to assist with the funding.

The Village Hall AGM will be held on 29TH April 2014 to be followed by a social and buffet for villagers to discuss and see the various plans and developments.

The Clerk then gave the details in the Central Beds Gypsy and Traveller Local Plan for 2014 to 2031. The plan identifies the proposed sites to give the number of pitches required in the future and the growth plan. A six week consultation will conclude at the end of March. The plan will include a number of policies which will be submitted to the Government Inspector with an approval report expected in the summer. Details are on Central Beds website, the Clerk has the plans.

The meeting then opened to the public for questions and comments.

The main concerns were about the Gypsy and Traveller Plan, White Gables Farm and lack of Highways repairs.

The meeting closed.