

**MINUTES OF THE ICKLEFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2017, ICKLEFORD VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM**

Present: Parish Councillors M Maxwell (Chairman), R Blake (Vice-Chairman), M Barber, D Chapallaz, P Crowe, K Goldie, C Gooden and C Thurstance

Officer present: Mrs Danielle Weetman (Parish Clerk)

Also present for part of the meeting: Sgt Steve Oliphant, PCSO Heather Burrows and 10 members of the public

52. Apologies for absence

52.1 Apologies were received from County Cllr David Barnard and District Cllr Harry Spencer-Smith.

53. Chairman's Notice

53.1 Cllr Maxwell read out the announcement on openness and transparency.

54. Declaration of Interests

54.1 No declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda were received.

54.2 No written requests for dispensation for declarable interests relating to items on the agenda were received.

54.3 No requests for dispensation were received.

55. Co-option to fill 1 (one) casual vacancy on Ickleford Parish Council

55.1 Two expressions of interest were received for the casual vacancy on Ickleford Parish Council and circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. These were from Clare Gooden and Ryan Harper. In addition, both candidates were given the opportunity to speak to the Parish Council in support of their application at this meeting.

Councillors voted to fill this casual vacancy. Clare Gooden received 4 votes and Ryan Harper received 3 votes. Clare Gooden was therefore co-opted as the new Parish Councillor for Ickleford Parish Council with immediate effect.

55.2 Clare Gooden to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office in front of the Proper Officer at the end of this meeting.

55.3 Clare Gooden to complete and return the Register of Members' Interests Form to the Proper Officer before the next meeting on 4 October.

55.4 Clare Gooden to sign the consent form if she wishes to receive the meeting summons (agenda) in electronic form, noting a specified email address for this. This is to be returned to the Proper Officer.

56. Minutes of the previous meeting

56.1 Following a proposal from Cllr Goldie which was seconded by Cllr Crowe it was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 6 July 2017 be approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them as a true record of the meeting.

57. Public Participation Session

57.1 There were 10 members of the public present at the meeting in relation to item 60.3 (The NHDC Proposed Submission Local Plan).

Cllr Maxwell invited Mr Adrian Hawkins from the Save Our Green Belt in North Herts (SOGB) group to speak to members of the public and the Parish Council about their campaign to oppose North Hertfordshire District Council's (NHDC) Local Plan.

Mr Hawkins reported that 82% of the 16,000 new homes proposed in this Plan are located in the current Green Belt, hence the focus of the group's efforts. The aim of the SOGB campaign is to oppose the Plan at the forthcoming examination using expert advisors and a legal team experienced in planning issues. Whilst the legal team believes this offers a strong case to challenge the Local Plan, SOGB will look to oppose the Local Plan via a judicial review if the initial case is unsuccessful at the inspection stage.

Cllr Goldie noted that the Conservative Party pledged to protect the Green Belt in their manifesto and asked whether local Conservative MPs have offered an opinion about the impact of this Plan on the Green Belt in North Hertfordshire. Mr Hawkins confirmed that local Conservative MPs are in favour of protecting Green Belt.

Cllr Thurstance enquired about the level of financial support that SOGB is seeking from parish councils. Mr Hawkins noted a total amount of £10,000 per parish council, with £5,000 towards the legal challenge to the Plan at the forthcoming examination and a further £5,000 should a judicial review be required. Councillors were reassured that any unused funds would be returned at the end of the campaign.

Whilst SOGB had investigated the possibility of including other issues within this process, recent legal advice indicates that a stronger case to defeat the Plan at the inspection stage can be built by focusing on the Green Belt. Mr Hawkins advised the first part of the inspection process would be a review of the Spatial Plan, with other subjects being taken separately. Cllr Maxwell noted that the Parish Council should ensure that we request to speak to the inspector about site LS1 as this is not in the Green Belt.

Cllr Maxwell asked what would happen should there be insufficient funding for SOGB's campaign. Mr Hawkins indicated that SOGB were working to secure funding as mounting this joint challenge offers the strongest case to defeat the Plan. Cllr Maxwell thanked Mr Hawkins for attending the meeting and answering questions about the SOGB campaign.

A member of the public enquired about the current status of the Freedom of Information (Fol) request submitted to NHDC about site LS1. Cllr Maxwell noted that NHDC has 20 days to respond to the request for review of their decision, which is in week commencing Monday 11 September. If we are dissatisfied with the outcome, there is recourse to approach the Information Commissioner.

58. Police Report

58.1 PCSO Burrows reported that there had been 12 crimes since the last meeting, compared with 13 for the same period last year. An overview of these crimes was given. PCSO Burrows outlined the duties she had undertaken in the village, including visits to local businesses and Glebe House, and also letters sent to companies about overweight vehicles driving through the lorry ban area. Cllr Maxwell commented that the increased visibility of PCSO Burrows in the village has been noted.

Sgt Oliphant updated councillors on his recent meeting with Cllr Barber about the possibility of introducing a 20mph speed limit on some roads in Ickleford. It was noted that a 20mph limit would have minimal impact on Ickleford as the speed of traffic driving through the village is lower than other similar-sized villages in the area. Another factor in reviewing 20mph speed limits is the location of accident sites and road traffic collisions, which is not applicable for Ickleford. Sgt Oliphant advised that the possibility of 20mph speed limits on roads within the village could be reviewed in the future should circumstances change.

Sgt Oliphant, PCSO Burrows and two members of the public left the meeting.

59. Reports from County and District Councillors

59.1 Report from County Councillor

County Cllr Barnard sent a report noting that he had commissioned the clearing of Turnpike Lane and Bedford Road.

59.2 Report from District Councillor

District Cllr Spencer-Smith sent a report advising that he had met with Cllr Maxwell and some residents to discuss site IC2.

60. On-going Projects

60.1 Neighbourhood Planning

Cllr Maxwell commented that there had been a disappointing response to the call for assistance with producing a Neighbourhood Plan for Ickleford. Following discussion, it was agreed that councillors would try to approach residents on an individual basis to encourage residents to get involved with the Plan. **Action: All Cllrs**

60.2 Housing Needs survey

Cllr Maxwell reported a 30% response rate to the survey, which is higher than the usual rate of around 20%. As there is a greater volume of data to process, the results will be forwarded to the Parish Council in November, rather than October as previously advised.

60.3 The NHDC Proposed Submission Local Plan

Cllrs Maxwell and Blake attended a meeting in July with other parish councils in the North Hertfordshire area to consider a consolidated response to the Local Plan. As a result of this meeting, councillors reviewed the possibility of supporting the SOGB group to raise the concerns of the Parish Council and residents about the Ickleford sites included in the Plan. The aim of SOGB is to enable villages and communities in North Hertfordshire to work collaboratively and give strength in numbers in opposing the Plan.

Following this review, approval was given between meetings for information on SOGB to be circulated to residents via the usual methods of communication, as well as through a leaflet distributed to all households in Ickleford. This approval was granted due to the imminent examination of the Local Plan by an inspector. The Parish Council would like to record their thanks to the residents that assisted in delivering this leaflet.

Following a proposal from Cllr Thurstance which was seconded by Cllr Crowe, it was **resolved** to:

- Contribute £5,000 to the SOGB campaign to challenge the Local Plan, and to make this payment between meetings due to the timing of the examination by the inspector.
- Formally approve the communication of information about SOGB to residents between meetings

Cllr Maxwell noted further correspondence in The Comet newspaper between meetings about LS1 and the Local Plan, including a response from Cllr Levett, NHDC Executive Member for Planning.

Further to feedback from representatives of the developers of the proposed LS1 site, the Parish Council submitted a Freedom of Information (Fol) request to NHDC to determine the accuracy of these claims. The request was declined by NHDC, and the Parish Council await the outcome of a review of this decision. As a public consultation meeting has already taken place about the proposed development of LS1, approval for the Fol request was granted between meetings, with approval for this information to be communicated to residents to keep them informed.

Following a proposal from Cllr Blake which was seconded by Cllr Goldie, it was **resolved** to formally approve the Fol request to NHDC and communication with residents about the request.

Cllr Maxwell advised that a response had been received from David Scholes, Chief Executive of NHDC, addressing some of our enquiries about pausing planning applications on sites in the Local Plan until the inspector has carried out their examination. A further letter has been sent to the Chief Executive for information on the remaining enquiries.

Councillors were updated on the meeting hosted by Pirton Parish Council about pooling experience in dealing with development outside of village boundaries. Cllr Maxwell outlined the concerns raised which included interpretation of planning laws and inadequate funds for infrastructure to mitigate against impact of new developments. Attendees at the meeting agreed that it would be useful to work collaboratively and also proposed that the local MP, Bim Afolami, be invited to a joint meeting of all North Hertfordshire villages in his constituency to raise these concerns. A provisional date of 20 September has been agreed for this meeting.

Following a proposal from Cllr Goldie which was seconded by Cllr Chapallaz, it was **resolved** to authorise the attendance of Cllrs Maxwell, Blake and Crowe at this meeting on 20 September. It was further **resolved** that Ickleford Parish Council host this meeting at Ickleford Sports and Recreation Club at a total cost of £100.00 for venue hire and refreshments.

Action: MM/CIk

Cllr Maxwell gave an overview of recent feedback from residents in relation to their correspondence with NHDC and the inspector for the examination of the Local Plan about the proposed residential development of sites at Ickleford Manor and Bowman's Mill. It was noted that the owners of both Ickleford Manor and Bowman's Mill confirmed that they had not been approached by NHDC to include their sites in the Local Plan.

It was agreed that Cllr Maxwell write to Cllr Levett, NHDC Executive Member for Planning, to request that the windfall sites at Ickleford Manor and Bowman's Mill be used to reduce or remove some of the Ickleford sites in the Local Plan, and also request a meeting between Cllr Maxwell, Cllr Levett and Cllr Spencer-Smith to discuss this matter. **Action: MM**

It was agreed that Cllr Maxwell write to the inspector for the examination of the Local Plan requesting that the following new information be considered:

- Impact of Central Bedfordshire Council Local Plan and other developments on Ickleford
- Windfall sites in Ickleford
- Inconsistent manner in NHDC's approach to landowners prior to publication of the Plan

Action: MM

One member of the public left the meeting.

60.4 20 mph speed limit

Cllr Barber advised that he had met with Sgt Oliphant, County Cllr Barnard, Guy McCallan from Hertfordshire Police, and Jason Ball from Hertfordshire County Council. The outcome of these meetings was that Ickleford did not meet the criteria for 20mph speed limits at the current time.

Cllr Barber summarised the factors taken into account when assessing roads for 20mph speed limits. Following discussion, it was agreed that the possibility of 20mph speed limits could be reviewed in the future should circumstances change.

Three members of the public left the meeting.

60.5 Village noticeboard on Upper Green

Cllr Thurstance advised that the remedial work had been completed on the noticeboard, and it had been reinstated on the Village Green. It was noted that the cost of repairing the existing noticeboard represented good value for money when compared with the purchase of a new noticeboard of a similar specification.

61. New Matters

61.1 Installation of a Christmas Tree with lights on Upper Green and hosting a 'Lights Switch-On' evening this year

Cllr Barber volunteered to co-ordinate the project again this year. The proposed date for the Christmas Tree Lights Switch-On evening is Friday 8 December.

Following a proposal from Cllr Goldie which was seconded by Cllr Chapallaz, it was **resolved** to authorise expenditure up to £250.00 for items relating to this project and subject to presentation of receipts for reimbursement.

Cllr Barber noted that the purchasing an artificial tree would be cost-prohibitive. A local business had offered to supply this year's Christmas Tree, assist in putting it up on the Village Green, and also storing items related to the Christmas Tree.

61.2 Purchase of the publication 'Rights of Way – Restoring the Record'

Cllr Goldie received an email between meetings publicising this useful reference book, available for purchase by 15 July at a pre-publication offer of £23.00 (including postage and packing). Approval was given for the purchase of this book between meetings as it would be an important reference book.

Following a proposal from Cllr Thurstance which was seconded by Cllr Crowe, it was **resolved** to formally approve the purchase of 'Rights of Way – Restoring the Record' at a cost of £23.00 (including postage and packing).

- 61.3 Change of date for the October Parish Council meeting
Councillors discussed alternative dates for the October Parish Council meeting, as the Clerk is unable to attend the meeting for personal reasons.
Following a proposal from Cllr Goldie which was seconded by Cllr Blake, it was **resolved** to hold the meeting on Wednesday 4 October.
It was agreed that the Clerk confirm the hall booking and advise residents via the usual methods of communication. **Action: Clk**
- 61.4 Ickleford Sports and Recreation Club
Cllr Crowe advised that the Club were considering the possibility of installation of a second container in the car park to assist with storage for regular hirers of the facility. Quotes are being obtained for repairs to the pavement outside the front entrance door, and the possibility of funding this work through grants was discussed.
- 61.5 CPRE Planning Skills Seminar on 5 October
Cllr Blake gave an overview of this course which would cover national planning policy and legal framework, Local Plans and examinations, Neighbourhood Planning, as well as guidance on responding to planning applications and development proposals. In light of current planning matters, councillors agreed it would be useful for Cllr Blake to attend this course and share the information with the rest of the Parish Council
Following a proposal from Cllr Crowe which was seconded by Cllr Gooden, it was **resolved** that Cllr Blake attend the CPRE Planning Skills Seminar at a cost of £50.00. **Action: Clk**
- 61.6 Purchase of dog waste signs for Grubbs Lane
Between meetings, a resident reported over 30 instances of dog waste along the footpath from Grubbs Lane to the railway bridge. Given the health and safety implications, approval was granted between meetings for the purchase and installation of signs noting 'Please clean up after your dog' in this area at a total cost of £4.50. In addition, a request has been included in the Village News email for dog waste to be cleared up by owners.
Following a proposal from Cllr Goldie which was seconded by Cllr Gooden, it was **resolved** to formally approve the purchase of three signs noting 'Please clean up after your dog' at a total cost of £4.50.
- 61.7 Data Protection course
HAPTC has arranged a course on 25 October to assist councils needing to conform to the reform of General Data Protection Guidelines which come into force in 2018. There would be no charge for attending this course as the Parish Council is a member of HAPTC.
Following a proposal from Cllr Goldie which was seconded by Cllr Crowe it was **resolved** to approve the Clerk's attendance at the Data Protection course on 25 October. **Action: Clk**
- 61.8 Mobile street food van in Ickleford
The Parish Council has received a request from a street food company to arrange a regular slot to visit Ickleford. It was agreed that the Clerk obtain further information, including availability, for discussion a future meeting. This would be on a different night to the mobile Fish & Chips van that currently visits Ickleford on a Monday. **Action: Clk**
- 61.9 Potholes in Ickleford
Cllr Thurstance noted that the surface of Arlesey Road by Bowman's Mill seemed to be deteriorating. Cllr Barber advised that a request has been raised with Hertfordshire Highways for this stretch of the road to be included in the forthcoming resurfacing work programme taking place along other parts of Arlesey Road. Following discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Barber raise this matter with County Cllr Barnard given the concerns expressed at this meeting. **Action: MB**

62. Planning Applications**62.1 17/01624/1 at 35 Arlesey Road, Ickleford, Hitchin, SG5 3UX**

Installation of pedestrian and vehicular gates on access road (in relation to Planning Permission 15/03233/1 granted 03 March 2016 for 8 No. 4 bedroom semi-detached dwellings and associated works)

Due to the response deadline, the Clerk and planning advisors responded between meetings, noting **no objections**.

Following a proposal from Cllr Goldie which was seconded by Cllr Chapallaz, it was **resolved** to formally approve that the Parish Council had **no objections** to this planning application.

62.2 Draft Local Plan from Central Bedfordshire Council

Due to the response deadline, the Clerk and councillors agreed the following **objections** be submitted between meetings for the sites at Arlesey, Fairfield, Henlow, Meppershall, Shefford, Shillington, Stondon and Stotfold:

- The proposed developments in the draft Local Plan, taken with those already in planning will add several hundred new homes. This will inevitably lead to significant increases in car journeys, and those wishing to travel south or south-west will likely to need to drive through Ickleford. The resultant increases in traffic through are village, and the concomitant environmental impacts clearly run counter to the aims of sustainability as defined in the NPPF. There appears to be no recognition of this nor any substantive attempts to mitigate against it to alleviate the issue for those wishing to drive towards Luton and the M1 (south).
- The issues which Ickleford will face will be further exacerbated by other CBC developments either within the draft Local Plan or already proposed in the towns and villages near to north Herts. There is not likely to be sufficient investment in infrastructure (e.g. public transport, increased rail network capacity) to make this sustainable, and conflicts with many aims of the NPPF.
- For some sites (i.e. Arlesey, Stotfold, Shefford) the word 'thousand' was used instead of 'hundred' for the objection noted in the first bullet.

Following a proposal from Cllr Goldie which was seconded by Cllr Blake, it was **resolved** to formally approve the **objections** outlined above for the sites at Arlesey, Fairfield, Henlow, Meppershall, Shefford, Shillington, Stondon and Stotfold which were submitted in response to the consultation on the Central Bedfordshire Local Plan.

62.3 17/01484/1 at Garage block adjacent to 32, Greenfield Avenue, Ickleford

Full Planning Permission: Erection of 4 x 1 bed flats with provision of associated parking following demolition of existing garage blocks (as amended by plan no. 12568/01J)

Due to the response deadline, the Clerk and planning advisors responded between meetings, noting **no objections**.

Following a proposal from Cllr Crowe which was seconded by Cllr Goldie, it was **resolved** to formally approve that the Parish Council had **no objections** to this planning application.

62.4 Appeal against the NHDC planning decision for application 17/00918/1 at 1 Ryder Way, Ickleford, Hitchin, SG5 3XL (Outline application for 1 two bed dwelling (all matters reserved))

Councillors were advised that the Parish Council's response to this planning application would be forwarded to the inspector dealing with this appeal by NHDC. Additional comments can also be forwarded to the inspector.

Following a proposal from Cllr Crowe which was seconded by Cllr Goldie, it was **resolved** to submit the following comment to the inspector:

Ickleford Parish Council believes that a comparison cannot be drawn between the previously approved extension to 1 Ryder Way and the recent planning application for a two bedroom dwelling within the current garden of this property. Whilst these two planning applications are of a similar size, they are situated in different locations within the garden of 1 Ryder Way, and it is the position of the proposed new dwelling close to the boundary with 14 Westmill Lane that concerns us.

Action: Clk

62.5 17/01964/1HH at Abbis Cottage, Lower Green, Ickleford, Hitchin, SG5 3TW

Full Permission Householder: Single storey porch extension following removal of existing porch, insertion of side first floor window and insertion of french doors to rear elevation

The planning advisors noted that clarification on some of the information included in the supporting documents would be required before finalising the Parish Council's response to this planning application.

Following a proposal from Cllr Goldie which was seconded by Cllr Blake, it was **resolved** to delegate the Parish Council's response to this planning application to the Clerk in consultation with planning advisors. The response will be approved formally at the October meeting.

Action: Clk/planning advisors

62.6 17/01965/1LB at Abbis Cottage, Lower Green, Ickleford, Hitchin, SG5 3TW

Listed Building: Single storey porch extension following removal of existing porch, insertion of side first floor window, insertion of french doors to rear elevation, insertion of roof lights to south elevation, and internal and external alterations

The planning advisors noted that clarification on some of the information included in the supporting documents would be required before finalising the Parish Council's response to this planning application.

Following a proposal from Cllr Goldie which was seconded by Cllr Blake, it was **resolved** to delegate the Parish Council's response to this planning application to the Clerk in consultation with planning advisors. The response will be approved formally at the October meeting.

Action: Clk/planning advisors

62.7 Planning applications received between 1 September and 7 September 2017

62.7.1 17/01959/1HH at 117 Arlesey Road, Ickleford, Hitchin, SG5 3TH

Full Permission Householder: Retention of garden building/store

Following a proposal from Cllr Crowe which was seconded by Cllr Goldie, it was **resolved** that the Parish Council had **no objections** to this planning application. **Action: Clk**

62.7.2 CB/17/03168/OUT at The Lagoon, Hitchin Road, Arlesey, SG15 6SE

Outline Planning Application (with all matters other than means of access reserved) for residential development of up to 97 dwellings with associated car parking, landscaping; provision of 1.6 hectares of public open space area, and vehicular access from Hitchin Road

Following a proposal from Cllr Crowe which was seconded by Cllr Goldie, it was **resolved** that the Parish Council **objects** to this planning application as follows:

- We believe that the growth in population resulting from this proposed development will have a severe detrimental effect on the road network into, and through, the village of Ickleford. This could cause increased congestion along Arlesey Road in the centre of the village. The Parish Council would like to see an assessment of the impact that this development would have on the road network in Ickleford.
- The Parish Council is concerned about the negative impact that traffic from this proposed development may have on air quality in the surrounding area from a rise in the amount of traffic at school drop-off and pick-up times in the area around Ickleford Primary School in the centre of the village. We would like to receive assurances that an assessment of air quality will be carried out before plans are approved for this site to demonstrate the impact of increased traffic on the surrounding area, including Ickleford, especially given the shared parish boundary with Arlesey.

It was agreed that a request be included in this response for the Parish Council to be a consultee on planning applications for multiple residential dwellings in Arlesey given the shared boundary. It was further agreed that a copy of the Parish Council's response be forwarded to Arlesey Town Council for their reference, with a request for them to advise us about planning applications such as this which could have a detrimental impact on the road network in Ickleford.

Action: Clk

62.7.3 17/01955/1 at Ickleford Mill, Arlesey Road, Ickleford

Outline application: Outline planning application for up to 71 dwellings and associated access, car parking, garages, landscaping and open space including demolition and removal of all existing structures, buildings and hardstanding (all matters reserved except means of access)

NHDC has agreed an extension to the response deadline to enable discussion at October's meeting. Given the size of the proposed development, it was agreed that information on this planning application be forwarded to residents via the usual methods of communication.

Action: Cllk

As no response has been received as yet from the letter sent from the Parish Council to Anglian Water in July with suggestions about the provision of sewerage and foul water systems to this proposed site as well as other roads in the vicinity, it was agreed that Cllr Maxwell contact Anglian Water about this matter again. **Action: MM**

63. Planning Decisions

63.1 17/01384/1TD at Proposed telecommunication equipment on land west of railway track, Arlesey Road, Ickleford

Telecommunications Determination: Installation of 20m high lattice tower; 6 no antennas; 2 no. 600mm dish antennas; 4 no. equipment cabinets and development ancillary thereto including a meter cabinet all in a fenced compound

NHDC advised 'Prior Approval not Required' on 14 July 2017

63.2 17/00536/1 at The Cricketers, Arlesey Road, Ickleford, Hitchin, SG5 3TH

Section 73 Application: S73 Application: Variation to condition 2 (development in accordance with approved plans) of planning permission ref 11/00772/1 granted 23/05/2011 including increase in height of main roof and reduction in depth of side extension and alterations to fenestration

NHDC granted Conditional Permission on 24 July 2017

Cllr Thurstance gave an overview of the Southern Rural Planning Committee meeting that he attended to present the Parish Council's response to. Cllr Thurstance noted disappointment at the length of the meeting, which did not finish until around 12 midnight, as well as the Committee's comments on the paperwork, and responses submitted by the Parish Council and residents.

63.3 16/02012/1 at Ickleford Manor, Turnpike Lane, Ickleford, Hitchin, SG5 3XE

Development of 19 residential dwellings together with associated vehicular access and parking (APPEARANCE RESERVED) following demolition of existing commercial buildings. As amended by plan nos.16097/TK04. B, 1079-PL100-PL3, PL-101-PL3, PL110-PL3, PL-120-PL3, PL-600- PL1, PL-620-PL2)

NHDC granted Conditional Permission on 31 July 2017

63.4 Planning decisions received between 1 September and 7 September 2017
None received

64. Finance

64.1 Quarter 1 bank reconciliations

Cllr Crowe has reviewed the bank reconciliations for the first quarter and confirmed they were all satisfactory.

64.2 Annual Return 2016/17

The Clerk reported that BDO had completed their audit and there were no matters arising from this. The Notice of Conclusion of Audit has been displayed as required. Cllr Maxwell thanked the Clerk for her work on the Annual Return.

Following a proposal from Cllr Blake which was seconded by Cllr Crowe, it was **resolved** that the Annual Return be accepted.

64.3 Notification of receipts since the last meeting and payments made between meetings

The Clerk noted payments made between meetings as detailed in Appendix A which was circulated prior to the meeting.

64.4 Approve payments for September 2017 and any payments made between meetings

Following a proposal from Cllr Crowe which was seconded by Cllr Gooden, **approval** was given for the accounts as listed in Appendix A to be paid. **Action: Cllk**

65. Any Other Business

Cllr Barber reported that the vehicle-activated speed sign on Bedford Road had been removed and Hertfordshire Highways has confirmed that a replacement sign will be installed by the end of the year. Due to some technical issues, the speed awareness system at Cadwell Bridge is not working at the moment. Replacement parts have been ordered and work will be carried out once these have been delivered.

Cllr Barber advised that a replacement HGV sign will be installed on the parish boundary with Arlesey by Central Bedfordshire Council shortly. Clearance work previously agreed for Bedford Road, near to the junction with Turnpike Lane, should take place in the near future. In addition, funding has been agreed for new footpath in this area.

Councillors noted that it would be appropriate for Cllr Barber to find out whether the defibrillator located on the Bowman's site could be relocated to the Village Hall for the benefit of residents.

A resident had contacted the Parish Council about the possibility of installing a 'No cyclists' sign, or reinstating the metal barrier at the end of this narrow footpath for safety reasons. Cllrs Crowe and Thurstance updated the meeting on recent correspondence with Nicholas Maddex, and councillors noted that it would be appropriate to ask Nicholas to take appropriate action to ensure the safety of pedestrians on this footpath.

Cllr Maxwell updated councillors on a review of byelaws recently undertaken by NHDC.

The Clerk reported that the playground inspection had been booked in with NHDC as agreed at a previous meeting, and would be carried out this month. In addition, Groundwork has forwarded a sign noting the grant provided by the Tesco Bags of Help towards the improvement work at the play area. This will be installed on the entrance gate. A purchase order for the work on FP10 was forwarded to Phil Kirk following on from the July meeting, and the Clerk will confirm timing of this work.

66. Date for Next Meeting

66.1 The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 4 October 2017** at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.50pm

Signed by Chairman _____ **Date** _____

Print name of Chairman _____