



WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of the **Full Council** held on Wednesday 9th March 2016 at 7.40pm in The Memorial Hall, Bedford Road, Wootton.

Open Forum	There were initially three members of the public present who wished to observe and discuss agenda item FC16/59. A fourth arrived during discussions. Resolved that agenda item be brought forward for discussion after agenda item FC16/48. There were no other members of the public or press present and so the meeting continued without further adjournment.			Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, s1(1).
Present	Cllrs Lloyd (in the chair), P. Bennett, Brady, Hall, Noakes, Price, Quirk and Wheeler. Cllr Wheeler is also the Borough Councillor for Wootton. Cllr Wallace arrived at 7.55pm. In Attendance: Sue Playford (Clerk).			
Absent	None.			
Agenda no	Agenda item title	Resolution	Action	Power
FC16/46	Apologies for absence. Cllrs C. Bennett, Bygraves, Chalmers, Doggrell and Groves.	N/A.	N/A.	Local Government Act 1972, s85 (1) & Sch 12, Part VI, p40.
FC16/47	Disclosure of local and/or disclosable pecuniary interests. Cllr Lloyd declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item FC16/68. Cllr Wheeler declared a local interest in agenda item FC16/62.	N/A.	N/A.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 7, s31.
FC16/48	To consider any dispensation requests received by the Clerk in relation to local and/or disclosable pecuniary interests, not previously recorded. None.	N/A.	N/A.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 7, s33.
FC16/49	Report from outside organisations – for information only. To include a report from BBCllr Wheeler. (Appendix 1).	BBCllr Wheeler’s report was circulated ahead of the meeting. He reported on a recent meeting of the Bob Lunniss charity – last year was the last annual lunch as the charity was unable to raise enough funds through interest alone. It was	Clerk to keep on file.	N/A.

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	It was noted crime figures were no longer circulated by Bedfordshire Police for individual parishes. The following websites held crime figure information: www.police.uk and www.ukcrimestats.com.	looking at running an afternoon tea event instead and the lower school had offered use of its hall free of charge. Cllr Noakes stated a lack of crime figures would make it harder for Streetwatch to target areas in need of patrols. He had visited both websites and the most up-to-date figures on both were mid-December 2015.		
FC16/50	List of correspondence received (copies of correspondence can be requested from the Clerk) – for information only. (Appendix 2).	Cllr P. Bennett asked what was happening with the Borough Council's consultation on Local Green Space – the Clerk confirmed this was being taken forward within the Neighbourhood Plan.	Clerk to keep on file.	N/A.
FC16/51	Minutes of the previous meeting. <i>Minutes are published on the Wootton Parish Council website: http://woottonpc.bedsparishes.gov.uk/.</i> Members of Full Council are asked to receive and adopt the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 10th February 2016. Members of Full Council are asked to receive and adopt the minutes of the (advisory with the exception of payment authorisation) Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 27th January 2016. Members of Full Council are asked to receive and adopt the minutes of the advisory Leisure & Amenities Committee meeting held on 25th November 2015.	Minutes were received and adopted. Proposed: - Cllr Brady. Seconded: Cllr Noakes. Resolved by all present. Minutes were received and adopted. Proposed: - Cllr Quirk. Seconded: Cllr Wheeler. Resolved by all present. Minutes were received and adopted. Proposed: - Cllr Wallace.	Clerk to keep on file.	Local Government Act 1972, Sch 12, Part VI, p41 (1).

		Seconded: Cllr Hall. Resolved by all present.		
FC16/52	Matters arising from the minutes to include Issues log review – for information only. - n/a – Traffic Management issues. Double mini roundabout proposed for Church/Fields/Bedford Road has been programmed by Bedford Borough Council Highways department for installation – July 2016 (date changed by Highways from February 2016). - FC12/107 + FC14/173 + FC15/16 – Bus Route 53 and general. Issues on Church Road have been reported to all relevant stakeholders (Road Safety – Bedford Borough Council, Traffic Management – Bedfordshire Police and the upper school) and remain ongoing. Cllr Lloyd and BBCllr/Cllr Wheeler continue to chase for updates. - FC12/108 – s106 changes to Fields Road development. Clerk has chased for an update on the management entity bid. - FC14/117 + FC15/217 – Bedford Borough Council’s Local Plan 2032. Response submitted ahead of the deadline. - FC14/192 + FC15/114 + FC15/132 – Submission of sites for consideration as Local Green Spaces. Information detailing all sites currently put forward as part of the call for sites (Local Plan 2032) remain as Local Green Spaces has been submitted to BBC. - FC15/17 + FC15/115 + FC16/19 – Trial of alternative Dog Control Order signage. Clerk detailed (FC16/19) that Bedford Borough Council had made an administrative error and is awaiting further advice from them on how they will seek to resolve the issue. - FC15/39 – Designation of the whole civil parish of Wootton as a Neighbourhood Area. Resolved on 11th February 2015 this be taken forward with Bedford Borough Council. - FC15/53 + FC15/94 – Local Council Award Scheme. Cllr Lloyd and the Clerk are working towards a submission for Quality status. - FC15/54 + FC16/45 – Newsletter distribution. Resolved 10th February 2016 (FC16/45) to appoint Bespoke Media – contract to be reviewed annually. Move to close. - FC15/157 – Approved list of contractors. The Clerk has requested information from Bedford Borough Council and Cllr P. Bennett is assisting also. An article calling for contractors has been placed in the	No further comments received.	Clerk to keep on file.	N/A.

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	March 2016 edition of the Wootton newsletter. • FC15/158 + FC15/192 – RoSPA inspection reports. Resolved 14th October 2015 to leave the MUGA and skate park findings on file and monitor as necessary. The clerk is still chasing feedback from Miracle Design and Play Ltd. • FC15/237 – Damage to iron railings outside Memorial Hall. Resolved 9th December 2015 to make an insurance claim. Insurance payout has been received – the works have been delayed as the contractor is waiting for the railings to come back into stock. • FC16/20 + FC16/38 – Replacement of faulty CCTV camera at the recreation ground. Resolved 10th February 2016 (FC16/38 to replace the faulty camera with an HD model and do the same with the recording device.			
FC16/53	Chairman's report – for information only.	Cllr Lloyd reported on two Neighbourhood Planning workshops he recently attended with the Clerk. The parish council had previously been informed parking spaces determined within planning applications adhered to central government standards and could not be increased. He learnt at the second workshop that could be overturned, if supporting evidence enabled such a proposal to be included within the Neighbourhood Plan. As Wootton was a commuter village there was a clear need for additional parking spaces within future planning applications and once the Neighbourhood Plan had been adopted.	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group to take forward.	N/A.
FC16/54	To receive a report from the (Executive) Planning & Environment Committee – for information only.	No further comments received.	Clerk to keep on file.	N/A.

	(Appendix 3).			
FC16/55	Schedule of receipts and payments – statement(s) 18 (Unity Trust Bank Ltd) as previously approved by the Finance & General Purposes committee – for information only. (Appendix 4).	No further comments received.	Clerk to keep on file.	Governance and Accountability for Local Councils (Practitioners' Guide (England) 2014).
FC16/56	To receive and verify the attached bank reconciliation(s) (to be signed by two members who are not authorised signatories).	Resolved to receive and verify – signed by Cllrs P. Bennett and Wallace. Proposed: Cllr Wheeler. Seconded: Cllr Price. Resolved by all present.	Clerk to keep on file.	Governance and Accountability for Local Councils (Practitioners' Guide (England) 2014).
FC16/57	To receive and verify the Income & Expenditure report for all cost centres for 2015-16, to date.	Resolved to receive and verify. Proposed: Cllr Price. Seconded: Cllr Noakes. Resolved by all present.	Clerk to keep on file.	Governance and Accountability for Local Councils (Practitioners' Guide (England) 2014).
FC16/58	To receive an update from all relevant councillors regarding ongoing projects for 2015-16.	The following updates were noted: • CCTV – Memorial Hall – ongoing; • Keeley End Pond regeneration – works now due end of March 2016; • Lorraine Road cemetery driveway extension – the contractor would contact the Clerk when his tarmac order was ready; • Lorraine Road cemetery new memorial walls – date awaited for works; • Replacement street lights – likely to be undertaken by Bedford Borough Council (keep on file); • Wootton Village brick built sign – quotation from	Clerk to keep on file.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 1, s1-8.

		Bedford Borough Council accepted to supply power – planning members currently considering design options; - Community Hall opening party – keep on file; - Wootton in Bloom – ongoing.		
FC16/59	To receive a petition from residents calling for a footway into the Berryfields Estate via Grovebury Court, Monoux Road and/or Potter Cross and to resolve a suitable course of action.	Appendix 5.	BBCllr/Cllr Wheeler/Clerk to take forward.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 1, s1-8.
FC16/60	To consider a response to Bedford Borough Council regarding allotment provision as part of s106 developer contributions for the Fields Road South development and to resolve a suitable course of action.	Cllr Lloyd detailed the parish council's two choices: - That 0.5ha of allotments were provided on-site in the event it actioned a trigger to provide a 4G pitch off-site; - That the 4G pitch be delivered on-site (including changing room facilities and parking on land previously set aside for allotments) with a financial contribution to the parish council to provide off-site allotments. Cllr Lloyd suggested if the parish council accepted the financial contribution to provide off-site allotments, it could seek to purchase the allotment land it currently leased from the Wootton Church and Poor's Land Charity (with its permission). Cllr Wallace added the developer would then oversee all aspects of the 4G pitch provision. Resolved the second option be	Clerk to take forward.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 1, s1-8. Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Ch 8, Part III, s106.

		taken forward. Proposed: Cllr Wallace. Seconded: Cllr Price. Resolved by all present.		
FC16/61	To consider a response to Bedford Borough Council regarding decision-making processes for the Fields Road South development and to resolve a suitable course of action.	Resolved the parish council give its support to a personal letter delivered by Cllr Price to BBCllr Gerard (Chair, Planning Committee) and that the following be included also (Cllr Price had received no response): • Detail again concerns raised during a presentation made to the parish council on 13th January 2016 (FC16/14); • Detail again issues over a lack of safe route(s) to school during the Berryfields consultation(s); • Detail again concerns raised over flooding issues at the Hall End development – now that houses are being built on steel supports; • Detail again concerns raised over traffic safety within the Fields Road South proposal. The Clerk agreed to draft and email a suitable response to all members for comments/approval, ahead of submission. Proposed: Cllr P. Bennett. Seconded: Cllr Noakes. Resolved by all present.	Clerk to take forward.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 1, s1-8.
FC16/62	To consider a response to Bedford Borough Council in relation to its	Resolved the Clerk respond	Clerk to take forward.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 1, s1-8.

	consultation requesting issues for review and investigation by its Overview and Scrutiny Committees and to resolve a suitable course of action.	stating the parish council wished to make further comment but would not do so, as its views were not taken into account. Proposed: Cllr P. Bennett. Seconded: Cllr Hall. Resolved by all present.		
FC16/63	To receive and accept a Site Inspection Report from Leisure Care (Dura-Sport) Ltd regarding the MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) play surface as detailed below and to resolve a suitable course of action.	Resolved to accept without further comment. Proposed: Cllr Noakes. Seconded: Cllr Wheeler. Resolved by all present.	Clerk to keep on file.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 1, s1-8.
FC16/64	To receive and verify the latest Internal Best Practice Review (Q1 + 2 2015-16 undertaken by Cllrs Brady and Lloyd) and to resolve a suitable course of action.	Resolved to accept (not verify) without further comment. Proposed: Cllr Hall. Seconded: Cllr Price. Resolved by all present.	Clerk to keep on file.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 1, s1-8.
FC16/65	To consider a means of commemorating HM Queen Elizabeth II's 90th birthday (21st April 2016) and to resolve a suitable course of action.	Resolved to note but take no further action. Proposed: Cllr Wallace. Seconded: Cllr Price. Resolved by all present.	Clerk to keep on file.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 1, s1-8.
FC16/66	To accept a recommendation from the (advisory) Leisure & Amenities Committee that the paddock lease agreement be renewed with effect from 1st April 2016 without amendment and to resolve a suitable course of action.	Resolved to accept without further amendment. Proposed: Cllr Wallace. Seconded: Cllr Price. Resolved by all present.	Clerk to take forward.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 1, s1-8.
FC16/67	To resolve under the terms of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, s1(2) that any members of the public or press present please leave, in order to discuss the following item(s).	No members of the public or press were present.	N/A.	Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, s1(2).
FC16/68	To receive quotations to undertake both the graphic design and printing of the Wootton newsletter and to resolve a suitable course of action.	Resolved Bespoke Media be appointed to undertake both the graphic design and printing – on a year's fixed price contract initially, subject to review. Proposed: Cllr Noakes.	Clerk to take forward.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 1, s1-8.

		Seconded: Cllr Brady. Resolved by all present. Cllr Lloyd did not take part in voting.		
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Meeting closed at 8.50pm.

FC16/49

Borough Councillor Report to Wootton Parish Council 9th March 2016.

1: I have been informed by Highways that the yellow lining project agreed by WPC last year should be commencing in the next few weeks.

2: Pavements, unfortunately all the pavements requested by WPC last year to be repaired / resurfaced have not been approved owing they are not deemed to be on the priory list at the moment. However I would suggest we just keep contacting the Highways helpdesk to report them and who knows we might get a result.

3: The new roundabouts at the end of Fields Road completion date has now been moved to end of May, this is due to a diversion coming down Cranfield road from central beds. There have been a few complaints from local residents about not being notified of these works, this is down to Persimmon contractors who have failed to do this, I am still waiting for a response.

4: New School extension phase two, Harris Way. We are still hoping this will start later on this year for opening in September 2017; plans are being drawn up now and will be presented to Planning. The intention is still to use the area were the shops are going to go as a site depot to save disruption, however I was informed yesterday there is also a three story (10 apartments) social housing complex going up between the new school and the shops soon, Persimmon are now looking into the feasibility of both projects going up together. I will keep you updated on developments.

5: A meeting was held on 1st.March at Borough re Fields Road safety; a number of suggestions were made and will be discussed at the relevant Parish meeting. However there was a lot of support and funding has been earmarked for certain projects along with trying to solve the parking on verge's problem.

6: On Sunday 21st February I attended the Service at St. Pauls Bedford to celebrate the 850th Anniversary of the granting of the Royal Charter, it was very well attended by members of the public and various officials.

7: All my Ward funds have now been used for the following:

- Wootton Lower School. Sports trophies, Portable flood lights and Tag rugby equipment £2344.80
- Wootton Tots. Equipment £ 2300.00
- St. Mary's Church Hall. driveway repairs £ 3000.00
- Memorial Hall. Kitchen refurbishment / renovation of toilets £ 2378.00

John Wheeler

FC16/50
Schedule of correspondence

Date received	Type	From	Brief details
6.2.16	Letter and enclosure	Bedford Borough Council	Electoral Roll monthly updates - February 2016
6.2.16	Email	Bedford Borough Council	Planning weekly list - Week 4
8.2.16	Email	Bedfordshire Association of Town & Parish Councils	Training Programme Spring/Summer 2016
8.2.16	Email	Bedford Borough Council	Applications/Notices received by the Authority under the Licensing Act 2003 and Local Govt (Misc Provisions) Act and the Gambling Act 2005 - 1st Feb 2016 - 5th Feb 2016
9.2.16	Email	Bedford Borough Council	Planning weekly list - Week 5
11.2.16	Email	Bedfordshire Association of Town & Parish Councils	A1 East of England Strategic Road Study - report of the second meeting of the Stakeholder Reference Group from Cllr Madeline Russell (BATPC representative)
11.2.16	Email	Bedford Borough Council	Decision sheet for Rural Affairs Committee - Tuesday 9th February 2016
16.2.16	Email	Bedford Borough Council	Planning weekly list - Week 6
16.2.16	Email	Bedford Borough Council	Applications/Notices received by the Authority under the Licensing Act 2003 and Local Govt (Misc Provisions) Act and the Gambling Act 2005 - 8th Feb 2016 - 12th Feb 2016
22.2.16	Email	Bedford Borough Council	Applications/Notices received by the Authority under the Licensing Act 2003 and Local Govt (Misc Provisions) Act and the Gambling Act 2005 - 15th Feb 2016 - 19th Feb 2016
23.2.16	Email	Bedford Borough Council	Planning weekly list - Week 7
24.2.16	Email	Bedford Borough Council	Information regarding temporary road closures for the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations - Sunday 12th June 2016
1.3.16	Email	Bedford Borough Council	Planning weekly list - Week 8

FC16/54
Planning & Environment Committee report

10th February 2016

List of correspondence received

Bedford Borough Council – confirmation received stating planning permission was NOT required for works to the cemetery footpath at Lorraine Road or new Memorial Walls.

Matters arising – for information only

See 24th February 2016.

Planning Applications – for resolution

16/00100/FUL – 85 Cause End Road – loft conversion with front and rear dormer windows, roof-lights and porch.

Resolved **NO OBJECTIONS.**

16/00105/TPO – 5 Potters Cross – ash – reduce by 25%.

Resolved **NO OBJECTIONS.**

Planning Approvals – for information only

15/02752/FUL – 18B Cause End Road – single storey side/rear extension, removal of chimney stack, installation of canopy over side entrance, installation of additional windows to the side elevation and a velux window to the existing roof and associated works.

This council previously recorded **NO OBJECTIONS.**

Planning (other) – for information only

Correspondence from Bedford Borough Council regarding its decision to grant permission for the following planning applications:

14/02939/MAF – Land at Hall End Road adjacent to Church End Road - construction of 58 dwellings, including 17 on-site affordable housing units together with ancillary car parking, private amenity space and landscaping and associated highway, access and infrastructure works.

14/03047/FUL – Land adjacent to 58 Church Road – construction of balancing pond (in conjunction with proposed residential development to its south), together with associated landscaping and maintenance access from Hall End Road.

Cllr Lloyd wished to place the following points on record:

- At a Bedford Borough Planning Committee meeting, members of the parish council highlighted the lack of a safe route to school for children attending the lower school (focus was only on the upper school).

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- A request was made for a signed agreement between the landowner and developer, detailing who would be responsible for the balancing pond's ongoing maintenance (before planning permission be approved).

Neither point were taken forward.

Resolutions

P16/40 – Resolved to accept Cllr Quirk's findings and write to the next of kin in both instances to inform them of his findings.

P16/42 – Resolved to grant a 50% reduction to the standard fee of £360.

24th February 2016

Open Forum

A member of the public discussed a proposed footpath leading into Monoux Road from the new Berryfields estate. Whilst he would not be directly affected were the proposal to go ahead, he raised concerns that the existing footpath between Monoux Road and Payne Road was in a very poor state, with several potholes. He originally reported his concerns to Bedford Borough Council who carried out patchwork at that time, but with footfall ever-increasing many people using the footpath (most noticeably motorised scooter and pushchair users) were now having to use the road. It was also noted school children used the same route to get to school. Bedford Borough Council had informed the resident they would investigate the area again – his wish was that the parish council would also lobby Bedford Borough Council to make repairs. His proposal would be brought to the next Planning & Environment Committee meeting for further discussion.

List of correspondence received

Bedford Borough Council – proposed temporary road closure – Broadmead Road, Stewartby. To enable the construction of a roundabout. Between the sewage works entrance and Park Crescent. The closure is anticipated to be in operation 24 hours a day from Monday 21st March 2016 to Monday 30th May 2016. Specific dates will be advertised locally closer to time. Due to the nature of the work it will **not** be possible for emergency service vehicles to go through this closure.

Matters arising – for information only

- P11/47 + P15/40 - Overgrown alleyway Lorraine Road/Hoo Close. The Crown Estate attended a recent meeting with members of the parish council and will clear the brook again and have said they will undertake works to the ash tree. The Borough Council are due to replace the damaged fencing along the footpath. Clerk chased both on 10th February 2016.
- P13/40 + P15/64 – Roads and footpaths. Resolved 11th March 2015 (P15/64) to request remedial works to footpaths in the following areas: Thorpe/Foster/Neale/Emerton Way, Tithe Barn Road, from the Cause End Road junction (pharmacy side) and the entire length of Bedford Road (both sides) from the village boundary sign on Bedford Road to the village exit on Cranfield Road. Andy Prigmore (BBC Highways) has also confirmed patch work will be carried out along Fields Road and Hall End Road. The Clerk was informed (25th November 2015) works to install an unmanned

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pedestrian crossing, widen the footpath at Hall End (near the upper school) and install a double mini roundabout at the Bedford/Church/Cranfield/Fields Road junction would take place in November, after Christmas and February 2016, respectively.

- P14/50 + P15/196 + P16/27 – Identification of Parish Council/Borough Council street lights. Resolved 27th January 2016 (P16/27) to note the Borough Council were currently undertaking a programme of replacement columns and to leave this item on file. Consider this alongside item P15/269 below*.
- P14/84 + P14/152 + P15/10 – Parking problems/yellow lines proposals. Works were due for completion in September 2015 – Clerk chased 10th February 2016.
- P14/250 + P15/124 + P15/138 + P15/151 + P15/210 + P15/225 – Tree works. Resolved (14th October 2015) to appoint Bartlett Tree Experts to undertake all necessary works. Clerk is awaiting confirmation on works being completed – bracing works were due for completion on 17th February 2016 (weather permitting).
- P15/75 + P15/136 + P15/137 + P15/152 – Regeneration of Keeley End Pond. Rotivating/clearance works to be completed by the end of February 2016**.
- P15/139 – Ongoing and proposed capital projects for 2015-16. Resolved 10th June 2015 (P15/139) that:
 - Replacement columns at Hall End and Potters Cross remain ongoing (current columns are failing);
 - Replacement trees at St. Mary's cemetery extension – works complete. Move to close.
 - Plans be drafted ahead of taking forward a proposed new tarmac pathway, turning circle and memorial wall(s) at Lorraine Road cemetery (see *** below;
 - Wootton village (brick built) sign for Fields Road to be taken forward. Resolved 5th August 2015 (P15/185) that the sign be illuminated if possible and sited in front of the wooden gates on Fields Road;
 - Regeneration of Keeley End Pond. See ** above.
- P15/174 – Lack of accessible bus stops within the village. Resolved 29th July 2015 (P15/174) the Borough Council be asked to fund works starting with the bus stop opposite the health centre. Other parishes have had works undertaken without needing to use ward monies. BBCllr/Cllr Wheeler is investigating whether developer contributions can be used to fund the works. Clerk chased 10th February 2016.
- P15/222 – Road safety concerns – Fields Road. Resolved 14th October 2015 (P15/222) to challenge the Borough Council's findings following a parish council vote of no confidence. BBCllr/Cllr Wheeler has called a meeting to discuss this issue – 1st March 2016.
- P15/269 – Replacement lighting columns – Squires Road. To be kept on file – move to close.
- P16/13 – Access improvement works to Lorraine Road cemetery footpath/Two new Memorial Walls. Please see agenda item P16/54***.
- P16/28 – Continuing delays to replacement lighting columns – Potters Cross and Hall End. Resolved 27th January 2016 (P16/28) to inform the contractor of member's wishes to have the works completed by an alternative contractor. Clerk is awaiting advice from the National Association of Local Councils before proceeding further.

Planning applications – for resolution

16/00217/OUT – 41/43 Cause End Road – outline application for a residential development of 6 dwellings with all matters reserved except access.

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Resolved **TO OBJECT** to the application with the same material considerations used to object to a previous proposal for the same piece of land (15/02401/MAO):

- The proposal would adversely affect adjacent Grade I listed buildings, affecting the street scene;
- It was considered an over-development of the site;
- The increase in traffic would cause dangerous conflict when accessing the site.

The following material considerations were added:

- The area was outside the current Allocations & Designations Plan and remained one of few undeveloped areas within the village ;
- Proposed cedar cladding was not in keeping with the street scene.

The following observations were also made:

- Architect images gave a false impression of an open plan development with a mis-leading boundary design. The reality of six foot high fencing panels would give a different appearance;
- Reducing dwelling numbers from 10 to 6 would not reduce the impact of considerations and observations noted above.

Planning Approvals – for information only

15/02663/ADV – Land South of Fields Road – erection of two marketing boards (one freestanding sign and one v-board sign, both non-illuminated).

This council previously resolved **NO OBJECTIONS**.

15/03046/FUL – 21 Hollies Walk – single storey front extension and re-siting of garden boundary with 1.8m close boarded fence.

This council previously resolved NO OBJECTIONS but reported the following observations back to Bedford Borough Council:

- The plans did not provide clarity regarding ownership of land being used (to re-site the fence);
- In spite of the lack of clarity, it was assumed BBC were in agreement with the boundary change proposals.

Planning (other) – for information only

Correspondence from Bedford Borough Council regarding its decision to refuse planning permission for application 15/02104/FUL – Hall End House, 66 Hall End Road. An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State.

This council previously resolved **NO OBJECTIONS**.

Resolutions

P16/52 – Resolved to request planning application 16/00217/OUT be considered by the Full Planning Committee of Bedford Borough Council.

P16/54 – Resolved the Clerk write to Mr Tompkins – Bovis Homes (copy to Bedford Borough Council's Planning department) again to establish what the final safety precaution would be in terms of the Hall End site entrance and to raise concerns over parking/pedestrian safety issues also.

P16/56 – Resolved to accept Phil Lant Building Contractors revised quotation of £5,185.

Sue Playford

Clerk to the Council

1st February 2016

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FC16/55

Unity Trust Bank Ltd - Receipts & Payments presented - 1st February 2016 - 1st March 2016			
Credit	Debit	To/From	Description
	£ 75.68	E-on	Changing rooms electricity
£ 25.00			Wootton news advertising income
£ 25.00			Wootton news advertising income
£ 40.00			Wootton news advertising income
£ 327.53		Bedford Borough Council	Recycling credits
£ 25.00			Wootton news advertising income
£ 25.00			Wootton news advertising income
£ 25.00			Wootton news advertising income
£ 40.00			Wootton news advertising income
	167.21	E-on	Street lighting
	£ 53.00	Bedford Borough Council	Cemetery rates
£ 25.00			Wootton news advertising income
£ 25.00			Wootton news advertising income
£ 25.00			Wootton news advertising income
£ 25.00			Wootton news advertising income
£ 40.00			Wootton news advertising income
	£ 35.00	BRCC	Annual subscription
	£ 36.98	EE & T-Mobile	Clerk's mobile
£ 40.00			Wootton news advertising income
	£ 25.19	BT	Phone line
	£ 76.00	Anglian Water	Changing rooms water rates
	£ 1.62	Anglian Water	Allotments water rates
£ 180.00		Mr & Mrs Bavington	Interment income - cemetery
£ 20,000.00		Unity Trust Bank Ltd	Transfer from deposit acc

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Appendix 4

	£ 31.80	BT	Broadband
	£ 38.86	Viking Direct	Stationery
	£ 74.84	Bedford Borough Council	Recharge - uncontested elections May 2015
	£ 150.00	Artistic Layout	Graphic design - Wootton newsletter Dec 2015
	£ 163.77	Wootton Poors Land Charity	50% recycling credits
	£ 3,926.20		Salaries February 2016
	£ 210.34	Bedford Borough Council	Trade refuse - Lorraine Road cemetery
	£ 282.66		Expenses February 2016
	£ 420.00	Dura-Sport (Leisure Care) Ltd	MUGA surface maintenance
	£ 700.00	Wootton New Life Methodist Church	Office rent
	£ 950.00	J Dennis Garden & Property Services	Cemeteries maintenance
	£ 2,093.77	Bedford Borough Council	Christmas tree 2015
	£ 3,763.20	FA Bartlett Tree Expert Company	Tree works
£ 20.00		WRFC u13's	MUGA hire
£ 70.00		WVFC Youth	MUGA hire
£ 200.00		Stewartby Parish Council	Annual contribution re Lorraine Road cemetery
£ 40.00			Wootton news advertising income
£ 25.00			Wootton news advertising income
	£ 14.26	Anglian Water	Lorraine Road cemetery water rates
	£ 75.56	BT	Phone line
£ 25.00			Wootton news advertising income

£21,272.53 £13,365.94

b/f	£ 9,946.99
Income	£ 21,272.53

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Appendix 4

Expenditure	£ 13,365.94
Balance c/f	£ 17,853.58

FC16/59

Several members of the public were in attendance to observe and discuss the above agenda item (to receive a petition from residents calling for a footway into the Berryfields Estate via Grovebury Court, Monoux Road and/or Potters Cross). It was previously resolved this agenda item be brought forward and that residents be permitted to speak during this debate, rather than Open Forum.

Mr Ireland opened discussion and provided members with a report compiled on behalf of petitioners (please see attached). His report followed items raised at a previous meeting held at Bedford Borough, the main proviso of which was to establish what was wanted within Wootton to address the issue of a safe route to the new lower school on Harris Way. His report supported the petition and his request was for the parish council to add its support also, ahead of the petition being heard at Bedford Borough Council's Full Council meeting on 23rd March 2016. It was noted the petition had over 300 signatures and that Fields Road (current route to Harris Way) was considered a significant risk, due to speeding, footway parking and volume of traffic. His report detailed Monoux Road and Potters Cross as the preferred routes and it was noted Bedfordshire Police's Architectural Liaison Officer had determined a safe route via Grovebury Court would be difficult to achieve. All three footways were in original hybrid plans despite Bedford Borough Council previously indicating that was not the case. It was noted ownership of so-called ransom strip land (Grovebury Court and Monoux Road) was being investigated by Cllr Lloyd. The report also detailed speeding figures along Fields Road (it was noted a parent had recently been clipped by a bus whilst walking on the footpath) and provided short, medium and long term suggestions to improve the situation. The idea that such footways would lead to an increase in crime (and defensible space issues) had to be balanced against the need for cohesion throughout the village.

Mr Riccio then spoke on behalf of Grovebury Court residents opposed to a footway in that area, but noted Mr Ireland's report now recommended Grovebury Court no longer be a consideration. Mr Riccio had sent a report previously to the Clerk but detailed again potential risks with the creation of a footway in the area. An existing footway stopped short of the proposed addition, meaning children would have to walk past six houses with open driveways (and at least 12 cars) and into the road. The new footway was also between two driveways and the road layout meant there was a poor line of site – children could not be seen clearly. He added the top of Grovebury Court (Bedford Road junction) was already heavily congested during school drop-off and pick-up times. This proposal would increase congestion further. Mr Riccio also detailed children would be isolated beyond Grovebury Court as there was a two metre strip of wasteland between there and the new estate.

Cllr Brady detailed in 2015 speeding figures along Fields Road showed 43% of those caught were from Wootton, with a large majority thereafter from Kempston. Mr Ireland indicated his willingness to work with speedwatch and the lower school to educate further in this area.

Cllr Price stated the parish council had warned Bedford Borough Council's planning department over the lack of footways and potential safety issues, adding the parish council should press for answers as to why planning officers allowed this to happen.

Cllr Wallace believed a footway for Potters Cross was already a proposal and BBCllr/Cllr Wheeler confirmed a footway was planned for that area once additional housing had been erected. Another member of the public (recently arrived) asked if timelines were available – it was thought at least a year but no firm confirmation was available at this stage and the footway could not be used whilst the area remained a live building site. BBCllr/Cllr Wheeler recommended Potters Cross still be included in the petition for clarity, adding he could remove Grovebury Court from the petition if members were in agreement.

After further discussion it was resolved:

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Appendix 5

- Wootton Parish Council add its support to the petition's proposal for a footway to the Berryfields development via Monoux Road and Potters Cross (Grovebury Court to be removed as a proposal);
- Why the wishes of Bedfordshire Police's Architectural Liaison Officer were considered over those of the parish council with regard to footways, on what basis were they formed and how that process subsequently led to them being removed from later plans;
- Why the development now sees a two metre gap between it and houses in Grovebury Court, in spite of plans indicating gardens should border each other – also a wish made by Bedfordshire Police's Architectural Liaison Officer to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour.

Proposed: Cllr Hall.

Seconded: Cllr P. Bennett.

Resolved by all present.

All members of the public were thanked for attending and all left the meeting at 8.10pm.

**WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL
COMMITTEE: FULL COUNCIL**

DATE: 9th March 2016

SUBJECT: Petition to Bedford Borough Council re Footways
and Safety on Fields Road

REPORT BY: Tony Ireland on behalf of the petitioners

CONTACT: Tony Ireland 07739 836150

IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL	✓	COMMUNITY SAFETY	✓
EQUALITIES		ENVIRONMENT	✓
FINANCIAL	✓	CONSULTATIONS	✓
STAFFING		OTHER	

PURPOSE

1. To recommend to the Council that the petition submitted to the Bedford Borough Council Full Council be supported by the Parish Council within the terms of the submission.
2. To agree provisions in support of the Petition.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

COUNCIL is recommended to:

- I. **Support the Petition as submitted to Bedford Borough Council (BBC) Full Council**
- II. **To establish a list of issues to be resolved should the terms of the petition be agreed by BBC Full Council.**

BACKGROUND

Since the opening of the extension of Wootton Lower School at Harris Way there have been concerns raised by the parents and residents of Wootton surround the matter of a safe route to School.

This concern has now been expressed via a petition raised by concerned residents with over 300 signatures. This petition has been submitted for consideration by BBC Full Council on the 23rd March 2016.

This matter had also been raised by Cllr Wheeler in his capacity as BBC Ward Councillor for Wootton and a meeting was held at Borough Hall on the 1st March 2016.

Present at this meeting included representatives from the Parish Council, Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transportation, Planning Service, Highways, Wootton Lower School, Middle Schools, Speedwatch, Police, plus representatives on behalf of the Petitioners and Grovebury Court.

It was clear from the meeting that the Borough Council would respond to the request for action over the issues surrounding the Safe Route to School however support from the Parish Council was required and a clear direction would be required so that the Borough council could respond effectively to the terms of the Petition.

A request was then made through the Chair of the Parish Council for the item to be added to a forthcoming Parish Council Meeting prior to the 23rd March 2016.

REPORT

This report is constrained to the terms of the Petition as submitted and for the purposes of expediency the full statement is as follows:

"Petition to Bedford Borough Council

Re: Petition against the refusal of a footway through Grovebury Court, Monoux Road and Potters' Cross in Wootton which is ESSENTIAL for the safety of our children to access the Harris Way and Bedford Road Lower School

It is not a safe route to be walking with young children along the busy main Fields Road. We ask for a footway through Grovebury Court, Monoux Road and Potters Cross along with a full review of all the safety considerations for children who travel to Wootton Lower School (Including: Railings, Crossings, Drop Curbs and Lighting.”

Following the discussions with the various agencies at the meeting of the 1st March 2016 it was clear that the majority of attendees recognised that there was a real and present threat to safety to children and parents moving between sites.

Cllr Royden, BBC Portfolio Holder stated at the meeting that if the Wootton Residents and Parish Council were clear in what they were requesting that he would proactively act to address these.

Since this meeting the representatives for the Petitioners representatives have been liaising with the Police, Speedwatch, Representatives for Grovebury Court and the Parish Council.

Whilst not experts in the various regimes involved with this matter, the petitioner's representatives have taken advice and taken into account the views of the various parties. There is no desire to resolve one safety issue but to create a larger safety issue as an unintended consequence to this petition.

Having taken advice from the Bedfordshire Police Architectural Liaison Officer and looking at the viable route for a footway through Grovebury Court then the petitioners and the representatives for Grovebury Court are of the opinion that the creation of a safe route would be very difficult to achieve and could create significant problems for this area in future with a potential for a focus for Anti-social Behaviour and associated opportunistic crime.

The petitioner's position to the other two routes via Monoux Road and Potters Cross remain the same and are supported by the following Plans:

1. That the two proposed routes were consulted upon and are included within the Borough Councils "Wootton Development Brief" which was prepared in the context of the Adopted Bedfordshire Structure Plan 2011 and the BBC Local Plan which was adopted on the 14th July 1999. This brief was produced to provide a clear and firm guidance to Developers. The master plan map is included at Appendix A.
2. The development Brief is supported by the "Fields Road North Non-Technical Summary (NTS) prepared on behalf of Persimmon Homes and Charles Church dated June 2011 which accompanied a hybrid planning application for full planning permission for the early phases of the development and outline planning application for the later stages. Copy of this plan is attached at Appendix B

Both the Development Brief and the NTS were consulted upon either through the Local plan process or via the Planning Application Process.

Fields Road

At the meeting on the 1st March Cllr Wheeler presented a range of issues linked to the safety on Fields Road. This included a number of issues including

- Parking on the Footway
- Placement of Lighting Columns which narrow the width of the footway
- Holes in footway and potholes in the road which make the road unsafe
- Width of the Footway between Monoux Road to just past the junction of Sherwood Close.

The speed of vehicles using the Fields Road is also of concern and following the information provided by the Police the key times for speeding on Fields Road coincides with the school times that being 08.00 until 11.00 and 03.00 until 19.00. 14% of vehicles monitored at these times were exceeding the speed limit and were at a level where the police could prosecute. The highest level recorded was 46 mph and was associated with a parent who actually lived on Fields Road and was taking their child to school.

It was also confirmed that within the last few week there has been an incident where a bus had collided with a parent walking their child to school and had clipped them whilst walking on the footway

Overall, it is the Petitioners view that the safety risks could be reduced through a number of practical methods to cover the short, medium and longer term to resolve this issue.

Short Term

- Bringing Persimmon/ Charles Church back to the table to resolve the alternative routes via Monoux Road & Potters Cross. This could be achieved via the Council's Planning, Highway and or Education functions
- Resurfacing/ repairing the footway
- Move the lighting columns back to increase the footway width
- Introduction of an experimental traffic order to address Footway Parking

Medium Term

- Introduction of a 20mph speed limit for school times
- Review of options for introduction of speed over length speed cameras
- Increasing width of Footway

Long Term

- Options for the widening of Fields Road
- Options for the addition of pavement to the South side of Fields Road

- Introduction of the option for a Traffic Calming Table at the junction of Fields Road with a crossing

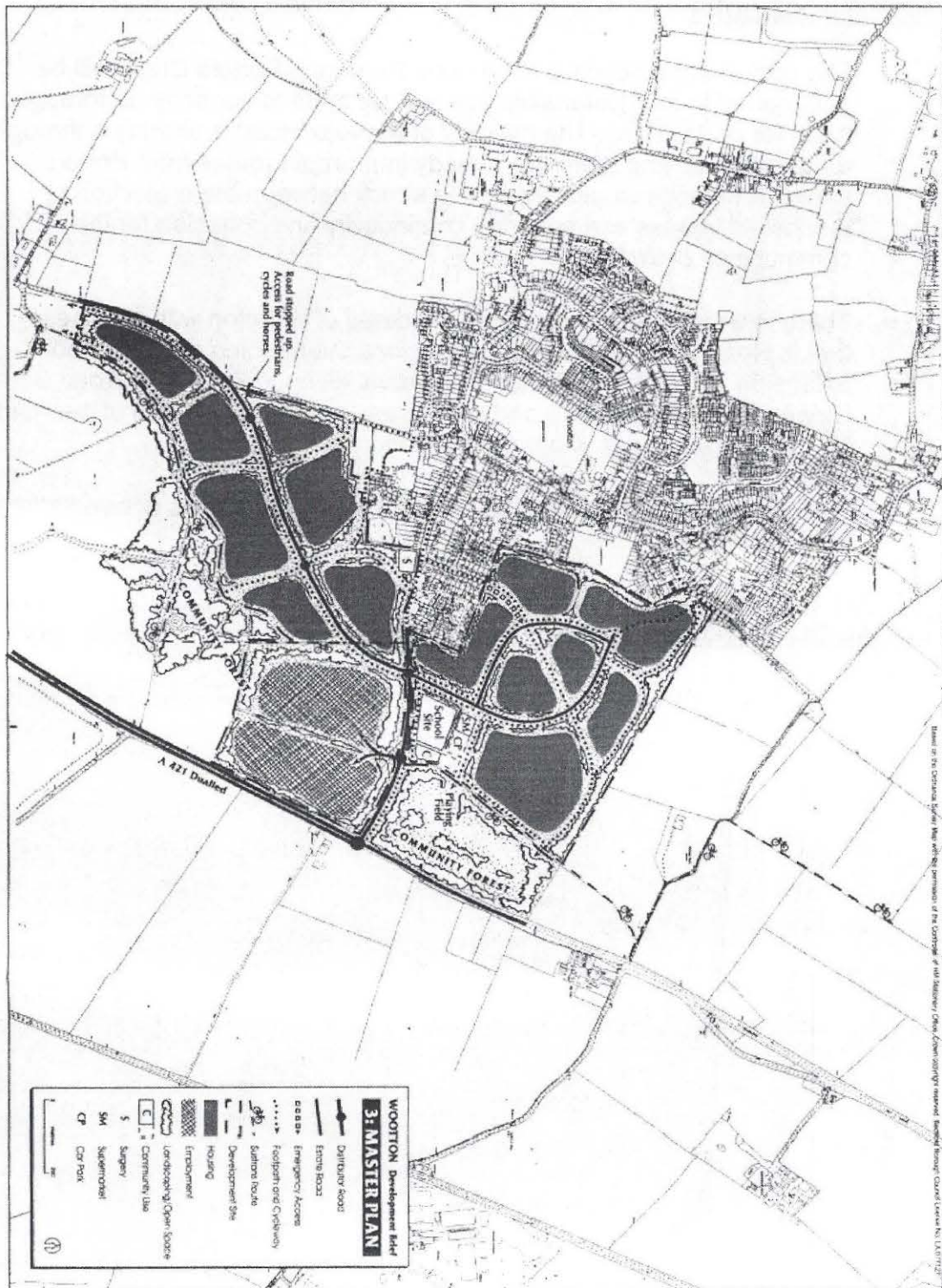
RISK IMPLICATIONS

- The provision of footways to Monoux Road and Potters Cross will be detrimental to the “Defensible Spaces” as there is currently no through route for pedestrians. The majority of Monoux Road is already a through route for traffic and there are already impromptu routes from Potters Cross. A balance would need to be struck between the protection of defensible spaces and ensuring connectivity and cohesion for the communities of Wootton.
- There is a clear safety risk to the residents of Wootton with the use of Fields Road. This has been evident since the opening of the School extension and with the Planning Approval given to the Fields Road South Development in Jan 2016 and the increase of traffic and use of the road for the future this risk is only going to increase.
- Failing to act could be contributory to incidents/ accidents or even a fatality on Fields Road

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D

Appendix A



Appendix B

Fields Road North
Wootton

Land uses

Residential

Building heights generally two storey to max 30.5m with potential increase of two and half storey to 33.05m

Local Centre (inc. parking)

Buildings heights up to three storey to max 33.05m with potential "tower feature" to 36.05m

School

Building heights generally single storey to max 10.5m with over entrance for two storey elements to 12.05m

Potential school extension area

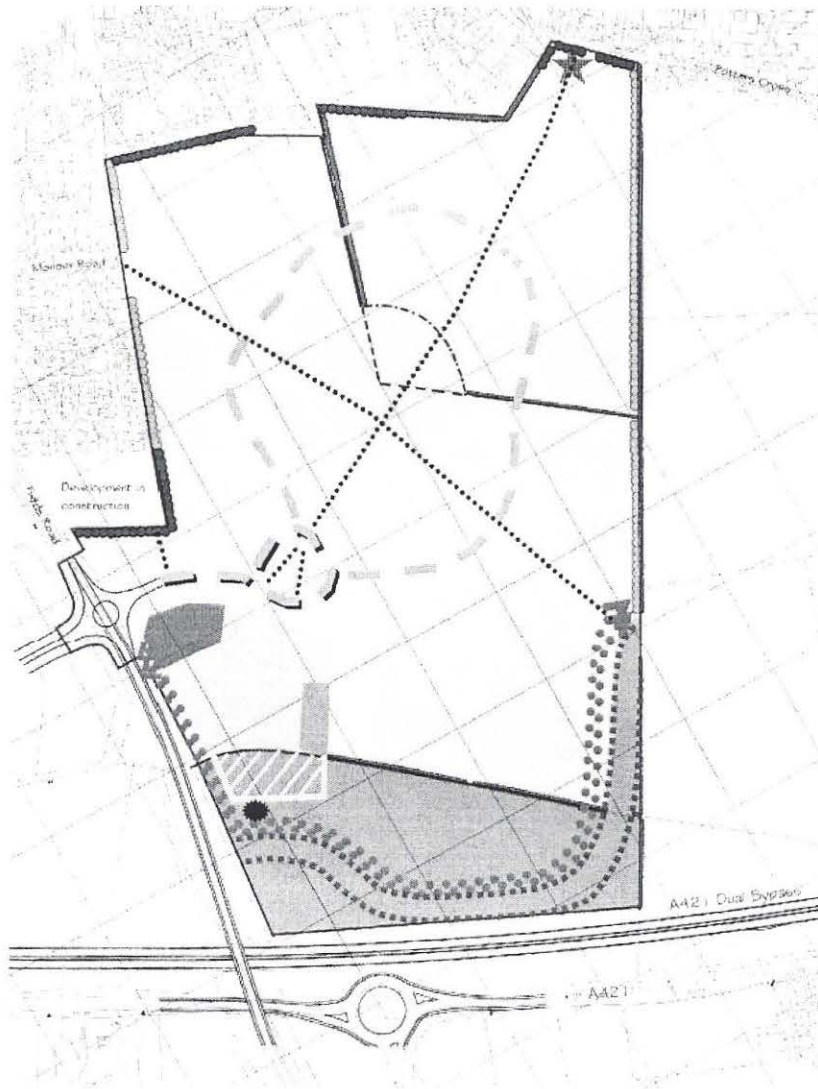
Community building (inc. changing facilities)

Parking area Building heights single storey to max 10.5m

Note: Building heights include elements from development and include potential existing structures.

KEY

- Main Access Road
- Proposed Extent of Bus Route
- Emergency access provision only (inc. footpath/cycleway connection)
- Internal Footpath Routes
- Public Bridleway
- Cycleway
- Reserve alignment for canal
- Existing Watercourses
- Existing water course to be diverted
- Proposed Watercourse diversion route
- Existing pond to be retained
- Green Areas / Open Space / informal children's play
- Area for sports / children's Youth play provision & Ecological enhancement
- Existing Trees and hedgerows
- Proposed Landscape treatment to boundary



Parameters Plan