

CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 12th NOVEMBER 2012

PRESENT: Mr P Sibbald (Chairman) Mr A Bell, Mr G Brister, Mr D Broad, Miss L Gallagher, Mr J King and Mrs E Broad (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Mr R Richmond

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 8th October 2012 were agreed and signed as a true record.

OPEN SESSION FOR THE PUBLIC: Nothing was raised at this point.

MAIN MATTERS:

Item 1.2 Affordable Housing was brought forward on the agenda.

Affordable Housing – Feasibility Exercise

a) Visit by Martin Hutchins GRCC and Gwen Russell CDC:

1. Sites - It was agreed to open the meeting to allow Martin Hutchings and Gwen Russell to address the Council. Martin Hutchings referred to the eight feedback forms he had received from the Information Meeting on the 16th October. Site 6A, the Old Quarry, was favoured by most people. Martin Hutchings asked for the feedback back information to go on the website, Mr King confirmed that this was in hand. Martin Hutchings suggested that the next step was to talk to a provider of affordable housing such as a Housing Association and he suggested several who may be interested. Mr Bell asked whether any safeguards could be put in place to prevent a future transfer of any affordable housing stock to another Housing Association. Martin Hutchings provided a map with a small portion of Parish Council owned land opposite Valley View highlighted with a suggestion this may be incorporated with the smaller site adjacent to the Village Hall. Parish Council will consider this further as there could be some advantages if it the Parish Council could thereby become a direct party to any arrangements.

2. Need - The Housing Needs Survey identified 9 current needs. Parish Council is looking to see how we can properly ensure any new affordable housing would benefit local people with a real connection to the village. Gwen Russell spoke about section 106 agreements.

Martin Hutchings and Gwen Russell left the meeting at this point.

3. Structure and Financing – Parish Council is looking at proceeding either by CLT or a Housing Association. There are advantages and disadvantages to both options. Parish Council wants to understand clearly what they are and come to an informed view. Mr Catton spoke about the CLT option and asked Council if they wanted him to try to keep open the funding offer made to the CLT. When Council reconvened it was felt it was a good idea to keep open the funding offer for as long as possible. It was also felt that it was a good idea to look at some of the section 106 agreements that were on the CDC website and to discuss the sites further at the next meeting.

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Mr Bell also raised the possibility of registering the Playing Field as a Village Green to protect it from future development as this cannot be done retrospectively, it was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting.

b) Information Meeting on 16th October: This had been dealt with in the above item.

c) Affordable Housing Project – Further Email from Alex Priest: Mr Brister had emailed Mr Priest, as agreed at the last meeting, and Mr King had also spoken to him. However Mr Priest was still concerned about the statistics used by the Parish Council to justify the affordable housing project, in particular he felt that quoting the 70% majority in favour in principle show of hands at the public forum on 23.4.12 was misleading, despite it being explained to him that the Council's position is that this figure is only being used as support to the similar figure in the recent Housing Needs Survey and that neither are necessarily overriding anyway.

Communication between Parish Council and the Public:

a) The Parish Council Website: Mr King reported that he and Mr Robertson have continued working on putting information on the new website, including a separate Affordable Housing page and Twitter feed and were considering including items from other village organisations. Concern was expressed about this as it was felt the Parish Council site should be for Parish Council items only and other organisations should use the Chedworth website administered by Julie Young.

MATTERS FOR UPDATING AND DISCUSSION:

Traffic in Village and Road Matters:

a) Fields Road and Community Speed Watch: Mr King reported that, following the decision by the Parish Council neither to fund, nor to endorse the wheelie bin sticker, Mr Shaftoe had purchased the stickers for the wheelie bins and Scott Macaulay Lowe was still looking into the possibility of beefing up the 40 mph entry signs. Mr Poulton was organising a working party to clean the speed limit signs on Fields Road. A date of the 12th December had been fixed for the eight volunteers to undertake the Community Speed Watch training.

b) Emergency Road Closure of Road 40877 Queen Street: This had been done.

c) Gritting and Salt Bins: The Chairman reported that he had 10 spare bins and that several emails had been received from people wanting the extra bins in various area within the parish. Mr Peter Grzelinski had volunteered to undertake the towing of the grit spreader. The Clerk would write and thank him and the Chairman would contact him to arrange a briefing session. The Chairman also reported that GCC Highways were going to provide some more salt.

d) Verges in Queen Street: An email complaint had been received from Mrs Thacker. The Chairman had cut back the hedge on one side of the road opposite The Seven Tuns but the vegetation from The Seven Tuns grounds also needed cutting back. The Clerk was asked to email Alex Davenport Jones reminding him of his responsibilities. The Chairman was due to meet with Paul Swift from GCC Highways on Friday.

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- e) Airfield Road Flooding: Mr Bell was concerned that this was very dangerous, as traffic was travelling on the opposite side of the carriageway, on the bend, to avoid driving through floodwater. The Chairman agreed to speak to Mr Swift about this.
- f) Slow Sign at Hemplands Hill: This had been covered over during the resurfacing works. Mr King had emailed GCC Highways asking for it to be repainted and the Chairman would also speak to Mr Swift.

Footpaths: Mr Bell reported that the footpath KCH42 from Old Pastures to Hemplands Hill was overgrown and impassable. It was agreed to ask the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens to have a look at this.

Defibrillators:

- a) The Third Defibrillator: This had now been wired up and an invoice for £121.92 including VAT had been received from Gary See. The Chairman reported that the door on the defibrillator at The Seven Tuns was very stiff, he would contact Kevin Dickens at GWAS about this.
- b) The eXbox and Defibrillator: The power supply to the eXbox had failed and Mr Bell had to remove the defibrillator. Mr See had visited the eXbox and the Chairman would establish with him what the problem with the power supply had been, but it had been restored now. Mr Bell had contacted BT and they had sent an engineer who had replaced the bulb which should have been the responsibility of the Parish Council. Mr Bell agreed to write to BT thanking them and asking advice on the bulbs required.

Items Arising from Email:

- a) Members Interest Forms: Mr Richmond's form was still outstanding and the Clerk was asked to chase this up again. All of the other completed forms were now displayed on the Parish Council website.
- b) Community Emergency Plan – Email from CDC: This was noted together with an offer made to Mr King from the Civil Protection Team at GCC to come and talk to Council. It was agreed not to take this any further at present. It was agreed to remove from the agenda.
- c) Cotswold Division Autumn Open Day – 21st November at Northleach: The Chairman agreed to attend if possible.
- d) Electoral Review of CDC - 20th November at CDC: Mr King agreed to attend if possible.
- e) ChEG Invitation to Attend Meeting and Letter of Thanks Received: Noted. Unfortunately no one had been able to attend the Pond site meeting because of the very short notice.

The Playing Field:

- a) Playing Field Hirers Agreement: Miss Gallagher had re-worked her initial draft and would email this around for comment.
- b) Use by Cirencester Athletic Club, 7th April 2013: Mr Edlesten had emailed regarding the cost of part of the field for parking. There needed to be a written resolution signed by two Councillors to change the decision made last month. It

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was agreed if it was felt necessary to change the decision the written resolution should be given to the Clerk for further consideration at the next meeting.

c) Entrances on to the Playing Field – from last meeting: The Chairman reported that Mr Richmond did not have any small hardcore. The Chairman would speak to Paul Swift of GCC Highways to see if they had any to spare.

d) Hedge Cutting to Playing Field: The Chairman reported that the hedge by the Playing Field needed cutting. Manor Farm had Mr Toby Baxter booked to cut their hedges and it was agreed that the Chairman would obtain a price for our hedge to be included.

The Grass Keep Field:

a) Granting of New Licence: The six month lease had been renewed by Mr Baker. It was noted that the drawing up of the new 364 day licence would be included on the February agenda and that Mr Bell had a model which could be used as the basis for the licence.

b) Diggers Plot Tidy Up: Held over until the next meeting in Mr Richmond's absence.

Provision of a Bus Shelter: Mr King reported that he had been in contact with Mr Bearcroft who had contacted Queensbury Shelters and suggested a plan should be drawn up to establish the size required. Mr King agreed to approach Mr John Marsh to ask if he would be able to assist in drawing up a plan.

Hedgerow – Further Email from Joanne Leigh: Miss Leigh now had the saplings in her back garden. Mr Bell had contacted Miss Leigh but the emails had not been received. Councillors were still of the opinion that a hedgerow alongside the Playing Field was not a good idea, but as the saplings had been obtained by Miss Leigh for a community use, donating the saplings to ChEG to plant by their pond project in Lower Chedworth seemed a good suggestion. Mr Bell agreed to email Miss Leigh to explain the Parish Council's thinking.

Jubilee Oak: As there had been no response to the item in the Hill and Valley asking for suggestions of where to plant this. It was agreed to plant the tree in the far corner of the Playing Field. Mr Bell would liaise with Miss Leigh and invite her to arrange this.

Tuns Hill Triangle and Chapel Mowing: These had not required mowing this year.

PLANNING:

CD 7291/B Listercombe Cottage – Demolition & Replacement of Existing Building and Erection of Detached Garage – No objection.

12/04551/TCONR Pippins – Tree Works – No objection

12/04638/TCONR The Old Farm – Tree Works – No objection.

12/04728/TCONR Calveshill House – Tree Works – Mr Brister declared an interest and took no part in discussion - No objection.

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12/04729/TCONR Calveshill House – Tree Works – Mr Brister declared an interest and took no part in discussion - No objection

12/04758/TCONR Buttress House – Tree Works – No objection

Approval:

12/04551/TCONR Pippins – Tree Works

12/04638/TCONR The Old Farm – Tree Works

FINANCE:

1. Clerks Quarterly Telephone/Broadband Contribution £47.10, prop. J King, sec. L Gallagher.
2. Bibury (P/F Mowing October) £45.60, prop. J King, sec. P Sibbald.
3. Thames Water £15.57, prop. P Sibbald, sec. L Gallagher.
4. See Electrics (Works to Seven Tuns Defibrillator) £121.92, prop. P Sibbald, sec. A Bell.
5. Viking (Copier Toner) £47.06 Retrospective, prop. J King, sec. P Sibbald.
6. Zurich Municipal Insurance £454.49 Retrospective, prop. J King, sec. D Broad.
7. Council in receipt of £300.00 from The Chedworth Society (QDJ Surplus)

OTHER BUSINESS:

Items for Hill and Valley: Several items were identified to be included.

Councillors Giving a Reason for Non Attendance at Meetings: Mr King reported that he understood it was custom and practice at some other Parish Council's for Councillors to give a reason for non attendance at meetings which was recorded in the minutes. After some discussion it was agreed not to adopt this suggestion.

Mr Bell gave his apologies for the next meeting.

The meeting concluded at 9.56 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 10th December 2012 at 7.30 pm.

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Date.....