

CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 13th OCTOBER 2014

PRESENT: Mr A Bell, Mr D Broad, Mr J King, Mr R Richmond and Mrs E Broad (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Mr G Brister, Miss L Gallagher & Mr P Sibbald

As both the Chairman and Vice Chairman were absent from the meeting it was proposed by Mr Bell and seconded by Mr Broad that Mr John King takes the Chair for the meeting, agreed. Mr King then took the Chair.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 8th September 2014 were agreed and signed as a true record.

OPEN SESSION FOR THE PUBLIC:

a) Broadband: Mr Mark Aveline referred to his emailed report on the recent public meeting with Fastershire held in the Village Hall on October 2nd. It was agreed that it had been very useful although the current news was not very good, it was hoped to know more in January about progress. The village survey results had been very positive and reinforced the case for faster broadband. It was agreed that they could be passed on to Fastershire, since they contained no personal data. Mr Bell was concerned about the political nature of one of the survey questions regarding voting intentions and he suggested that this question should be removed from the final report. Mr Robertson reported on the costs involved in producing the survey which the Parish Council have agreed to cover up to £100.00. Invoices, for around £60.00, have been passed on to the Clerk.

b) Seven Tuns: Mr Martin Harrison gave an update on the Seven Tuns including a step by step report on what has happened since the pub finally closed in January 2014 and since the public meeting last March. Essentially, the owners say they have an approved leaseholder applicant in place and are waiting for the outcome of a legal process regarding the previous maintenance of the property. Several members of the public spoke and some suggestions on further action were put forward including a petition from the village delivered to Wellington/Criterion headquarters in London, publicity via our MP and compulsory purchase / community ownership. It was agreed that the Friends of the Seven Tuns team would be more effective if it worked under the umbrella of the Parish Council and that the next step would be to explore the various ideas before convening a further public meeting.

c) Tweedledum/dee: Residents from Lower Chedworth, who have formed an action group, spoke about the current planning application at Greenhill Farm and expressed concerns about the impact of construction work and traffic. Mr Derek Newman presented to the Parish Council a list of conditions that had been discussed with the applicants and which the group would be giving to CDC. It was suggested these could form the basis of the Parish Council submission to the planning application.

Chairman _____ *P. Sibbald*

MAIN MATTERS:

Communication between Parish Council and the Public: Mr King reported on the recent quarterly statistics provided by Mr Robertson about the website usage, which it was noted had increased in August and September, presumably due to residents looking at the Affordable Housing documents. He reported on problems experienced with sending an email alert regarding the road repairs recently, but this had been referred to the website supplier and had now been resolved. The Parish Council Facebook page had recently reappeared. It was agreed to ask Miss Gallagher to delete it and offer Mr Robertson's assistance if required.

Affordable Housing:

a) Update: In the absence of Mr Brister there was no update; his notes from the previous consultation meeting are still awaited.

MATTERS FOR UPDATING AND DISCUSSION:

Traffic in Village and Road Matters:

a) Fields Road and Community Speed Watch: Mr King reported on the “Kiddy Cops” scheme at the school. The Police had given two sessions to Years 5 & 6, which he had attended. Mr King suggested donating book tokens to be given as prizes for the design for the “Kiddy Cops” letter. It was proposed by Mr Bell and seconded by Mr Broad to donate up to £25.00, agreed. Mr Richmond pointed out that Fields Road was not the only stretch of road in the parish that needed focusing on regarding speeding traffic, the stretch of road up to the Airfield also experienced problems.

b) Grit Bin Lids: In hand with Mr Sibbald.

c) Highway Matters – Meeting with Paul Swift AMEY: Mr Sibbald had emailed around a report of his meeting with Paul Swift at which GCC Highways had agreed to cut verges, remove some self-seeded trees, cut back some overgrown hedges, clean gulleys and resurface badly potholed road areas. Temporary road closures are required for road patching and an email alert has been sent out accordingly.

A quote had been requested and received from Bibury for cutting the Tuns Hill triangle, a portion of this would be reimbursed by GCC Highways. It was proposed by Mr Broad and seconded by Mr Richmond to accept the quote of £120.00 + VAT from Bibury, agreed.

The mowing of the Old Chapel Graveyard was raised and it was agreed to ask Peter Heaps to quote for this. As this needed to be done before the next PC meeting it was agreed to approve a spend of up to last year's figure of approximately £120.

d) Provision of Sign for St Andrews Church: An email had been received from Mr Robert Young on behalf of the PCC asking for the Parish Council's support in obtaining an additional finger marked “Church” on the finger post at the top of Tuns Hill. It was agreed to request this to Mr Gray GCC Highways Manager, and copy to GCC Councillor Hodgkinson who had already indicated his support for this. It was felt that there is a road safety issue with people getting lost in steep and narrow country lanes and it was agreed to point this out.

Chairman _____ P. Sibbald

e) Traffic & Parking at St Andrews School: Mr King reported that this had been raised with the school by Mr David Musgrave who was invited to speak on this matter. Mr Musgrave outlined some of the problems experienced. When Council reconvened Mr King agreed to represent the Council and arrange a meeting to help sort out the problems if possible, bearing in mind that this had been discussed at length in previous years.

Mr King passed on the thanks of the School for the £50.00 donation for the direction signs.

Footpaths: The possible closure of the footpath by the Tweedledum/Tweedledee development site during construction works was raised. It was agreed to point out in our response to the planning application that the path should be reinstated after the building works. Also, it was pointed out that the footpath sign opposite Kimberley Cottage appeared to have been painted out. Mr Broad would look at this.

Items Arising from Email & Correspondence:

a) Community Energy Update – Email from ChEG: It was agreed to open the meeting to allow Mr Blackwell to speak on behalf of ChEG. Mr Blackwell reported on the renewable energy scheme that they had looked into and that there are two insuperable problems - the high cost of connecting to the grid and the unlikelihood of obtaining planning consent within the Cotswolds AONB.

b) Northleach Neighbourhood Plan Workshop Invitation: Noted.

c) Mobile Infrastructure Project GL0286 Chedworth: It was agreed that Mr Bell would pass the letter from Harlequin Group to the Broadband Working Party to follow up and investigate.

The Playing Field:

a) Fence Repairs & Broken Slip Rail: Mr Sibbald had obtained a further two quotes for £2,950 & £3,156 respectively making three quotes in total. It was proposed by Mr Bell and seconded by Mr Broad to accept the quote previously received from Landmark for £2,400 inc. VAT, agreed. Mr Sibbald and Mr Richmond would remove the existing fence.

b) Camping on the Playing Field: The Village Hall had received a request for a booking of the whole hall and the playing field for camping from the Folk Camps Society for 1st to 15th August 2015. Mr Broad explained that the hirers were a reputable organisation. He then declared an interest, as Village Hall Chairman, and joined the members of the public present and did not take any further part in discussion. The Parish Council felt that they wanted to support the booking as it would be financially lucrative for the Village Hall. After discussion, it was proposed by Mr Richmond and seconded by Mr Bell to allow the use of the field, subject to certain conditions, for a charge of £100.00 per week, agreed. The conditions, which would be passed back to the Village Hall for checking, included keeping the site tidy, organisers have appropriate insurance, camping is restricted to the perimeter of the playing field, no excessive noise and advance warning to neighbours. Mr King would inform the football team and also speak to the HVLTC regarding access to the tennis courts. Mr Broad retook his place at the table.

Chairman _____ P. Sibbald

Noticeboards:

a) Well Hill Refurbishment: In hand with Mr Sibbald.

Broadband Speeds: Mr Robertson had submitted two invoices for around £60.00 covering printing of posters, which the Clerk would deal with. Mr Bell's previous suggestion, that the question in the survey regarding voting intentions should be removed from the published survey results, was agreed.

Winter Emergency Plan: Mr King reported that the first review draft had been done incorporating the items previously identified, including water supply interruptions. After discussion it was agreed to go ahead and extend the plan to include major disasters/emergencies. It was agreed to drop winter from the title, it would become Community Emergency Plan.

The Seven Tuns – Update from The Friends of the Seven Tuns: After some further discussion it was agreed that Mr Broad would be the Parish Council liaison with the Friends of the Seven Tuns Group, which as suggested earlier in the meeting, would work under the umbrella of the Parish Council.

PLANNING:

14/04184/TCONR Doveswell Cottage – Tree Works

CD 3266/D Land at Greenhill Farm (Tweedledum/dee) – Erection of New Dwelling
It was agreed not to object to this, since the revised application was considered to be better than the existing approved permission, but to set out a list of conditions based on those that were suggested by the group of local residents. These included proper traffic management, verge protection, sound reduction, access from the A429 at Fossebridge only, reinstating the footpath, and retaining the existing barn as an agricultural building.

CD 9269/D Highfield, Fields Road – Amendment. It was agreed to object as before and also point out that the Parish Council believes having an additional dwelling on the plot is contrary to CDC policy.

Approval:

CD 4174/A Perran House - Extension

14/03856/TCONR Rookery Cottage – Tree Works

CD 5776/B Bleakmoor Cottage – Two Storey Extension & Windows

14/03453/TCONR Iolanthe – Tree Works

14/03489/TCONR Kimberley Cottage – Tree Works

CD 9422/A Old Village Stores – Garage (Revised Scheme) Representation from Mr & Mrs Sissons: This was noted and it was agreed to open the meeting to allow the applicant, Mrs Todd, to explain the application. The Chairman thanked Mrs Todd and then Council reconvened. No further action would be taken.

Chairman _____ *P. Sibbald*

FINANCE:

1. Bibury (P/F Grass Cut September) £96.00, prop. A Bell, sec. R Richmond
2. Viking (Photocopier Toner & Ink Cartridge) £77.82, prop. A Bell, sec. D Broad
3. Council in receipt of £45.00 Playing Field Rental Reimbursement from the Village Hall

OTHER BUSINESS:

Hill and Valley News: It was agreed to include an update on the Seven Tuns, the Greenhill Farm planning application, Folk Camp and Speeding.

Meeting Dates for 2015: These were circulated by the Clerk and noted.

The meeting concluded at 10.09 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Parish Council Meeting - Monday 10th November at 7.30 pm.

Chairman _____ P. Sibbald

Date _____ 10/11/14