

CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 8th DECEMBER 2014

PRESENT: Mr P Sibbald (Chairman) Mr D Broad, Mr J King, Mr R Richmond and Mrs E Broad (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Mr A Bell, Mr G Brister and Miss L Gallagher

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 10th November 2014 were agreed and signed as a true record.

Mr Broad reported that Miss Gallagher had asked in view of the recent Openness of Local Government legislation that it should be asked at the beginning of each meeting if the proceedings were being recorded.

OPEN SESSION FOR THE PUBLIC: Mr Richard Abraham of Absolams Orchard gave a brief explanation of his latest planning application for a parking bay and provided a plan. The application had not yet been received from CDC and depending when it was received would determine if it could be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting or if there would be comments by email. The Chairman thanked Mr Abraham and it was suggested that Councillors went to have a look before commenting.

County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson gave a brief update on GCC matters, mainly highways where he asked about the Council's experience of the work by AMEY, he also stated that part of the cost of the recent resurfacing work had been funded by his highways pot. Cllr Hodgkinson gave a brief update of the latest information on the "Missing Link" at the Air Balloon and he also gave a brief update of the latest position with provision of faster Broadband.

MAIN MATTERS:

Communication between Parish Council and the Public: Mr King spoke about the postal scam email alert he sent out recently. Some doubt had been expressed if this email sent from the police was a hoax. Mr King had checked this out with PCSO Andrea Shutt who had confirmed that it was genuine.

Affordable Housing

a) Update: Nothing further. It was agreed to ask Mr Brister to either send a report via email as soon as possible or report verbally to the next meeting. Mr King felt uncomfortable that Council had not discussed this since the public meeting which was three months ago.

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MATTERS FOR UPDATING AND DISCUSSION:

Traffic in Village and Road Matters:

- a) Fields Road and Community Speed Watch: Mr King reported that the book tokens paid for by the Parish Council had been presented. Also a further speed radar check session would be arranged soon.
- b) Grit Bin Lids: These had all now been painted and fitted by the Chairman & Mr King with a lot of help from Colin Peirce who was formally thanked for his assistance.
- c) Traffic & Parking at St Andrews School: Mr King reported that a meeting had been arranged with Mr Gray, GCC Highways on Thursday. Also a note had been sent to all immediate neighbours explaining the ideas that are being explored and asking for feedback.
- e) Follow up from Meeting with Paul Swift AMEY: The Chairman reported that he had been in contact with Paul Swift, who had confirmed that the hedge flailing was scheduled to be done shortly. He would also ensure that the verge cutting would be done properly next time. The Chairman also reported that he was keeping an eye on the Japanese Knotweed situation on Tuns Hill.

Footpaths: Nothing further.

Items Arising from Email & Correspondence:

- a) Out of Date Roadside Posters & Notices – Email from Mr Edelsten: Mr Edelsten expressed his concern that notices were not being taken down after the events had taken place. It was agreed to place an item in the next Hill and Valley asking people to remove notices and encouraging them to think if it is necessary to put up roadside notices as there were plenty of other ways to publicise events.

The Playing Field:

- a) Fence Repairs & Broken Slip Rail: The Chairman reported that he had met with the contractor and they hoped to start work in January.

Noticeboards:

- a) Well Hill Refurbishment: The new board was now in place and was felt to be an excellent job.

Broadband Speeds:

- a) Provision of Mast – Emails from Parishioners: It was reported that Mr Bell had written the item that had appeared in the Hill and Valley. Several emails had been received objecting to the provision of a mast mainly on health grounds. In Mr Bell's absence, it was agreed to open the meeting to allow Mr Robertson to explain. When Council reconvened it was agreed that the Council's position was still supportive of the MIP project to improve mobile reception and asked that the working party take note of the comments received and also to include these and some feedback from Harlequin in the next issue of Hill and Valley in February.

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Community Emergency Plan: Mr King reported on the recent trial and the debrief he had sent around. The provision of broadband at the Village Hall was raised. Mr Broad reported that the committee were currently looking into providing a low download cheaper option which would not be enough download speed for the Emergency Plan purposes. Mr Broad reported that the Village Hall Committee were happy to hear proposals from elsewhere. Mr Scott had suggested locating a standby generator, and the provision of road closed signs had been raised, but the legality of these were questioned and it was felt these should be provided properly through the police or GCC Highways. Mr King would review all the points that had arisen. The insurance for towing the Parish Council gritter was still of concern as the individuals who towed the gritter had to have cover on their own insurance.

The Seven Tuns:

- a) Update: It was agreed to open the meeting to allow Mr Harrison to give an update. Mr Harrison reported on the recent village meeting and the formation of the Seven Tuns Action Group.
- b) Retaining Wall – Email from Peter Grove: An email had been received from Mr Grove stating that work was being undertaken as a matter of urgency. It was agreed to report the matter to GCC Highways as it is becoming an issue of highway safety.

Lower End Graveyard Trees – Email from Mrs Blackwell: Mrs Blackwell had emailed raising concerns about some of the trees in the Graveyard. It was agreed to reply that the Parish Council had arranged for the trees to be looked at giving the resulting comments made by Mr Bell and stating that in view of this the Parish Council feels that no immediate action is necessary but will continue to monitor the situation.

Increase in Number of Parish Councillors - Email from Nigel Adams, CDC: Mr Adams had provided detailed information about the provision of nine Councillors for Chedworth instead of seven. Mr Adams pointed out that the Parish Council would have to make a case for an increase in Councillors and that there had not been a contested regular election in Chedworth since 1991. He suggested waiting until after the regular election in May to get an indication of the interest in being a Councillor as it was too late to get an increase granted before the May election.

Confidential Emails: Mr King had made enquiries of PCNet and there was no confidentially issue, no one other than the Councillors named and the Clerk could see the emails to and from the Councillors@chedworth-pc.org.uk email address.

Openness of Local Government Regulations 2014: This was noted. Mr Bell had raised awareness of this recent legislation. Miss Gallagher had requested that it be asked at the beginning of each meeting if the proceedings were being recorded.

Defibrillator Training: Mr King suggested that more training with the defibrillator and first aid be considered as it had been raised in connection with the Emergency Plan. The Chairman agreed to make enquiries from Martin Fagan of the CHT.

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PLANNING:

CD 1166/F Pike Farm - Conservatory - No objection but include comments suggested by Mr Bell in his email re external lighting.

CD 9269/D Highfield, Fields Road – Further Amendment – Object as before.

14/0518/TCONR Laurel Cottage – Tree Works – No objection

14/05260/TCONR Brockenhurst – Tree Works – No objection

Approval:

CD 3266/D Land at Greenhill Farm – Erection of New Dwelling. Mr King asked if we knew the outcome on the conditions that had been requested; Mr Broad referred him to the CDC website.

14/04575/TCONR Meadowside – Tree Works (no consultation)

CD 1441/F Adams Pool – New Access

Mr King raised that matter of The Orchard, additional stables, and Kimberley Cottage, alterations and extension, planning applications which had been received too late to be included on the agenda, but comments needing to be returned before the next meeting. He was particularly concerned about The Orchard application. It was agreed to ask for a deferment so it can be discussed at the next meeting but be mindful this may not be possible. It was further agreed to ask the applicant, Mrs Tice, for justification for this increase over and above what has already been approved so that Councillors can take them into account before commenting to CDC. There was also concern about the amount of external lighting. Mr Broad said that he would probably declare an interest in the Kimberley Cottage application because of its proximity to the Bandroom, but asked Councillors to look at it carefully.

FINANCE:

1. Clerks Quarterly Salary £585.00, prop. J King, sec. P Sibbald
2. Clerks Quarterly Mileage £9.65, prop. J King, sec. P Sibbald
3. J King (Kiddy Cops Gift Cards) £25.00, prop. P Sibbald, sec. D Broad
4. J King (Radio & First Aid Kit for Battle Box) £25.55, prop. P Sibbald, sec. D Broad
5. Bibury (Tuns Hill Cut & Playing Field Cut October 2014) £240.00, prop. J King, sec. P Sibbald
6. SLCC Membership £77.00, prop. D Broad, sec. J King
7. Adrian Fletcher (Grit Bin Lids) £190.00, prop. J King, sec. P Sibbald
8. Council in receipt of £6.96 Part Water Reimbursement from HVLTC
9. Possible Subscriptions to:
 - a) Get Mapping
 - b) Communities Parish & Local Councils

Mr King asked Councillors to look at both of these web sites with a view to possibly subscribing to them at a later date.

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OTHER BUSINESS:

Hill and Valley Report to the Parish Council – Email from Priscilla Burris: Mrs Burris had emailed pointing out that the term village was often used by the Parish Council instead of the correct term parish. It was agreed to reply assuring Mrs Burris that the Parish Council does not discriminate between the core of the village and the outlying parts of the parish, although some things do tend to be specific to different parts of the parish, and to assure her that the Parish Council has taken her comments on board and will endeavour to use the correct terminology in future. Mrs Burris had also raised the provision of a grit bin on the junction of the A429 and the Yanworth Road at Fossebridge in her emails with John King. It was agreed to reply that the Parish Council has sourced a suitable bin and Mr Sibbald will deliver it shortly.

Appointment of Ros Marsden to Hugh Westwood Trust: A note had been received from Ann Deamer asking the Parish Council to notify the Secretary of the HWET to confirm that Mrs Rosalind Marsden has been appointed by the Parish Council to serve on the Hugh Westwood Educational Trust, in succession to Mrs Ann Deamer.

The Clerk reminded Councillors that the precept would be included on the next agenda.

Mr King reminded the Council that in the absence of a Hill and Valley this month any important information could be sent out using the general village email system. It was also noted that no further responses had been received to the request for suggestions for items to be included in the budget, and it was agreed to send out a reminder on the village email system.

The meeting concluded at 9.02 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Parish Council Meeting - Monday 12th January 2015 at 7.30pm.

Chairman _____ *P. Sibbald*

Date _____ *12/1/15*