

CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 14th SEPTEMBER 2015

PRESENT: Mrs R Jess (Chairman) Mr A Bell, Mr D Broad, Mr I Morgan, Mr C Poulton, Mr I Robertson and Mrs E Broad (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Mr M Fulford

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 17th August 2015 were agreed and signed as a true record.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: The Chairman reminded Councillors of the need to declare interests as necessary.

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

The following items were brought forward on the agenda.

Improving Telecommunications:

- a) MIP: Notification had been received that the Government's Mobile Infrastructure Programme, set up to improve mobile coverage in rural areas, was to end. It was reported that the scheme was failing to provide the number of masts originally proposed and Government changes following the election had led to an August deadline being imposed for applications to be submitted. Mr Bell reported that initial investigations into the site off Horses Ash Lane had shown that a 20 metre mast would be effective in that location but no more work had been done. Councillors were unhappy that more progress had not been made by Arqiva and Harlequin on the site which had been suggested to them as a potential location back in April. It was agreed to write to express our disappointment and impress on those in charge the high level of support there was in the village for an improved mobile signal. Mr Bell would draft a letter which he would circulate to Councillors. Mr Bell also reported that there were other changes in the pipeline which may offer alternative ways of getting a mast to serve the village.
- b) Broadband: Mr Aveline had circulated a report on the Gigaclear Briefing that he had attended. Mr Broad had also attended. Mr Aveline told the meeting that the plan to bring superfast broadband to the village was progressing. He urged everyone who was keen to get the village linked up to the new fibre broadband to either register an interest or place an order on the Gigaclear website. This may help get the new service to the village more quickly. When Council reconvened it was agreed to publicise this on the website, in the Hill&Valley, on Facebook and on noticeboards. Mr Robertson suggested producing a separate leaflet for distribution in the village and agreed to speak to Gigaclear to see if they would fund the leaflet, otherwise it was proposed by Mr Bell and seconded by Mr Robertson to spend no more than £100.00 on this, agreed. Mr Robertson would put something together.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:

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Communication between Parish Council and the Public:

- a) The Website, Twitter, Facebook, H & V News, Newsletters: Mr Robertson reported that six Councillors had responded to the questionnaire and he had circulated the results. Mr Bell apologised for not having the time to complete the questionnaire. It was discussed as to whether the new website should be professionally designed or whether it would be better done in house. Mr Ray Hedger offered to assist with the design aspect and was duly thanked by the Chairman. It was agreed that Mr Robertson would liaise with Mr Hedger and report back to the next meeting. The working party were due to meet again. Facebook and Twitter were briefly discussed. Mr Robertson reported that it was possible to make Facebook publically accessible on the new website. It was agreed to discuss these further next month.
- b) Dropbox: Mr Robertson had circulated some advice on how to access this.
- c) Deciding on Parish Council Priorities: The Chairman reported that Mr Fulford hoped to present something to the October meeting.

Neighbourhood Plan – Village Meeting confirmed on 28th September 2015: Mr Morgan agreed to Chair this meeting.

Affordable Housing:

- a) Update on the proposals from Mr Tim Hamilton on the potential site for Affordable Housing off Fields Road: The Chairman reported that Mr Hamilton had contacted her to say he was awaiting some further guidance from central government to be announced. He was going away and would be in touch again on his return.
- b) Email from Mr Harrison regarding the Affordable Housing proposal off Fields Road: Mr Harrison was present at the meeting and was invited to speak about his email which had been circulated to Councillors. It was agreed to take note of his comments.

Traffic in Village and Road Matters:

- a) Traffic & Parking at St Andrews School: Mr Poulton gave a brief update, he will chase up the painting of the zigzag lines at the school if they are not done soon.
- b) Verges in Lower Chedworth: Mr Bell reported that he had still not heard anything from Mr Gray regarding setting up the meeting. It was agreed to chase this up again.
- c) Verges on Church Row: As above.
- d) Conservation Verges: Mr Bell reported that the Conservation Board are currently putting some information together for guidance.

e) Speeding in Chedworth: Mr Bell reported that Correx signs would be better for the '20 is Plenty Signage'. He had made enquiries and 10 signs would cost around £40.00. After some discussion it was proposed by Mr Robertson and seconded by Mr Poulton to go ahead and purchase 10 Correx signs, agreed. Mr Bell would arrange this and it was hoped they could then be put up fairly quickly.

f) Signs on Fields Road: An email reply had been received from Mr Gray. It was agreed to reply that that the Council would like him to provide costs for signs

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reading 'A Community Speedwatch Area'.

g) Parking at Cromwell House: This matter was raised by Mr Broad who said problems had occurred with tradesmen parking on the road while works are being undertaken on the house. It was agreed to include on the next agenda.

Footpaths:

a) MacMillan Way Footpath Marker at Setts Farm: Nothing further.

b) Problems with Footpaths around New Barn Farm: Nothing further.

c) Footpath in Field below Ballingers Row: No reply had been received from the landowner, it was agreed to chase this up again.

d) Letter to landowners re responsibilities relating to Rights of Way: Two responses had been received from landowners. Mr Bell suggested the possibility of finding a footpath warden, or wardens, who would help keep an eye on our many miles of paths. It was agreed to consider again at the next meeting.

e) Hartshill Footpaths: Mr Wilkinson had emailed with a plan of proposed diversions. Councillors discussed the proposals and it was proposed by Mr Morgan and seconded from the Chair that the Parish Council repeated their previous comment that they could only support the small diversion to KCH17 which moves the path into the field skirting around the vegetable garden. They were unable to support the other proposals to divert KCH18 or KCH15, agreed with five in favour.

f) Horses Ash Lane: Mr Bell raised the problem with Horses Ash Lane which is becoming very overgrown and will soon be impassable in places even for walkers. As this is a Class 5 Road and therefore not the responsibility of the adjoining land owners it was agreed to ask the County Council clear the path. Currently it is a job which could be carried out with a tractor and hedge flail but if it is left much longer then it will be a much more difficult job.

The Playing Field:

a) 2015/16 Football Season: The £200.00 rental for Playing Field has been received.

b) Active Together: The idea was publicised on the village Facebook page and several positive comments including one from a fitness instructor who has offered to help in our selection of equipment had been received. The Clerk had made enquires from Zurich Insurance and it will cost an extra £179.00 to cover up to four items up to the value of £6,000 which includes the extra public liability cover. It

was agreed to email to keep County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson up-to-date. Sovereign Play Equipment had been in touch and sent some information. It was agreed to pass this on to Alan McLellan.

c) Report on Playing Field from Cotswold Estates and Gardens & the Playing Field/Grass Keep Fence: The Grass Keep Field fence had been repaired by Mr Baker. There was an area on the playing field that had been damaged with tarmac left on it from the HVLTC resurfacing. The Chairman would speak to John Robson about this.

Community Emergency Plan: No volunteers had come forward. It was agreed to try to identify what work the various roles involve so that volunteers know exactly

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what they are committing to. Mr Bell asked if any progress had been made with the hand operated gritter that Mr Fulford was making enquiries about. The Chairman would speak to Mr Fulford about this.

Defibrillator Training: – The training session will be held on Friday 25th September at 6.30 pm. It was agreed to place posters on the noticeboards.

Membership of GAPTC: It was proposed from the Chair and seconded by Mr Morgan to join for £188.00 per year, agreed.

Bus Service: The Chairman had been in contacted by Gloucestershire County Council and asked to find out if anyone was suffering from their decision to stop the daily 854 bus service from the Village Hall to Cirencester. The bus was cancelled because so few people used the service. The County Council has told us that between 12th July and 28th August only 8 of the 41 buses had any passengers on them, so they want to know if they needed to consider putting on an alternative such as an on-demand service. It was agreed to place an item in the Hill and Valley asking anyone who had been inconvenienced by the stopping of the service to contact the Clerk or any of the Councillors. Mr Bell suggested volunteering the village as a trial location for driverless cars, as this was not on the agenda it was agreed to include next month.

Planning Training: It was felt the 26th August Training Event had been worthwhile although the best use had not been made of the time available. A cheque had been received from Mr Fulford to cover the cost of his place at the training event as he had been unable to attend due to being held up in traffic. It was agreed not to accept the cheque and the Chairman would return it to Mr Fulford.

Items Arising from Email & Correspondence:

a) Freedom of Information Request regarding Chedworth Parish Poll: An email had been received from Nigel Adams, CDC and was noted.

Mr Bell stated that the pads on two of the defibrillators expired in November and some replacements were required.

PLANNING:

15/03507/TCONR Hawks Lane House – Tree Works
15/03509/TCONR Brook House – Tree Works
CD 9478 Newport Farm – Amendment
15/03777/TCONR Buttress House – Tree Works
15/03787/TCONR Fossebridge Inn – Tree Works
15/03857/TCONR Pippins – Tree Works
15/03835/TCONR Buttress House – Tree Works

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FINANCE:

1. Clerks Quarterly Salary £592.00, prop. I Robertson, sec. C Poulton
2. Clerks Quarterly Mileage £9.65, prop. R Jess, sec. A Bell
3. Bibury (P/F Grass Cut August) £49.20, prop. A Bell, sec. D Broad
4. A+B Fencing (replacement shed) £648.00, prop. R Jess, sec. D Broad
5. Iain Robertson (Parish Council Election Leaflets) £57.10, prop. D Broad, sec. A Bell
6. Chedworth Village Hall Rental £173.70, prop. C Poulton, sec. R Jess
7. Chedworth Village Hall Cupboard Rental £52.00, prop. I Robertson, sec. A Bell
8. Council in receipt of £200.00 Playing Field rental from Chedworth Cavaliers
9. Council in receipt of £16.85 Grass Keep Water reimbursement from Mr Baker
10. Council in receipt of £200.00 Playing Field rental from Folk Camp
11. Council in receipt of £1787.00 Part Precept from CDC
12. Playing Field Line Marking: A reply had been received from the Folk Camp stating that the request was made following the Parish Council's ruling that no vehicles should be driven onto the pitch and it seemed a reasonable request that the Parish Council should, by marking the confines of the pitch, enable them to comply with this condition. They did not feel that Folk Camps Society has any liability, financial or moral, to meet the costs of this operation. It was agreed to reply that, having considered the response and looked again at the agreement which the Council had with the Folk Camp Society, the Council apologised for asking the organisation to cover the costs of marking the pitch.
13. 2014/15 Annual Audit: The completion of the Audit was noted and necessary notice had been displayed. No fee was payable. The Clerk had the report from the external auditor which she would circulate.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Hill and Valley News: Items to be included in the October edition were agreed.
The Chairman would write the article as usual.

The meeting concluded at 9.55pm.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 19th October 2015 at 7.30 pm.

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Date.....