

CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 13th FEBRUARY 2017

PRESENT: Mrs R Jess (Chairman) Mr D Broad, Mr G Broad, Mr M Fulford, Mr I Morgan, Mr C Poulton, Mr I Robertson & Mrs E Broad (Clerk)

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 23rd January 2017 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: Anne Collier, on behalf of the residents of Fossecross, outlined the objections of the residents to the Hare and Hounds planning application.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:

16/05371/FUL The Hare & Hounds – Erection of 33 hotel bedrooms and dining pavilion, creation of car parking and new access and use of barn as plant room: A resolution signed by Councillors Morgan & Poulton to revisit the decision made at the 23rd January meeting was received by the Clerk prior to the start of the meeting. The Chairman took a vote on this and it was agreed six votes in favour with one abstention. After some discussion it was proposed by Mr Morgan and seconded by Mr Poulton that further to our previous objection on highways grounds along with various design comments the Parish Council would like to also add an objection on design grounds. On further reflection Parish Councillors felt that the timber and corrugated metal roof of the letting rooms were out of keeping in the AONB, agreed with one abstention. It was further proposed by Mr Fulford and seconded by Mr D Broad to also request that they consider imposing a noise restriction on the development to prevent disturbance to neighbouring residents, agreed.

Affordable Housing:

- a) To approve the content of a new Housing Needs Survey: Mr Morgan had circulated the proposed survey to Councillors prior to the meeting. The Chairman was concerned that the house price bands had not been amended as agreed at the meeting between The Chairman, Mr Fulford & Mr Morgan. It was agreed to remove the bottom amounts and add further amounts to the top of the list. It was further agreed to add a list of where people obtain their information from in the supplementary questions. The Chairman would email a suggested list to Mr Morgan for inclusion. Mr Morgan would further liaise with Martin Hutchings.
- b) To decide a timetable for its circulation: It was agreed to arrange distribution with the March edition of the Hill & Valley. Mr Morgan would liaise with Martin Hutchings to obtain the printed up surveys and also liaise with David Edelsten about delivery.

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An email had been received from Mr Baker expressing concerns about the Housing Needs Survey and the proposal from Mr Hamilton. It was agreed to open the meeting to allow Mr Baker to speak. When Council reconvened the Chairman assured Mr Baker that there was no connection with the Parish Council survey and Mr Hamilton's plans to provide affordable housing on the land off Fields Road.

Traffic in Village and Road Matters:

a) Queen Street: Mr Fulford gave a brief update. The Chairman thanked Mr Fulford for all of his work on this and it was felt that it was necessary to keep the pressure on Danny Taylor at GCC Highways to get the work undertaken in the next financial year.

b) Winter Maintenance Provision:

i) Location of the Salt Supply: Mr Robertson reported that Mr Hamilton was happy for the salt supply to be relocated at the Airfield and had asked the Parish Council to buy padlock for the gate. It was agreed that Mr Robertson would liaise with Hamilton about moving salt and also purchase a padlock.

c) Verges in the Village:

i) Cutting of Tuns Hill Triangle: Mr Robertson informed the Parish Council that Mr Sibbald and Mr Hamilton were interested in creating a wild flower area on the triangle at the top of Tuns Hill. After some discussion it was agreed to ask Bibury to undertake a single cut and clear with no weedkill at this time to allow Mr Sibbald & Mr Hamilton to carry out their plans.

ii) Overgrowing Trees and Shrubs on to Highway: It was agreed to arrange a meeting with AHR David Findlay and discuss areas which need advice/action

iii) Overgrowing Vegetation from Private Land: It was agreed to write to Mr Young, regarding the School House over growth from bottom of garden, the Brosch's, regarding over growth from scrubs growing over the wall on the corner by the School Land. The Phillip's regarding the Box hedge at the bottom of their garden (eXbox to notice board) as noted on the Chairman's survey of Nov 2016. The owner of the Old Vicarage regarding the field above Old Vicarage/Tuns – overhanging brambles and Ivy opposite the triangle.

iv) Overgrowing vegetation:

a) Flailing of verges undertaken on 3/2/17: An email had been received from Mr Hamilton expressing dismay at the work carried out by the Council's contractor to his trees. It was agreed to write to apologise for the work carried out. It was further agreed that some Councillors will tidy up the rubbish themselves later this week.

b) Clearance of vegetation by School along bottom of their site: It was agreed to write and thank the School for arranging for this to be done.

c) Clearance of overgrowth by vicarage on corner of Cheap St/Wagon and Horses: It was agreed to write and thank the Vicar for arranging for this to be done.

d) Part clearance of the overgrowth from the PC land at the top of School Hill: The Chairman thanked Mr Fulford for doing this.

Footpaths:

a) Footpath Wardens: Mr Robertson reported that he was currently working on the website to make reporting problems easier.

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b) Footpaths around Hartshill: The Chairman reported that she had still not been able to contact Philip Coates from the Cotswold Wardens. It was felt to be a good idea to walk the paths when the weather improves to ensure they are kept open.

Playing Field:

a) Request for use by Cirencester Athletics Club for Annual Run on 9th April 2017: It was agreed to allow the use of the playing field for the event and grass keep for parking for £100.00.

b) To decide how to alleviate the Mole problem on the Playing Field: The Chairman had obtained a quote from Able Pest Control of £132.00 to deal with the moles on the playing field. It was agreed to ask them to go ahead.

Parish Council land by Tennis Courts:

i) To receive an update on the steps taken too remove the pile of waste on the land: Members are planning to dispose of the pile of rubbish which has accumulated under the trees on the land adjoining the tennis courts. It is their intention to undertake this work on 25th February when the plan is to move the rubbish onto the grass keep field where it will be burnt. It was agreed to write to HVLTC to inform them of the arrangements and ask if they have any objection. It was also agreed to inform Mr & Mrs Baker.

Parish Council Event held on January 28th 2017

i) To receive a report on the event: It was felt to have been a useful event which had been moderately well attended.

Opportunity from EE to bring better Mobile Coverage to Chedworth: Mr Robertson reported that EE were looking at the whole project and it was unlikely for there to be any progress this year. Mr David Broad circulated a letter which the Village Hall intended to send out in the village and information from a company called Shared Access who were currently in negotiation with the Village Hall Committee to site a mobile pole in the Village Hall car park. It was agreed to include on the agenda for the next meeting.

Village Charities: Mr Robertson reported that all charities except one had provided a statement and a document would now be drawn up for approval.

Chapel Graveyard

i) To receive an update on the suggestion that Mr & Mrs Blackwell should carry out maintenance work on the graveyard in the light of the communication from the insurance company: A reply had been received from Mr & Mrs Blackwell confirming their intentions and it was agreed to forward this to the insurance company and answer their questions.

ii) Contract for cutting of Chapel Graveyard: It was agreed to ask Bibury to carry out up to two cuts at the graveyard during the coming year. It was further agreed to ask Mr & Mrs Blackwell to notify the Clerk when they think that a cut is required.

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Safe Storage: The Chairman had photographed the relevant documents and placed them in Dropbox. She asked Councillors to have a look to see if they were of good enough quality before she gets them professionally scanned.

Abandoned Vehicle at The Hemplands: Mr Morgan reported that he had not been able to find anything about the ownership of the land through the land registry. Mr David Broad offered to make further enquires and report back to the next meeting, this was agreed.

Defibrillators:

a) To consider what action should be taken on the advice given by the Ambulance Trust in relation to accessibility of the defibrillators i.e. that they should not be in locked cabinets: It was agreed that the access codes available by marking them on the boxes. Mr David Broad agreed to do this.

b) To consider if the Parish Council should hand over responsibility for the defibrillators to an individual or group: The management of the defibrillators has always been slightly confused as they were purchased by third parties while the responsibility now falls on the Parish Council to look after them. It was agreed that the Parish Council would now take on formal responsibility for them as a village asset. The Chairman reported that according to the Heartbeat Trust website the checks on the Tuns & eXbox defibrillators have not been done since December, if the checks are not up to date there is a danger that the defibrillator will be removed from the ambulance trust list. It was agreed to email Mr Sibbald & Mr Newman to point if they are having difficulties in carrying out the checks they should let us know and we can arrange for them to be done. The Chairman agreed to draw up some guidelines to send out which should help us all ensure that the defibrillators are always available if needed.

c) To consider if the Parish Council wishes to advise villagers that they should be aware of their grid reference in order to assist the emergency services and how they could assist in providing the information: Mr Fulford had circulated an email explaining how people can obtain their grid references on-line. The Chairman would include the relevant web address in the Hill & Valley.

GAPTC notification that grants are available for websites & laptops purchased since April 2015 to comply with the Transparency Code for smaller authorities: Mr Robertson agreed to have a look at the criteria and see if this was worth pursuing.

To consider a proposal to put the Parish Council accounts online for Councillor only access: Mr Robertson explained that he would like to have something like a "live" spreadsheet that contains the budget, all transactions YTD, spending against each part of the budget and the bank balances placed in the PC Dropbox folder. After some discussion it was felt that the budget update currently updated monthly by the Chairman & Clerk was sufficient for Councillors requirements but this would now be sent out immediately following the meeting with the "to do" list.

Hill & Valley News: Several items were agreed to be included in the March edition which would be written by the Chairman

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Annual Parish Meeting – Monday 20th March 2017: It was agreed to include this in the Hill & Valley item.

PLANNING:

- 17/00106/TCONR The Woolpack – Tree Works
- 17/00119/TCONR The Loft Green Close – Tree Works
- 17/00128/TCONR Iolanthe – Tree Works
- 17/00156/TCONR The Old Bakery, Queen Street – Tree Works
- 17/00514/TCONR Evenlode – Tree Works
- 17/00543/TCONR Chedworth House – Tree Works

Proposed planning application at Cobblers Cottage: The owners had sent the plans through prior to the meeting so they could get feedback from the Parish Council before applying for planning permission. After a brief discussion it was agreed to reply that the Parish Council considered their plans and Councillors had no objections to their proposals. Mr Fulford agreed to draft some wording to include with the reply regarding the provision for the charging of electric vehicles on both of the parking areas proposed.

FINANCE

1. Clerks Quarterly Telephone/Broadband Contribution £71.80, prop. C Poulton sec. G Broad
2. Philip Dickenson (Grass Keep Fence £450.00 + VAT) £540.00, prop. I Robertson, sec. C Poulton
3. Appointment of Internal Auditor for the 2016/17 Annual Audit – It was proposed from the Chair and seconded by Mr Fulford to appoint Mr Iain Selkirk, agreed.

The meeting concluded at 9.46pm.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 13rd March 2017 at 7.30pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....