

CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 8th MAY 2017

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

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN: Mrs Ros Jess was proposed by Mr Broad and seconded by Mr Fulford, agreed. Mrs Jess signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office book.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN: Mr David Broad was proposed by Mr Morgan and seconded by Mr Poulton, agreed. Mr Broad signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office book.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 10th April 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: Nothing was raised at this point but the Chairman said she intended to bring several items forward on the agenda due to the members of the public present.

Affordable Housing:

a) Visit by Martin Hutchings, GRCC, to consider the results of the Housing Needs Survey and decide if any action is required as a result: It was agreed to open the meeting to allow Martin Hutchings to present the results of the Housing Needs Survey. Mr Hutchings corrected a couple of errors in the survey report which show a reduction in the number of affordable homes required in the village. Forty-one per cent of households responded and the answers given show a need for three low cost shared ownership homes and one affordable rented home. The previous survey showed a need for nine affordable homes. Just over a third (34%) of those who filled out the questionnaire would support some affordable development in the village, while 30% would not and 33% answered 'maybe'. When Council reconvened and after some discussion it was agreed to accept that we have received the survey and discuss further at the next meeting. The Chairman thanked Martin Hutchings for his work on the survey and coming along this evening. Mr Morgan was currently analysing the Parish Council questions that were delivered with the survey and would report to the next meeting.

Opportunity to bring better Mobile Coverage to Chedworth:

a) The Chairman reported on the site visit by Maxema and CITL held on April 26 which she attended with Mr Morgan. Plans had been received which were considered and it was agreed to approve them with the following provisos:- a) The colour of the cabinets will be Ral6009 Fir Green. b) The pole, dishes and antenna will be timber coloured. c) The height of the pole will be capped at 15m and power to the site will be underground from a location to be agreed. It had been understood that the pole would provide signal for O2 and Vodafone but have now been told that initially it will only be used by O2 – although it is Vodafone which is building it. It is hoped that once the pole is operational pressure by customers will persuade Vodafone to connect into the pole. It was also agreed to write to CDC stating that the Parish Council hopes that they will look

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favourably on the new site which less obvious in the landscape but provides better coverage to the areas of the village which currently have no mobile signal. It was further agreed to contact Chris Alexander of Tanners Solicitors, who had looked over the Heads of Terms for us, and ask that now that the Council has now reached a position where it requires a solicitor to act on its behalf in respect of arranging a lease with the company for a site on its land, to ask him to provide us with an estimate for acting on the Council's behalf. Maxema had already agreed to cover legal costs up to £750.00, if the estimate came to within this figure it was agreed to go ahead. An email had been

received from a contractor working for GallifordTry who has been instructed by Vodafone to carry out a trial dig in the position of the proposed mast in the Grass Keep field asking to come in on Wednesday 17th May. It was agreed to reply stating we are happy for them to carry out the works as described and giving them the padlock code.

Footpaths around Hartshill: An email had been received from Mr Wilkinson requesting the Council's opinion on his proposals to close or divert a number of paths across his land. He has made amendments to the original proposals but the overall effect would be the loss of a number of well walked paths. After some consideration it was agreed to reply that Councillors had previously considered a similar request in 2015 and at that time agreed that they would support a short diversion, preferably by way of a permissive path, which took the footpath away from his property and into the field behind the kitchen garden. They also agreed at that time that they would not support any footpath closures. At the meeting on Monday Councillors reaffirmed their previous view and agreed that they would not support the closures. It was felt that Mr Wilkinson's desire for greater security could be achieved if a gate was placed at the end of the drive and appropriate signs which clearly marked the paths would help ensure that walkers remained on the footpaths. It was agreed to copy the email to Mike Barton, GCC PROW Philip Coates, Cotswold Wardens, Martine Tyler, GCC PROW & Paul Hodgkinson. County Councillor.

Chedworth Show: A request had been received for £250.00 towards the Chedworth Show which would be held in August. It was agreed to open the meeting to allow members of the public to speak. Mr Pierce explained what the money would be used for. When Council reconvened, concern was expressed that last year a good profit was made and some of the money donated to charity but the Parish Council had no control over where it's donation went. Mr G Broad suggested that if a profit was made the £250.00 should go to a charity approved by the Parish Council. After some discussion it was proposed by Mr D Broad to donate £250.00 with no stipulation, this was seconded by Mr Robertson, an amendment was proposed by Mr Fulford which was seconded from the Chair, to donate £250.00 towards the running costs of the Chedworth Show and if a profit was made the Parish Council would nominate a charity within the village that their donation would go to. The amendment was voted on and was carried with 4 votes in favour with 1 against.

Traffic in Village and Road Matters:

- a) Queen Street: Notification had been received from GCC Highways that work to fix the flooding problem on Tuns Hill is to be carried out between 5th June and 17th June meaning the road will be closed while the work is carried out.
- b) Overhanging Vegetation from private property: A reply had been received from the tenant at The Cottage, Middle Chedworth stating the tree cutting on the roadside would be done.
- c) Drainage & Flooding problems on Calves Hill: An email had been received from Philip Needham of Brook Cottage who has asked for our help in solving a problem of flooding from the highway which he has at his house on Hawkes Lane. Some work has been carried out but that this has not been effective. It was agreed to contact Danny Tylor at GCC Highways asking if he would

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meet with Councillors on site. Mr Fulford volunteered to attend the meeting.

- d) Cutting of Tuns Hill on a regular basis: It was agreed to ask Bibury to cut the triangle & remove the arisings. The Clerk was given the authority to ask for cuts for the remainder of the year when required up to the three cuts included in the budget.

Footpaths:

- a) Footpath Wardens: Mr Robertson had nothing further to report.
- b) Footpaths around Hartshill: Dealt with earlier on the agenda.
- c) Stiles on Parish Council land: The Chairman reported that the stile between the Football field and the grass keep field needed a new lower step. Mrs Baker volunteered from the audience to get it repaired and was duly thanked by the Chairman.

Diggers Field: The Chairman reported that the Diggers had removed most of their stuff off site although the ground was very uneven it was hoped this may be sorted when the mast works are undertaken.

Village Charities: Mr Robertson reported that an amended 2nd version of the Chedworth Charities Guide had been circulated and this was felt to be more acceptable. It was agreed that it would be printed as a separate leaflet and be distributed with the Hill & Valley. The cost would be in the region of £40.00.

Defibrillators: The Chairman reported that the eXbox & Seven Tuns defibrillator reports were outstanding again. It was agreed to email a reminder if these were not updated soon. Mr Broad was thanked for painting the codes on the boxes and it was agreed to include an item in the Hill & Valley about how to use the defibrillator in the autumn. Mr Fulford assured Councillors that should be defibrillator have to be used the devise talks you through how to use it.

To receive a report from the sub-group about the options for rapidly disseminating messages from the Parish Council throughout the village: Cllr's G Broad, Morgan & Robertson had met to discuss this. Mr Robertson reported that the idea that was being suggested was creating a number of message boards which can be easily put out in prominent locations around the village warning people that there was an issue which needed their attention. Those who have access to the internet could then check out our website and those who don't could give one of the Councillors a ring to find out what was happening. Mr Robertson agreed to cost this out and report back to the next meeting.

In preparation for the next budget setting activity, we should seek the views of villagers and village organisations regarding the Parish Council budget for the forthcoming financial year. By doing this, we could gather valuable information and support for potential and, possibly, increased expenditure within Chedworth's precept for 2017/18: Mr Poulton asked for this to be included on the agenda. It was felt that the Parish Council supplementary questions circulated with the Housing Needs Survey would go some way towards addressing this.

PLANNING:

17/01300/FUL Bliss Cottage – New Vehicular Access & Parking – No objection 17/01306/TELEC Land off Fields Road – Notification of Mobile Phone Pole – Objection 17/01292/FUL 21 The Hemplands – Extension
17/01735/TCONR Old Railway Embankment, Queen Street – Tree Works

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17/00737/TCONR Mole End, Queen Street – Tree Works

The Chairman reported that although the breach of planning rules at Highfields was not included on the agenda, a reply had been received from the case officer at CDC stating that no breaching of planning rules can be enforced until the property is occupied. It is currently unoccupied and up for sale, but it was agreed to keep an eye on the situation.

FINANCE:

1. Clerks Quarterly Telephone/Broadband Contribution £57.60 (Telephone/Stamps in Budget), prop. M Fulford, sec. G Broad
2. Chedworth Show – To consider the request for £250.00. Dealt with earlier on the agenda.
3. Council in receipt of £280.00 half year Grass Keep rental from Mr Baker
4. 2016/17 Annual Audit Return – Sections 1 & 2 were considered by Council in that order and signed as required. The Clerk reported that accounts were due to go to Mr Selkirk on Thursday. Mr Morgan reported that he had been undertaking a quarterly review of the accounts with the Clerk and that there were no discrepancies and all payments had been approved. Mr Roberson asked if the item it relates to in the budget could be identified on the agenda. The Clerk confirmed this had been done. He also asked when the precept would be received. The Clerk responded that this would be in two payments, one due now, and the other in October.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Election of one Representative to Chedworth Village Hall Committee for one year: Mr Fulford confirmed that he did not wish to seek re-election. After a long discussion where several problems currently facing the Village Hall were identified, no volunteer came forward, it was therefore agreed to consider again at the next meeting.

Appointment of one trustee to the Chedworth Community Lands Charity for four years: Andy Miles was currently the

trustee and the Chairman confirmed he was willing to stand again. Mr Robertson stated that he felt the vacancy should be advertised to the village. After some discussion it was proposed by Mr Fulford and seconded from the Chair to ask Andy Miles to continue for a further four year term, an amendment was proposed by Mr Robertson and seconded by Mr Morgan to advertise the vacancy to the village. The amendment was voted on first and was lost, the first proposal was then voted on and was agreed with 4 votes for, 2 votes against & 1 abstention. It was felt that in future appointments should be advised to the Council before they are due to be filled so steps to fill the appointment can be agreed in advance.

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

The meeting concluded at 10.00pm.

NEXT MEETING: Parish Council Meeting - Monday 12th June 2017 at 7.30pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....