

CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 8th JANUARY 2018

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 13th November 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: Mr Harrison stated that the Chedworth Conservation Area Statement, which was adopted in 1998, was still a valid document. Rosanne Dickenson reported that she had received complaints about the overgrown state of the Churchyard. The Chairman stated that the Churchyard was the responsibility of the PCC and not the Parish Council who only give an annual donation to the PCC towards the cost. The Chairman suggested including the item on the next agenda. Mrs Dickenson was also unhappy about the recent hedge cutting along the stretch of road from the old railway line to the Farm Shop. The Chairman explained that this was highway verge and pedestrians had to be able step off the road on to the verge, but her comments would be noted.

The Chairman invited Tom Watt to speak and explain his concerns regarding the planning system contained in his recent email. Mr Watt outlined his concerns about several applications which had been allowed in the village recently where the Parish Council, Chedworth Society and local residents views were not taken into account and asked if the criteria had changed recently. When Council reconvened several Councillors spoke on this matter. The Chairman said that she was not aware of any changes recently and the Parish Council was always only a consultee.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:

Opportunity to bring better Mobile Coverage to Chedworth:

- a) To receive an update on the installation of the mast: Mr Fulford reported that the pole was now installed and was awaiting the power supply to be connected by SSE.
- b) To note that the order has been placed for the power supply to the cabinet with SSE and the reimbursement has been received from Telelink: This item was covered above.
- c) To agree that a minimum of 2 councillors will inspect the works at the Diggers field and Grass Keep field and agree any restoration works which are required once the contractors have completed their work: The Chairman had circulated an email from Mrs Baker suggesting that the trench across the field be seeded so it is reinstated properly. It was proposed from the Chair and seconded by Mr Fulford that Mr Robertson & Mr Poulton would inspect the field when the contractors had finished, agreed. Mr Robertson had contact details for Telelink for passing on any problems.
- d) To received an update on the tree screening of the mast site: Nothing further.

Traffic in Village and Road Matters:

- a) To consider the problems encountered in the recent bad weather and decide on any urgent action.
Points to be discussed to include: i) Requesting reinstatement of the old gritting route. ii) Location

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of salt supplies and provision of supplies. iii) Reduced snow warden plough routes. iv) Update to the Emergency Plan. Mr Fulford had circulated a Winter Emergency plan prior to the meeting which included points that the gritting route by GCC has been changed by them (in secret) and now only includes Fields Road and none of the roads within the village. This causes issues with the distribution of current grit bins and the amount of salt in store which are both insufficient given that around 70% of the roads which use to be gritted are no longer. The snow plough operational procedures have been revised and there is now great onus on the Snow Warden to contact GCC rather than the other way around. There is no ‘trigger point’ for the emergency plan coming into force and then no established and available coordination team to actively manage this not any available budget for them to use. The area wardens do not appear to understand the requirements of their role or be willing to actively take action in line with the plan. The Chairman invited County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson to explain how he had been trying to assist. He also explained that he had asked for an urgent meeting on site with Danny Taylor at GCC Highways as soon as possible to address all of the issues encountered. It was agreed that Mr Fulford & Mr D Broad would attend this meeting. The Chairman had been attempting to gain further salt supplies from GCC Highways for the last week or so, this had still not been delivered. It was agreed to express in the strongest terms that the gritting route through the village should be reinstated. It was agreed to invite Vernon Smith, the GCC Cabinet Member for Highways, to attend the next meeting to discuss the situation we faced in the village during the recent bad weather caused by the actions of the highways department. It was further agreed to meet with Mrs Hamilton, the Snow Warden, to see what we could do to help ensure that the County Council provides the best equipment to improve the snow ploughing arrangements and to discuss the Adverse Weather Plan and how this should be used in the best interests of the village. It was agreed that Mr Fulford and Mr D Broad would attend the meeting. Mr Fulford also suggested that it would be a good idea to locate a small shed adjacent to Fields Road in the location of the recycling bins in which we would like to store salt and other supplies needed in bad weather. It was agreed to write and ask the Village Hall Committee for permission to do this. It was further agreed that Mr Robertson and Mr Fulford would update the emergency plan and work out how it can be triggered if required.

- b) Verge Management: Mr Fulford reported that the trial cut had not been done yet.
- c) To receive an update on the hedge/verging cutting: Mr Fulford reported that some of the cutting had been done by Brian Brazington but he still had a couple of hours left to do. The Chairman was concerned about the bits of tree that had been brought down recently and were on some highway verges. Councillor Hodgkinson suggested this be reported using the 0800 number. The Chairman agreed to report these to highways.
- d) Tuns Hill Triangle: A cut had been undertaken back in November.
- e) Flooding problem on Tuns Hill: An email reply had been received from Danny Taylor, GCC stating that they would be keeping an eye on the flooding situation. He did not address our second point about the damaged wall and it was agreed to remind him about this again.

Footpaths:

a) Proposed Diversion & Extinguishment of Public Footpaths at Hartshill: An email had been received from GCC PROW asking for the Parish Council's views on these proposals. After some consideration it was proposed by Mr D Broad and seconded by Mr Morgan that the Parish Council could support the longer diversion from A to D but oppose plans to close section D to E and D to G as this is a popular section of path which if closed forces walkers back up the valley side and down through the woods on KCH10 which is a steep section with steps, agreed. It was agreed to point out that the Parish Council has previously been consulted on alternative proposals by Mr Wilkinson and have advised him that we would support proposals to divert the section of path marked C to D on the plan.

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The Council consulted with villagers when previous proposals were put forward and the general consensus was that loss of any footpaths should be resisted.

b) Footpath Wardens: Mr Robertson reported that there were a few fallen trees on footpaths reported during the recent adverse weather. Mr Fulford reported a fence down on the footpath by his house. The Chairman reported on the path by the cricket pitch which was nearly impassable. She understood that Manor Farm were to contact the Parish Council regarding this but to date nothing had been received.

To consider the missing Footpath Sign at Horses Ash Lane/Green Lane Junction: The Chairman would pass this on to the Cotswold Wardens.

The Playing Field:

a) To consider the provision of Rope and Stakes for marking off the parking area: Nothing further.

The Chapel Graveyard:

a) To receive an update on the removal of ivy from gravestones: It was felt that a good job had been done by Bibury. It was also noted that the notices explaining how the graveyard was being maintained were still outstanding.

First Aid Training:

a) To receive an update on the first aid training arranged for January 2018: The Chairman reported that the course was full with 12 people and she had a waiting list.

Chedworth Village Hall:

a) Parish Council representative on the Village Hall Committee: A reply had been received from Nigel Adams CDC regarding a special dispensation being granted allowing those members who are also Village Hall trustees to partake in decision making. Mr Adams replied that following consultation with the Monitoring Officer and as the Council would not become inquorate if all members who are also trustees do not participate, it would be reasonable and prudent to err on the side of caution especially if matters of a financial nature were being debated and voted upon. It was agreed to contact Mr Adams again asking whether it would be acceptable for the members of the Council who are Village Hall trustees to remain in meetings and take part in the debate but NOT to vote.

b) To agree the content of a letter to be sent by the Parish Council to the Chedworth Village Hall Committee, in advance of their application for funding which, is anticipated, to be presented at the PC Meeting on February 12th 2018: Mr Poulton had asked for this item to be included on the agenda. Mr Poulton said that he wish to have confirmation that the Village Hall accounts were being audited. Mr Morgan said that he was currently undertaking this task for the Village Hall Committee. This would be done before the Parish Council further debated a donation to the Village Hall.

To agree that the trustees of the Chedworth Allotment Charity should be written to asking if they would like to continue as trustees or would prefer to hand over the role to others in the Parish: Mr Robertson asked for this to be included on the agenda. After some discussion it was agreed to write to the two Parish Council appointees whose term of office comes to an end in May and see if they wished their name to be put forward to the Council when the new appointment is discussed.

PLANNING:

17/04701/TCONR Silver Spring – Tree Works

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17/04924/TCONR Meadowside – Tree Works

18/00008/TCONR Pippins – Tree Works

1. Planning Matters:

- a) To consider the email from Tom Watt: Dealt with earlier on the agenda.
- b) To note the email from Martin Harrison regarding the Ethans Orchard planning application

FINANCE:

1. Clerks Quarterly Salary £614.00 (*Clerks salary in budget*) Retrospective, prop. M Fulford, sec. C Poulton
2. Clerks Quarterly Mileage £9.65 (*Mileage in budget*) Retrospective, prop. I Robertson, sec. M Fulford
3. Castle Water £55.98 (*Amount reimbursed not included in budget*) Retrospective, prop. R Jess, sec. G Broad,
4. Chedworth Village Hall Rental 2016/17 £227.50 (*Village Hall Rental in budget*)Retrospective, prop. M Fulford, sec. G Broad
5. SLCC Subscription £72.00 (*Subscriptions in budget*)Retrospective, prop. M Fulford, sec. I Robertson
6. Bibury (Tuns Hill Cut) £180.00 (£150.00 + VAT) (*Tuns Hill Cut in budget*) Retrospective, prop. I Morgan, sec. G Broad
7. Southern Electric Power Distribution (Power Cabinet) £3,451.37 (£2,876.14 + VAT) Retrospective, prop. M Fulford, sec. I Robertson
8. Bibury (Works in Lower End Graveyard) £264.00 (£220.00 + VAT) (*Lower End Graveyard in budget*), prop. C Poulton, sec. G Broad
9. Council in receipt of £6,000.00 Electricity Reimbursement from Telelink – It was noted that VAT had been received and would need to be reimbursed.
10. Council in receipt of £11.20 from HVLTC & £44.78 from Mr Baker reimbursement of Grass Keep water bill
11. Request for funding from Chedworth Pre School: A request had been received for the Parish Council to cover their Village Hall rental for the next term. It was agreed to reply that unfortunately their application does not meet our Funding Guidelines and the Council is therefore unable to offer them a grant on this occasion. In general terms, the Parish Council does not make grants towards running costs but if they have any future projects which they feel do comply with our guidelines then ask them to get in touch. It was also agreed to copy them our funding guidelines.
12. To note that the Quarterly Examination of Accounts has been undertaken by Councillor Morgan & the Clerk
13. Items for 2018/19 Precept – The Chairman asked for details & costings for any items for inclusion in the precept to be received before she met with the Clerk to compile a suggested budget early next week.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Hill and Valley: Several items were agreed to be included in the February edition of The Hill & Valley Magazine which would be written by the Chairman.

The meeting concluded at 9.35pm.

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NEXT MEETING: Parish Council Precept Meeting - Monday 22nd January 2018 at 7.30pm.

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Date.....