

CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 11th APRIL 2012

PRESENT: Mr P Sibbald (Chairman) Mr A Bell, Mr G Brister, Mr D Broad, Miss L Gallagher, Mr J King, Mr R Richmond and Mrs E Broad (Clerk).

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 12th March 2012 were agreed and signed as a true record.

OPEN SESSION FOR THE PUBLIC: The members of the public present indicated they wished to talk about the affordable housing issue. Mr Robson has written to the Parish Council saying that with regret the board of the Chedworth Community Land Trust will be dissolving the company and taking no further part in providing homes for local people in the village. Mrs Jess asked the Parish Council to consider the following proposal which she read out “The Parish Council recognises the importance of the Playing Field and surrounding parish land as open space and pledges not to allow any development which is not related to existing use”. The Chairman explained that this was not on the agenda and would be considered further at the next meeting. Other members of the public also commented at this point. Mr Robson thanked the Parish Council for their support over the past five years. The Chairman also thanked Mr Robson and asked him to pass on the thanks of the Parish Council to the CLT Board. Council then reconvened. It was agreed to discuss the Diamond Jubilee at this point.

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee including Village Sign: Mr King had circulated a initial report and recommendations for the Village Sign Project. It was agreed to open the meeting to allow Mr King and Mr Seymour to explain the project. Mr King explained that he hoped the Parish would take ownership of the sign which was expected to cost in the region of £2000.00 + VAT. It was also felt that the best option would be to have the sign commercially produced by Harry Stebbing Workshops using local illustrations and design. The matter of planning permission was also raised and if the sign was under 4 metres in height planning permission was not required. The siting would probably be in the vicinity of the Village Hall Crossroads. When Council reconvened it was proposed by Mr Brister and seconded by Mr Bell that the Parish Council would endorse the project and take ownership of the sign and also place the order for the sign and reclaim the VAT, agreed with one abstention. It was further agreed that if the sign did need planning permission the Parish Council would apply.

MAIN MATTERS:

Taking Stock of Chedworth Parish Council:

a) Setting of a Four Year Plan: Mr Brister was in the process of condensing this in to a one page document.

Communication between Parish Council and the Public:

a) The Parish Council Website: The Chairman had this in hand. Mr King reported

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that he had again received comments about the delay in getting draft minutes and the agenda on to the website, to which he had responded that we were dependent on a third party and that it would improve when we have our new website. It was accepted that the agenda could not be put up until three working days before the meeting but Mr King suggested that we should aim to get draft minutes up as soon as possible after they have been circulated to Councillors for comment.

b) Updating the Village Website: Mr King reported that he had made little progress except to contact the PC website suppliers to ask an initial question about the use of their “local directory” facility. Because of his workload, no further progress will be made with this until after the Diamond Jubilee. He will contact all the village organisations to explain this.

MATTERS FOR UPDATING AND DISCUSSION:

Traffic in Village and Road Matters:

a) Fields Road and Community Speed Watch: Mr King reported on the Community Speed Watch project. Mr Shaftoe was also to receive training along with Mr Poulton. The Police did not provide the public liability cover required and Mr King ask if Council would allow the names of the persons trained under the Community Speed Watch scheme to be covered under the Parish Council's Public Liability insurance. Mr King had checked this out with our insurance company and it was permitted if these people were working as agents for the Council and their names given to the insurance company. Council felt that the Police should really supply this cover and Mr King was asked to check this out in a bit more detail and gain more information for the next meeting. Mr King also reported that there had been a change of personnel at GCC Highways and no further progress with the other “road engineering” aspects of the traffic project had been made yet.

b) Cleeve Hill Healthcare Drivers: As no acknowledgement had been received to our letter, Miss Gallagher agreed to telephone Cleeve Hill Healthcare and establish a named person and the Clerk would resend the letter.

c) Salt Bins: The Chairman was going to drill a hole in the bins to let the water drain out. He was also going to speak to Highways about scraping up the redundant salt on verges.

Footpaths: Although there was nothing to discuss, it was agreed to leave this item on the agenda in case anything cropped up in the coming months as the footpaths are part of our remit.

Defibrillators:

a) The Third Defibrillator: The Chairman reported that Gary See would install the Seven Tuns Defibrillator shortly. The Chairman still had to speak to Kevin Dickens regarding the insurance of the defibrillators. Mr King had made enquiries from the insurance company and the cost of them insuring the defibrillators would be 1% of their value.

Items Arising from Email:

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- a) Community Event on Youth Provision: Mr King reported that John Bearcroft may attend and he would report back.
- b) GCC Various Roadworks Within Cotswold Division: Surface dressing in several areas of the village were notified. Miss Gallagher reported that the information received from GCC was not in a format which could easily be put on the Parish Council Facebook page.
- c) GRCC Cotswold Parish Network - 23rd April Aldsworth: This was being held the same day as our Housing Needs Meeting. Mr King had explained this to GRCC.
- d) GRCC Community Approach to Reducing Traffic Speed: Mr King reported that Mr Poulton and Mr Shaftoe may attend one of the events in May.

The Playing Field:

- a) Football: It was reported that a lot of rubbish, mainly drink bottles, was being left on the Playing Field following football matches. It was agreed to ask the football club to make sure they remove all rubbish following matches.

The Grass Keep Field:

- a) Grass Keep Tenancy Expires 30th April 2012: Mr Baker had emailed and offered a further 10% making a total of £154.00 for six months. It was proposed from the Chair and seconded by Miss Gallagher to accept Mr Baker's offer to renew the tenancy for a further six months for £154.00, but to go out to tender in the summer as a matter of good practice. As the surveyors recommendations had not yet been received, it was agreed to discuss again at the next meeting and also consider altering the length of the lease.

Emergency Planning: Because of his workload, Mr King suggested that this would have to go on hold until after the Diamond Jubilee but the grid references for emergency services were raised again. Mrs Jess was invited to speak and she agreed to look to see if she had the original done some years ago. Mr Bell agreed to look at these.

Five Yearly Review of HLVTC Annual Ground Rent and Asset Valuation: Still awaiting the surveyors valuation.

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee including Village Sign: Dealt with earlier on the agenda.

CLT Proposal to the Parish Council: Dealt with earlier on the agenda.

Housing Needs Survey: The report was due to be received on the 16th April. It was agreed to do a précis in the Hill and Valley and put the report on the website.

Waste at "The Cottage": A reply had been received from the owner, The Hon. Richard Curzon, who would be dealing with the matter. Miss Gallagher had also spoken to her contact at the Agricultural College regarding this, and despite this being a private let between the owner of the property and RAC student tenants, the

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RAC Accommodations Officer had promised to have a word with the students. The problem appeared to have been reduced but would still be monitored.

From the Parish Meeting:

- a) Provision of a Bus Shelter: A bus shelter by the Village Hall Crossroads had been raised in connection with the Diamond Jubilee. Mr Bell was impressed with the new bus shelter in Kemble. It was agreed to write to Kemble Parish Council asking for details on costs, suppliers etc.
- b) Millennium Tree: It was suggested at the Parish Meeting that the tree needed pruning. The Clerk had checked the ownership with Susie Moore and it appears the Parish Council accepted responsibility for the tree and the surrounding wall. It was agreed to seek the opinion of Mr Handy and also for the Silver Lime Tree on the top of Tuns Hill.
- c) GRCC Vibrant Village of the Year 2012: Mr King reported that because of workload, Mr Musgrave was not able to organise the entry for this year. As there were no other volunteers, it was therefore agreed not to enter this year but consider entering again next year.

Solar Panels: A post had been put on Facebook from a resident regarding Solar panels in Chedworth. Mr Broad had written a piece in the Hill and Valley several months ago and it had been discussed at the parish Council meeting last December. It was re-confirmed that there was nothing that could be done, but it was agreed to place another item in the Hill and Valley to address the issue.

Bonfires: The Chairman had received complaints about people lighting bonfires in fine weather and affecting neighbouring properties. It was agreed to include an item in the Hill and Valley asking people to show consideration when lighting bonfires.

PLANNING:

Applications:

- CD 7192/A Listercombe Cottage – Extension, Garage & Change of use of Paddock – Objection.
- CD 4817/ Box Tree Cottage – L.B.Consent – No objection.
- 12/01155/FUL Hills Farm – Tree Works – No consultation undertaken.
- CD 1971/G Seven Tuns – Cess Pool – No objection.
- 12/01489/TCONR Woolpack – Tree Works.

Approval:

- CD 6375/E The Old Bakery – Link (Revised Scheme)
- CD 3277/T Denfurlong Farm – Change of Use to Provide Caravanning/Camping Site.

Miss Gallagher suggested that previously planning training had been given to Parish

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Councillors from Kevin Field at CDC which she had found very useful and may be beneficial now. It was agreed to contact Mr Field and enquire if he would be willing to undertake some training along the same lines as previously. It was further suggested that a breakfast meeting at the Farm Shop might be a good idea.

Mr Broad also stated it would require a speaker if the Listercombe Cottage application was to go to CDC Planning Committee. It was also confirmed that objections to planning applications were not available to view on the website.

FINANCE:

1. Thames Water £12.39, prop. P Sibbald, sec. L Gallagher
2. Stamps £36.00, prop. P Sibbald, sec. A Bell
3. Viking Direct (Ink, Copier Paper) £66.53, prop. L Gallagher, sec. P Sibbald
4. Council in receipt of £200.00 P/F Rental from Cirencester Athletics Club.
5. Council in receipt of £3.10 Water Reimbursement from HVLTC
6. Notice of Audit 1st June 2012

Mr King asked the Clerk if the insurance refund from AON had been received. The Clerk confirmed that it had not been and Mr King undertook to continue chasing them.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Items for the Hill and Valley: Several items were identified to be included.

Councillor's Workload and Increase in Number of Councillors: Mr King was concerned about how much work he was undertaking and suggested that consideration be given to increasing the number of Councillors. It was not felt to be the solution to increase the number of Councillors in view of the difficulty in getting candidates when there is an election or a vacancy. Mr Brister suggested that the workload should be reallocated. It was agreed that Councillors should list what they are currently undertaking and email the list around to each other and then consider again at the next meeting.

It was agreed to include Litter on the Highways on the next agenda.

Mr Bell asked for tree works at the Lower End Chapel to be included on the next agenda.

The meeting concluded at 9.29 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Annual Parish Council Meeting - Wednesday 16th May 2012 at 7.30 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....