

CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 8th OCTOBER 2012

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

APOLOGIES: Mr R Richmond

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 10th September 2012 were agreed and signed as a true record.

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

MAIN MATTERS:

Communication between Parish Council and the Public:

a) The Parish Council Website: Mr King stated that Mr Robertson had done an excellent job in putting things on the new website. The old website had been switched off and automatically re-directed to the new website, with a note to that effect. Compliments had been received about the new site. Mr King and Mr Robertson are continuing to work on further improvements. Miss Gallagher suggested that a thank you letter should be sent to Mr Priest thanking him for invaluable work he had done in maintaining the Parish Council's website over the past few years and she offered to donate a bottle of wine which she would deliver along with the letter.

Affordable Housing:

a) Meeting with The Planners: The Chairman and Mr Brister had met with Deborah Smith and a colleague from CDC. Mr Brister had circulated a report of the meeting to Councillors. He had also met with Mr Catton last week to look through some of the CLT's papers.

b) Information Meeting on 16th October: Mr Brister would liaise with Martin Hutchings about what he intended to bring along. The presence of members of the Parish Council at the information event was raised. Mr Brister said he intended to be present the whole time, the Chairman and Mr King would be there towards the end and Mr Broad would also be present. Other Councillors indicated they may also be present during the session.

c) Affordable Housing Project – Email from Alex Priest: Mr Priest had emailed as he feels the Parish Council is using misleading figures to justify keeping going with the Affordable Housing project. Mr Brister had drafted a reply which he had circulated and it was agreed to send this to Mr Priest. An email had also been received from Mrs Nikki Miles concerning the proposed affordable housing and it was agreed to reply that the points she had raised are important, however before we decide how many units should be built we must establish the location of a potential development site and her points will be addressed in due course and to remind her of the presentation on Tuesday 16th October where Martin Hutching and Anne

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Powell will be present and may be able to assist her with the queries.

d) Market Housing – Letter from Bruton Knowles: A letter had been sent to the Chairman regarding the Parish Council land at the Village Hall and asking if it was available as a potential housing development site. It was agreed to reply that the Parish Council is currently unable to consider the request, but would contact them should the situation change.

MATTERS FOR UPDATING AND DISCUSSION:

Traffic in Village and Road Matters:

a) Fields Road and Community Speed Watch: Mr King reported that the Fields Road group had looked into purchasing 40mph stickers for the wheelie bins of the residents on Fields Road. They had made enquires from the relevant authorities who had no objection to using these. Mr Bell was concerned about the use of the 40mph rounded sign on the stickers, as he believed that there may be a legal problem with this. Mr King confirmed that the stickers showing the rounded sign were the ones they were intending to use and emphasised that the Police, Gloucestershire Highways and CDC has all been consulted, indeed the stickers were already being used in some other local parishes. After some discussion, Mr King proposed that the Parish Council part fund the estimated £60.00 purchase of the stickers for the bins, this was seconded by Mr Broad but was defeated with 4 votes against. It was felt that the residents of Fields Road could purchase their own stickers if they wished to have them. Mr King reported that the Community Speed Watch now had six volunteers who were waiting for the Police to organise training. Also the group were now waiting for Scott Macaulay Lowe from GCC Highways to respond regarding the verge clearance and “gates”.

Footpaths: The Clerk asked if cutting of the Chapel Graveyard was required before Remembrance Sunday and also if the Tuns Hill Triangle needed cutting. The Chairman agreed to look at Tuns Hill and Mr Bell at the Chapel Graveyard to see if they needed cutting.

Defibrillators:

a) The Third Defibrillator: The Chairman reported that the Seven Tuns defibrillator was due to be wired up tomorrow by Gary See.

Items Arising from Email:

a) Code of Conduct and Members Interest Forms: Mr King had circulated some information he had obtained and confirmed that the Parish Council would need to adopt a new Code of Conduct now and suggested that the CDC model should be adopted in the interim until a county wide version is available. It was proposed by Mr King and seconded by Mr Broad and agreed to adopt the CDC model for now and post it on the website. Mr King also reported that he was still waiting for a reply from Nigel Adams at CDC regarding posting the members interest forms on the Parish Council website. The Clerk reported that Mr Richmond's was the only form currently outstanding.

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b) Community Governance Review – Further Email from CDC: Mr King had sent an email containing information on what could be included in the review such as changing the name of the Council or increasing the number of Councillors. It was agreed to leave things as they are at present.

c) CDC Town and Parish Meeting: Mr Brister agreed to attend the meeting in Moreton in Marsh on the 6th November.

The Playing Field:

a) Playing Field Hirers Agreement: Miss Gallagher had circulated a suggested version. It was agreed to consider further at the next meeting.

b) Use by Cirencester Athletic Club, 7th April 2013 – Letter from Mr Edelsten: It was agreed to allow the use the field for parking provided that no vehicles park or manoeuvre on the playing surface and it should be cordoned off. It was further agreed that the fee will be £200.00, the same as last year. It was further agreed to point out that the adjoining Grass Keep Field had been let and the Parish Council and has no authority to allow its use. This would have to be agreed with the tenant Mr Robert Baker.

c) Entrances on to the Playing Field: Mr Broad reported that the Village Hall Committee were planning to put some paving slabs in the entrance to the playing field from the Village Hall car park as this gets very muddy, and suggested that something should be done at the entrance to the playing field from Fields Road, as this is now very rutted mainly due to the traffic using the entrance for parking on the field during the Show. The Chairman agreed to ask Mr Richmond if he would be able to put some hardcore in the entrance. It was agreed to discuss further at the next meeting.

The Grass Keep Field:

a) Granting of New Licence: An email reply had been received from Mr Baker accepting our terms for the licence commencing on 2nd May 2013 but asked for a clause requiring six months termination to be included. It was agreed to reply that the Parish Council is unable to accept his request for six months notice of the termination of the licence as it is a licence not a tenancy. However, the Parish Council is happy to negotiate and grant an additional licence for a further period, six months before the expiry of the licence. It was noted that the Clerk would send the paperwork to renew the old lease for a further six months and include on the agenda again in February to enable a new licence to be drawn up from May 2013, based on a model to be provided by Mr Bell.

b) Diggers Plot Tidy Up: In Mr Richmond's absence it was agreed to hold over until the next meeting.

Provision of a Bus Shelter: Mr Broad reported that he had not heard anything further from Mr Bearcroft. It was agreed to leave on the agenda at present.

Broadband Provision: Nothing further although Mr Bell did report that he understood that BT were the only company tendering. It was agreed to remove from the agenda at present.

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Hedgerow – Native Saplings from Woodland Trust Donated through Joanne Leigh:

Emails had been received from Joanne Leigh asking for assistance with planting a hedge along the playing field, both financial help for the purchase of supports and guards and physical help with the planting. The Clerk had contacted the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens and they had replied that they would be able to help with the planting of the saplings. As stated previously Mr Bell did not feel this site was a good idea and it would be much better to spread the saplings through the village. This was agreed by Councillors. Mr Bell agreed to contact Joanne Leigh to explain this. A Jubilee Royal Oak was one of the trees donated and it was felt to be a good idea to plant this in a more prominent position in the village. It was agreed to canvass opinion on where to plant it through the Hill and Valley Newsletter.

PLANNING:

Approval:

12/03696/TCONR Doveswell – Tree Works

FINANCE:

1. Bibury (P/F Mowing September) £91.20, prop. P Sibbald, sec. L Gallagher. The Clerk reminded Council that more than 20 cuts may be required this year due to the growing conditions but we were still currently within budget.
2. Council in receipt of £13.67 Part Grass Keep Water refund from Mr Baker
3. Council in receipt of £1549.00 Part Precept from CDC
4. Council in receipt of £45.00 Playing Field Rental 2011/12 from Village Hall
5. Application from ChEG for Pond Restoration Grant: The Chairman declared an interest and took no part in discussion. Mr Brister took the Chair for this item. Mr Bell had circulated an email from ChEG answering the queries raised at the previous meeting. After some discussion it was proposed by Mr Bell and seconded by Mr Broad to donate £500.00, this was agreed.
6. Victim Support – Request for Funding: It was agreed to reply that we were unable to assist this year.
7. September Financial Summary – Copy to each Councillor: The Chairman thanked the Clerk for producing this.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Items for Hill and Valley: Several items were identified.

Suggested Meeting Dates 2013: The Clerk had circulated the suggested dates for 2013 and it was agreed to go ahead and book these with the Village Hall.

Mr King reported that the QDJ fund surplus, which would be paid to the Parish Council toward upkeep of the Village Sign, would be smaller than anticipated as a further invoice had to be paid from it.

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The meeting concluded at 9.12 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 12th November 2012 at 7.30 pm.

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Date.....