

CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 10th FEBRUARY 2014

PRESENT: Mr P Sibbald (Chairman) Mr A Bell, Mr G Brister, Mr D Broad, Miss L Gallagher and Mrs E Broad (Clerk)
Cllr Paul Hodgkinson – Gloucestershire County Council

APOLOGIES: Mr J King and Mr R Richmond.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 13th January 2014 were agreed and signed as a true record.

OPEN SESSION FOR THE PUBLIC: Cllr Hodgkinson spoke about the setting of the GCC budget and also the possibility of having £50,000 per division to be spent on public health and invited suggestions on how to spend this. Cllr Hodgkinson spoke about the poor condition of the new road surface on Fields Road and stated that GCC will be meeting with the contractors to discuss this. He also spoke about a near miss on Fields Road which he had been informed about by Mr Shaftoe and he was meeting with GCC Highways on site, which he also invited a representative from the Parish Council to attend. Cllr Hodgkinson also gave a brief update on the Broadband speed issue. Mr Robertson spoke about the recent notices that have appeared on footpaths in Lower Chedworth. It was confirmed that GCC had displayed these on behalf of the landowner in relation to an application to deposit a statement and plan and a declaration under S31(6) of the Highways Act 1980 and S15A(1) of the Commons Act. The landowner may deposit with the Highway Authority a map and statement showing the ways (if any) that they admit are dedicated as highways (which include public rights of way) and that cross his/her land. If the landowner deposits a statement and plan and then follows this up, within the next 20 years, with a declaration to confirm that no additional ways have been dedicated since the deposit of the map, this is sufficient, in the absence of proof of the contrary, to establish that no additional ways have in fact been dedicated. This provides the landowner with a degree of protection against claims for additional rights of way and claims for town and village greens while allowing permissive access. Mr Tovey spoke about the state of the footpath adjacent to Saffron Hill which required attention. Mr Tovey would email details to the Clerk so they can be passed onto the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens.

Mr Bell joined the meeting and Cllr Hodgkinson left the meeting at this point.

MAIN MATTERS:

Communication between Parish Council and the Public:

a) The Parish Council Website: It was agreed to open the meeting to allow Mr Robertson to speak regarding the two tier email system where he explained that in effect there were three uses to which the PC mailing system can be put to use, a) PC email alerts for emergency or critical information e.g. planned power outage, crime,

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execution of emergency plan, etc (using e-mail addresses for which we have permission). b) Village Emails for non-emergency information e.g. Parish Meeting, refuse collection change, etc. c) Clubs and societies (using their own e-mail address lists, not those owned by the PC). When Council reconvened the Chairman stated that Mr King had written notes for the meeting and asked for Resumes for the website from the Councillors who have not yet submitted them. The matter of the Parish Council Facebook account being separated from Miss Gallagher's own account was discussed. Mr Robertson was asked to explain how it could be separated, which he did. It was then agreed to leave it as it was at present.

Affordable Housing:

a) Update: Mr Brister gave a brief report. Chris Knibbs had intended to attend this meeting but he was still in negotiation with the landowner of the site adjacent to the Village Hall and no contract had been agreed yet. It was agreed to ask Chris Knibbs to attend the March meeting to update the Council on the current situation.

MATTERS FOR UPDATING AND DISCUSSION:

Traffic in Village and Road Matters:

- a) Fields Road and Community Speed Watch: Cllr Hodgkinson had updated Council earlier in the meeting.
- b) Request for Road Signs at the Airfield Bend: A reply had been received from David Hicks from GCC Highways refusing the request for “Vehicles Approaching in Middle of the Road” signs. It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

Footpaths:

a) Footpath from The Church to Tuns Hill: A reply had been received from Mike Barton, GCC PROW stating that he would come and look at the path and assess what needed doing but he would not promise swift action due to the number of flooded paths in the area. It was agreed to reply to Mr Barton asking him to update the Parish Council when he has looked at the path.

Items Arising from Email:

a) Cotswolds Conservation Board Annual Forum – Friday 7th March 2014: Mr Bell hoped to attend.

The Playing Field:

- a) Entrances on to the Playing Field: The Chairman reported that he was still awaiting the planings from Paul Swift, GCC Highways.
- b) Fence Between Village Hall and Play Area: This had now been repaired by Philip Dickenson.
- c) Damaged Slip Rails between Playing Field and Village Hall: Mr Broad reported that one of the slip rails had snapped and the bolt had gone missing. The Chairman said he intended to return to this item after discussing the Grass Keep field fencing.
- d) Booking for Roman Run - 6th April 2014: A request for use of the Playing Field for use and parking as previously had been received from Cirencester Athletics Club. This was agreed for £100.00, the same fee as last year.

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Grass Keep Field:

a) Fencing: The Chairman reported on a recent meeting with Mrs Baker and Mr Richmond at the Grass Keep field. Mrs Baker requested that the fence between the two paddocks be reinforced, also 2 posts and 3 slip rails are required in connected with the new fence erected by the Cotswold Wardens. It was agreed to offer Mrs Baker the option of strengthen the fence himself or the Parish Council will arrange for it to be removed. It was also agreed to ask Philip Dickenson to quote for the posts and slip rails. The Chairman would meet with Mr Dickenson on site to discuss the work required. Mr Bell was concerned about the amount of money that is being spent on the Grass Keep field in relation to the income and suggested some thought should be given to disposing of it. Mr Broad reminded Council that any proceeds from the sale would be a capital receipt. It was agreed to include on the agenda for the Parish Meeting. The Clerk was asked to look up how much notice was required to be given to go out to tender.

Winter Emergency Plan: Mr King's written report stated that Insurance cover for the Spreader now sorted out with Zurich. Operating Instructions issued to volunteer spreader operators including a request to clarify with their own vehicle insurers, with request to acknowledge that they understand, only received from Mr Brister so far, 4 others awaited. Zurich have agreed to compensate us for the inconvenience by reducing our next renewal premium by £100.

Playground Developments: Mr Brister agreed to email around his findings so far.

PLANNING:

Applications:

CD 5875/K West Meadow – Extension – No objection
14/00105/TCONR Field Cottage – Tree Works – No objection
CD 3435/B Calveshill House – Garage and Alterations – No objection

Approval:

CD 4661/V Absolams Orchard – Extension and Alterations
CD 9269/C Highfield – Demolition of Existing Dwelling & Construction of Replacement Dwelling
CD 3415/B Woodside - Extension
CD 7823/P New Barn Farm – Outbuilding

FINANCE:

1. Clerks Quarterly Telephone/Broadband Contribution £46.20, prop. P Sibbald, sec. A Bell
2. Thames Water £7.59, prop. L Gallagher, sec. A Bell
3. Philip Dickenson (GK Fence & Fence between Play Area & PF) £960.00, prop. P Sibbald, sec. D Broad

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4. Julie Young (Web Hosting) £29.99, prop. D Broad, sec. L Gallagher
5. Council in receipt of £7.59 Water Reimbursement from HVLTC

OTHER BUSINESS:

Items for the Hill and Valley News: It was agreed to include the Parish Meeting and information on the affordable housing.

Annual Parish Meeting – Monday 17th March 2014: It was agreed to invite the usual Village Charities to give reports and also include the future of the Grass Keep Field and the new Playground proposal on the agenda.

Mr Bell stated that the Village Hall Committee had turned down his offer to provide free hosting for the Village Hall website, which he could not understand given the current financial position of the Village Hall. Mr Broad explained that following the advice of an expert, who was advising them, it had been a committee decision taken in a proper democratic manner.

The meeting concluded at 8.40 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 10th March 2014 at 7.30 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....