

# CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 17<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2015

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

APOLOGIES: Mr A Bell

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: Mr Robertson stated he had been asked by Mr Bell to request an amendment to the wording of the minute on the Parish Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015 on page 4. The Chairman explained that an amendment required a proposer and seconder and asked if anyone wished to make a proposal. Mr Robertson asked if approving the minutes could be held over until Mr Bell was present, but the Clerk confirmed this was not possible. There were no proposals for an amendment and therefore the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> July 2015 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: The Chairman reminded Councillors of the need to declare interests as necessary.

OPEN SESSION FOR THE PUBLIC: Councillor Hodgkinson reported on the fact that there had been several accidents around the Fossebridge area on the A429 recently, including four fatalities this year. GCC were taking action looking at the road surface and cutting the vegetation around the signs making them easier to read. It was commented that the diversion signs could be better placed when the road is closed. Sometimes the blockage is beyond Chedworth but the road is closed all the way from Cirencester. Councillor Hodgkinson also reported on the recent bus consultation which despite assurances from GCC that only minor adjustments were being made to the 855 service it was in fact being withdrawn from Chedworth completely. He said that GCC were currently looking into getting another provider for a Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday bus service.

As Mr Tim Hamilton was present to explain his plans for a potential site for affordable housing off Fields Road. It was agreed to bring this item forward.

Affordable Housing: It was agreed to open the meeting to allow Mr Hamilton to present his plans for a housing development in the field between the Grass Keep Field and Malthouse Grounds off Fields Road. This included a development of affordable units and three open market houses. The Chairman explained that the purpose of Mr Hamilton attending the meeting was to present the plans to the Parish Council and not for public comment at the moment. The public would be given a chance to comment if the scheme progressed. Mr Hamilton explained that the ideas were at a very early stage and he was keen to find out if the idea would get the support of the village before taking it any further. Several points were raised including concern that the whole of the field would be opened up for further development. Mr Hamilton stated that he was willing to put in place a legal

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agreement to prevent any further building on the plot. It was also pointed out that neighbours may look more favourably if the affordable development was done rather than the whole scheme. When Council reconvened, the Chairman thanked Mr Hamilton for attending and stated Council would be considering the matter later on the agenda.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:

Communication between Parish Council and the Public:

- a) The Website, Twitter, Facebook, H & V News, Newsletters: It was reported that the working group had met and had come up with a questionnaire for all Councillors to complete to establish what is required from the website. The Chairman thanked Mr Robertson for compiling this.
- b) Dropbox: The Chairman had asked for this to be included on the agenda as problems had been experienced by Councillors during the past month. It was agreed to get together to try to sort this out.
- c) Deciding on Parish Council Priorities: Councillors Bell had circulated the Four Year Plan from the previous Parish Council. It was felt that the Parish Council did need to set some priorities to measure progress but these needed to be kept realistic. After some discussion it was agreed that Mr Fulford would put together a questionnaire to establish what the priorities of the Parish Council should be. Mr Fulford hoped to have this done by October and Mr Robertson offered to suggest some people in the village who may be able to help.

Neighbourhood Plan: The date for village meeting has been confirmed as Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2015. Martin Hutchings from GRCC had offered to attend. Councillors felt that at this stage the purpose of the meeting was to decide whether or not a Neighbourhood Plan was appropriate for Chedworth and that the time to involve him would be at a later stage if it was decided to proceed. It was agreed to reply accordingly.

Affordable Housing: Mr Hamilton had presented his plans earlier in the meeting. It was felt the council should consider how to move on with this and after some discussion, it was proposed by Mr Fulford and seconded by Mr Poulton that the Parish Council contact Mr Hamilton and offer to host a public meeting for him to explain his proposals if he wished to go down that route, agreed.

Traffic in Village and Road Matters:

- a) Traffic & Parking at St Andrews School: Mr Poulton reported that the zigzag lines would be repainted within the next two weeks.
- b) Verges in Lower Chedworth: As the meeting between Mr Gray, Mr Bell & Mr Robertson had not yet taken place, it was agreed to continue to chase up Mr Gray to set up a meeting.
- c) Verges on Church Row: As the meeting between Mr Gray, Mr Bell & Mr Robertson had not yet taken place, it was agreed to continue to chase up Mr Gray to set up a meeting.

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d) Conservation Verges: Mr Bell had circulated an email from Susie Moore. It was felt that a Verge Management Plan which had previously been agreed was still required starting with a plan of the verges in the village.

e) Speeding in Chedworth: The ‘20 is Plenty Signage’ was still to be put in place. An email had been received from Mr Priest objecting to Speeding Signs being displayed around the Village. It was explained that the signs were not permanent and it would be used to establish what effect these would have. The Chairman had replied to Mr Priest to that effect.

Footpaths:

a) MacMillan Way Footpath Marker at Setts Farm: A reply had been received from Mike Barton GCC PROW stating that the replacement sign was in hand.

b) Broken Stile in Lower Chedworth: An email update had been received from Philip Coates stating the repairs had been done.

c) Problems with Footpaths around New Barn Farm: An email reply had been received from Mrs Lane-Fox stating the request for the access to KCH 72 would be passed to the James Lane-Fox trust. It was reported that a pedestrian gate had now been provided. It was agreed to ask Mike Barton, GCC PROW to replace the finger post which indicates the footpath which is missing.

d) Broken Stile in field below Cheap Street: Repairs had been done.

e) Footpath in Field below Ballingers Row: Nothing further. It was agreed to chase this up.

f) Letter to landowners re responsibilities relating to Rights of Way: The Chairman had circulated a letter to landowners explaining their responsibilities and pointing them to government advice. It was agreed send this to local landowners along with the government advice.

g) Definitive Map Modification Order Application at Hills Farm: Notification from GCC that the claim by the Parish Council to a length of path to the definitive map at Hills Farm, claimed by the Parish Council in 2006, will be put before the County Council Commons and Rights of Way Committee in the autumn.

h) Footpath Marker Signs: An email had been received from Mr Boehm requesting some small circular footpath markers to guide walkers on the path in the vicinity of Saffron Hill. The Clerk had some of these small signs. It was agreed to ask Mr Boehm how many he required.

The Playing Field:

a) 2015/16 Football Season & Line Marker: The Chairman reported that she had looked at the line marker and it was messy but in good condition. The Clerk reported that the £200.00 playing field rental has yet to be received and is due before the season commences. It was agreed to chase this up.

b) Shed: An email had been received from A+B Fencing regarding replacement shed which was due to be delivered shortly. It was agreed to enquire if they had a firm date for erecting the new shed on the playing field.

c) Active Together: In the absence of Alan McLellan, it was agreed to ask Councillor Hodgkinson to update the Council. Councillor Hodgkinson said that around £6,000 would be available to grant fund some fitness equipment as part of the County Council’s Active Together campaign. It was agreed to place an item in

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the Hill and Valley and on Facebook to find out if this is something which would be used.

Improving Telecommunications:

- a) MIP: As nothing further had been heard it was agreed to contact Harlequin to ask for a progress report on the proposals for a mobile phone mast in Chedworth.
- b) Broadband: Notification from Fastershire had been passed on to the Parish Council by Mr Aveline regarding a Gigaclear briefing on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> August. As the Parish Council had not received an invitation it was agreed to ask Mr Aveline to provide an update from the meeting to the Parish Council.

Community Emergency Plan: Nothing further.

Defibrillator Training: The training session had been arranged for Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30 pm. It was agreed to advertise this in the Hill and Valley.

Items Arising from Email & Correspondence:

- a) Planning Training: An email reply had been received from Kevin Field, CDC stating that GAPTC had arranged some planning training at CDC on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August. The Chairman had telephoned GAPTC and they confirmed that the training event would cost £15.00 per person for members and £30.00 per person for non members. Councillors also discussed the possibility of becoming members of the GAPTC but were unable to make a decision on this as it was not an item on the agenda so it will be considered further in September. It was also agreed to ask if the GAPTC would consider giving a refund on the cost of places at the training event if the council does agree to join in September. Currently 6 members confirmed their wish to attend and the Clerk would enquire if Mr Bell also wished to attend.
- b) Transparency Code 2015: The code had been circulated by Clerk but it was noted it only applied to Council's with a larger turnover.
- c) Email to Chairman regarding Communications from Mr Aveline: Noted.
- d) Email to Chairman regarding Parish Poll from Mr Sibbald: The Chairman stated that she did not intend to reply to this as she considered the matter now closed.

PLANNING:

CD 4029/B Pinkwell Farmhouse – Garage/Workshop – No objection.  
15/03176/TCONR Brook House – Tree Works  
15/02965/TCONR Rookery Cottage – Tree Works

FINANCE:

1. Clerks Quarterly Telephone & Broadband Contribution £60.50, prop. M Fulford sec. C Poulton
2. Thames Water £18.73, prop. R Jess, sec. M Fulford
3. Bibury (P/F Grass Cut July) £147.60, prop. D Broad, sec. I Robertson
4. Viking (Printer Ink) £60.16, prop. C Poulton, sec. I Robertson
5. Peter Heaps (Playing Field Line Marking) £32.00, prop. R Jess, sec. M Fulford.

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As the Folk Camp Society requested that the touchlines of the pitch be marked to show the areas where motor vehicles were prohibited. It was agreed to invoice the Folk Camp Society for the cost of the work.

6. Community Heartbeat Trust (First Aid Training) £175.00, prop. R Jess, sec. M Fulford
7. Council in receipt of £200.00 Annual Ground rent from HVLTC
8. 2014/15 Annual Audit – The Clerk reported that she had received another couple of queries which she had answered and was now awaiting the audit certificate.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Folk Camp: It was reported that the Folk Camp event had gone off well. The report on the playing field undertaken by Cotswold Estate Services on behalf of the Folk Camp would be included on the next agenda. Mr Broad reported that during the inspection of the playing field fence he had noticed that that some fence rails and a post had been removed in the Grass Keep Field. This would be included on the next agenda.

Hartshill Footpaths: Mr Wilkinson had sent a further email to the Parish Council, but Councillors were unable to make any decision on comments made in the email because it had arrived too late to be included on the agenda. The Clerk was asked send information from Gloucestershire County Council regarding footpath diversions and to point out that the Parish Council do not have the power to approve his proposals but merely to comment on any consultation from the County Council once a formal application to divert was made. The matter would be included on the next agenda and it was agreed to ask Mr Wilkinson if he wished Councillors to comment on his proposals then it would be helpful to have a sketch map to show more clearly what he would like to do.

Hill and Valley News: Several items were agreed to be included in the September Edition which will be online only due to the deadline.

The meeting concluded at 9.20 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at 7.30 pm.

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Date.....