

CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 13th MARCH 2017

PRESENT: Mr R Jess (Chairman) Mr D Broad, Mr G Broad, Mr I Morgan, Mr C Poulton, Mr I Robertson & Mrs E Broad (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Mr M Fulford

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 13th February 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: Mrs Harrison reported that she was in contact with Thames Water and was awaiting more information. Mr Harrison asked for to read his email to the Parish Council and have it recorded in the minutes. He said that “the online survey is open to abuse as an individual can submit multiple forms using different email addresses and different IP addresses. That same individual can also submit the hard copy. In April 2016 a similar survey was held in the larger parish of Olveston in South Gloucestershire. It was also run and analysed by GRCC. The online survey was withdrawn after issuing because of the risk of abuse. The hard copy survey forms all had unique ID numbers whereas in Chedworth there is no record of who has received or submitted the form. Interestingly although the associated Parish Council questions demonstrated that the village was against development on a rural exception site (23% for, 62% against), but not against infill or brownfield site use, a rural exception site was the only recommendation by GRCC. The Parish Council is now looking for a small infill or brownfield site for affordable and downsizing housing but has had to accept that South Glos Council may not now accept that. This demonstrates that even when a Parish Council has the best of intentions and the village is opposed to unsuitable development, GRCC's purpose in small villages is to facilitate the building of affordable houses on exception sites and they can manipulate the data to achieve it”.

Mr Morgan joined the meeting at this point.

Affordable Housing:

a) To review any initial feedback on the Housing Needs Survey following its distribution at the beginning of March: An email had also been received from Mr Minshull which had been circulated to Councillors. Mr Morgan gave a brief report of the response so far and he reported that he felt that the results should be back for the May meeting. The Chairman said that it was disappointing that given previous problems, GRCC had not chosen to include any form of security on the forms. She said that the Parish Council had relied on GRCC to carry out the survey on its behalf as this was their area of expertise and it was disappointing that it had not been done in a more professional way. Mr Morgan was also asked to enquire if the Parish Council could have the raw data from the survey before it was analysed.

Traffic in Village and Road Matters:

a) Queen Street: Mr Fulford had provided a written update. Nothing further and it was agreed to wait for the new financial year and approach GCC Highways again.

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b) Winter Maintenance Provision:

i) Location of the Salt Supply: Mr Robertson reported that Manor Farm had agreed to move the salt supply to the new location and he had purchased a padlock for the gate.

c) Cutting of Tuns Hill Triangle: A misunderstanding had arisen at the meeting last month. Mr Sibbald & Mr Hamilton were not interested in creating a wild flower area on the triangle at the top of Tuns Hill. It was agreed to ask Bibury to come back and do it on a regular basis when needed. It was felt that they had done an excellent job with the recent cut.

d) Overgrown Trees & Shrubs on Highway: The Chairman and Mr Fulford had met with David Findlay from GCC Highways & a tree officer. They took them around the village showing them various issues. The Laurel on Cooks Hill - Highways are going to send a level two letter to the householder. Fir Tree by Buttress House - Highways felt it slowed traffic so do not propose to take any action. Bushes on roadside from properties in the middle of the village - Highways suggested the Parish Council write a gentle letter to the householders. Trees opposite the School - Highways

- were going back to consult their files on this matter which had been raised previously. It was noted that Mrs Brosch had responded to our request to cut back the shrubs on the verge outside her house, it was agreed to write and thank her.
- e) Overgrown Vegetation from Private Land: Dealt with above.
 - f) Classic Car Navigational Event - 15th July 2017: Given the small number of cars involved the Councillors had no objection to the proposal.
 - g) GCC TTRO Block Road Closures: Noted.

Footpaths:

- a) Footpath Wardens: Nothing further to report.
- b) Footpaths around Hartshill: Nothing further to report.
- c) LANTRA Brushcutter Course: Email notification had been received for courses at Northleach for £135.00. It was agreed to advertise for a volunteer to attend the course and undertake work to clear footpaths in the Hill & Valley.
- d) GCC Confirmation of Public Path Diversion Order KCH 40 & KCH 41 The Hemplands:
Noted.

Playing Field:

- a) The Mole problem on the Playing Field: Adam Eastwood had notified us that the work had been completed. The Chairman had been and had a look & reported that there was currently no sign of new activity but she would keep an eye on it.
- b) Fitness Equipment Check: Notification regarding safety checks on the fitness equipment had been received John Hicks.

It was agreed to include on the agenda for the next meeting & hope it could be done at the same time he does the Village Hall play equipment check.

Parish Council land by Tennis Courts:

- a) To receive a report on the steps taken to remove the pile of waste on the land: Councillors Fulford, Jess, Robertson, G Broad along with Mrs Robertson had burnt the pile of rubbish. It was agreed to write to the tennis club requesting that in future, arrangements were made to remove cuttings etc. to avoid the creation of another waste heap.

Grass Keep Field:

- a) To note the expiry of tenancy on 30th April: The current licence expires on 30th April 2017. The Chairman reported that Mr & Mrs Baker wished to renew the licence. After some discussion it was

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proposed by Mr Broad and seconded from the Chair to renew the licence for a further twelve months for same amount of £560.00, agreed.

Diggers Field:

- a) The decide if any action is required by the Diggers to clear the site before their tenancy expires in May: It was agreed to write and request that they remove all of their equipment and materials from the site by the middle of May when their tenancy expires.

Opportunity to bring better Mobile Coverage to Chedworth:

- a) Proposal for Mobile Phone Pole at Village Hall: Mr David Broad reported that the proposed mobile phone mast at the Village Hall had been put on hold at present because of the pre-application received about the Vodafone proposal along the Calmsden Road. The Chairman explained that we had been given 14 days to respond to the consultation and she suggested holding an extra Parish Council meeting following the Parish Meeting on Monday 20th March to enable a response before the 14 day deadline. It was agreed to publicise information about the pole in advance of the meeting

Village Charities: Mr Robertson reported that they were still awaiting a response from one charity and would have more information for the next meeting.

Safe Storage: It was felt that the scans provided by the Chairman and placed in Dropbox were sufficient for Council's needs.

Abandoned Vehicle at The Hemplands: Mr David Broad reported that he had made a freedom of information request and established that CDC transferred the ownership of the land in front of The Hemplands to GCC Highways in 1955 and GCC Highways have confirmed ownership. The Chairman reported that PCSO Andrea Shutt had sent the details of the abandoned vehicle to the DVLA but nothing further had happened. As it is the responsibility of the local authority to remove it and District Councillor Jenny Forde, who was present, was asked to follow it up with CDC. We would arrange to send the details of the car to Jenny Forde.

Defibrillators: The guidance leaflet prepared by the Chairman was felt to be acceptable and it was agreed to circulate it to the volunteers who check the defibrillators. The Chairman reported that the on-line check for the Tuns defibrillator had not been updated since December 2016. Mr Robertson agreed to speak to Mr Sibbald to establish if he wished to continue to do the monthly checks.

GAPTC notification that grants are available for websites & laptops purchased since April 2015 to comply with the Transparency Code for smaller authorities: It was noted that on further research we are not eligible.

Litter Bin opposite Church Row: An email had been received from Sue Callard raising the problem of the litter bin outside the Church which does not get emptied regularly and is often overflowing. Jenny Forde was asked to enquire if CDC would be able to empty the bin. It was agreed to send her details of the location of the bin.

Village Spring Clean: It was agreed to hold a village spring clean on Saturday 22nd April. Jenny Forde was asked to arrange getting the equipment from CDC again. She asked if the Parish Council were entering the Great Cotswolds Clean Up competition arranged by CDC. The Clerk said that she had not received information about this and Jenny Forde agreed to pass it on.

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Annual Parish Meeting – Monday 20th March 2017 – Noted.

Hill & Valley News: Several items were agreed to be included in the April edition which would be written by the Chairman.

PLANNING:

17/00662/TCONR Fossebridge Inn – Tree Works

17/00864/TCONR Whitegates– Tree Works

17/00780/FUL 5 The Rookery – Erection of Garden Building – Object - The siting and location of this annex is an intrusion into the privacy of the neighbouring house and garden. Its location bears more relationship to the neighbouring house (no 3 The Rookery) than it does to no 5. The Parish Council would also query whether this land, which extends beyond the rear gardens of the majority of houses at The Rookery, is within the domestic curtilage of the property.

Allowing development on a strip of previously un-developed open landscape could create a precedent for a further row of domestic accommodation to be added to the rear of the Rookery at the back of their gardens. If ancillary accommodation to 3 The Rookery is desired then it should be located and sited in a position which is more sub-servient to the existing dwelling rather than the next door property.

17/00982/TCONR The Old Farm – Tree Works

To consider if the Council wishes to make representations if the Hare and Hounds application is discussed by the planning committee: It was felt that a representative should go along to speak but as it was not known if the application would go to committee to find someone nearer the time.

Concrete Slab at The Hemplands: Emails had been received from Derek Newman & Sue Trafford concerning the appearance of the concrete slab that had been erected as part of the recent works at The Hemplands. It had been established that the slab did not require planning permission and Mr Newman had reported that he was to speak to Nigel Finch about providing some screening. There was nothing further for the Parish Council to do.

FINANCE

1. Clerks Quarterly Salary £600.00, prop. C Poulton, sec. I Morgan
2. Clerks Quarterly Mileage £12.86, prop. I Morgan, sec. C Poulton
3. Bibury (Cutting of Tuns Hill Triangle) £180.00, prop. I Morgan, sec. D Broad
4. Cotswold District Council (Printing of Housing Needs Survey) £85.88, prop. D Broad, sec. I Robertson
5. M Fulford (Refreshments for Drop In Session) £9.78, prop. C Poulton, sec. R Jess
6. GAPTC Membership £208.51, prop. I Robertson, sec. I Morgan
7. Brian Brazington Ltd. (Vegetation cut back) £372.00, prop. R Jess, sec. C Poulton
8. Iain Robertson (Padlock) £32.50, prop. I Morgan, sec. D Broad

Mr Robertson asked that in future it is identified on the agenda what part of the budget the payments are being spent

against. The Chairman reminded Councillors that the budget headings are for councillors' guidance only and do not restrict spending to any particular item.

Mr Morgan asked that in future when agenda items related to emails, the date of the email should be included on the agenda.

The meeting concluded at 8.47pm. Chairman.....

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NEXT MEETING: Monday 20th March 2017 following the Annual Parish Meeting.

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Date.....