

CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 12th MARCH 2018

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

APOLOGIES: Mr I Morgan

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 12th February 2018 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: Anne Fowler from Fossecross spoke on behalf of the residents regarding the current Hare and Hounds planning application. Robert Young spoke about the drain at Ashlin which was included later on the agenda.

The Chairman brought the Hare and Hounds planning application forward on the agenda.

17/05211/FUL Hare & Hounds - Erection of 28 hotel bedrooms and dining pavilion, creation of car parking and new access and use of barn as plant room

17/05212/LBC Hare & Hounds – Listed Building Consent for Erection of 28 hotel bedrooms and dining pavilion, creation of car parking and new access and use of barn as plant room

After some discussion it was agreed to object on the following grounds:- The Parish Council has considered the application and would like to request further information to enable us to give comprehensive comments. There is no plan showing the proposals for the car parking area and no drawing showing the dining pavilion – except for the rear wall onto the lane to Fosse Cross. However, based on the information available the parish council OBJECTS to the application on similar grounds to our comments on the previous application but again wishes to stress that it is not opposed to some development to revitalise the public house and hotel. The parish council is still extremely concerned about the proposed access onto the Calmsden Road. The council feels that creating a new access so close to the A429 would add to the danger at an already hazardous junction. The junction is currently used by vehicles attending the Recycling Site including cars with trailers and vans, and large lorries attending both the Recycling Site and other businesses in the adjacent premises. The amount of traffic on this road is certain to increase following the granting of permission for the conversion of Gore Barn to a wedding venue and given that the Recycling Site is so busy at weekends, that weddings are most likely at weekends and that the Hare and Hounds is intended as a facility to benefit those using the wedding facilities, it is easy to see that this junction will become increasingly busy and dangerous. We would urge councillors to visit the site to see the junction for themselves as we do not feel that the traffic report provided by the applicant is a true reflection of the situation. Large lorries turning left off the main road from the Cirencester direction are only able to negotiate the junction by using the full width of the Calmsden Road causing problems for traffic waiting to join the A429, and cars exiting the proposed car park access would only be able to do so by crossing onto the wrong side of the road where they cannot be seen by vehicles coming from the Cirencester direction. There have been multiple shunts and near misses on the Fosseyway with vehicles waiting to turn right onto the Calmsden Road being ‘rear-ended’. Parish councillors all have experiences of seeing accidents, or in one case being involved in an accident at

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that junction, and can only assume that many of the shunts and bumps are not reported and do not appear of traffic accident figures. We would suggest that our views are ignored and the access is allowed, a right-turning refuge should be created on the Fosse Way. For all these reasons the councillors would urge planners to take advantage of their local knowledge and NOT allow the access to the new car park to be created at this point. While the new design is an improvement on the previous one, the lack of detailed elevations of the dining pavilion makes it impossible to comment on its appearance and suitability for the rural location. Based on the floor plan, councillors still feel that the dining pavilion is too large and should be reduced in size to fit better into the site. It should be subservient to the main original building and not dominant. Councillors would also again request that you consider imposing a noise restriction on the development to prevent disturbance to neighbouring residents and would suggest a time restriction of midnight should also be imposed.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:

Opportunity to bring better Mobile Coverage to Chedworth:

- a) To receive an update on the installation of the mast: It was reported that the power connection was due to be done this week. It was agreed to give the Clerk delegated authority to people who emailed requesting access to the field.
- b) To received an update on the tree screening of the mast site: In abeyance until the works on the field are complete.

Traffic in Village and Road Matters:

- a) To receive an update on:-
 - i) The Emergency Plan: Mr Fulford reported that the emergency plan was work in progress and he reported on the recent snow event where the plan had been tested. Mr Fulford was thanked for taking over the role as Snow Warden in the recent snow event particularly for arranging for Brian Brazington to take over the snow ploughing duties.
 - ii) Email reply from Cllr. Vernon Smith GCC Cabinet Member for Highways: An email reply had been received from Councillor Smith. It was agreed to reply that Councillors were very disappointed with your response which does not address our concerns and completely ignored the request that you attend a meeting of the parish council to explain the situation in more detail. Your email is thoroughly unsatisfactory, it repeats the suggestion made by the area highways manager regarding parked cars – a claim which the Parish Council strongly refutes – and we have been shown no evidence that the gritting route was cut as part of a regular review of the winter plan. It was agreed to again invite him to attend a meeting of the Council so that we can investigate the claims which have been made in more depth.
 - iii) FOI Request to GCC Highways: The only information received in response to our request was a single email which had been written in January this year by the Chairman of Chedworth Parish Council to highways officers to record the business at a meeting held in the village in January 2018. It was agreed to write and complain and again request information relating to the decision and would ask to be provided with all correspondence from 2017 which relates to the decision to remove Chedworth from the primary gritting route along with any correspondence from 2018 which relates to the matter.
 - iv) Parish Emergency Store Shed: Mr Fulford stated that he felt that it would be better to deploy the grit and equipment around the village rather than in a shed in one place. The meeting to site the grit bins had to be postponed because of the snow and was to be rearranged. Mr Fulford suggested that more grit bins be purchased and he suggested

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purchasing two samples to assess the quality. After some discussion it was proposed from the Chair and seconded by Mr Broad to purchase two samples with a ceiling of £150.00 for this, agreed. Mr Fulford would arrange to purchase the samples.

- v) To discuss and agree what winter equipment the PC should look to purchase alongside the offer from Highways: Mr Fulford reported that three snow spreaders had been provided by Highways which worked quite well. Mr Poulton reported that Mr Robertson and himself had refilled the grit bins at The Laines.
- vi) To consider whether it would be appropriate for the Parish Council to send a token of their thanks, on behalf of the parish, to Brian Brazington for his recent works in snow ploughing in the parish: Mr Fulford suggested sending a letter and token of our appreciation for him coming over and doing a thorough job ploughing during the recent snowfall. It was proposed by Mr Robertson and seconded from the Chair to set a ceiling of £20.00 to purchase a token of our appreciation, agreed.
- b) Removal of scrub on PC land at the top of School Hill: Two quotes had been received from Bibury and Philip Dickenson. The Chairman was not convinced that the works should be undertaken and was also concerned about the time of year as birds are nesting. It was proposed by Mr Fulford and seconded by Mr D Broad to accept the best quote of £300.00 + VAT from Philip Dickenson, agreed with 2 against.
- c) Trees obstructing the hill through Withington Woods: A reply had been received from Mr Finch stating that a few overhanging bit would be cut back but they are hindered with health and safety legislation preventing the closure of the road. It was agreed to refer this back to GCC Highways.
- d) Overhanging Laurel at the bottom of Cooks Hill: Mr Fulford was concerned about this long term issue of a hedge which has prevented the snow plough from getting through. As this had been raised last year with the tree expert from GCC Highways, it was agreed to contact Danny Taylor at GCC asking for details and then write to the tree expert asking him to approach the owner and advise on what needs doing to the hedge to prevent it making it difficult for large vehicles to access that part of the village. It was also agreed to ask for his advise on the overhanging trees and branches on the road from Chedworth to Withington at the top of Withington Hill.
- e) Drain adjacent to Ashlin Cottage: It was agreed that Mr Fulford and Mr Robertson would raise that and other drainage issues in the village when they meet with GCC Highways regarding the positioning of the grit bins.

Footpaths:

- a) Footpath Wardens: Mr Robertson reported on the footpath above Hills Farm where there was a problem with an electric fence. The Chairman reported on a letter she had received from Judy Tice regarding re-routing footpath KCH 58 off Fields Road. As it was received too late to be included on the agenda it would be included next month.

The Playing Field:

- a) To consider the provision of Rope and Stakes for marking off the parking area: In hand.
- b) To consider the appointment of a contractor to cut the Playing Field during the 2018 season: Two quotes have been received from Countrywide and Cottage Garden Services. The Chairman had met with Tony Williams from Cottage Garden Services on site to discuss what was required. It was proposed by Mr Fulford and seconded from the Chair to accept the best quote from Cottage Garden Services of £40.00 per cut for a maximum of 20 cuts per season to be undertaken as required.
- c) Annual Check on Fitness Equipment: It was agreed to instruct John Hicks to undertake the annual check as usual.

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d) Following a complaint from a villager consider what might be done to deal with the problem of dog poo on the Playing Field: Mr Robertson reported on a complaint that he had received. After some discussion it was agreed to include an item in the Hill and Valley asking people to make sure they pick up after their dogs. Mr D Broad said he thought there were some signs in the Parish Council cupboard that could be put up and it was also agreed to continue to monitor the situation.

The Grass Keep Field:

a) To consider email from Mrs Baker regarding permission to graze on the Diggers Field: It was agreed to reply that while the Parish Council are happy for her to graze part of the Diggers Field, it was felt that it would be impractical to allow this until work is finished on the pole. It was agreed to remind her that she will need to bear in mind that the engineers will need access to the enclosure on a fairly regular basis but this should not prevent her using the majority of the field.

b) Renewal of Grass Keep Licence: This expires on 30th April 2018 and it was proposed from the Chair and seconded by Mr Poulton to offer it to Mr and Mrs Baker again for the same rent of £560.00, agreed.

First Aid Training:

a) To receive a report on the first aid training arranged for April 2018: The Chairman reported that further sessions had been booked for 18th and 25th April. There was currently one space available.

Chedworth Village Hall:

a) Parish Council representative on the Village Hall Committee: To consider any reply from Nigel Adams CDC: A reply had been received from the CDC Monitoring Officer, Bhavna Patel, reiterating the advice that as trustees have a DPI, they should not take part in or be present at the meeting nor vote.

To receive any replies from the trustees of the Chedworth Allotment Charity as to whether they would like to continue as trustees when their appointments ends in May 2018: A message had been received to say that Maurice Wilkins was willing to be consider again. It was agreed to include a further item in the Hill and Valley inviting people to put their names forward for consideration in May.

Litter Pick: It was noted that the Litter Pick will take place on Saturday 24th March at 10.00am.

The Overgrown State of the Churchyard: A reply had been received from Mrs Hamilton stating she had passed the complaint to the Church Wardens.

To consider the email from the Company of Proprietors of Stroudwater Navigation: The email invited the Parish Council to consider selling their share. Mr D Broad had reported that he felt that the share actually belonged to one of the Village Charities. It was agreed to reply to the email asking them to please confirm the name which appears on the share register.

Litter Bin outside the Church: An email had been received from Jeannie Hamilton asking that the Parish Council request that CDC put a bin in outside the Church and arrange for it to be emptied. It was agreed to raise this with CDC Councillor, Jenny Forde.

VETS Emergency Telephone System: The Chairman asked the Council to consider if the Council should continue to support the VETS Emergency System or needs to needs to take any action to

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ensure it is as efficient as possible. After some discussion it was felt it was impossible to make the system work efficiently. The main stumbling block was the fact that the South West Ambulance Service do not recognise the system and we were giving false hope to villagers who would then be let down by it in an emergency. As the code number has been put on the defibrillator box means that the defibrillators can be accessed without the need to first get the number from the ambulance service. It was agreed not to continue with this but to encourage residents to partake in the first aid courses that have been arranged.

PLANNING:

17/05211/FUL Hare & Hounds - Erection of 28 hotel bedrooms and dining pavilion, creation of car parking and new access and use of barn as plant room – Dealt with earlier on the agenda.

17/05212/LBC Hare & Hounds – Listed Building Consent - Dealt with earlier on the agenda.

18/00587/TCONR Field Cottage – Tree Works

18/00680/TCONR Holywell – Tree Works

18/00767/TCONR Long Barn – Tree Works

18/00867/TCONR Manor Farm – Tree Works

Outline application for dwelling at the Dairy, Manor Farm: Mr Hamilton had sent some plans for consideration. After some discussion it was agreed to reply inviting him to the next meeting on 9th April to discuss the scheme. There was some discussion about the location of the house shown in the outline application as it was felt that the house would be very prominent in the landscape. It would be helpful for councillors to hear the rational behind the proposed siting.

CDC Planning Enforcement Training: It was agreed that Mr G Broad and Mr Morgan would attend on Wednesday 4th April.

FINANCE:

1. Clerks Quarterly Salary £614.00 (*Clerks salary in budget*) prop. C Poulton, sec. I Robertson
2. Clerks Quarterly Mileage £12.88 (*Mileage in budget*) prop. M Fulford, sec. R Jess
3. Brian Brazington (Hedge Cutting) (£320.00 + VAT) £384.00 (*Vegetation Clearance in budget*) prop. M Fulford, sec. D Broad
4. The Community Heartbeat Trust (VETS 2018/2019) £100.00 (*VETS Annual Charge in budget*). As previously discussed it was agreed not to subscribe to this.
5. Iain Robertson (Parish Council Website Charge for the domain name “chedworthpc.org.uk” for the period 07/01/2018 to 17/01/2020) £16.78 (*IT Support/Website in budget*) prop. R Jess, sec. G Broad
6. GAPTC Membership 2018/19 £210.34 (*Subscriptions in budget*) prop. C Poulton, sec. I Robertson
7. Chedworth Village Hall (Rental for 4 First Aid Sessions) £35.00 (*VH Rental in budget*) prop. R Jess, sec. M Fulford

OTHER BUSINESS:

To agree items to be included in the April edition of The Hill & Valley Magazine: Several items were agreed to be included in the April edition which would be written by the Chairman.

Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Monday 19th March 2018 at 7.30pm: Noted.

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NEXT MEETING: Parish Council Meeting - Monday 9th April 2018 at 7.30pm.

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