

# CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 12<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2022

PRESENT: Mr D Broad (Chairman) Mr G Broad, Mr I Morgan and Mrs E Broad (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Mr A Kingsley, Mr A McLellan, Mr J Theyer  
County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson

VACANCY ON CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL: No one came forward to fill the vacancy.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 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: The Chairman gave a short report from Paul Hodgkinson. Mr Musgrave wished to speak about road safety around St Andrews School. The Chairman then brought forward this item on the agenda.

Road Safety around St Andrews School: The Chairman opened the meeting to let Mr Musgrave speak. Mr Musgrave explained his concerns about the road safety around the school where he had witnessed a near miss recently. He had circulated his notes from an ad-hoc meeting with interested parties including the Parish Council in 2017. The School Travel Plan is no longer available on St Andrews School website, this was created by the Parish Council, School Governors, Gloucestershire Road Safety Partnership and other stakeholders and basically involved the parking of cars at the Village Hall and pupils walking down to the school, he felt it would be useful if it could be brought to parents' attention and reinstated on the website. He was also concerned that parking cars in the gateway to the playground is a danger as there is no visibility for drivers seeking to emerge. When Council reconvened, it was agreed to write to the school and pre-school raising concerns and asking them to reinstate the School Travel Plan on the website and suggest that a removable post could be inserted in the entranceway to stop vehicles parking there.

## PLANNING:

22/03904/TCONR Pear Tree Cottage, Calves Hill - Pollard large Ash Tree (T1) located at the front of the property down to the ridge of the house (Permitted on 30/11/22)

22/03664/TPO The Orchard, Calveshill - Prune Sycamore / Beech Group (G1) located at the paddock back of the barn, reduce all overhanging branches over barn to clear 1 metre – This application has not been received by the PC and comments by the Chedworth Society have been attributed to the Parish Council. See email 6/12 from CDC wishing to approve the application – It was proposed from the Chair and seconded by Mr G Broad to write to the tree officer at CDC stating that we have no record of being consulted regarding this application. The Chedworth Society have commented, and their comments have been taken as being an objection by the Parish Council and ask him to check the details in the system to ensure this does not happen again.

Village Hall Houses: An email had been received from Jan Harrison pointing out that if they now

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pay up in advance there is no habitat objection, and a decision will be made. It was agreed to reply thanking her for bringing this to our attention, but we discussed the matter briefly on Monday evening, but we felt that it is too late to make any material difference to the decision, and that granting permission is now a mere formality.

21/00911/DMPO Rendcomb Airfield: Nothing further.

Neighbourhood Plan:

- a) To receive any update: Nothing further.
- b) Dark Skies Questionnaire: Mr Morgan ran through the questionnaire, received from the Cotswold National Landscape, and answered the questions. Mr G Broad agreed to make enquiries to find out what was said in the draft Neighbourhood Plan regarding dark skies. Mr Morgan would now send back the completed questionnaire.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

Traffic in Village and Road Matters:

- a) Roadside Verges: Nothing further.
- b) Cooks Hill, Reduced Width: Nothing further.
- c) Tuns Hill Waterfall: An email had been received saying that Highways were aware of the situation and were undertaking investigation works.
- d) Overhanging Vegetation on Station Hill: Nothing further.
- e) Ash Die Back Trees on Highway: GCC had emailed to say that the trees had been inspected and they do not show signs of Ash Die Back. The Chairman was not happy with their response to this matter, there are five trees along the boundary of Winterwell House, two on private land have been felled due to Ash Die Back, and GCC have told the landowner to fell two more, also on private land, due to Ash Die Back. The middle one, which is outside of the landowners property on the highway verge by a matter of inches and adjacent to the two that have been felled, they claim is not infected. The inspection of the trees was carried out on 15th November when most of the leaves had been shed, during the summer the tree on highway land was very clearly in less healthy condition than the two which have been felled. It is obviously much easier to detect Ash Die Back when the tree is in full leaf as the initial symptom is visible in the leaves. Equally we are concerned at their diagnosis of the other trees in this area on highways land as their expert seems to feel that only those on private land need to be felled. It was proposed Mr G Broad and seconded from the Chair to reply making them aware of this, agreed.
- f) Speed of Traffic on Fields Road: Nothing further.
- g) Fencing Protecting the Former Railway on Fields Road: Nothing further although the barrier has been taken away.
- h) Road Safety around St Andrews School: Dealt with earlier on the agenda.

Footpaths:

- a) Diversion of Stream below Chedworth House: Nothing further.

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust Chedworth Nature Reserve: Nothing further.

The Grass Keep Field:

- a) Tree Planting on Diggers Field: Mr Kingsley had emailed to say our professional Tree Advisor has secured the funding for the 22 new plum (7), apple (8), pear (4) and cherry (3) trees from the

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Gloucestershire Orchard Trust. He has also been able to get funding for tree-guards for all the trees from the Farming in Protected Landscapes (AONB) organisation.

b) The Orchard Trust: Agreed to defer until next meeting.

Cotswold School Bus Timetable Change: An email had been received from Paul Hodgkinson updating the situation. He reported that the afternoon service seems to have been fixed but the morning service is still unresolved. But two things have given some hope for a better longer-term plan for home to school transport - the major review which starts in January of all bus routes, procurement and logistics - and the fact (acknowledged by officers) that our collective lobbying has moved the Chedworth situation to the top of their viewpoint, making them painfully aware that we are on the case and watching for the next move.

Chedworth Village Hall: The new front door & Blu-ray Player – Nothing further had been heard but the new front door has now been fitted.

Christmas Lights at the Village: It was formally agreed to reimburse Colin Peirce for arranging the installation of the Christmas Lights.

The Xbox Light: The Chairman had obtained replacement bulbs and fitted them following a report the light inside was no longer working. When he was fitting the new bulbs, he noticed that the green light on the defibrillator was no longer working. After some discussion it was agreed to ask Mrs Stainforth to do another check and meanwhile the Chairman would look at the electrics and if necessary, get an electrician in. Authorisation to do this was proposed by Mr Morgan and seconded by Mr G Broad, agreed.

Supporting the Seven Tuns: Nothing further.

#### FINANCE:

1. E Broad (Quarterly Salary) £689.00, prop. I Morgan, sec. G Broad
2. E Broad (Quarterly Mileage) £9.65, prop. I Morgan, sec. G Broad
3. PKF Littlejohn (External Audit) (£200 + VAT) £240.00, prop. I Morgan, sec G Broad
4. Viking (Copier Paper, Ink & Stamps) (£53.20 + VAT) £58.64, prop. I Morgan, sec G Broad
5. SLCC Membership £80.00, prop. D Broad, sec G Broad
6. IONOS (Hosting of Village Website October 2022) Direct Debit £2.40, prop. I Morgan, sec. G Broad
7. IONOS (Hosting of Village Website November 2022) Direct Debit £2.40, prop. G Broad, sec D Broad
8. IONOS (Hosting of Parish Council Website December 2022) Direct Debit £7.20, prop. D Broad sec. G Broad
9. Ian Morgan (Wine for Toby Baxter) £19.98, prop. G Broad, sec. D Broad
10. Limited Assurance Review of AGAR Return for year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 – To note that the 2022/23 Audit has been completed and the statutory notices posted on the Parish Council website and Village Hall notice board.
11. Appointment of Independent Internal Auditor for 2022/23 Audit – It was agreed to appoint Mr Iain Selkirk as Independent Internal Auditor for 2022/23 Audit.
12. Suggestions for budget to Clerk by next meeting, Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January
13. 2023/24 Precept requested needs to be back to CDC by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023 – Noted.

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14. Quarterly Financial Review – To be undertaken by Cllr Morgan & the Clerk at the end of the meeting – This would be done following the January meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Hugh Westwood Education Trust: An email had been received from Ros Marsden requesting a formal nomination by the Parish Council for another four-year term as the village representative. It was agreed to email Ros Marsden and ask for details of her appointment as our records show that she was appointed in May 2014, we don't have any information on the length of the term of this appointment. The Parish Council's usual policy, since the charities review of 2018, has been to advertise vacancies and make appointments generally at the May meeting of the Parish Council.

The meeting concluded at 9.03pm.

NEXT MEETING: Parish Council Meeting - Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 7.30pm.  
Budget Meeting – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 at 7.30pm.

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Date.....