

CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

AGENDA – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 17th APRIL 2023

PRESENT: Mr D Broad (Chairman) Mr G Broad, Mr A Cola. Mr A Kingsley, Mr A McLellan, Mr I Morgan, and Mrs E Broad (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson

ABSENT: Mr J Theyer

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th March 2023 were agreed and signed as a true record.

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

OPEN SESSION FOR THE PUBLIC: Sue Callard spoke about the purchase of an Oak tree to mark the Coronation. She offered to arrange the purchase of the Oak tree but asked that the Parish Council decide where it should be sited. The Chairman brought forward the Coronation items forward on the agenda.

The Coronation Weekend 6th to 8th May 2023:

- a) The Commemorative Oak Tree: It was proposed by Mr G Broad and seconded by Mr Cola to accept the offer from Sue Callard to arrange the purchase of the Oak tree for £129.00 + VAT and delivery, agreed.
- b) Screening Event Saturday 6th May: This was all in hand. As it was unclear if the Village Hall would be able to provide a bar, it was suggested that people bring their own refreshments. Mr McLellan reported that the Seven Tuns were holding a barbeque later on Saturday afternoon.
- c) Commemorative Bench: The Chairman open the meeting to allow Sophie Blackwell and Rosh Delaney to report on the bench. Rosh Delaney presented a sketch of the proposed bench from Eli Baxter who had managed to secure some suitable Oak from Chittlegrove. It was reported that the cost of producing the bench would be just under £1,000. The ladies suggested that it should be sited on the mound at the Village Hall. When Council reconvened, it was proposed by Mr Morgan and seconded by Mr G Broad to set a budget of £1,100 for the bench to allow for the fitting to be included, agreed. It was further agreed that as the Parish Council cannot give permission for the siting at the Village Hall to contact the Village Hall to let them know that we had directed to ladies to liaise with them.
- d) Commemorative Mugs: There was one on display at the meeting. The Clerk reported that 143 mugs have been purchased with around 50 being available for purchase by residents. Sophie Blackwell and Rosh Delaney offered to sell the remaining mugs at the Pop up Café. It was agreed that these should be sold for a suggested donation of £5.00, and the proceeds used to offset the other costs from the agreed spending on the Coronation. Sue Callard said she hoped that the Parish Council would be given credit for purchasing the mugs to be given to the children at school and pre-school.
- e) Commemorative Flagpole: It had been suggested at the Parish Meeting to purchase a temporary flagpole & flag which had been priced up at £281.50 + VAT & delivery. Chedworth Entertainments offered to donate half the cost. It was proposed from the Chair and seconded by Mr Kingsley to go ahead and purchase this and accept Chedworth Entertainments offer to cover half the cost less the VAT, agreed.

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PLANNING:

23/00782/TCONR The Vicarage - Works to Trees in Conservation Area - Noted

23/00764/FUL The Barn, Denfurlong Farm - Erection of carport and garden room – Objection

This structure will be prominent as it is on the main route into the village from the nearby Fosseway. Councillors feel it does not respect the Cotswold vernacular and does not follow principles of the Cotswold Design Code. Council is also concerned at the potential for exterior lighting which could adversely affect the Parish Council’s efforts to promote Dark Skies.

23/01067/AGFO Piccolo Farm, Pinkwell - Agricultural or Forestry Notification for Prior notification for the erection of an agricultural storage building- No objection but the Parish Council would like to see restrictions on the external lighting as this could have an adverse effect on the Parish Council’s efforts to promote Dark Skies.

23/00887/FUL Hayward Cottage, Lower Chedworth - Single storey rear extension to replace existing conservatory - No objection but the Parish Council would welcome any measures which could help to minimise the light emitted from this property as the Parish Council strives to promote Dark Skies.

Planning Appeal Decision: 22/01035/PLP The Pump House Middle Chedworth - Permission in Principle application for up to one self-build dwelling - Dismissed

21/00911/DMPO Rendcomb Airfield: Nothing further.

Neighbourhood Plan: The Chairman invited Mr Harrison to speak. He asked that the new Parish Council takes the decision not to proceed with the plan but asked that it is continued at present to allow for the design code to be finalised. When Council reconvened, this request was agreed.

Dark Skies: It was reported that no response had been received from the item in the Hill and Valley, but something might come in in the future.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

Traffic in Village and Road Matters:

a) Roadside Verges:

i) To receive any update on verge cutting in the village: Mr Morgan reported that Brian Brazington would be undertaking a spring cut of visibility splays and a two-day cut and collect of other areas not covered by the main cut in the autumn. Mr Morgan also stated that he had not put his nomination papers in for the new Parish Council, but he would be willing to be co-opted at the next meeting if no one else comes forward, but he did not intend to serve a full term. He asked Mr Cola to take over liaising with Brian Brazington regarding the verges if he was not co-opted or later in the term when he stood down, Mr Cola agreed to do this.

ii) To receive any update on erosion of verges in the village also email from Alex Priest: It was agreed to reply to Alex Priest sympathising but pointing out that there was very little that we can do other than raise this with GCC as we have done already.

b) Cooks Hill, Reduced Width: Nothing further.

c) Tuns Hill Waterfall: It was reported that the footpath from the Seven Tuns to the Church had been closed due to a landslip caused by the flooding. The Chairman showed several photographs showing the recent bad flooding in the area and Queen Street. Adams Bothy in Queen Street had once again been flooded.

d) The Stream: Mr Kingsley reported that he and the Chairman had met with Rachel Quick from the Old Bakery. There was to be a meeting set up with Laurence King from CDC and other interested parties to discuss the situation. The Chairman invited Mr Harrison to speak, which he did, he asked to be included in the forthcoming meeting.

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- e) Ash Die Back Trees on Highway: Nothing further.
- f) Speed of Traffic on Fields Road: Mr McLellan reported that he had been in touch with Sue Fellows our PCSO who advised he who to contact to set up another Speed Watch. It was likely that further training for volunteers would be required.
- g) Fencing Protecting the Former Railway on Fields Road: GCC Highways had responded stating this was a third-party boundary fence, the Local Highway Manager has contacted the owner and is discussing the possibility of repairs.
- h) Road Safety around St Andrews School: GCC Highways had responded stating this fence is not part of the highway and therefore not a highway asset. The fence is in a good condition and provides a boundary line for the landowner's property and a sufficient barrier between the highway and the land beyond. They will continue to monitor the site here and should the condition of the site or fence change then they will intervene.
- i) Drainage Overflow at Corner Cottage: Mr Morgan had obtained the owner of Corner Cottage's name and it was agreed to write and ask the tenants to pass the letter on to the owner.

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust Chedworth Nature Reserve: Nothing further. Mr Cola reported that a tree had fallen on the site. The Chairman agreed to let the GWT know.

Lower End Graveyard: Mrs Blackwell had replied, and a cut has been requested.

The Grass Keep Field:

- a) Tree Planting on Diggers Field: Mr McLellan reported that the new sign had been completed by Eli Baxter.
- b) Wildflowers: It was felt that the autumn was the time to spread wildflower seeds.

The Xbox:

- a) To consider the condition of the Xbox: The Chairman reported that there was damage to the door which needed remedial work. A new door would cost in the region of £680.00 and the correct paint for the BT box around £80.00 per tin. It was felt these costs could not be justified at the moment. The Chairman agreed to undertake the remedial work on the door and obtain some cheaper alternative paint. It was proposed from the Chair and seconded by Mr G Broad to go ahead with this, agreed with one against.
- b) Faulty Battery: The manufacturer was going to send a replacement battery to see if this would solve the problem. It was suggested by the manufacturer that the defibrillator may be ailing and a new one would cost in the region of £1,500.

Supporting the Seven Tuns: The Chairman had made an application to list the Seven Tuns as an Asset of Community Value. The Chairman reported that he had looked into the suggestion that the Parish Council consider taking on the lease and this was unprecedented, there are a number of examples of Parish Council's purchasing the freehold of pubs, shops etc. for the community, including taking up loans for purpose with the consent of the Secretary of State. Nothing could be found about a Parish Council taking up a lease on a pub. There are examples of a community interest company being set up specifically to take on the lease of a pub. It seems generally that the Parish Council would become involved with the purchase of the freehold and the Parish Council would then lease the property to a community group to run the business. As we understand it there is no prospect of the Tuns freehold becoming available in the short term.

Village Litter Pick: Mr McLellan reported that this would be held on Monday 8th May from 10am.

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He had arranged to borrow the equipment from CDC. It was agreed to put reminders on social media asking people to contact Mr McLellan.

CDC Digital Inclusion Courses – To consider any update: Mr Kingsley had this in hand.

FINANCE:

1. Cottage Garden Services (Playing Field cutting March) (£44.00 + VAT) £52.80, prop. G Broad, sec. A Kingsley
2. Viking (Ink) (£43.70 + VAT) £52.44, prop. G Broad, sec. A McLellan
3. IONOS (Hosting of Village Website March 2023 & Domain Renewal) Direct Debit £3.60, prop. A McLellan, sec. I Morgan
4. IONOS (Hosting of Parish Council Website April 2023) Direct Debit £7.20, prop. G Broad, sec I Morgan
5. Central Design Ceramics (Coronation Mugs) (£735.85 + VAT & Carriage) £835.02 Retrospective, prop. D Broad, sec. G Broad
6. GAPTC Subscription £216.29 – It was agreed not to join again this year.
7. Council in receipt of £300.00 Playing Field Rental August 2023 from Ian Chamberlain
8. Council in receipt of £2,961.60 CIL Levy from CDC
9. Request for funding for Market Umbrellas from the Village Hall – A request had been received for two Market Umbrellas for outside stalls for the monthly produce market. It was proposed by Mr G Broad and seconded by Mr Morgan to ask the Village Hall how much they charge for the stall rental and how many events would they need to be hired out for to cover the initial cost. It was also agreed to ask them to obtain three quotes, as their initial quote is over £1,000 to comply with our standing orders, agreed. An email had also been received from the Village Hall asking the Parish Council to pay for a new Dyson hand dryer for the ladies loos, as the old one was broken. It was felt that as this was not a capital project but a renewal it was not an ideal thing for a Parish Council to purchase. Mr McLellan offered to look into alternative sources of funding for this replacement.

OTHER BUSINESS:

District & Parish Elections 4th May 2023: It was recorded that six Councillors were elected Unopposed. It was agreed to advertise the vacancy, to be filled by co-option at the May meeting, on social media. Meanwhile the Chairman would speak to Jeremy Theyer to see if he wished to be considered for co-option. Mr Morgan had reported his intentions earlier in the meeting.

Charity Appointment from the May meeting: It was agreed to advertise the appointments to be filled at the May meeting on social media asking for interest. The two appointments coming up are:-

1. Community Lands Charity for a four-year term – current trustee David Broad
2. Hugh Westwood Educational Trust – current trustee Ros Marsden

The meeting concluded at 9.23pm.

NEXT MEETING: Annual Parish Council Meeting Monday 15th May 2023 at 7.30pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....