

CHEARSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 17th MAY 2021 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM WITH LIVE STREAM ON YOUTUBE

PRESENT

Councillors: Nic Brown (**NB**), Julia Witcher (**JW**), Keith Turnbull (**KT**), Ian Houseman (**IH**), Paul Bown (**PAB**), John Lewis (**JL**), Angela Gray (**AG**)

Responsible Finance Officer: Robert Parkes (**RP**)

Parish Clerk: Helen Spurgeon

Officers: Anthony Adams, John Howard

1. CO-OPTION OF NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR

Ian Houseman was co-opted onto the Council.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Nic Brown was elected Chairman and signed the Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

3. PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME

No questions.

4. APOLOGIES

None.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared.

6. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

John Lewis was elected Vice Chairman. Angela Gray was welcomed as a new Parish Councillor.

7. REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS

Footpaths Officer: Anthony Adams

John Howard is no longer a Councillor but will continue to see his projects through to fruition as an Officer.

Two new Officers will be joining in the near future, to be appointed at the next meeting.

Flag Officer: Jay Gibson

Church representative: **JW**

Village Hall Representative: **KT** and **AG**

Village Trust Representative: **JL**

Cricket Club Representative: **IH**

8. APPROVAL OF APRIL 2021 MINUTES

Minutes were **agreed** as a true record.

9. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- **Dog fouling.** JW has recently emailed Environmental Health regarding add Chearsley to the dog warden rota and awaits a response.
- Julia Wood has offered to support the **Good Neighbours Scheme** if required. NB will liaise with Susan Olding.
- **Payroll scheme for Clerk.** ACTION: Clerk to contact DCK Beavers for payroll provision as they specialise in local councils.
- **Footpath over railway line.** This has now been reopened.
- **Registering The Bell as an asset of community value.** ACTION: Clerk to respond to Bucks Council with requested information.
- **Council annual report.** ACTION: JL to send to AG and IH before distributing to a wider audience.

10. PLANNING

- **21/01639/AGN - Chearsley Hill House, Chilton Road, Chearsley HP18 0DN**
A site visit took place, comments were submitted on the previous application. Comments have been submitted on this latest application with the PC neither supporting nor objecting but stating a preference that this development does not take place.
- **19/01949/APP – Longhouse, Church Lane, Chearsley HP18 0DH**
Comments were previously submitted in November 2019 and January 2021. There are no significant alterations to this application. There are 2 main issues 1) the extension would compromise the integrity of the building next door 2) the existing footprint should be maintained but this application extends it. The PC opposes the application.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

Two emails were received from parishioners stating that the sound on the live stream from the village hall was poor. ACTION: KT to investigate new equipment for the next meeting.

12. FINANCE

- **Annual report and Accounts**
The Annual Report and Accounts have been prepared, reviewed by the Council's internal auditor, and approved by the Parish Council at its meeting in April 2021, and subsequently. The accounts, together with the AGAR, have now been submitted to the Council's auditor for final review. Other than an acknowledgement, there has been no response.
- **Precept**
The first payment of £17,500 has been received in the month. This is 50% of the total requirement.
- **VAT**

The refund of VAT relating to 20/21 was received in the month, £2,025.

- **Payments in April**

Payments made in the month, not previously authorised by the Council, are as follows:

Microsoft subscription	£59.99
Land registry	£3.00
N Brown	£63.37 (replacement hi-vis jacket)
British Gas	£11.49

- **Cash in hand**

At the end of the month, there was £84,800 in the bank account, including funds held on behalf of the Village Trust. The Village Trust funds will be moved to their own account as soon as it is set up.

- It was agreed to purchase a hi-vis jacket for **AG**.

13. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ATTENDING MEETINGS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

NB is now a Bucks Councillor for the Bernwood ward and will bring updates to the PC meeting. Martin Tett has been voted as the new leader of Bucks Council. **NB** will be appointed to the planning committee at Bucks Council.

14. SUB-COMMITTEE DECISIONS FOR RATIFICATION

- **AG** will be working on devolved budgets, using her work skills in this role.
- **Funding for horse chestnut junction project.** Costings (£9,500) for a Preliminary Design stage by Tfb have been received. They are proposing to look at the viability of all 3 options and put forward a recommendation. The design and implementation of the chosen scheme are not included in this costing. The PC will need to meet this cost but can apply to the Community Board for a grant.

15. OFFICERS' REPORTS

- **IH** attended the NEG meeting on 10th May, an email was circulated summarising the meeting. Work is still ongoing to find a new name for the group.
IH attended the Buckinghamshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy meeting on 11th May, an email was circulated summarising the meeting. The meeting focussed on the feedback from the LNRS pilot stakeholder consultations carried out in February and March.
Moth traps have been put in the horse chestnut tree, they will be changed regularly and numbers monitored.
- Anthony Adams reported that the Church Lane stile has been lowered. Further discussions are needed with Rose Dale and the Heybrooks regarding the footpaths/fencing/barbed wire. **ACTION: JL to contact Rose Dale.**
- John Howard reported that the Aylesbury Road will be repaired this financial year. We are hoping for a long term solution to the drainage problems in Church Lane. A review meeting of the Stockwell project will take place next week. A Community Board grant has been applied for.

The Historic Chearsley group will be doing some research in the Diocese archives.
The Chearsley Business Directory will be reviewed in the near future.

16. TREE AND VERGE MATTERS

An email was received from Jay Gibson regarding a lorry that knocked a branch onto his car by his property. **ACTION: IH and PAB to look at this area**. Tom Audley has yet to start work as the cow parsley needs to die down first. **PAB** and **IH** will meet to look at priorities. **NB** asked for the areas near the village entry signs to be strimmed. The cow parsley in Shupps Lane also needs strimming

17. TO DISCUSS COMMUNITY LIBRARY

To be moved to the June agenda.

18. PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME

No questions.

19. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- The Mercedes will be removed from the ditch going towards Cuddington once the police have completed their investigations.
- A concern was raised about parking outside the pub making access down the road very narrow for emergency vehicles.
- A village party will take place on 24th July with children's entertainment, food, a real ale bar, evening disco, live band and pig roast.
- Thank you to **KT** for arranging the live streaming of this PC meeting.

20. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING in Chearsley Village Hall

- Monday 21st June 2021 at 7.30pm