

CHEARSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 21ST JUNE 2021 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT
7.30PM WITH LIVE STREAM ON YOUTUBE

PRESENT

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

Parish Clerk: Helen Spurgeon

Officers: Anthony Adams, John Howard

PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME

An email had been received asking when the verges will be cut, especially those full of nettles.

ACTION: IH to respond to email explaining that the verges will be cut this week.

1. APOLOGIES

Julia Witcher (JW), Robert Parkes (RP).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared.

3. APPROVAL OF MAY 2021 MINUTES

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

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- **Payroll scheme for Clerk.** **ACTION: Clerk to contact DCK Beavers for payroll provision.**
- **Registering The Bell as an asset of community value.** The first nomination was unsuccessful. A new nomination has been submitted with further supporting evidence. A decision will be made within 8 weeks of the nomination being received by Bucks Council. We are hopeful of a successful outcome.
- **Equipment for live streaming of meetings.** KT has done some research into equipment to improve the sound on the live streaming of meetings. The acoustics in the village hall are difficult. There are 2 options, one very expensive option costing £1000 and the other option costing around £300 for microphones. A budget of £500 was agreed by councillors.
- **Footpaths across the Heybrooks land.** JL has written to Rose Dale again regarding the estimate to widen the footpath and awaits a response. JL will chase.
- **Tree and verge matters.**
Tree branch that was knocked onto Jay Gibson's car – the maintenance of the hedge is the responsibility of the resident. IH has been to see the resident twice and has offered to help, he will keep trying.

IH has sent a map to Colin Woolford of the verge areas that we want Bucks Council to cut, a very good piece of work.

5. PLANNING

- **21/01953/APP – Lainswood House, Bernards Close, Chearsley HP18 0BY**
A site visit has taken place. The planning notice has yet to be displayed at the property. The property name in the householder application is Fairview Cottage rather than Lainswood House, which may have caused some confusion. The property is in the conservation area. The height of the building is 2.45 metres which will impact the neighbours. The PC feels that this application constitutes development creep and opposes the application.
- **19/01949/APP – Longhouse, Church Lane, Chearsley HP18 0DH**
This application has been approved by Bucks Council but there is a major error in their conclusions which the PC have alerted them to. The chief planning officer is investigating and the owners of Longhouse and West End Cottage have been copied on the correspondence.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

The Speed Indicator Device has been loaned to another PC for a week to enable them to gather speed data. Cuddington are also looking into the purchase of a SID. Chearsley are investigating the purchase of a second SID at a cost of approximately £3000. **ACTION: KT to put forward a proposal for the purchase of a second SID.**

7. FINANCE

The monthly finance report has been circulated to councillors.

- Annual report and Accounts
There has been no progress with the audit of the accounts for the year ended 31.3.21.
- Payments in May
May was a month of low activity, and as a result, there have been no unscheduled payments, except for GDPR annual registration, £40.

8. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ATTENDING MEETINGS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

The Community Board Freight Working Group had their meeting on 8th June. The group is making contact with planning authorities so that traffic movement plans to construction sites become standard. The definition of traffic control zones where heavy vehicles could be excluded was discussed. A triangular area with the A41 to the north, the B4011 Bicester to Thame road to one side and the A418 Thame to Aylesbury road on the other side was proposed. Nothing can be done north of the A41 due to HS2 works. Discussions are taking place with Haddenham PC and Graham Hillary will contact Oxfordshire to get their view. There is a suggested plan to reduce the number of working groups in the Community Board. If this goes ahead the freight sub-group would no longer exist. A meeting took place this morning and a way has been found to keep this group subject to Community Board endorsement.

9. SUB-COMMITTEE DECISIONS FOR RATIFICATION

The Stockwell restoration project is being led by Derek Allen. Quotations for the work have been received from contractors, the total cost is just over £15,000. **JL** proposes that we allocate funding and instruct contractors. **JL** listed the scope of the work and suggested we could reallocate budget funds, such as from the HCI junction improvement work. Community Board funding may also be available, we await the outcome of our application. Subject to this, a proposal to allocate up to £16,000 to the project was made. All councillors are in support of this proposal.

10. OFFICERS' REPORTS

Anthony Adams is speaking to the Ramblers Association to get a quote to change the two gates behind Chearsley Hill House.

11. TREE AND VERGE MATTERS

The planned mowing of the verges is starting. The tree which came down across Hicks path has been moved but the wood is still to be removed.

12. TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSAL FOR THE CREATION OF 2 FOOTPATHS OUT OF CHEARSLEY

A letter was received from a parishioner suggesting the addition of a footpath on the Cuddington road on the left hand side from where the existing footpath ends, roughly opposite 'Odyssey' and down to the signposted footpath at Toby Sampson's field. Another footpath was suggested on the Winchendon road on the left side giving safe access to the 'balk', the cross-country bridleway connecting to the Chilton road. The proposal makes good sense. The work would be done by highways rather than rights of way and the cost would be met by the PC and possibly the Community Board. Further investigation is needed.

ACTION: NB to circulate email and speak to associate at Bucks Council to get a basic steer on the proposal. To be discussed further at the next meeting.

13. ADOPTION OF THE AGREED WORK PLAN

A work plan has been developed with names assigned to tasks. A sub-group meeting was held and the document has been distributed. Councillors agreed unanimously to adopt the work plan.

14. PROGRESS ON NEW OFFICER APPOINTMENTS

The agreed work plan has been sent to 2 individuals who are interested in becoming officers.

15. HCI JUNCTION PROJECT – APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURE

There are 2 strands to consider:

1. Can we get funding from the Community Board?
2. The level of TfB involvement, when and how?

TfB consider 3 stages to the project, the initial design, the detailed design and the implementation work. The cost is £9,000 for the initial design for 3 of the options. The PC have a preferred option and it is probably possible to do the initial design for this option for £6,000. Community Board funding requires approval and **JL** will need to go in front of the transport committee to seek preliminary approval. **JL** recommends we pay the £6,000

ourselves for the initial design, as part of the £25,000 that is in the budget, direct with TfB, and then go to the Community Board for funding. This will move things forward quicker. Councillors agreed unanimously to this proposal.

16. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – WAY FORWARD

NB has discussed with Ken Trew of Cuddington PC the merits of doing a neighbourhood plan for Chearsley, and he thinks a full neighbourhood plan is not needed. **ACTION: NB to circulate Ken's comments. ACTION: Clerk to put on agenda for next meeting.**

17. PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME

A parishioner commented on the poor sound on the live stream of the meeting.

18. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- **AG** reported that the devolved services pilot started in April so it is too late to join for this year. She will try to get details of the services devolved and the timetable for next year's pilot and then a discussion on whether to join can take place.
- **PAB** reported that planning for Long Crendon surgery has come through and the focus will now move to funding. Work has to start in November at the latest or the land will revert to the land owner.
A lawnmower and strimmer were stolen on Saturday while the village grass was being cut. Serious consideration needs to be given to CCTV. **IH** would like to consider coverage at the allotments also. **PAB** suggested a separate meeting to discuss CCTV, perhaps involving the public. **ACTION: NB to contact UK Security Group to discuss CCTV in the village.** A fund has been set up to help Graham King replace his stolen equipment, individuals can donate and councillors agreed unanimously for the PC to donate £50.
- **KT** reported that the Aylesbury Road towards Cuddington is due to be repaired 23rd to 25th August and Dark Lane in September.
- **IH** reported that the hedge by the village hall needs cutting back as it is encroaching on the footpath. Pathways and Church Piece also need looking at. If possible this work will be done by Tom Audley.
- **JH** reported on another HGV manoeuvre that brought the village to a halt on 9th June. Residents are urged to take photographs and get registration numbers if they see anything similar happening.
- A village party will take place on 24th July starting at noon with children's entertainment, food, a real ale bar, evening disco, live band and pig roast.
- It was agreed to purchase an Armed Forces Day flag for the Chearsley flagpole.

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

- Monday 19th July at 7.30pm