

CHEARSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 16TH MAY 2022 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM

PRESENT

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

Officers: Anthony Adams, John Howard

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

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

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

John Lewis was elected Vice Chairman.

3. PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME

No questions.

4. APOLOGIES

Paul Bown (**PAB**), Robert Parkes (**RP**), Helen Spurgeon

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared.

6. REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS

No changes.

7. TO REVIEW ALL PARISH COUNCIL POLICIES

Updated PC policies were reviewed and unanimously approved. A new Safeguarding Statement was also agreed.

8. APPROVAL OF APRIL 2022 MINUTES

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

9. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- **Ploughed field next to Long Meadow.** Concerns were raised that the water filled ditch may contain contaminates. **IH** has contacted the Environment Agency but is unable to get past the call waiting queue. **ACTION: NB to contact Cabinet Member for the environment.**
- **Lower Green Lane trees.** **IH** has checked the trees and there are three dying trees to be dealt with.

- **Community Speedwatch signs.** These will cost approximately £100 each. Councillors pre-approved expenditure of £400.
- **Flooding.** NB reported that the repairs have been carried out and the flooding dealt with.
- **Councillor vacancy.** The casual vacancy notice has been posted with an expiry date of 25/05/22. **ACTION: JL and KT to post a vacancy more widely on email, blog and Facebook after the expiry date.**

10. PLANNING

- **22/00677/APP – Merrydowne, 2 Crendon Road, Chearsley HP18 0DL**
Whilst the size of the proposed extension to the rear was reduced from the original application, the property next door would suffer from obstructed views and light reduction and the PC would prefer the works to be confined to the existing footprint. The PC OPPOSED the application on 2nd May 2022.
- **22/01363/APP – Chearsley Hill Barn, Chilton Road, Chearsley HP18 0DN**
Site visit to be arranged.
- **22/01414/APP - Prospect Cottage, The Green, Chearsley HP18 0DJ**
Site visit arranged for 18th May.
- **22/01415/APP - Byeways, The Green, Chearsley HP18 0DJ**
Site visit arranged for 18th May.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

12. FINANCE

The monthly finance report has been circulated to councillors:

2021/22 year-end

The annual report and Accounts, and the AGAR documents were all approved at the April Council meeting and have now been forwarded to PKF, the council's auditors for review. As yet, no response has been received.

Income

There were two items of income in April: the first half of the 2022/23 Precept payment, £19,000, and the refund of VAT paid in the financial year 2021/22, £3,876.43.

Payments in the month

The payments, not already specifically authorised by the Council, made in April, were:

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| The Ramblers Association | £350.00 (replacement style gate) |
| JE Accountants | £165.00, (internal audit fee) |
| N Brown | £60.00, (expenses for litter picking day) |
| CVH | £24.00 (hire of hall on two occasions) |
| BG | £20.11 |

At the end of the month, the bank account stood at £93,770.

13. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ATTENDING MEETINGS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

None.

14. SUB-COMMITTEE DECISIONS FOR RATIFICATION

None.

15. OFFICERS' REPORTS

- John Howard is still awaiting the quote for the repair of the notice board. If this is not forthcoming then **AG** can recommend an alternative contractor.
- John Howard is still waiting for the new Chearsley Village flag to arrive. The Bucks County flag will be flown on or around Friday 29th July, which is the date chosen as Bucks County Day to remember the founding of the Paralympic Movement at Stoke Mandeville Hospital.
- John Howard reported that around 35 people attended the recent meeting of the Chearsley Village Historical Society and interest was growing within the wider community.
- Anthony Adams is following up on rusty footpath signs within the village. The agreed work on widening of the footpath between the railway and the boundary of Notley Farm is still to be carried out.
- **NB** is following up on signage to replace the existing sign at the top of School Lane and possible additional signage adjacent to the Village Hall.
- **KT** has expressed an interest to Elaine Hassall at the Community Board in the purchase of a SID at reduced cost due to bulk purchase and match funding.
- The SID on Crendon Road has been removed as it was giving a green smiley face at 40mph. We are waiting for a response from Traffic Technology.

16. TREE AND VERGE MATTERS

- Pheromone traps have been put in the horse chestnut tree.
- The Burnetts have been clearing their tree on Hicks path.

17. CHEARSLEY VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

The new fence should allow the gates not to be locked.

18. CHEARSLEY CARBON NEUTRAL GROUP UPDATE

John Finch/Sylvie Rouquette have enquired about the possibilities of incorporating new green energy sources within the renovation works on their listed property (Regency Cottage). **ACTION: KT to contact.**

19. PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME

No questions.

20. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- Annual Village Meeting – It was agreed to go for a freer format with no slides.
ACTION: AG to publish agenda by 18th May.
- **NB** gave an update on Flowline who have been checking the gullies. They are going to inspect near the bus stop with cameras to find out what is going on. There is still a

collapsed drain in Church Lane that needs addressing. It needs to be checked that it is on Fix My Street. Lower Green Lane is blocked from Old House.

- **JL** reported that planned kerbing works on Church Lane are still to be carried out.
- **NB** to invite Derek Allen to attend PC Dinner.

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

- Monday 30th May – Annual Village Meeting
- Monday 20th June at 7.30pm – PC meeting