

# CHEARSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 15TH JULY 2024 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT  
7.30PM

## PRESENT

Councillors: John Lewis (JL), Karen Vear (KV), Angela Gray (AG), David Impey (DI),  
Anne Adams (AA), Nic Brown (NB), Paul Bown (PAB)

Responsible Finance Officer: Robert Parkes (RP)

Parish Clerk: Helen Spurgeon

Officers: Anthony Adams

Parishioners: There were 3 Parishioners

## PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME

The PC introduced themselves.

A parishioner asked about nettles and whether we could put in a few hazelnut trees to create a barrier. It was agreed that this was not a village wide solution. Ian Alamghir's idea of a village clear up may help. NB has spoken to Ian and will get a date shortly. Tom Audley has spent 3 x 4 hours working on the verges.

It was commented that Hicks Path is in a rough state. Bucks Council are responsible for this. Anthony Adams will report via the website. The Baulk is overgrown and the grass is very long. Anthony Adams will ask Mr Mole.

### 1. APOLOGIES

John Howard (JH).

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared.

### 3. TO REVIEW ALL PARISH COUNCIL POLICIES

Councillors are having problems opening the policies on the website. **ACTION: JL to investigate.** It was suggested the policies are split between councillors for review.

### 4. APPROVAL OF JUNE 2024 MINUTES

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

### 5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- **HCI Junction Project.** **ACTION: JL to find out how much the detailed designs would cost.**
- **Defibrillator training.** Kevin Dennington doing inspections of devices - training to be offered, especially to the young people, **AG** to pick up with Kevin, **DI** keen to be involved too. Venue to be village hall and perhaps have two sessions. **ACTION: AG.**

- **Acorn anaerobic digester plant.** ACTION: PAB to draft and circulate a response to go on the portal.
- **Broken gate into the field at the bottom of Lower Green Lane.** The PC will write to the landowner. ACTION: JL to draft response and send along with address to the Clerk.
- **Village Hall website.** KV has looked at the website which is good but was unable to open the list of trustees. ACTION: JL to feedback.
- **Replacement of 3 village signposts.** JH is working on this.
- **Play area maintenance.** An inspection was done at the end of May. Kevin Dennington will carry out the required work.
- **Play area gates.** It was suggested that a notice be put on the padlock so villagers know they can use the facility at any time. ACTION: JL to discuss with Village Hall Committee.

## 6. PLANNING

No new applications.

## 7. CORRESPONDENCE

The process for correspondence is that the Clerk will acknowledge and review all correspondence and allocate to the correct councillor/officer for action.

A request has been received from the Church for financial support. A donation of £350 was agreed towards churchyard mowing. ACTION: Clerk to find out reason regular donation to Church was stopped. ACTION:DI to speak to Richard about what future funding may be needed. ACTION: NB to respond to Richard.

## 8. FINANCE

### Monthly finance report

The monthly finance report has been circulated to councillors:

### Year end

There have been no updates from the External Auditors on progress with the annual audit.

### Payments in the month

Payments made during the month and requiring notification are:

N Brown, support for groundwork team, £104.06

BMKALC, literature, £18.10

All other payments were pre-authorized.

The balance at the bank, at the end of the month, was £94,045.

At the end of the first quarter, expenditure has reached £7,560. Of this, £3,960 has been spent on traffic/parking restrictions, £2,100 on grounds maintenance, salaries and administration £1,500, (all figures rounded).

## 9. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ATTENDING MEETINGS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

None.

## 10. SUB-COMMITTEE DECISIONS FOR RATIFICATION

DI circulated an email with estimates for additional street furniture and SID batteries. Total cost £1340. It was agreed that we should write to our insurers to get their approval before we purchase the convex mirror. **ACTION: JL to draft letter for Clerk to send to insurers.** Once we have the OK from the insurers the purchases can be agreed.

**11. OFFICERS' REPORTS**

None.

**12. TREE AND VERGE MATTERS**

A quote has been received from Ben Marsh at Four seasons for tree work in the village. It would be wise to get other quotes. Option 2 for the hornbeams is preferred. Regarding the work in Elmbrook Close, it was agreed that going forward the residents will need to maintain the hedge. **ACTION: KV to speak with residents.** It was agreed to carry out all the work as there are sufficient funds.

The lime trees down Church Lane are very large but the landowner does not want them pruning. **ACTION: Clerk to look back in correspondence to see if there is a letter from the landowner confirming responsibility.**

**13. CHEARSLEY VILLAGE HALL UPDATE**

The problem of the roof leaking is ongoing.

The Village Hall have agreed to share the cost of the hedge trimming.

**14. PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME**

A Parishioner asked for the outcome of all correspondence to be minuted.

A Parishioner enquired about CCTV at the horse chestnut island. This is no longer an active subject.

**15. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**Gigaclear.** The PC would like to invite residents to discourage Gigaclear from using overhead cables into properties. The cables should be going underground but Gigaclear are using overhead cabling as this is the cheaper option.

The recent musical evening at the Church was well attended and a great effort with talented musicians.

The PC would like to thank Paul and Elaine for hosting the PC summer social which was enjoyed by all.

There will be a Historic Chearsley event on 7<sup>th</sup> November with a speaker from Bletchley Park.

**16. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING in Chearsley Village Hall**

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October at 7.30pm

Councillors agreed to hold the next meeting in October due to holiday commitments in August and September.