

CHEARSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 20th JANUARY 2020 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT
7.30PM

PRESENT

Councillors: Nic Brown (**NB**), John Lewis (**JL**), Paul Bown (**PAB**), Martin Hearmon (**MH**), Keith Turnbull (**KT**), John Howard (**JH**), Julia Witcher (**JW**), Mike Hawkett

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

Parish Clerk: Helen Spurgeon

Parishioners: There were 7 Parishioners

PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME

A parishioner asked whether the PC have ever considered the installation of electrical vehicle charging points in the village. It was suggested that the pub car park could be a possible location. They would potentially be used by visitors or residents with no off-road parking. **ACTION: Clerk to investigate.**

1. APOLOGIES

JL and **JW** had advised they would be late to the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

PAB has an interest in planning application 20/00024/APP Chearsley House, Church Lane.

3. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 2019 MINUTES

Minutes were **agreed** as a true record and signed by **NB**.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- **Blocked gulleys on Aylesbury Road.** **NB** has emailed the contractor twice and awaits their response. James Gibson to be asked to dredge the ditch on Lower Green Lane on the left hand side.
- **Planning guidelines.** **ACTION: PAB to arrange a separate planning meeting in February.**
- **Horse chestnut trees.** The moth traps will need to be put up in April but some of the trees are in private gardens. **ACTION: Ian Houseman to lead a meeting in March to discuss the strategy.**

5. PLANNING

- **19/04402/APP - Merrifield, Dark Lane, Chearsley HP18 0DA**
The PC opposes the application. Comments have been submitted to AVDC.
- **19/04436/APP - The Pightle, Church Lane, Chearsley HP18 0DH**
The PC has submitted no objections to AVDC.

- **Chearsley Hill House & Long House, Chilton Road, Chearsley HP18 0DN**
The PC opposes the application. Comments have been submitted to AVDC.
- **20/00024/APP - Chearsley House, Church Lane, Chearsley HP18 0DF**
The PC has submitted no objections to AVDC.

The PC would like to know whether AVDC would consider amending the planning application comments form to make it less rigid. Currently the PC can choose to support or oppose the application or have no objections. It is hoped that it might be possible to just submit comments. This will be discussed at the February planning meeting.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Anti-social behaviour in Church car park. **NB** is in discussions with the neighbourhood police. The PC will follow police guidance on what action is to be taken. **ACTION: NB to follow up with PCSO Danny Fahy.**

7. CONTRIBUTIONS FROM AVDC AND BCC COUNCILLORS

Nothing to update.

8. FINANCE

- The monthly finance report has been circulated to Councillors.
Payments since the last meeting, (excluding scheduled payments)

SLCC	£122.00 (membership fee)
N Brown	£31.44 (Christmas tree expenses)
	£80.07 (ditto)
	£23.96 (Chearsley domain)
AVDC	£327.17 (Dog bins)
G King	£1215.00 (grass cutting)
J Witcher	£175.00 (tree)
Bucks CC	£12,011.85 (traffic calming).

At the present time, there is approximately £45,600 in the bank.

- **2020/21 Budget and precept request**
A budget meeting was held in December, looking at income and expenditure for the year ahead. A proposal for a precept request of £35,000 was put forward, Councillors voted on this, 5 in favour, 2 against. **ACTION: Clerk to submit precept request to AVDC for £35,000.**

9. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ATTENDING MEETINGS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

- There is a transport forum meeting on 17th February which clashes with the next PC meeting.
- **MH** attended the LAF meeting on 5th December. The next LAF meeting in March will be the last one before the new Community Boards take over. The March meeting will agree the format for the new Community Boards.

10. SUB-COMMITTEE DECISIONS FOR RATIFICATION

None.

11. OFFICERS' REPORTS

At the end of January Ian Houseman will publish a version 2 of the Parish Assets Report. £2500 has been put in the budget for the Stockwell project.

12. UPDATE ON OXFORD-CAMBRIDGE EXPRESSWAY

The 'No Expressway' banners for the village gateways will be available shortly. An update has recently gone out to the village. A No Expressway Group (NEG) 'Westminster Event' is planned for 26th February to generate publicity. The NEG have also asked that as many as possible of those opposing the OCE plans should sign their petition to give maximum leverage to the campaign.

13. FOOTPATHS UPDATE

Photographs of all the gates and stiles have been sent to BCC. Improved access is needed. There is a volunteer group in Haddenham who install new gates for £250 per gate. There is a 'Donate a Gate' scheme where people/organisations can donate towards the cost of a gate and have a plaque engraved on it. The landowner's permission is required to install gates. James Gibson has agreed to a gate for footpath no. 4. There are 18 gates required across the village. Footpaths could be added to the Village Assets Report, Ian Houseman and Anthony Adams to discuss.

14. PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME

A parishioner enquired about the flooding between Chearsley and Cuddington. The Thames Water works where the water pipes are being replaced by underground pipes will be finished in April. It is an area that will always naturally flood.

15. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- A separate meeting is to be arranged to look at the various ways of communicating with the community.
- 'Historic Chearsley' will be reactivated this year. An event is planned for May/June involving all the properties in the village that used to be pubs.
- Car service for parishioners. A volunteer has been found to run a WhatsApp group. There will be a meeting this week to work out how it will be run.
- New tree planting on the PC land by the Village Hall. Suggested trees are silver birch, wild cherry or chestnut. **ACTION: PAB to organise a working party to include Ian Houseman, Rose Dale, Joy Payne.**
- It was agreed to put the Silent Soldier back in the Village Hall loft.
- Details of the Village Trust have been uncovered, along with bank details. New terms of reference are still to be finalised.
- Details were passed to the PC of the 1978 silver jubilee tug of war between Cuddington and Chearsley. The documents have been passed to Historic Chearsley. Is this an event that could be resurrected?
- Sylva Trees and Rose Dale review of Church Lane lime trees. The PC agreed to carry out the maintenance work recommended by Sylva Trees at a cost of £300 +VAT. A tree report of all the trees in the village is required. The PC would like to ask the

specialist from Sylva to conduct a walk by of all the trees. A meeting would be needed to share the locations of the trees so that a quote can be submitted for the work. **ACTION: Clerk to find out the extent of our current insurance cover with regards to public liability and trees.**

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

- Monday 17th February 2020 at 7.30pm