

# CHEARSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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

## PRESENT

Councillors: John Lewis (JL), Nic Brown (NB), Karen Vear (KV), Angela Gray (AG)

Responsible Finance Officer: Robert Parkes (RP)

Parish Clerk: Helen Spurgeon

Officers: David Impey (DI), John Howard (JH)

Parishioners: There were 3 Parishioners

## PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME

No questions.

### 1. APOLOGIES

Anthony Adams (AA), Paul Bown (PAB).

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared.

### 3. APPROVAL OF MARCH 2024 MINUTES

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

### 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- **HCI Junction Project.** **ACTION: JL to find out how much the detailed designs would cost.** JL has written to Bucks Council but has yet to receive a reply.
- **Wooden Roadside Bollards.** **ACTION: DI to contact Bucks Council to obtain map of utilities.**
- **Appointment of new councillors.** The casual vacancy notices have gone up.
- **Defibrillator training.** **ACTION: PAB and Kevin Dennington to arrange training session.**

### 5. PLANNING

- **24/00959/APP – Derann, Winchendon Road, Chearsley HP18 0DW**  
Demolition of bungalow and erection of replacement dwelling.  
A site visit was carried out. The PC opposes the application. **ACTION: Clerk to post the response tomorrow.**
- **24/01146/APP - Land At Winchendon Road, Chearsley**  
Demolition of existing agricultural barn and erection of residential dwelling.  
The PC opposed the last application mainly due to dangerous highways access. The application was then withdrawn. **ACTION: JL to draft a response and circulate to councillors.**

## 6. CORRESPONDENCE

- Correspondence was received asking when the SID on Crendon Road would be back in situ. It is currently being repaired but has now been away for 2 months. **ACTION: DI to call company and chase.**
- Correspondence was received regarding the proposal to build an anaerobic digester outside Long Crendon which may lead to a large number of HGVs on local roads. **ACTION: NB to talk to Long Crendon Parish Clerk to ascertain impact on Chearsley.**

## 7. FINANCE

### **Monthly finance report**

The monthly finance report has been circulated to councillors:

### **Year end**

The Annual Accounts and AGAR documents have now been completed for the year ended 31 March 2024. These have been approved by the Internal Auditor.

A VAT refund has been submitted, in relation to the last financial year's spending; this is in excess of £6,200.

The Annual Review has also been completed and a draft provided to the Chair and Deputy. If acceptable, it will need to have photographs added and be shared at the AVM then distributed electronically. Hard copies will also be available for those that need them.

### **Banking**

Lloyds Bank have notified that they will close the Thame branch in December. From the Council's point of view, this makes little difference to the operation of the account, but the change should be noted. As yet, no replacement location has been advised.

### **Income**

There was no income in the month.

### **Payments in the month**

There have been several payments in the month which require notification:

McAfee	£49.99, IT protection;
Non-stop Promotions	£225.00, flags;
D Allen	£21.95, material for the Stockwell;
J Lewis	£35.86, purchase of website address;
Bryants	£498.16, garden machinery;
R T Machinery	£730.80, garden machinery.

The balance at the bank, at the end of the month, was £75,113.

The first half of the precept payment has now been received and the VAT refund.

### **Annual Governance and accountability return 2023/24**

The Council approved the Annual Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024. The Council approved the Annual Governance Statement 2023/24. The Council approved the Accounting Statements 2023/24.

AG agreed to invite village groups to speak at the AVM on 20<sup>th</sup> May.

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

None.

#### **9. SUB-COMMITTEE DECISIONS FOR RATIFICATION**

None.

#### **10. OFFICERS' REPORTS**

- **JH** reported that the replacement footpath signs are progressing. They will need to be signed off by Bucks Council and it needs to be checked that there are no utilities where they are being installed. Kevin Dennington will install them.  
The Church History Day was well received. There are other church events planned:  
Ready Teddy Go on 9<sup>th</sup> June  
Pet service and picnic on 7<sup>th</sup> July  
Summer concert on 13<sup>th</sup> July.  
There will be a Chearsley Pub Revival Day on 19<sup>th</sup> May.
- **DI** reported that the wooden roadside bollards will be installed during the first half of May.  
A volunteer is needed for Community Speedwatch. **JH** volunteered.  
Wotton Underwood would like to reduce their speed limit and have asked for our help in their representations to Bucks Council. It was suggested that they ask their County Councillor for help.

#### **11. TREE AND VERGE MATTERS**

There is a small dead tree fallen over on the left as you go down School Lane.

**ACTION: NB to take a look and inform KV of action to be taken.**

Horse chestnut tree moth traps - it is hoped that Jay may take on this task. **ACTION: KV to follow up with Ian Houseman and Jay.**

#### **12. CHEARSLEY VILLAGE HALL UPDATE**

Nothing to report.

#### **13. PARKING IN THE VILLAGE**

**JL** has circulated a document to the PC on parking in the village. It identifies that there are parking problems. It asks if it really is a problem, what we might do about it and what the next steps are.

It was suggested that the idea is put forward at the AVM, then village opinions are gathered via a Survey Monkey, followed by a village meeting.

#### **14. PC EMAIL ADDRESS - UPDATE**

**JL** has attended a webinar and suggests we register for a .gov.uk domain and use it for email. He has registered us with the .gov.uk helper service and registered for a tuition session.

#### **15. PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME**

A Parishioner asked about the recruitment of new councillors. The casual vacancy notices expire on 30<sup>th</sup> April, after which the PC can co-opt 2 new councillors.

A Parishioner enquired about the flooding on Cuddington Road. Highways won't clear the gully as it was only done 3 or 4 months ago.

The proposed biofuel plant outside Long Crendon will be a 24/7 operation so we need to understand the vehicle movements.

**16. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

None.

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

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00pm – Annual Village Meeting followed by AGM.