

CHEARSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 17th MARCH 2020 BY VIDEO CONFERENCE AT
7.30PM

PRESENT

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

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

Parish Clerk: Helen Spurgeon

Parishioners: Kevin Dennington (NHS Community First Responder), Susan Olding

PC RESPONSE TO COVID-19

The purpose of this discussion was to work out what the PC can do to help, how, who would co-ordinate and volunteer, who we are helping and how this would be communicated to the village. Susan Olding agreed to co-ordinate the work of a team of volunteers to offer help and support in the wake of the new COVID-19 measures. 22 volunteers on the list to date. This might include collection of shopping, picking up prescription medicines from the local surgery or chemists, dog-walking or just someone to talk to. An assistance request form and letter will be distributed to every house in the village. This will advise people how to contact Susan via telephone or email. **JH** to coordinate.

Some surgeries are limiting pick-up of medicines. Susan Olding agreed to contact local surgeries to investigate how our planned scheme could work.

We are also fortunate to have Kevin Dennington in the village who is an NHS First Responder. He can be contacted via the Community First Responder team.

JW will speak to local supermarkets to explain we may be shopping for others and possibly to created an 'authorisation' scheme of some sort. However, it is hoped that volunteer shoppers will be able to source most products at the village shop.

The Bell are developing a new 'take-away' and 'home delivery' meal service.

JH to contact John Fowler at Red Kite radio regarding communicating our plans to the community.

1. APOLOGIES

None.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared.

3. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2020 MINUTES

Minutes were **agreed** as a true record, subject to an amendment to item 14:

Under item 14, **PAB** wished to amend the recording of the response given to the parishioner who had enquired about the possibility of having underground electricity cables in the

village as in one instance the question of cost was not the issue.

He confirmed that UK Power had agreed to bury a large section of the cabling at the bottom end of the village but the scheme was unable to proceed as the owners of Manor Farm were not prepared to give consent to the re-siting of the transformer pole which was required for the scheme to proceed.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- **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.**
- **Communicating with the community.** **ACTION: JL and KT to meet to work on rationalising the various distribution lists for village communications.**

5. PLANNING

- **20/00268/APP - Grove Farm, Chearsley Road, Long Crendon**
The PC has submitted an objection to this application due to the unacceptable re-siting of the dwelling in contravention of the conditions of the reserved matters permission granted in 2017.
- **20/00917/APP – 2-4 Winchendon Road, Chearsley HP18 0DP**
Variation of Condition 2 - amend drawing for road layout relating to permission 16/03565/APP 'Demolition of existing dwellings and residential redevelopment to create 2 x 2 beds, 2 x 3 beds and 1 x 4 bed dwellings and revised access.'
Comments due 10th April 2020.
ACTION: PAB to advise Clerk of comments by 10th April.
- Notes from the planning meeting of 13th February have been circulated. This will be discussed at the next meeting in the Village Hall.
- The PC expressed their thanks to **PAB** for really getting to grips with the planning overview and processes he has driven.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

A report of shoplifting incidents in the village shop has been received, residents are asked to be vigilant.

7. CONTRIBUTIONS FROM AVDC AND BCC COUNCILLORS

There were none present.

8. FINANCE

- The monthly finance report has been circulated to Councillors.
Payments since the last meeting, (excluding scheduled payments)
McAfee, £49.99 (annual IT security protection fee)
- **2019/20 Year-end schedule**
Draft accounts have been circulated to the PC.

9. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ATTENDING MEETINGS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

The Bucks Transport Forum (Freight Workshop) on Mon 23rd March has been cancelled.

10. SUB-COMMITTEE DECISIONS FOR RATIFICATION

None.

11. OFFICERS' REPORTS

None.

12. UPDATE ON OXFORD-CAMBRIDGE EXPRESSWAY

The recent budget announced that the OCE project is 'paused'.

13. VILLAGE TREES

PAB confirmed the following:

- Churchyard lime trees. Conservation area approval received. Work due to be carried out shortly.
- Two new trees adjoining the Village Hall. Agreed to proceed with the planting of a silver birch (due to unavailability of chestnut) and an oak tree . **ACTION: PAB to instruct Four Seasons.**
- School Lane. Local Residents have carried out some additional work and Four Seasons are due to complete the scheduled work on Friday 20th March.
- Village Hall area. Work completed as scheduled with the exception of the pruning of two walnut trees, which will be carried out in June/July in accordance with guidelines.
- Sycamore overhanging Yew Tree Lodge. **PAB** and **NB** had received an e-mail from the resident, Anne Burnett, with various concerns over branches from a sycamore tree overhanging her garden. **PAB** attended the site and confirmed that the tree, although close to the boundary, was in the garden of Tree Tops and not on Hicks Path (PC property). **PAB** confirmed rights to trim overhanging branches, but also confirmed that both properties were within the conservation area, so major works would need approval. Links for 'right to trim' and map of conservation area were sent by e-mail to Mrs Burnett.

NB thanked **PAB** for all his work on village trees.

14. PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME

None.

15. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

With local elections being cancelled, it is hoped that existing Councillors will continue their work for an additional year.

16. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

- Monday 20th April 2020 at 7.30pm (venue to be confirmed)
- Annual Village Meeting cancelled.