

CHEARSLEY ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING

Minutes of Annual Village Meeting held in the Village Hall Monday 15th May 2023 at 7.00pm

Chairman: Nic Brown, **Councillors:** John Lewis, Keith Turnbull, Karen Vear, Angela Gray, Ian Houseman, **Responsible Finance Officer:** Robert Parkes, **Clerk:** Helen Spurgeon, **Officers:** John Howard, David Impey, **Parishioners:** there were 25 parishioners.

1. Apologies

Paul Bown, Anthony Adams, Kasia Kowalska (CHUF), Sharon Woodford (The Bell)

2. Reports

A. Chearsley Parish Council

See AVM Reports Pack.

Nic Brown, Chairman of Chearsley Parish Council, expressed his thanks to the PC team.

B. Community organisations

• Village Hall – Keith Turnbull

CVH is a registered charity 300244. Apart from the specific project grants that we occasionally apply for, CVH has to pay its way through hirings to CHUF, other societies and individuals.

In our last Financial year 22-21 Accounts which closed out September 2022 we had net income of £26,464 and net expenditure of £25,234 closing out with a balance of £40,102. Details of our expenditure and income are publicly available on the Charity Commission website.

We currently have 10 trustees out of a maximum of 13 permissible. We are always looking for more village volunteers to be trustees who would like to help run the Hall which is a very valuable village amenity. Please contact Keith.Turnbull@chearsley.com or one of the other trustees if interested. We worked with Anne Adams, the Parish Council, Bucks Council and several funding foundations to raise £64,794 for a new playground refurbishment which is now completed. This was a major effort but the results look very good. A big thank you to Anne Adams and the Parish Council for their support.

After a very successful 2 year tenure, Anne Burnett has stepped down as Chair. Keith Turnbull is interim Chair as well as Treasurer.

Anne Burnett is still running the bookings remotely as bookings secretary but Paula Johnson has been training up to be able to take over later this year.

• Church - Rev Richard Phillips

See AVM Reports Pack.

• Cricket Club – Terry Gadsby

See AVM Reports Pack.

• Classic Car Show – Andy Yorke

This is a free event that will take place at Chearsley Cricket Ground on Sunday 10th September 11am to 5pm. There will be a pre-show meeting on 7th June for volunteers. 350 vehicles have already registered, but it is likely there will be 600/650 on the day. This event is a big fundraiser for the cricket club.

- **Village Trust – Martin Johnson**
The Village Trust is a pot of charitable cash held by the village for the village. Funds currently stand at £5,900. Only one application has been received so far from the WI. The criteria for applications is on the website. Applications are welcomed.
- **WI – Ann Lee**
The WI meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2pm in the Village Hall. Outings, activities and talks are organised. It is all about fun and friendships.
- **Good Neighbours – Julia Thomas**
Good Neighbours was set up during covid and is still active with about 2 or 3 requests received per month. There are 4 or 5 volunteers who carry out the majority of requests. It is a free service and feedback is good. The email address for requests is assistance@chearsley.com
- **Historic Chearsley – John Howard**
See AVM Reports Pack.
- **The Bell – Tony Babington**
Tony read out an extract from an article from The Sunday Times about pubs. The Bell offers a variety of events including bingo, higher or lower game, meal deals, steak nights, big breakfast, charity events, coffee and cake mornings, meat raffle and entertainers. There are many upcoming events. The PC thanked Sharon for all her hard work running the pub.

3. Parishioners Open Forum

- Marion Grapes reported that she would like to resurrect the village horticultural show that has not run for several years. Volunteers will be needed. The show will be held on Saturday 2nd September and applications will be made online.
- Kevin Dennington reported that some maintenance of the Stockwell will be needed. The pond is covered in blanket weed. He offered to carry out the work but will need PC funding for materials. The PC agreed to help with funding.
- Bell ringing takes place at the Church on Monday nights. All are welcome.
- A question was asked about CCTV in the village. The first quote is £16,000 installation cost then £1,000 per year going forward. Other quotes will be obtained. The PC are looking into the use of the pole on which the new Bell sign is situated as a possible location for a CCTV camera. The survey results were that 73% are in favour of CCTV. A discussion took place around privacy.
- A question was asked about the burnt-out house on the green. The house has been sold but there is no further information.
- The 30mph speed limit in the lanes was discussed. It was asked if '20 is plenty' signs could be installed but these are not permitted on the highway. **ACTION: The lowering of the speed limit to be discussed at a future meeting.**
- Gigaclear are starting work in the village now. Please inform Nic Brown if you encounter any issues.
- It is hoped that a traffic restriction for lorries over 7.5 tonnes in an area which includes Chearsley will be implemented in the next 2 years.
- Speeding was discussed. One Speedwatch session has taken place and others are planned.
- Positive feedback was received on the format of the meeting.

4. Date of the next Annual Village Meeting

- Monday 20th May 2024