

CHUTE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3rd FEBRUARY 2022

Present: Cllr Wall Chairman, Cllr Parr Vice Chairman, Cllr Hopton, Cllr Rudland, Cllr Harker & Cllr Alderson

C Lovell – Clerk
Wiltshire County Councillor Christopher Williams
2 members of public

1. Apologies for Absence

Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a record to be kept of the members present and that this record form part of the minutes of the meeting. Members who cannot attend a meeting should tender apologies to the Town Clerk as it is usual for the grounds upon which apologies are tendered also to be recorded. Under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence are accepted.

Cllr Taylor

2. Public Participation

Two members of public were present but had no questions.
Mrs Tweed was invited to speak under item 10.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Parr declared an interest in the matter of tree re-planting.

4. County Councillors Report.

Cllr Williams provided the following report:

Wiltshire Council is well into the budget setting process for this financial year, and I have attended Finance Task group meetings and Overview and Scrutiny meetings which ensure that the decisions taken are based on sound evidence and are in the best interest of the residents of Wiltshire.

The draft Budget was approved by Cabinet on Tuesday 1 Feb together with the Wiltshire Council Business Plan and updates were also received on the Climate Strategy for the County and the adoption of the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy, amongst other agenda items.

It is worth noting that Wiltshire Council is rated as fifth best unitary authority for climate change strategies and received an excellent rating of 81% in Climate Emergency UK's Council Climate Plan Scorecards.

As for the Budget, Wiltshire Council is recommending a 2.9% increase of which 1% is for social care. The PCC is recommending a £10 increase and we are awaiting the figures from the Wiltshire & Dorset Fire and Rescue Service. Town and Parish precepts will also be added to the total. All this will be finalised when Full Council meets on the 15 February.

On Monday 24th Jan I attended PCC Amesbury Focus Group meeting and in the evening we had a local NTG police meeting on TEAMS hosted by Sharon Duggan. The next one is planned for Mon 28 Feb at 18.30, so watch out for the TEAMS invite.

On Thursday 26 Jan I attended an excellent online North Wessex Downs AONB Briefings. This hopefully will give members a better understanding of our AONBs especially when it comes to planning matters.

Dates for future local meetings

CATG Mon 7 Feb

Tidworth Community Area Health and Wellbeing Thursday 10 Feb 0900 – 1000 Zoom meeting

Tidworth Area Board Monday 21 March

5. Minutes

Resolved: Cllr Harker proposed the minutes of the meetings held on 13th January 2022 were confirmed as a correct record this was seconded by Cllr Hopton. These minutes will be signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

Cllr Harker asked if there had been any feedback from landowners regarding the letter received (Appendix 1) regarding re-planting. The Clerk has had a response and will collate these giving an update (Appendix 2).

Cllr Parr although had declared an interest gave an update that replanting would take place during the year and the ruts caused by the large machinery had been flattened and would soon green over. Cllr Alderson asked about Grove Wood and Cllr Parr advised that they would seek to manage the diseased timber in the woods over much longer periods and not by using large machinery. Cllr Harker requested that an update in the Chronicle by the landowners could be beneficial and good communication to the village.

6. Correspondence Received

Cllr Wall reported that CPC have been awarded a grant of £500.00 for the Jubilee celebrations in June. Cllr Wall advised that she has been approached by a member of the Chute Chronicle Team asking if the council would give a grant to the Chute Chronicle. Cllr Wall explained that their funding comes from advertising, subscriptions, and the PCC. As the Council already award a grant to the Church which has recently been increased it was deemed not appropriate to award a grant direct to the Chronicle. It was suggested that to raise more funding the subscription is increased which has not been done for many years.

7. Specific Reports

Highways - No specific report. Cllr Harker asked if the 'Not Suitable for HGV's' sign for Forest Lane could be chased and the possibility of a 'No HGV's' sign be followed up.

He had also been approached by a parishioner requesting that the pond on Forest Lane was *investigated to establish responsibility for clearance or maintenance*.

Highways issues can be reported on www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts-online-reporting

Footpaths – Cllr Rudland advised that she had attended the Paths for All meeting lead by Wiltshire Council which had been very informative. She reported that some funding is still available to replace stiles with kissing gates and proposed the Parish council take advantage of this and replace some of the restrictive stiles with gates thus ensuring footpaths are accessible to all abilities and encourage a healthier lifestyle. Cllr Wall proposed that Cllr Rudland produce a list of paths that she thought would be benefit from this.

King George Field – Cllr Harker reported that a working party would be clearing the fallen tree debris in the next few weeks. They are still awaiting Southern Electric to remove the damaged limbs overhanging the power cables.

Village Hall – Cllr Alderson reported that coffee mornings had recommenced. There will be a Village Hall meeting on February 8th

Allotments – Discussed under Agenda item 10.

Village Design Guide – Cllr Hopton circulated the consultation document for Saturday. She also circulated the questionnaire which people will be asked to complete. She thanked those who distributed the leaflets and encouraged full attendance at the consultation on 5th February.

The link to the guide is on the website and has been shared on The Chute Community App and the Village E Mail Circulation list.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/hyvf7ve8mim2vjf/AACqhPraZk2cERtxVw5KzjPXa?dl=0>

8. Finance

Balance as @ 31st January 2022 - £6,845.01.

Payments made during January 2022 were:

26/01/2022	DEK Graphics (Village Design leaflets)	£16.80
31/01/2022	C Lovell - Salary	£266.40
31/01/2022	HMRC - Tax/NI	£62.48

It was resolved that the following payments be made:

C Lovell	Salary	£266.40
HMRC	Tax/NI	£62.48

Proposed by Cllr Hopton, seconded by Cllr Parr, carried.

9. Chute Cadley Wellhead – Cllr Wall had circulated the latest quote for the work which was considerably less than the previous quotation, however further discussions are needed before a decision is made and also based on receiving a grant

10. Proposal for Replanting the removed leylandii at the Allotments – Due to timing for planting a decision needs to be made in the next month as to whether a replacement hedge or fruit trees or not to replace at all. Cllr Harker advised that the fruit trees would cost in the region of £300. The Clerk will email the allotment holders to ask what their preference is. The WhatsApp group will be set up shortly.

11. Pedestrian Footpath from Butts Hill to Tibbs Meadow – Upon investigation it was agreed that the installation of a park style barrier should resolve the issue and reduce the risk. Cllr Wall to contact Simon Withers to see if he could quote for the work.

12. Planning - There have been no applications or decisions received.

13. Business to be transacted at next meeting - No requests

14. Date of next meeting

Thursday March 3rd 2022, 7.30pm at Chute Village Hall