

CHUTE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 09th SEPTEMBER 2020

Present: Cllr D Hughes, Cllr Williams, Cllr Hopton, & Cllr Taylor

In attendance: Mrs H Bourner – Clerk
Wiltshire Councillor Ian Blair-Pilling
1 Member of public

1) Apologies for Absence

Cllr Parr, Cllr Foxen & Cllr Dawson had sent their apologies.

2) Public Participation

Concerns were raised when a previous meeting was cancelled that the details were not readily available. It was requested that a note be put on Village Hall gate if this happens in the future.

A request was made for the link on the community website to transfer immediately to the Parish Council website. Cllr Williams said the WordPress software would not allow that and it was necessary to click once on the Chute PC tab and then again on the link.

3) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4) Minutes

Resolved: Cllr Hopton asked that the minutes be corrected to remove the comment that the VDS questionnaire would follow as this was not what was reported. The Clerk was also asked to correct a name spelling error. Subject to these amendments Cllr Williams proposed the minutes of the meeting held on 9th July were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the chairman, this was seconded by Cllr Taylor.

Matters Arising

1) Re siting defibrillator

Cllr Parr and Cllr Dawson were both absent. This matter will be carried forward to the next meeting.

2) Hugo Fox website

The Clerk confirmed the website was live. Cllr Williams was working on getting the planning tracker working but suggested The Clerk could put a link on the website to each planning application as it arises. All Councillors agreed this was a very useful idea. The Clerk will implement.

Cllr Williams reported on an introductory meeting with two Chute residents about the possibility of creating a useful community website. Chute Forest PC are now considering a separate website. Discussions are underway as to how this might be achieved and if raising funds from advertising and providing email addresses could be a possibility.

5) Specific Reports

Highways- Cllr Hughes asked that the Parish Steward be asked to clear excess grit washed onto roads from heavy rainfall which blocked drains. The Clerk will speak to the steward.

Footpaths- Cllr Foxen was absent however Ann Rudland asked how footpaths concerns should be reported. Cllr Hughes suggested details of any problems arising should be sent to The Clerk to report. The Wiltshire Council footpaths officer has agreed to visit the village to meet the footpaths warden.

King George playing Fields – Cllr Dawson was absent.

Village Hall- Cllr Hopton reported the village hall reopened on 1st September following covid 19 guidelines for cleaning and social distancing for groups of a maximum of 30. There have been some successful outdoor events however recent Government restrictions will now have to be followed.

Allotments- Cllr Taylor asked if it was possible to get quotes to have hedges cut at the allotments. The Clerk will meet with Cllr Taylor at the allotments site to review. Cllr Hughes said he had recently visited the allotments and was alarmed at the sorry state of some of the plots. He suggested the Parish Council need to approach tenants who don't look after the plots they have rented. The Clerk will review this with Cllr Taylor when visiting.

Village Design Statement- Cllr Hopton said she was encouraged by the Government White Paper regarding planning reforms. It suggests planning applications submitted for properties in protected areas will continue to be restricted and

any developments will need full planning permission. An enhanced VDS will help to support the new system. She said the collection of photographs to guide the updated VDS is now complete and the evidence is being collated. The next step is to carry out a survey, the options being an online survey via the website which would be time limited or a manual survey completed by representatives from each area of the Parishes. All villagers will have the opportunity to comment on the full draft document in due course. Finally, Cllr Hopton said she has now been able to gather a complete history of planning applications in the Chutes dating back to 2006. There are 250 applications of which 50% were submitted by Fowlers Architecture. These applications will be cross referenced to the photographs submitted by villagers.

6) Payment of Grants

The Clerk said that one item the auditor had highlighted was that there was no paperwork to show grants being requested or acknowledged however he could see that the Parish Council had agreed to pay these from the minutes. The Clerk suggested the Parish Council adopt a grants policy with an application form and any organisation asking for a grant could be asked to complete this so an audit trail was in place. The budget had set aside sums to pay local organisations and the Clerk can approach each of these to complete a form once the grant policy was adopted.

7) Return of CIL payment

The Clerk reported that both the Chute Forest Parish Clerk and Wiltshire Council had contacted her with regard to the CIL payment made to the Parish Council bank account in respect of Stables Cottage. The request said the building falls in Chute Forest Parish and the payment should have been sent to them. Cllr Hughes said he had looked at the Parish Map and he believed the building lay in Chute Parish. He asked the Clerk to review this and discuss with Wiltshire Council.

8) Salt Bin Survey

Cllr Williams had visited and reviewed all the salt bins within the parish and reported his findings to The Clerk. Any requiring a refill have been reported to Wiltshire Council.

9) King Gorge Playing Field.

Cllr Parr asked that this matter be dealt with at the next meeting.

10) Finance

The bank balance as 25/08/20 was as follows:

Lloyds £13314.14

The financial statement to 31/08/2020 was reviewed and agreed.

Payments

Resolved: that the following payments be approved and cheques signed:

H Bourner salary	£225.33 by standing order
H Bourner office exps	£16.50 by standing order
HMRC	£56.33 by standing order

H Bourner expenses £25.85

Outstanding from July

Chute Forest parish Council Insurance £149.00

11) County Councillors Report.

Wiltshire Councillor Ian Blair-Pilling had sent a comprehensive report which is attached to these minutes.

Police Report

The most recent police report had been circulated. There were no incidents reported in the parish.

12) Planning

The following decisions by Wiltshire Council were noted: **None**

Resolved: that the Parish Council decisions on the following applications were endorsed:

20/05329/VAR- application to vary conditions Thicket Cottage, Malthouse Lane- objection. This application has been called to be heard by Wiltshire Council Committee on 15th October 2020.

A Recent application to demolish the buildings at The Cross Keys and replace with a new dwelling house will be reviewed by Councillors and discussed at an extraordinary meeting on 24th September.

13) Correspondence

The Clerk said she been informed that the grit bin at Upper Chute, Dummer Lane reported as damaged had been replaced.

She also gave details of an Army navigation event on 26th September which would see a group of vehicles pass through the village slowly. The event was to be marshalled and would last no longer that 30 minutes. Details will be passed to the Chute Chronicle.

Finally, she said she had received a telephone call regarding stray cats in Upper Chute. She confirmed she had passed this information to a villager who helps the Cats protection League deal with such situations.

13) Items for next meeting

Increase in Local Council Salary Scales

14) Date of next meeting

The next ordinary meeting is scheduled for 7.30 pm on Thursday 8th October. There will be an extraordinary meeting on 24th September 2020