

CHUTE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5th MARCH 2020

Present: Cllr D Hughes, Cllr J Parr, Cllr Hopton, Cllr S Foxen, Cllr Dawson & Cllr Taylor.

In attendance: Mrs H Bourner – Clerk
Wiltshire Councillor Ian Blair-Pilling
6 members of the public

1) Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2) Public Participation

None

3) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4) Co-Option of new councillor

Two parishioners had stepped forward to be co-opted to the Parish Council. One present provided a brief statement of skills and experience which could help the Parish Council. The second, unable to attend, had sent a statement which was read to all present.

Once the public meeting had ended councillors discussed the statements made by the candidates and, following a vote, agreed that Roly Williams be co-opted to the Parish Council.

The Clerk agreed to contact both candidates to confirm the results and obtain the necessary completed forms.

5) Minutes

Resolved: Cllr Foxen proposed the minutes of the meeting held on 6th February were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Dawson.

Matters Arising

1) Damage to verges Tibbs Meadow

The Clerk agreed to write to residents of Tibbs Meadow regarding damage to verges. Cllr Blair-Pilling agreed he would ask Wilts Highways to view the area to establish who was responsible for maintenance of this area. The Clerk was asked to send him evidence from a parishioner confirming Wilts Council had agreed to maintain this land.

6) Specific Reports

Highways- Cllr Hughes – a member of public had highlighted a problem with water damage and blocked drains on Hookwood Lane which the Clerk was asked to report.

Footpaths- Cllr Foxen -nothing to report

King George playing Fields – Cllr Dawson reported two incidents when youths were found climbing on the container at the playing field. Some equipment was broken. The Clerk was asked to report to the Police. He confirmed that no football was being played at present due to the very wet weather.

Village Hall- Cllr Hopton said the regular coffee mornings, book sales and lunches were continuing at the Village Hall.

Allotments- See separate agenda item

Village Design Statement- Cllr Hopton reported that street surveys to inform the VDS are on-going. Approx. 75% are now complete and these record detail of what is there now. A PSMA licence for OS maps which can be used in the VDS has been obtained and another licence available for overlaying pictures on maps will also be considered. A Survey Monkey questionnaire is currently being written which needs to be very detailed.

Cllr Hopton said she has been given valuable advice from Hurstbourne Tarrant parish about creating a VDS and is now aware she needs to draw up terms of reference and protocols. The Chute team is currently six but more volunteers will be needed from the wider community. The VDS is meant to be a community initiative and she warned against details only being available on a parish council website. It is apparent a budget will be required, a drop box account will be needed and this will cost £100, there will also be many other costs. The Clerk confirmed there were grants available from Wiltshire Council area board and will apply for £1500 to meet the costs.

7) Defibrillator relocation.

Cllr Parr confirmed the PCC have decided where the machine will be located in the porch and are currently awaiting cabinet sizes before requesting permission from the diocese. Cllr Dawson will send measurements to the Clerk to send to the PCC. The Clerk was asked to obtain new pads so the machine can be operational as soon as it is installed.

8) Open spaces consultation

The Clerk gave information regarding the details of the consultation. All Councillors will review the questionnaires and send responses to the Clerk by 20th March who will collate and respond by the March 31st deadline.

9) Allotments

Cllr Hughes led a brief debate on the possibility that land currently used as allotments might in the future be a possible site for an affordable housing development. The general feeling amongst Councillors was that the current usage was more appropriate and the debate was brought swiftly to a conclusion.

10)Footpath Concerns

The Clerk confirmed she had reported the broken stile on the footpath at Hatchet Hill.

11) Finance

The bank balance as 27/02/20 was as follows:
Lloyds £6187.72

The financial statement to 29/02/20 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 exps	£16.50 by standing order
HMRC	£56.33 by standing order

12) County Councillors Report.

Wiltshire Councillor Ian Blair-Pilling reported that potholes and flooding have become a considerable issue and that parish stewards are tackling these with priority. He said he was working on the Paths for all Project and two areas will be expanded with the military proposing to help and provide details of historic walks and in some areas some trim trails may be added.

He said the Wilts Council budget for 2020/21 has been agreed with some small rises in council tax but no services are being cut as savings are by efficiencies.

Cllr Dawson asked for some ditches to be cleared as the flooding is causing damage to roads. Cllr Blair-Pilling said these should be reported via the My Wiltshire App. This can be used by any member of the public and he asked if this could be advertised. The Clerk will include details in the Chute Chronicle report and also encourage villagers to report matters of concern to The Clerk.

Finally, he gave some details from a Scottish and Southern Electricity presentation about vulnerable residents registering to access priority help in the event of a power outage. He confirmed he intends to get details rolled out across all Parishes

Police Report

The Clerk confirmed the police had been invited to attend but had not received a response.

13)Planning

The following decisions by Wiltshire Council were noted:

19/11948/FUL- Erection of single story 3 bay oak frame garage-approved

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

20/00629/FUL- Fox Cottage, Hatchet Hill, erection of cart lodge and hard standing. - no objection

20/01143/FUL demolish and replace Thicket Cottage- note previous appeal has been allowed.

This application was discussed in detail with Aaron Smith from Fowler Architecture attending to give details. He said his client had chosen to revise the application to an innovative & contemporary design. The proposed plan was for a lower building than the previous plan with a smaller footprint. The owner's aspiration was to build a carbon neutral house from renewable sources.

Cllr Hughes said the Parish Council always acknowledged there would be a building on the site and does not believe there is any planning reasons to object. All agreed that the new plans were preferable to the original application and following a short discussion, it was agreed not to object to this application.

4) Correspondence

The Clerk was asked to complete the survey regarding bus routes which had been circulated to all Councillors. The Clerk had produced some cards with the access code of the Hatchet defibrillator clearly shown. These will be left at the pub to be handed to anyone requiring emergency access.

15) Items for next meeting

Cllr Foxen gave apologies for the April meeting.

16) Date of next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 7.30 pm on Thursday 2nd April 2020

DRAFT