

*CHUTE PARISH COUNCIL*  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 03<sup>rd</sup> JUNE 2021**

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

In attendance: Mrs H Bourner – Clerk  
Wiltshire County Councillor Christopher Williams  
6 members of public

**1) Apologies for Absence**

No apologies had been received.

**2) Public Participation**

Five members of public were present but had no questions.

**3) Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Parr declared an interest in the Standen Farm footpath proposal. Two outstanding register of interest forms were passed to the Clerk who will register details with Wiltshire Council

**4) County Councillors Report.**

Cllr Chris Williams confirmed Wiltshire Council staff are still working hard to complete all the necessary COVID requirements, this can mean delays in other departments. In an emergency he will help if he can. He highlighted a zoom meeting to which Cllrs can attend on Health & Wellbeing. The next area board meeting will be on July 12<sup>th</sup> at Ludgershall Memorial Hall.

Cllr Williams gave details of an email he had received regarding proposals to create a new footpath to link footpaths 28 and 30. Cllr Harker confirmed this will form part of the footpath discussions at item 9.

**5 Minutes**

**Resolved:** Cllr Harker proposed the minutes of the meetings held on 20th May were confirmed as a correct record this was seconded by Cllr Alderson. These minutes will be signed by the Chairman.

**Matters Arising**

**1) Chute Cadley Well Head**

Cllr Wall said she had visited the Swindon Archives and been able to locate the previous correspondence relating to the Well Head. The Well Head is outside the boundary of Well Cottage and Wilts Council highways have confirmed it is not their responsibility to maintain this. Cllr Parr said this suggested that no one actually owned the Well. Cllr Harker said he believed this was a Village asset and suggested that local tradesmen could be approached to carry out the work, but before any work is carried out the occupants of Well Cottage should be approached. Details of a quote to repair this obtained in 2018 confirmed costs of £2460.00. Further debate is required and this will be an agenda item at the next meeting.

**6) Specific Reports**

**Highways-** Cllr Parr had nothing to report. Cllr Wall said the Parish Steward would be visiting the village soon if anything needed to be done.

**Footpaths-** Cllr Rudland reported that she had established there was funding available to pay for the costs of repairing footpath signs and will carry out further research to establish how to access this.

Cllr Hopton said a byway sign on the junction of Dummer Lane and Flashett Lane was listing and that she had walked Chute 5 recently and this was very overgrown. Cllr Rudland agreed to review both matters.

**King George playing Fields –** Cllr Harker had nothing to report. Cllr Taylor said a villager had spoken to her about leaks in the pavilion and the general disrepair of the building. Cllr Wall said the committee were aware that gutters were leaking and that work needs to be carried out. Cllr Parr suggested a review be

undertaken by the committee so that costs for work required can be established.

**Village Hall-** Cllr Alderson reported on the AGM and confirmed he had now been elected to the committee. Broad band has been fitted to the hall along with a security camera and maintenance of the building is ongoing. Further fundraising is planned however the Village Hall finances are healthy at present..

**Allotments-** Cllr Taylor reported on the ongoing problem of tree and fence maintenance at the allotments. Two ash trees in the pit have die back and they need to be removed. These are the responsibility of Wiltshire Council along with the Japanese Knotweed which has returned. Cllr Taylor will report via the Wiltshire Council My Wilts app. Cllr Harker suggested a working party in the autumn to cut back hedges. Cllr Parr said the buildings at this site are also run down and consideration will be given to improve these.

**Village Design Statement-** Cllr Hopton recapped on the work being carried out to update the Village Design Statement which is a document that can influence Wiltshire Council Planning decisions. The updated document needs to be robust and fully evidenced showing consultation of all parishioners. Advice is being given by a local planning consultant to ensure the document meets the standards required by Wiltshire Council so it can be adopted. All of the data gathered can be seen on the <https://chutevds.wixsite.com/mysite> website and all will form part of the draft Village Design Statement. All parishioners will be asked to consider the draft document when the consultation program opens, the hope being that this will be by the end of 2021.

### **7) Review of green areas and vehicles parking on these**

Cllrs Parr & Rudland had agreed to work together to review the green areas and present some possible improvements to prevent vehicles parking inappropriately. Cllr Rudland has started researching online some different village greens and suggested those that live near the green should be consulted about what they would like to see. Suggestions were posts on corners, benches between posts, maybe small gardens but allowing room for children to play.

There is a piece of land in Tibbs Meadow where there is an old shed that belongs to Wiltshire Council if this asset could be transferred to the Parish Council, then two additional spaces could be created. The possibility of doing so will be explored. Cllr Williams will assist.

### **8) Salt bin review**

The Clerk had circulated a message from Wilts Council asking that a review of salt bins in the parish be undertaken. All bins had been checked and found to be full. Cllr Wall will respond to Wiltshire Council. The difficulties regarding non gritting of Conholt Hill was discussed. The matter will be revisited with support from Cllr Williams.

### **9) Proposal from Standen farms regarding footpaths**

The letter received from Wiltshire Council as referred to by Wiltshire County Councillor Chris Williams confirmed they had received an application for a definitive footpath to be granted from footpath 28 to footpath 30. The application had been submitted in September 2020 by Chute Preservation group and was supported by 42 user evidence forms.

The proposal from Standen Farms suggested a footpath also from footpath 28 to join footpath 30 become a permissive footpath albeit running a very slightly different route to aid land management. Full details of the proposal are on the Parish Council website and notice boards with further details in the Minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May.

There followed a lengthy debate when members of the public present also gave their views. Eventually it was agreed Standen Farms would provide a new agreement for signing which removed the reference to an additional path 4 and re worded the clause at paragraph 6. Councillors present indicated their agreement to sign this once presented.

### **10)Byway Chute 3**

The Clerk reported a concern raised regarding concrete that has been placed over the byway. The matter was previously reported and the landowner had agreed to install some ramps. These were not present and it was therefore not possible for a horse and rider to use this byway. Cllr Taylor said the Byway used to be much wider and she believed putting concrete across a byway is forbidden. Cllr Rudland had discussed this matter with the land owner but will now discuss the matter with Wiltshire Council to establish facts before

speaking to the landowner again.

### **11) Finance**

The bank balance as 31/05/21 was as follows:

Lloyds £15124.85

The financial statement to 31/05/21 was reviewed and agreed.

### **Payments**

**Resolved:** that the following payments be approved and cheques signed: None

H Bourner salary	£249.95 by standing order
H Bourner office expenses	£18.00 by standing order
HMRC	£62.48 by standing order

To note- a form to cease the Clerk's salary and HMRC payment's by standing order was signed along with a bank mandate form to change signatures.

The possibility of paying grants and the use of the Grant Policy were discussed. It was agreed to include this as an agenda item next meeting.

### **12) Verge Cutting**

Cllr Wall highlighted concerns raised by villagers about verges being cut while all the wildflowers were growing. Cllr Wall will approach Wiltshire Council to obtain a plan of when cutting will take place.

### **13) Planning**

The following decisions by Wiltshire Council were noted: None

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

PL/2021/05466- fell 1 Laburnum tree- Glebe House, Upper Chute - support

### **Enforcement**

To note- The failure to meet conditions regarding the weatherboarding at Stables Cottages has been reported to Wiltshire Council however they have now confirmed the work has taken place since the deadline. The delay was caused by inclement weather.

A further condition to carry out landscaping to create a third parking space did not appear to have been complied with, this had been raised by a member of the public. The landscaping at the cottage will be reviewed and reported to enforcement if necessary

### **14) Resignation of Clerk**

The Chairman confirmed Heather Bourner has resigned her position as Clerk to Chute Parish Council. Advertisements to find a replacement have been published. There have been some expressions of interest, details of which will be circulated to all Councillors.

### **15) Correspondence**

No correspondence had been received other than that already discussed.

### **14) Any Other Business**

Cllr Wall has arranged a Councillor training session on 6<sup>th</sup> July for both Chute & Chute Forest Councillors. To be held at Chute Village Hall. She will circulate details.

### **15) Items for next meeting**

Chute Cadley Well Head

Standen Farm footpath proposal

Grant making and policy.

Footpaths including funding for signs and Byway 3.

### **16) Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July, 7.30 PM at Chute Village Hall.