

CHUTE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE AGM MEETING HELD ON 20th MAY 2021

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

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

1) Note new members of the Parish Council & apologies for absence

New members of the Parish Council were noted as above. There were no apologies.

2) Acceptance of office documents, GDPR consent and contact details.

All Councillors signed the necessary acceptance of office and GDPR documents

3) Register of Interest forms

All Councillors were asked to complete register of interest forms. The Clerk confirmed details must be logged with Wiltshire Council within 28 days.

4) Election of Chairman

Cllr Hopton proposed Cllr Parr become chairman; this was seconded by Cllr Taylor. Cllr Alderson proposed Cllr Wall become Chairman, this was seconded by Cllr Harker. Cllr Rudland used her deciding vote to vote for Cllr Wall. Cllr Wall accepted and signed the necessary declaration.

5) Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr Wall proposed Cllr Parr become Vice Chairman; this was seconded by Cllr Harker. All in favour. Cllr Parr accepted and signed the necessary declaration.

6) Standing Orders, Code of Conduct & Financial procedures

Documents had been circulated to all councillors and were agreed and formally adopted for 2021/22.

7) Assign areas of responsibility

The following areas of responsibility were agreed

Highways -Cllr Parr
Footpaths – Cllr Rudland
King George Field – Cllr Parr & Cllr Harker
Village Hall – Cllr Alderson
Allotments including hedge cutting- Cllr Taylor
Village Design Statement – Cllr Hopton
Defibrillator guardian- Mr Wall (Volunteer)
Posting agendas & mins to boards- Cllr Wall

8) Public Participation

A member of the public expressed thanks to The Clerk for all the work she had carried out to ensure bollards were installed at the green area by the entrance to Tibbs Meadow.

A member of public raised concerns about work being carried out along a field boundary between land belonging to Standen Farm and the Conholt Estate. She was concerned that the work would disturb nesting birds. Cllr Parr said the work was in preparation for the fitting of a fence and would only impact on a small area of scrub land

9) Declarations of Interest

Cllr Parr declared an interest in the agenda item regarding Standen Farm footpaths and took no part in the decision making.

10 Minutes

Resolved: Resolved: Cllr Taylor proposed the minutes of the meetings held on 31st March were confirmed as a correct record this was seconded by Cllr Hopton. These minutes will be signed by the Vice Chairman.

Matters Arising

a) Chute Cadley Well Head

The previous Parish Council had been discussing the possibility of restoring Chute Cadley Well Head following a request from a parishioner. Cllr Wall said volunteers had previously agreed to carry out the work required to renovate the well head if the Parish Council purchase materials. The Clerk asked if the Well Head and the land on which it stood belonged to the Parish Council. Cllr Parr said the work he and the Clerk had carried out regarding assets owned by the Parish Council did not show this. Cllr Wall said all the information regarding this was held at archive and she agreed to review this before the next parish council meeting before any decision is made.

b) Posts at Chute Cadley Green

The Clerk confirmed the posts had been fitted and the contractor paid.

c) Parking problems in the village

The Clerk confirmed she had contacted Wiltshire Council who had confirmed it was acceptable for the Parish Council to erect no parking signs on ground they own. It is no longer legal to clamp vehicles however the Parish Council could engage a private enforcement company to issue parking charge notices.

Following a lengthy debate about what could be done to prevent parking particularly on the Village Green, Cllr Parr & Cllr Rudland agreed to work together to present some solutions to the Parish Council.

11) Proposal from Standen farms regarding footpaths

Cllr Parr summarised the proposal outlined in appendix 1. The proposal would assist farm and woodland management and protect crops and conservation areas. Standen Farm recognises villagers want to enjoy local walks as they have in the past and the proposal allows for a circular woodland walk. Although this is not public footpath the farm's owners are happy to allow the public to walk the paths and sign an agreement for them to do so for the next twenty years. The diversion on footpath 3 which has been in place by arrangement with previous parish councils for many years, although allowed informally, would now be become part of the twenty-year commitment. When Standen Farm applied to Wiltshire Council for a formal diversion a further path, footpath 4, would be included if both the Parish Councils give the application their support. Cllr Harker said he felt this was a very generous offer, made in the right spirit which relies entirely on trust, he however suggested any agreement include a clause for presumption to renew by agreement, Cllr Parr agreed this was a reasonable request.

A short debate followed regarding the possibility of footpath three following the top line of the field but this was discounted. The Parish Council agreed to defer any decision to the next meeting to allow villagers the opportunity to fully consider and comment if they chose.

12) 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 Rudland agreed to discuss this matter with the land owner.

13) Finance

The bank balance as 31/04/21 was as follows:

Lloyds £15339.58

The financial statement to 30/04/21 was reviewed and agreed.

Payments

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

H Bournier expenses £49.20

Chute Forest PC (Insurance) £148.77

Retrospective

R Welch £210.00

H Bournier salary

£249.95 by standing order

H Bournier office expenses

£18.00 by standing order

HMRC

£62.48 by standing order

To note the precept of £9000 has been received along with £110.99 CIL funds relating to the conversion of a barn at Parsonage farm.

The Clerk confirmed the audit return had now been independently reviewed and will now be submitted.

It was agreed Cllr Wall and Cllr Rudland will be added as signatories to the bank account and that the Parish Council

will move to using online banking in the future.

14) County Councillors Report.

Wiltshire County Councillor Chris Williams congratulated the new Councillors on their appointments to the Parish Council.

He confirmed he had been assigned to the committee of scrutiny to oversee the quality of Wiltshire Council. He encouraged the Parish Council to send a representative to Tidworth Area Board meetings the next one being on the 12th July. He confirmed Wiltshire Council is happy to support local initiatives in rural areas and agreed to set up meetings if required.

Finally, he said Wiltshire Council could offer grants to assist Parish Councils with the costs of traffic calming, the next meeting is scheduled for the 7th of June.

Police Report

No report has been received.

15)Planning

The following decisions by Wiltshire Council were noted:

21/01383/FUL- extension to existing garage, Fox Barn- approved

21/01419/FUL Erection of garage & new entrance gates-Thicket Cottage-approved

21/02327/FUL - Swimming Pool at New Barn Cottage-approved.

Resolved: that the Parish Council decisions on the following applications were endorsed: None

Enforcement

The Clerk confirmed the variation application for Stables Cottages has been approved and she has received confirmation that the enforcement file is now close. Cllr Harker said the variation document had placed conditions upon the owner including a time scale which had not been adhered to. The Clerk agreed to check and respond to Wiltshire Council enforcement as necessary.

16) Correspondence

The Chairman said she had received some details about training schemes and recommended all new councillors should attend. It was suggested a trainer could present a session at Chute for all councillors. Cllr Wall agreed to gather details which she will circulate by email.

17)Any Other Business

Cllr Wall said she would like to consider spending some of the Chute in Need Fund on a post covid community event at the King George playing field, perhaps live music and a whole community picnic.

18) Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 3rd June at Chute Village Hall.

Appendix 1

Standen Farm: Chute Paths Proposal to the Parish Councils

Standen Farm is making a proposal to provide the villages of Chute with a number of footpaths as shown on the attached map.

The proposal is designed to balance public access for the villages with the needs of conservation and husbandry on our farm. We believe it is in the interests of all villagers.

- **Paths 1:** a number of permissive paths in Grove Copse – we have marked paths on the attached map for illustration and would follow existing lines consistent with woodland management and conservation of bluebells and other flora and fauna.
- **Path 2:** a path from Bottom Copse along the boundary with Conholt Estate, then at the eastern corner of Round Copse, to allow woodland management and conservation of ancient trees, the path would pass along the side of Round Copse and the edge of the field to join Kitchen Lane and the public footpath. We are open to this route being

a permissive path or a dedicated public footpath, whichever is in the villages' best interests.

- **Path 3 and Path 4:** path 3 along the route arranged with previous Parish Councils from the stile on public path Chute 15 following the L shape across the field to the track. We would apply to divert Chute 15 onto this route. If the Parish Councils supported this diversion application, we would also offer an extra Path 4 from the Village Hall across the field opposite as part of the application – this would be to improve the footpath network and allow walkers from Path 3 easier access to other paths towards Hatchett Hill. Again, we are open to Path 4 being a permissive path or a dedicated public footpath.

In return for this network of local paths, we would ask the Parish Councils to agree not to make or support any applications for any other public rights on Standen Farm and to urge their parishioners to keep to the routes of these paths and the existing public footpaths.

Standen Farm is willing to enter into a legally binding agreement with the Parish Councils, including committing to all the permissive paths for villagers for at least 20 years. The agreement would also bind successors in ownership of Standen Farm in that period.

Copy of map will also be added here