

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

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

C Lovell – Clerk
Wiltshire County Councillor Christopher Williams

Lisa Jackson– Chute Village Design Guide
1 member 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 Parr

2. Public Participation

Lisa Jackson attended to provide an update on the consultation which took place on 5th February 2022. 52 residents had attended which represents 22% of households.

The main queries had been about the 30% limit on extensions/rebuilds. CPC need to agree to adopt the document and agree the date of when the restrictions should be implemented from.

Cllr Williams advised that the adoption of the Guide does not provide guarantees but will go a long way for when planning decisions are made.

He has received a very supportive email from the Planning Department who have complimented CPC on 'leading the way'. He encouraged the members to make a decision as soon as possible so that it can be reviewed at the next Eastern Area Planning Committee.

All members thanked Lisa Jackson for the amount of hard work and her own time she has dedicated to the project and also thanked Cllr Hopton for her extensive input.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Harker and Cllr Taylor Allotment Holders Agenda Item 7 Allotments

4. County Councillors Report.

Cllr Williams provided the following report:

At a marathon meeting on 15 February Wiltshire Council debated and agreed the 2022/23 budget and 10-year Business Plan. Over the next year the council will spend over £417m – with over 56% (£235m) on support and care for adults and children.

£92m will be spent on the vital day-to-day services such as waste management, road maintenance, leisure and library services, as well as the council's carbon management and climate change work – which recently saw the council ranked as the fifth best unitary authority in the UK for its response to the global challenge. The council will also continue its commitment to invest £1m a year to support high streets across the county become vibrant places for shopping and leisure.

One of the most debated parts of the budget was the proposed increases to car parking fees which help to fund rural public transport. Councillors made arguments about the impact on our high streets (but see the £1m per annum investment above). Our local charges are already competitive compared with neighbouring counties and it should also be noted that fees are not planned to increase for four years so that the costs of implementing the increase (car park signage and reprogramming machines) can be offset over this period.

The council's capital programme, which is spent on projects to improve and maintain the county's infrastructure is confirmed to be £307m in 2022/23. This will be spent on many different projects including leisure services, council house building, schools' maintenance, footpath and highway improvements. The 10-year Business Plan ensures that the budget has a clear long-term focus. It outlines the council's key themes - prevention and early intervention; improving social mobility and tackling inequalities; understanding communities; and working together. It includes metrics ensuring the council can measure its performance and keep on track.

This strategic focus is essential due to the current financial challenges facing public services, which includes the ongoing pandemic, rising inflation, and increased demand for support. More than half of the council's budget comes from council tax, and this will increase by 1.99%, with an additional 1% directly supporting adult social care. For a Band D property, that's an increase of 91p per week. Alongside this, the council has put plans in place to make savings of around £25m in 2022/23 while limiting the impact of vital services as much as possible.

Dates for future local meeting

March 21. Ludgershall Memorial Hall - Tackling Climate Change in the Tidworth Community Area followed by Tidworth Area Board.

5. Minutes

Resolved: Cllr Harker proposed the minutes of the meetings held on 3rd February 2022 were confirmed as a correct record this was seconded by Cllr Hopton. These minutes will be signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

6. Correspondence Received

Cllr Wall advised that she had been involved in a discussion with Mike Parker who has now volunteered to be the Neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinator.

An email had been received regarding gates/styles – to be discussed under Footpaths.

7. Specific Reports

Highways - No specific report. Cllr Wall informed the members that there was currently no Parish Steward in role as our steward had recently left, but encouraged people to continue to report issues on www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts-online-reporting

Footpaths – Cllr Rudland advised that following on from January's Parish Council meeting she had quite a bit of response in identifying footpaths that could do with improved signage or access.

There had been an email received commenting on the unsightliness of metal kissing gates and stating a preference for wooden gates, but it has to be pointed out that it is up to the landowner what type of gate he decides to install.

Updates and issues Cllr Rudland reported were:

Chute 34 Chantry Lane had been clear before the last storms. But there are now recent tree casualties at the time of this report it is not suitable for horse riders.

Also, near the top of **Chute 17** (footpath from Upper Chute) where it joins with **Chute 3** (bridleway from Causeway to Mount Cowdown) there are large trees blocking it, so you have to divert onto farmland.

Chute 3 needs widening near the junction with the Causeway.

Chute 26 (Hippenscombe to top of Conholt hill) and **Chute 20**(from top of hill heading towards Vernham Dean) both have new metal kissing gate styles ensuring easy access to those walking with dogs or those who cannot climb stiles. Dogs should be kept on leads here as this land contains livestock (Sheep).

Cllrs Harker Cllr Wall and Alderson also reported that they had recently met with the Wiltshire Footpath Officer. Cllr Alderson raised the amount of damage caused by the Tedworth Hunt. The Hunt Master is to be contacted regarding keeping to tracks and bridleways.

Cllr Rudland extended her thanks to Huw Lovesey and Jean Belzar for walking the footpaths and providing observations (Appendix 1)

King George Field – Cllr Harker reported that the fallen tree debris had now been removed. The bark in the play area is due replacing. There are concerns about how muddy the entrance is and Cllr Alderson suggested that the rubber matting used for the parking area may help the situation.

Village Hall – Cllr Alderson reported that the next coffee morning will be 9th March 2022. There are now new heaters on trial supplied from Tidworth Memorial Hall as they are silent rather than the noisy fan heaters.

Allotments – Cllr Taylor reported that the Whatsapp group is now up and running. The general consensus is for the Leylandii to be replaced with fruit trees, this will need to be done in the next few weeks.

Cllr Harker advised that fruit trees were circa £50 each. Cllr Hopton proposed that no more than £200.00 is spent purchasing fruit trees for the allotment, seconded by Cllr Alderson, carried.

Village Design Guide – Following on from Mrs Jackson's report the members discussed the look of the Guide and agreed that to make it a professional looking document and that CPC should purchase the current photo and further photos for the guide from H Mackay totalling £150.00.

Cllr Hopton proposed the purchase of the photos from H Mackay at a cost of £150.00, seconded by Cllr Harker, carried.

It was agreed that the document should be endorsed with changes and clarity to Policy 5, this will be circulated to members for approval prior to finalising. It was also agreed that the implementation date should be 1st April 2009.

Policy 5 reflects the emerging policy in the Wiltshire Council Local Plan Review, that is looking to impose similar restrictions. It also follows the format of similar policies adopted by planning authorities throughout the south of England where the landscape designation gives the same level of protection as the North Wessex Downs AONB. Further, it was understood that this was an appropriate step in order to protect the number of more modest dwellings remaining in the community.

Cllr Hopton proposed that with approved amendments CPC endorse the Village Design Guide with an implementation date for Policy 5 being 1st April 2009, seconded by Cllr Taylor, carried.

8. Finance

Balance as @ 28th February 2022 – £7345.01.

Payments made during February 2022 were:

31/01/2022	C Lovell Salary	£266.40
31/01/2022	HMRC Tax/NI	£62.48

Payments Received

16/02/2022	Jubilee Grant	£500.00
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It was resolved that the following payments be made:

C Lovell	Salary	£266.40
HMRC	Tax/NI	£62.48
Chute Forest Parish Council	50% contribution to VDG brochure	£21.00

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

9. Chute Cadley Wellhead – Cllr Wall advised that we are still awaiting as to whether our grant application had been acceptable and until then no further action has been taken. Although the wellhead needs to be dismantled.

10. Allotment Fees – The current fees have not been increased for sometime. CPC would like to look into increasing marginally to cover maintenance and improvements. The allotment holders will be asked for their views regarding this. The Clerk advised that the average fee is £25.00 - £30.00 per annum.

11. Pedestrian Footpath from Butts Hill to Tibbs Meadow – One quote received the Clerk will obtain further quotes.

12. Forest Lane CATG request for signage – A request has been submitted to CATG for a 'No HGV's' sign for their consideration. They generally recommend that the Council makes a 25% contribution towards

any cost. The Clerk advised that the cost could be more than just a sign as formalities such as requests for restrictions may need to be put in place. In the meantime, she will chase the request for the replacement 'Not Suitable for HGV's' sign.

13. Queens Jubilee – The grant of £500.00 has now been received into the bank account. The band will cost £300.00 and the hire of a Hog Roast spit approximately £ £200 plus a pig.

14. Planning

Decisions received

PL/2022/00116 Tree works, Lambourne House, Upper Chute SP11 9EH – Approved

Applications received

PL/2022/01165 Wansdyke, Forest Lane, SP11 9EL, reduce height of Hazel Tree to 1.5m

Cllr Harker proposed that there are no Objections or comments to be made on PL/2022/01165, seconded by Cllr Hopton

15. Business to be transacted at next meeting

Website

Street Lighting

14. Date of next meeting

Thursday April 7th 2022, 7.30pm at Chute Village Hall

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9pm.

Signed: Chair

Date: