

Chaddleworth Parish Council

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Kim Lloyd
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MINUTES

TUESDAY 7 JANUARY 2020– 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr. Murphy (Chair), Cllr. Ballard (Vice Chair), Cllr. Beard, Cllr. Mills and the Clerk

Mrs K Lloyd. District Councillor Clive Hooker arrived during item 13.

No members of the public present.

1. APOLOGIES RECEIVED

Cllrs. Mcallister and Homersham sent their apologies.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS.

No Declarations of Interest received.

3. OPEN FORUM

None.

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED.

No Planning Applications received at time of publishing agenda.

Decision Notices.

19/02393/house, 25 Nodmore, Single and two storey extensions with internal alterations including new first floor window.

West Berkshire Council grants planning permission.

Highways Authority raises no objection to the proposal, but further to previous comments request that parking is provided before construction and gradient of the drive.

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

Members then **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY** to confirm and adopt the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3 December 2020.

6. SID UPDATE /SPEEDING IN NORRIS FIELD

Cllr. Murphy reported he collected the SID equipment from West Berkshire Council and he and Cllr.

Mcallister will be carrying out a SID in due course.

ACTION: Cllrs. Murphy & Mcallister.

7. STILE –CHAPEL COTTAGE

The Clerk asked Cllr. Murphy if he had a response from R.O.W in West Berkshire Council regarding meeting at the site. Cllr. Murphy had received no response, the Clerk will chase.

ACTION: Clerk.

8. PLANTING ADDITIONAL TREES IN THE PARISH

Cllr. Murphy is still waiting to hear back from the agents for land owners - On-going.

9. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE QUOTES

Following the last meeting the Clerk had obtained two quotes and was waiting on a third. The quotes had been emailed to the Members of the Parish Council before the meeting. On reviewing the quotes, it was unanimously agreed to employ Scofell Landscapes Ltd. Based on the Clerks advice that Scofell currently look after a number of Primary Schools and Parish Councils in the area around Chaddleworth including Great

Shefford and the Chaddleworth School site. The Clerk had received good recommendations from other local Clerks who use Scofell for their ground maintenance.

The Clerk will give notice to GMG Services and agree a starting date with Scofell. The cutting and maintenance to the War Memorial hedge will be discussed with Scofell and agreed 'for now' that the Parish Council, via the Clerk, will inform Scofell contractors when this hedge requires cutting. Scofell agreed to hold their fees for 2 years.

The terms of the agreement will be as follows, to mow;

The Playground.

Recreation Ground.

The grass around the perimeter of the village hall and car park included.

The footpath leading down from the Village Hall to Main Street.

The hedge at the bottom of this footpath, adjacent to the steps.

The War Memorial 'Garden' hedge.

The War Memorial hedge, but this hedge cut only when requested by the Parish Council.

ACTION: Clerk

10. PLAYGROUND/ CAR PARK /RECREATION GROUND, RENT INCREASE

The Parish Council had previously received a letter from Carter Jonas who acts for the owner of the above land. The letter explained that there are currently two leases which have run for 10 years, expiring on the 28th February 2020.

One 10 year lease was offered to cover all the areas, but also an increase in the rent from £300 to £400 was proposed, with a rent review on 1st March 2025 increasing to £500.

The Members of Council discussed the new terms of the lease, especially the increased rent. Cllr. Mills said it was a lot of money for arable land and raised the question to consider the rent charged for 12 acres which was much lower. Cllr. Murphy said he would find out how much the cost is currently for agricultural land per acre. The Members of Council agreed to ask Carter Jonas to reconsider lowering the rent as this increase would cost the parish more council tax and was unexpected.

Cllr. Murphy said he would check the measurement of the three parcels of land to confirm the measurements are correct that are written in the lease. Cllr. Beard noted the measurements from the current lease.

ACTION: Cllr. Murphy

11. PARISH ROADS

Cllr. Murphy raised the concerns of the state of the parish roads following the heavy rainfall recently. It was discussed and agreed by the Members of the Council that the verges were encroaching onto the roads making the roads narrow. The Clerk was asked to contact Highways at West Berkshire Council to ask if they can be cleared. The roads mentioned were Mount Lane, 2 Acre Dairy, Sheephouse Way.

ACTION: Clerk

12. FINANCE

a) Bank Accounts

Balances on 30 December 2019

Parish Council	£18,044.94
Bakers Trust	£6,648.34
Football Field	£1,211.82

b) Payments to be approved in meeting.

S/O	Kim Lloyd (Parish Clerk) 25 DEC 2019	£429.78
S/O	Mrs H Anderson (Litter picking) 25 th NOV 2019	£20.00
S/O	Chaddleworth Village Hall 25 th NOV 2019	£23.00

800002	GMG Services & Solutions	£85.00
800003	Autela Payroll Services	£47.08
800004	Vale Press – December Newsletter-Colour	£148.00
800005	PCC – Churchyard Maintenance Donation	£200.00
800006	Welford Associates –Glenn Miller Close Donation	£250.00
800007	Handy Bus Donation	£100.00
800008	Chaddleworth Village Hall Donation	£900.00
800009	J. Mills (Payment for Bone Meal for War Memorial Garden)	£19.95

13. **TO SET THE PRECEPT FOR 2020-21**

The Clerk previously emailed the Budget and Cashflow to the Members of Council including the Tax Base Rate which was set at 199.05 for 20/21. After a full discussion it was agreed to request the Precept of £16,735.00 which was the amount set for the Budget for 20/21.

This equates to £84.07 a year for a Band D Property (£7 a month) for the contribution towards the Parish Council's budget.

14. **AGREED FUNDS TO TRANSFER TO RESERVE ACCOUNT**

It was agreed to transfer £1000.00 to the Reserve Account from the Chaddleworth Parish Council account as done so in past years. £1000.00 will be transferred to the reserve account annually to build up funds for any unforeseen expenditure.

15. **COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS AND REPORTS**

Cllr. Beard reported a date was being discussed for the village fete, possibly on the 20th June.

Cllr. Mills gave **Thanks on behalf of the village to Jenny Trier from Brightwalton** for donating 50 roses for the Memorial Garden. The budget of £80 will still be spent on fertiliser and spray that the donator said needs to be done once a year.

Cllr. Ballard reported the village hall committee was waiting for the contractor to confirm when he was going to start the works on the roof repair.

Cllr. Murphy raised concerns to the state of the village hall car park and asked all the Members of Council to look at the car park surface to discuss in the next meeting.

ACTION: ALL

Cllrs. Murphy and Ballard said they were attending a meeting at West Berkshire Council offices on Thursday 9th January, regarding fighting plastic waste in West Berkshire.

Cllr. Beard asked Cllr. Hooker if any further information was available regarding the Climate Change. Cllr. Hooker said a Draft Environment Strategy has been developed in response to the Declaration of a Climate Emergency in July 2019 and will be emailed to the Parish Councils on 9th January for consultation.

16. **CLERK CORRESPONDENCE**

7/12 Email, Clive Hooker – District Councillor report which had been emailed to the Parish Council. The Clerk reminded Members of Council the District Council meeting is on 12th March.

17. **MATTERS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION.**

The village hall car park surfacing.

18. **DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS.**

The date of the next Parish Council meeting is on Tuesday 4th February 2020.

Meeting closed 21.15.