

CHUTE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11th JULY 2019

Present: Cllr D Hughes, Cllr S Foxen, Cllr Taylor, Cllr D Merritt, Cllr M Hopton & Cllr Dawson.

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

1) Apologies for Absence

Cllr J Parr & Cllr Taylor.

2) Declarations of Interest

Cllr Dawson declared an interest in the planning application for Parsonage Farm.

3) Public Participation

Lisa Jackson asked to speak informally on behalf of her clients the Moores, owners of the Cross Keys Inn. When they had originally purchased the pub there was insufficient evidence for change of use to be agreed. They tried to market the pub over a long time and although there was some interest, no one agreed to a purchase. The Moores have had a study carried out to determine whether the business could be profitable. They have established that over 16 years only three of them were profitable and that a turnover of £444,700.00 was needed to make a profit. The Cross Keys was registered as a community asset but the registration expired on 24-01-19 therefore the current owners can now dispose of this as they wish and can now satisfy the policy to apply for change of use of the building.

Barry Sheppard spoke on behalf of a group of villagers who were opposed to the change of use application. He believes if the pub was developed someone who wants to make a living could do so. He said previous landlords most were not suited to running pubs and they drove it into the ground. He said the pub has history he wants to fight for it to stay as a pub, although he does understand why the owners want to turn it into a house. He is confident that villagers will fight against the closure.

Cllr Hughes proposed a parish council led public meeting in due course which was seconded by Cllr Merritt. He also said he would talk directly to the Moores. Lisa Jackson said her clients were keen to engage with the community and might have a public exhibition.

4) Minutes

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

5) Matters Arising

i) Edges of Chute Cadley Village Green

The Clerk reported that she had approached two contractors for quotes to install simple wooden posts around the edges of Chute Cadley Village Green, similar to those around the green at St Nicholas Church. She said this work was really a job for the autumn when the ground was softer. The Parish Council agreed to reconsider at the September meeting. Cllr Foxen asked for the quote to also include tidying up and removing kerb stones

ii) Update details in Chronicle

Cllr Foxon confirmed the required amendments to the Chute Chronicle had now been made.

iii) Possible upgrade to Village Design Statement

The Clerk reported that she had made contact with Wiltshire Council and had received offers of help with upgrading the Village Design Statement from a member of the Wiltshire Council planning department. She confirmed that she had been told as the current VDS was designated any upgraded documents could be easily designated. Cllr Hughes agreed to try and meet with the Chairman of Chute Forest Parish Council over summer with view to setting up a steering committee to upgrade the current VDS. This will become a rolling agenda item.

iv) Trees on verge near allotment

The Clerk confirmed she had reported the problem of the diseased ash trees on the verge near to the entrance of the allotments to Wiltshire Council and was awaiting a reply.

v) Chute Parish Council website

The Clerk explained she had met with Carolyn Wall Clerk to Chute Forest Parish Council with regard to the current Chute website and had been given access to Chute Parish Council so they could post their own agendas and

minutes. The possibility of Chute Parish Council having its own website was discussed but not felt to be the best option at present. Cllr Hughes will talk to the Chairman of Chute Forest Parish Council regarding this issue. All councillors agreed that the Parish Council should move toward each councillor having a dedicated council e-mail address which is recommended as best practise in the transparency code.

vi) Parking issues in village

The Clerk confirmed she had contacted the PCSO with regard to inappropriate parking in the village. Cllr Hughes said the Open Spaces Society may be able to offer advice and asked the Clerk to research and establish what further measures could be taken.

The parking problems at Tibbs Meadow were because some houses did not have their own parking spaces and some cars had two or three cars which meant they were parked on green spaces. The possibility of changing green spaces to hard standing parking was discussed, this had been explored before but was cost prohibitive. It was agreed to establish ownership of land in question and revisit this.

vii) Defibrillator at Hatchet

The Clerk confirmed she had met Julia Dole from South West Ambulance service to discuss the now operational machine at The Hatchet. The machine is now registered and it is important that a monthly check is carried out and a report sent to South West Ambulance so it remains on the register. The Clerk agreed to do this.

viii) Move defibrillator from Cross Keys

The Clerk confirmed she had asked South West Ambulance about moving the machine currently at the Cross Keys to the outside wall of the barn at Parsonage Farm. The Ambulance service do not get involved with the installation of machines so the Parish Council need to do this. Cllr Dawson agreed to speak to a local electrician about getting the machine moved. The Clerk also said the ambulance service do not recommend defibrillators are kept in locked cabinets. The Clerk will get prices for a new cabinet without a lock.

ix) Appoint village hall representative

Cllr Hopton agreed to become the Chute Parish Council representative for the Village Hall

x) cutting of greens

The possibility of reimbursing costs of fuel to those members of the parish who voluntarily cut village greens was discussed. Traditionally no reimbursement was offered and at this point the Parish Council were not intending to change this.

6) Specific Reports

Highways- Signs had been erected in the village about road resurfacing which was to take place. The Clerk had submitted a list to Wiltshire Council highlighting work needed in the parish. She had not received a response so will ask Wiltshire Council for an update.

Footpaths- Cllr Foxen reported that some of those that were overgrown had been cleared.

King George playing Fields – Cllr Dawson had attended the KGPF meeting on 10th July and handed those present a copy of the minutes. The chairman role has now been filled by Eddie Quirk

Village Hall- Cllr Hopton had attended the village hall meeting on 27th June. The precept only contributes a very small amount to the Village Hall and Cllr Hopton asked if this could this be revisited in November when the budget was agreed. Cllr Hopton said lots of work was required to the building, Cllr Foxen asked if the hall committee obtained three quotes for the work required. Cllr Hopton agreed this was the case. Cllr Hughes said given the likely level of expenditure needed at the hall the Parish Council could consider a further grant once quotes are in.

Parish Steward Visits

The Clerk said she had received a telephone message from the parish steward but had been unable to make contact with him on the number left. Cllr Foxen speculated that was because the mobile telephone signal in Chute was very poor. The Clerk will try and obtain an e-mail address for him.

7) Review Allotment Agreement- This item carried forward to the September meeting.

8) A complaint had been received about visiting motor bikes which arrive in vans and use the footpath at Crystal Palace. Concerns were raised about safety and nuisance. Villagers are encouraged to take details of vehicle registration numbers or details of companies if vans are sign written and pass these to the Parish Council.

9) Finance

The bank balance as 11/07/19 was as follows:
Lloyds £9659.80

The financial statement to 11/07/19 was reviewed. Cllr Hughes proposed this be accepted which was seconded by Cllr Foxen. All agreed.

Payments

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

H Bourner salary	£225.33
H Bourner exp.	£38.29
HMRC	£56.33
Wilts ass local councils	£133.76

Postdated cheques for August

H Bourner salary	£225.33
HMRC	£56.33

The Clerk confirmed that bank signatories had now been amended and she could now make online payments however another bank signatory also needed to be able to access online to approve. No councilors used Lloyds online banking so further work would be required to put this in place. The Clerk suggested as an alternative standing orders could be set up for regular payments. Cllrs agreed this was a good solution. The Clerk will arrange for forms to be completed.

The Clerk explained that she wished to subscribe to the Society of Local Council Clerks. The subscription would provide training, updated information and the opportunity for networking. She asked to Parish Council to consider a financial contribution of £34.55 to the subscription pro rata to the hours she worked for Chute. She confirmed that the other councils she worked for were also to be asked to contribute. All Councilors agreed.

10) County Councillors Report.

Wiltshire Councillor Ian Blair-Pilling reported that Philip Whitehead, Cllr for Urchfont has been appointed the new leader of Wiltshire Council. Cllr Blair-Pilling becomes the cabinet member for IT, digitisation and operational assets, he hopes that this will be of use to Chute as he will be in apposition to gain first-hand information.

He further reported that Wiltshire Council were supporting the formation of a mutual bank and have provided a grant to help gain the licence. This was being supported because the mutual bank intends to provide finance for small and micro business, they will give accounts to those who don't have bank accounts with conventional banks and now there are less and less high street banks, will provide pop up branches.

He also reported that the Boundaries Commission have provided further proposals which require further consultation. This has no impact on the Chutes but puts pressure on Wiltshire Council reducing the time available to reach a conclusion before the 2020 elections.

He confirmed the next Footpath meeting was to be held on 17th July at Collingbourne Kingston Village Hall and the next Area Board meeting will be held on Thursday 18th July in Tidworth.

Finally, he confirmed he has still to establish firm details regarding the gritting on Conholt Hill.

11) Police Report

The Clerk had circulated the only report she had received which gave lots of details about Tidworth and Ludgershall but none about the Chutes.

12) Planning

The following decisions by Wiltshire Council were noted: 19/03107/LBC -widen doorway Old School House-permission

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

19/05474/FUL- Extension Old Hall, Breach Lane, Chute Standen- A neighbour to the property had expressed some concerns to Cllr Hopton regarding the hedge height not being reduced, and windows overlooking her yard. The council agreed the parishioner needs to express her views direct to Wilts Council. After some discussion Cllr Hughes proposed support for the application which was seconded by Cllr Dawson. All in favour.

19/06136/FUL – Convert barn to dwelling- Parsonage Farm, Upper Chute

Alan Powis the planning consultant representing the applicants who was present gave some additional details regarding the plan for a Barn conversion at Parsonage Farm. It was confirmed this application was for change of use

of an agricultural building. Some questions were asked regarding aesthetics and a request for timbers to be dark and in keeping with the area. Cllr Hughes proposed the application be supported which was seconded by Cllr Foxen. All in favour.

Cllr Hughes confirmed the application for The Stables (19/01970/FUL) was listed to go to committee in August however this has been withdrawn. There will be a new but different application probably in the autumn.

13) Attendance at events

Cllrs Hopton, Foxen and Dawson had recently attended a training seminar for Parish Councillors. All agreed this was very useful and Cllr Foxen asked the Clerk to obtain some guidance sheets which the trainer had agreed to send.

14) Correspondence

None received

15) Items for next meeting

Allotments agreement to be reviewed

Consider new website

Upgrade to Village Design Statement

Installation of posts around Chute Cadley Village green

Move defibrillator from Old Cross Keys

11) Date of next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 7.30 pm on Thursday 5th September 2019.

DRAFT