

CHOLSEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Cholsey Parish Council held on Wednesday 2nd July at 7.30pm in The Pavilion, Station Road, Cholsey, Oxfordshire.

Chair: Mr M Gray

Present:, Mrs V Bolt, Mrs A Rowlands, Helen Jiggins, Mrs M Kaposy, Mr P Jenkins, Mrs L Hamlyn, Mr A Dalby, Mr P Ramsay.

Apologies: Mr J Butler, Mr M Madeley, Mrs M Dyer-Lynch

70 To hear questions or comments from members of the public (max 15mins)

Mr Sheldon spoke regarding agenda item 84 – he feels that most of the litter in and around the village originates at Tesco and suggested that Council ask Tesco for a contribution towards street cleaning.

Mr Sheldon then read out on behalf of Mr Nicholls regarding the mural being painted depicting the village for the Pavilion. Mr Nicholls letter expressed his unhappiness that Fair Mile Hospital, which he feels has played such a big part in the history of the village, has not been included in the mural.

71 To receive any reports from County and/or District Councillors

Mr Gray advised that the recent County Council meeting had included little of relevance to the village other than a motion to try and improve Bee numbers by providing suitable habitats, which is likely to include approaching Parishes for locations where Bee hives might be sited.

72 To receive Declarations of Interest for any agenda items

Mrs Bolt declared a prejudicial interest as a member of CHOKO

Mr Jenkins and Mr Gray declared a personal interest as volunteer drivers for the Community Car Scheme.

73 To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 18th June 2014

Mr Gray proposed acceptance of the minutes, seconded Mrs Rowlands, **carried** with 2 abstentions.

74 To report Matters arising

(a) from the minutes of 18th June 2014

Item 62 – Land at Caps Lane – Mr Gray reported that SODC have employed an agricultural consultant to review the requirement for a dwelling on the site.

Item 66 - Recent “sightings” of police officers. Members reported that they had not seen any increase in police presence in the village. Mr Gray advised that the police did not turn up to the agreed meeting last Friday at the Parish Office. He is proposing to write to Sergeant Fraser Weller about the situation.

Item 70 – Mr Gray, Mrs Bolt and Helen Jiggins updated Council on the status of the play area at Cholsey Meadows – work is due to start within the week and is scheduled to finish before the start of the school holiday. Bark will be put down temporarily so can be used during holiday period. The area will then be grassed.

(b) from the Action Point Register(s)

13/200 – Helen Jiggins reported that the temporary fix for the hole in Newlands Rd has now disintegrated – she undertook to re-report this problem at the next residents meeting.

14/086 (iv) – Mrs Rowlands reported that although some work has been done under West End bridge but the problem has not been rectified. She undertook to monitor the situation.

75 Planning

(a) To consider Planning Applications as at 26th June 2014:

P14/S1441/FUL – Bezants, 33 Winterbrook – Amendments to New detached dwelling & garage in grounds of existing dwelling.

Mr Dalby advised Council that the amendment was very small and recommended that the change was insufficient for Council to change its view of the application.

Mrs Bolt proposed refusal of the application, seconded Mr Gray, **carried** with 1 against.

P14/S1780/HH – 58 Rothwells Close Cholsey- Removal of conservatory, car port and shed, and construction of a replacement single store extension to lounge.

Mr Dalby explained the proposal to Council, he reported that no objections had been received from neighbours and recommended Council approve that application, seconded Mr Jenkins, **carried** unanimously.

P14/S1596/FUL – Meadow Farm, Reading Rd, Cholsey – Amendments to Erection of an agricultural barn and siting of an agricultural workers’ mobile home.

Mr Dalby advised that the amendment was only to the plans, on which the existing barn had been shown with the wrong dimensions. No change had been made to the dimensions of the development proposed in the application. He therefore proposed Council approve the application, seconded Mr Gray, **carried** unanimously.

(b) To note planning decisions received.

P14/S1157/A – Rebranding of Tesco Express retail unit: 3 fascia, 1 projecting and 2 other signs – Granted.

76 Finance

(a) To approve accounts for payment

Mr Gray proposed acceptance of the accounts, seconded Mrs Rowlands, **carried** with 1 abstention.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT 2 JUL 2014

Virgin Media Business	Phone & Broadband June		£57.82
James Butler	WW1 Book of remembrance - reimbursed		£27.99
Community Library	Room Hire for Council meetings - 6 months		£156.00
Pavilion Trust	Parish Office lease rent		£2,000.00
Countrywide	Grass Cut Rec' etc - 3rd June		£239.98
HMRC	PAYE & NI		138.55
Mark Gray	Chairmans Allowance		£200.00
Jacob Dearman	Items for Summer Play Scheme - reimbursed		£143.85
TOTAL			£2,964.19

PAYMENTS RECEIVED

T De Franca	Vendor Fee - July	4765	£40.00
OCC	Grant for Summer Play Scheme	4764	£300.00
Pavilion Trust	Pay and NI for Clerk & Estate Mgr on Trust tasks	4766	£250.00
D Popa	Vendor Fee - July	4767	£40.00
TreeHouse School	Allotment Rent		£8.00
TOTAL			£638.00

Current Account Balance to date		£72,585.45
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New Parish Hall Account Balance to date		£40,102.51
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(b) To note payments received

Noted.

77 To discuss Councils approach to the Community Governance meeting to decide the future of Winterbrook.

Mr Gray advised Council that he will ask Winterbrook residents to attend, and where willing speak, at the decision meeting on 17th July at SODC. He asked for as many members of Council as possible to attend. He advised that if Cholsey lose the vote there will be no chance to appeal against the decision.

78 To consider, agree and sign the lease for the Parish Office from the Pavilion Trust.

Mr Dalby signed the Statutory Declaration on behalf of Council. Mr Ramsay undertook to read the Underlease and if there are no issues to sign to on behalf of Council. Mr Jenkins agreed to be co-signatory. **AP14/113**

79 To discuss the provision of un-consecrated ground in the new cemetery.

Having obtained the required 7 signatories Council discussed the proposal to allocate a different area within the new cemetery to be left un-consecrated, to that which was originally agreed, due to the topography of the site.

Mr Gray proposed acceptance of the proposal, seconded Mrs Bolt, **carried** unanimously.

Mrs Bolt expressed thanks to Mr Cory Wright and the Estate Manager on behalf of Council for the work done on the new cemetery.

80 To receive the latest Community Development Trust report.

Mrs Bolt took Council through the latest Community Development Trust Report. Mrs Hamlyn asked for the status of the planning application for the Villa Close Live/Work Units. The Clerk will enquire into the current status. **AP14/114**

81 To agree a request for s137 funding from the Voluntary Car Scheme.

Mr Gray proposed that Council match the £200 funding given to the scheme last year. Seconded Mrs Rowland **carried** with 2 abstentions.

82 To agree a request for s137 funding from CHOKO.

Council considered a letter from CHOKO requesting that, as in 2013, Council sponsor a barrel at a cost of £99 for the annual CHOKO Beer Festival. Mr Gray proposed approval, seconded Mrs Kaposy **carried** with 1 abstention. Council asked the Clerk to decline the offer of free tickets and glasses mentioned in the letter, on their behalf.

83 To receive the quarterly accounts.

Council reviewed the status of the accounts at the end of June against the budget set in January. Currently the financial situation is on track for Council to meet its financial requirements for the remainder of the year. The Clerk was asked to further clarify the headings on future reports.

84 To discuss the possibility of employing a street cleaner.

Mr Gray reported that he had discovered that some parishes get money from SODC for street cleaning. Mr Gray approached SODC with a view to Cholsey getting some similar funding. However, SODC informed him that such funding is historic and no longer available. Mr Gray asked Members to think about whether in the future Council should approach Tesco and SODC (again) for funding and also allocate some money from Parish Council funds, and if viable employ a street cleaner, perhaps combining it with the lollipop person role. Members discussed the difficulties of recruiting a lollipop person and concluded that perhaps recruiting two people to share the role may be more attractive to possible applicants.

Mr Gray reported that subsequent to his funding discussion with SODC he had met with the District Council street cleaning manager who had agreed to send cleaners out to work on the areas the machines can't reach. Mrs Hamlyn confirmed that this had taken place and that they seemed to have done a good job. Mrs Hamlyn also asked if something could be done about the grass and weeds growing over the pavement along Wallingford Road. Helen Jiggins said that it may be something that her student son would be willing to do in his holiday. Mr Gray reminded members that Council had received £1000 last year from OCC to do this "siding out" work which was not spent. He and the Clerk will investigate what work needs doing. **AP14/115**

85 To receive the Estate Managers report for June.

Council reviewed the Estate Managers report for June. Council expressed their thanks to the Estate Manager for her work.

86 To receive lists of recent Correspondence and Publications and Notices

1. (i) CPRE membership renewal – Clerk to add to agenda for next meeting.

(iii) Light outs event – Mr Gray will write about the event in his blog and ask people to get in touch if they are interested in a "Light's Out" event in the Pavilion. **AP14/116**

(iv) Council discussed an approach by "Community Heartbeat" a company who provide defibrillators and services to councils. Mrs Rowlands said that she would very much like to see this initiative go ahead and undertook to investigate providing a defibrillator for the village. **AP14/117**

(vii) Email from resident re crossing on Reading road. Mr Gray re-confirmed that an island is scheduled to be built in the middle of Reading Road opposite the Ilges Lane Byways later this year. This should make crossing this road easier.

87 To receive news items or up-dates from the Chair

Council discussed the current work being undertaken by BT in the village to upgrade the telecoms cabinets for broadband. Questions were raised as to if the upgrade would extend to Cholsey Meadows. Mr Gray undertook to clarify. **AP14/118**

Mr Gray advised that the work on Fulscot bridge is now due to be finished on 9th September

Mr Gray advised that subject to discussions the cycle path extension to Ilges Lane may need to be taken on by the Parish Council. OCC have advised that if they do the work they will need to change the access restrictions on the Byway. The Clerk was asked to add the item to the next meeting Agenda. **AP14/119**

88 To receive Councillors' Incident Reports and Items for future Agenda

Helen Jiggins updated Council on the Big Lunch held at Cholsey Meadows which despite the weather had been very successful with a good turnout both from Cholsey Meadows residents and the main village.

Mrs Bolt reported that she has received a lot of complaints about the new Post Office set-up. Mr Gray advised that residents should write to the address given on the letter they were originally sent by the PO, and that the PO had

said they intend to conduct a further consultation after the new system has been up and running for 3 months. Mr Gray undertook to include this information in his blog. **AP14/120**

Mrs Bolt reported that she had noticed that the gulleys need emptying as the drains are clogged with mud. Mr Gray advised that he has written to the drainage team about those outside Red Lion and Pavilion.

Mrs Bolt requested that an item be added to the next agenda to discuss SODC's Local Plan for housing. **AP14/121**

Mrs Rowlands – made a request for help at the Family Fun day on 12th July. Helen Jiggins and Mr Gray agreed to help out.

Mr Ramsay gave a overview on the Local Plan meeting he and Mrs Bolt attended at SODC. He noted that the turnout had been poor and that the opinions expressed had been very varied. SODC officers had been at pains to point out that without an agreed local plan for housing developers could be given free rein.

Mrs Kaposy advised that there is a half- plot on St George's road allotments that has become very overgrown. The Clerk will check the situation with the Estate Manager. **AP14/122**

Mr Jenkins advised that there are some weedy areas in the village that do not seem to have been sprayed by the contractors. He undertook to contact the Estate Manager with exact locations. **AP14/123**

Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 6th August