

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHOLSEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 5th MARCH 2014 at 7.30pm in The Pavilion, Station Road, Cholsey, Oxfordshire.**

Present: Chairman: Mr M Gray

Councillors: Mrs M Dyer-Lynch, Mrs L Hamlyn, Mr P Jenkins, Mr M Madeley, Helen Jiggins, Mr J Butler. Mrs A Rowland, Mr A Dalby.

Apologies: Mrs V Bolt, Mrs L Hamlyn.

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

Mr St Clair spoke on behalf of the residents of Cross Rd about their concerns regarding the development at 24 Cross Rd approved by SODC. Mr St Clair reported that none of the Cross road residents to their knowledge had been informed of the application by SODC. Access to the existing properties is very restricted and the residents believe that the development will cause problems not only for their vehicles getting in and out of their drives, but also for visitors, emergency vehicles and bin lorries. Last time an application was put forward on this property Cross road residents were informed and they were able to write and voice their concerns. Mr Gray undertook to take up the matter as a district councillor, and will write to planning.

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

Mr Gray advised that British Gas have accepted responsibility for the Potholes on Papist way. However, though they have agreed to fix them there is no timetable for when this will happen.

Mr Gray reported that as requested he has obtained a double bends road sign for Caps Lane as a traffic calming measure.

Mr Gray reported that SODC are planning to try to exploit the local connection with Midsummer Murders and taking on PR people to take this forward.

Mr Gray reported that the work on Fulscot bridge is taking longer than anticipated and the bridge will now be closed for a further 6 months.

431 To receive Declarations of Interest for any agenda items

None

432 To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 19 Feb 2014

Mr Gray proposed acceptance of the minutes, seconded Mr Jenkins **Carried** with 5 abstentions

433 To report Matters arising

(a) from the minutes of 19 Feb 2014

Minute 415 – Mr Gray reported that he had attended OCC's Flooding Forum. The measures taken after the 2007 floods had resulted in far fewer houses being flooded this time round – 600+ as opposed to 3000+. However those measures did not address the groundwater problems experienced this year. OCC are intending to address the issues at a local level and will be seeking local help and advice when formulating their flood plans. Extra money has been made available for flooding prevention measures.

Minute 418 - Mr Gray reported that Highways will provide A2 maps to display at the parking consultation meeting on 5th April.

Minute 425 - Mr Gray advised that he had spoken to district manager of Tesco who has said that Tesco will pay for and undertake to install cycle racks outside the shop as part of their refurbishment of the store which is to take place at the end of year. Mr Butler requested that the money which had been put aside for the Tesco cycle site is used to install cycle racks elsewhere in the village. An item will be included on the Agenda for the next meeting to overturn the decision made at the last meeting re the landlord's solicitor's costs. **AP14/043**

Minute 426 - Mrs Dyer-Lynch reported on the meeting she had attended with Didcot NAGS which have just reformed. The group's intention is to provide mutual support for local issues. Mrs Dyer-Lynch reported on the Community Information Network Partnership meeting she attended on behalf of Council – the service will depend on volunteers and will be run by Age UK with funding from OCC. The CINF are keen to give talks about the information and services people can access to help them stay independent. Mrs Dyer-Lynch will organise for them to attend Cholsey Day Centre. **AP14/044**

(b) from the Action Point Register(s)

AP13/088 - Mr Dalby advised that this item is now complete.

AP13/195 - Mr Dalby advised that he has completed his survey of the east end of the village and is in the process of surveying the remainder. He advised that repairs have already been scheduled on a faulty light he has reported.

AP13/200 – Helen Jiggins reported that although a response has now been received from the contractor, they are going to pass the responsibility to Linden Homes and no time schedule has been given for the repairs.

AP14/030 – Helen Jiggins reported that the flooding photo's are currently being processed and will be forwarded to the clerk in due course.

434 Planning

(a) To consider Planning Applications as at 27 Feb 2014:

P14/S0350/HH – 36 Rothwells Close – Erection of a single storey front extension.

Mr Dalby advised that the extension proposed is very similar to those on surrounding properties and recommended Council **approve** the application. He reported that no comments have been received from neighbours.

Proposed, Mr Dalby. Seconded, Mr Jenkins **Carried** Unanimously.

P14/S0432/HH – 43 West End – Demolition of existing single storey extension and conservatory. Erection of new part single/part two storey rear extension and front porch.

Mr Dalby advised that he has reviewed the slightly confusing plans and that because of the demolition of existing structures they do not constitute a large change to the existing property and recommends Council **approve** the application. He reported that no comments have been yet received from neighbours.

Proposed, Mr Dalby. Seconded, Mr Madeley **Carried** Unanimously.

(b) To note planning decisions received.

Noted

435 Finance

(a) To approve accounts for payment

Mr Gray proposed approval of the accounts for payment. Seconded Mr Jenkins **Carried** Unanimously

(b) To note payments received

Noted

436 Gravel Pit Update

Mr Gray advised that in light of the new draft Mineral and Waste local plan released by OCC 24th February CAGE will be meeting on Monday 31st March in Cholsey and the following day in Wallingford to re-engage residents in the process. CAGE are to engage a specialist barrister to respond to the plan on their behalf, the cost of which will absorb all of their remaining funds. Mr Gray advised that the money precepted by Council for CAGE may therefore need to be released to them in the coming months as the Examination in Public approaches.

437 Broadband Update

Mr Gray reported that he had received notification that the local telecoms cabinets are to be updated to fibre optic. The cabling from the cabinets to homes will not be upgraded as yet, but this should still result in improvements to broadband speeds.

438 To consider and agree a request from Radio Oxford to visit Cholsey as part of their Big Tour.

Council considered a request from Radio Oxford to use the Forty for an outside broadcast in April. Mr Gray proposed permission should be granted. Seconded, Helen Jiggins. **Carried** Unanimously

Radio Oxford had also requested a list of individuals to talk to about local issues, events, facilities etc.

Mr Gray will contact them with a list of subjects of interest and people they might speak with. **AP14/045**

439 To consider and agree a request from a resident to cut back beech trees on the recreation ground which are overshadowing her garden.

The Clerk advised that advice re the above had been taken from a tree surgeon and a cost estimate obtained for the work. It was proposed that the resident be asked to pay the cost of the tree surgeon who would work under the supervision of the estate manager. The Clerk advised that there was also some hedge trimming work that may be required which it may be possible for the maintenance man to do. Once again the resident would be asked to pay for the cost of the work as it is cosmetic. **AP14/046**

Proposed Mr Gray, seconded Mr Dalby, **Carried** Unanimously.

440 To consider and agree the cost of tree work to be carried out in the village.

Council considered 3 quotations received for routine tree work to be carried out around the village.

After discussion it was decided to appoint Contractor 1 to complete the work who would also be asked to look at some possible additional work that had been identified by the other contractors. It was proposed that if the cost for the additional work was below £700 then this should go head also. Proposed Mr Butler Seconded Mr Gray, **Carried** Unanimously. **AP14/047**

441 To discuss the possibility of Council administering the Cholsey Car Scheme.

Mr Gray advised that he had had discussions with Mrs Wollaston who runs the Cholsey Car Scheme who would like to step aside from the day to day running of the scheme. Helen Jiggins volunteered to take the work on from September. Mr Gray will contact the County Council to ensure that the funding they give the scheme will be ongoing. Helen Jiggins will contact Mrs Wollaston. **AP14/048**

442 To consider and agree a new approach to recruitment of the Children's Worker

Mr Gray advised that he has spoken with the Youth Worker and they concluded that by splitting the Children's Worker into two separate roles they may be more successful in recruiting the right people.
Mr Gray proposed that The Family Support role should be separated from the Youth Club and Homework Club role and two individuals recruited in place of a single person. Seconded, Mr Butler. **Carried Unanimously AP14/049**

443 To receive the Estate Managers report for February.

Council reviewed the Estate managers report. Mr Gray noted that large ruts have been made in the recreation ground by a vehicle being driven to and from the Bluebirds container. The Estate Manager will be asked to try and establish who drove onto the recreation ground and ask them to refrain from doing so again until the ground has recovered fully from the recent rain. **AP14/050**

444 To receive lists of recent Correspondence and Publications and Notices

1(i) Community Governance Review – Mr Butler requested that in view of the importance of this issue it be added to the next Agenda to be discussed in depth. Mr Gray is to obtain a copy of Wallingford Town Councils response to the Review. **AP14/051**

Mr Butler voiced concerns about the lack of transparency of the process.

1 (ii) Letter of thanks from Didcot Citizens advice bureau for Council's donation.

1 (iii) Invitation to Council for Protection of Rural England AGM – Mrs Kaposy volunteered to attend.

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

Mr Gray reported back on the Local Groups Event held at the Great Hall Fairmile Mr Gray and Mr Jenkins had attended for the Parish Council. Although the event was not as well attended as they would have liked someone who was at the event has shown an interest in becoming a councillor. Mr Gray also advised that he has a contact in Winterbrook who may be interested in becoming a councillor.

Mr Gray reported that Mr Dewey has advised that the new website will be ready for review by the end of the month. The Clerk, Estate Manager and Chair will be trained to update the site. Mr Gray advised that Mr Dewey has suggested he might produce a training video for others who might wish to update the site in future.

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

Mrs Kaposy advised that fly-tipping has been taking place off Caps Lane. The Estate Manager will be asked to speak to Biffa. **AP14/052**

Mr Butler advised that preparations for WW1 centenary are progressing. Mr Butler also reported that the flooding had left a large amount of gravel under the railway bridge and asked for Highways to be contacted to clear this.

Helen Jiggins requested the timescale on the Ilges lane cycle path – Mr Gray advised that this was not due to be completed until September. She raised the problems caused by 4x4's using the lane making it difficult for pedestrians to use because of the mud churned up by the vehicles.

Mr Jenkins requested the Office write a letter to Larkmead Vets to ask if they would be willing to repair the potholes in the un-adopted part of Ilges Lane which gives access to their premises. They have repaired these on a previous occasion. **AP14/053**

Date of next meeting: Wednesday, 19 March 2014, 7.30pm at The Pavilion, Station Road

Melanie Malcolm, Parish Clerk

THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND