

CHARTRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 15th January 2014
in Chartridge Village Hall at 8 p.m.

Present: Cllr Brown (Chairman), Cllr Jones, Cllr Lherbier, Cllr Keen, Cllr Russell, Cllr Davies, Cllr Mathias, Cllr White and District Cllr Birchley

1. To receive apologies of absence
Cllr Nick Rose & Cllr Howell
2. To approve minutes of the meeting held on 4th December 2013
The minutes were approved
3. To receive declarations of interest
Cllr Brown declared an interest in the planning application relating to High Mead, Chesham Road, Bellingdon
4. Questions from members of the public
 - a) Cllr Birchley presented members with an update on the following matters:
 - A focus on improved integration when managing Public Health, Social Housing and other elements of social care will help BCC in working within budgets and further reduce budgets in lieu of further cuts in the future. There is an identified need to reduce duplication and improve on the understanding of complex legislation, to keep spend to a minimum.
 - A review of the Transport Budget has flagged up the need for better management and more forward thinking to better manage spend and funds.
 - HS2 – BCC are urging all councils to support them in their petition against HS2 and at the very worst, settle for a tunnel through the Chilterns. BCC are also pushing for a minimum 500m border (from the proposed line) within which compensation is granted.
 - Hospital Trust – Cllr Birchley has written to the CEO of the Trust requesting an explanation of why patients have been waiting so very long before receiving their notes and plans of action. The Trust has been granted an additional £1.4m to cope with winter pressure.
 - Winter Health Checks – BCC is encouraging all older residents to take up the offer of a free health check, available through your GP.
 - b) Cllr Brown raised the issue of home to school transport and asked what the approximate cost to run a coach to Dr Challenor's is, versus a number of taxis running from Bellingdon and surrounding villages. Cllr Brown also advised Cllr Birchley and other members that parents of children at Chartridge Village School have received notification from Thames Valley Police, asking that parents refrain from parking on the roadside through the village and particularly around the end of Cogdells Lane. Cllr Brown has taken this matter up with Matthew Sansom and his Seargent at Chesham Police Station because there is nowhere else for parents to park.
 - c) Cllr Keen questioned how road repair work is prioritised. He used the example of a seemingly extravagant Repair to a relatively small and serviceable section of Chesham Road, Bellingdon, close to Bank Green. Cllr Birchley explained that that particular repair was long outstanding and followed a 'blip' in previous repairs to that section.
 - d) Cllr Brown raised the issue of double parking on the section of Bellingdon Road, Chesham between the fire station and the Zebra crossing. He explained that double yellow lines are need because parking is fast becoming disruptive and often dangerous to other road users. Cllr Brown has been in discussion with the local police about this. Cllr Birchley asked for further information and a police contact.
 - e) Cllr Keen mentioned a collection of surface water outside Greencroft Cottages, Bellingdon. He has reported this, Ref: 435485. The Clerk will chase this up with TfB.

5. Questions to the Chairman

a. Development at Bloomfield Cottages

Cllr Brown informed members that clearing works will begin on February 1st. He also advised members that a quantity of logs was available from the site, to Bellingdon residents. The Clerk will circulate the message with help from the Bellingdon Circular.

b. Chartridge Playing Field Clubhouse

Members of Broadway Bowls Club made a presentation to the Parish Council based around proposed changes to the Bowls Club facilities. Cllr Jones proposed that the Parish Council supports the changes and members agreed. The Parish Council is to set up a steering committee to work alongside them, comprising: Cllr Brown, Cllr Howell and White.

The following questions were also raised to the Chairman:

- Cllr Jones mentioned the poor state of the footpath between The Bell and the Village Hall. Required work to this stretch has been reflected in a bid for LAF funds.
- Cllr Jones mentioned the volume of cars parking on the verge at the end of Cogdells Lane – the Police are aware.
- Cllr Jones distributed postcards to all members, inviting them to complete and return these as a vote against HS2.
- Cllr Keen – asked if Paradigm could clear the cuttings left from when trees were cleared from Bloomfield Cottages late in 2013. The Clerk will chase.
- Cllr Keen advised members that following the removal of some cherry trees outside Bloomfield Cottages, residents would like to see some Red May / Hawthorn planted in the space. Cllr Keen will present costs at the next meeting.
- Cllr Keen mentioned a number of cars parking on the verge outside number 4 Bloomfield Cottages. Cllr Brown will raise this with Paradigm when he speaks with them about general maintenance and repair to verges during and after the building works.
- Cllr Keen asked if there was currently a government policy to protect the Blue Ball, Asheridge. There is not currently a submission to make the Blue Ball an Area of Value to the Community; however the Clerk will seek further clarification on such a submission and report back.
- Cllr Keen mentioned a horse trailer that is currently parked on the verge along Chesham Road, Bellingdon. The Clerk will inform CDC that this is parked on manorial waste.
- Cllr Mathias mentioned the hedge that runs from the top of Old Sax Lane to the bus stop, it is quite overgrown and forces pedestrians out into the road. The Clerk will speak to TFB.
- Cllr Russell mentioned that Bellingdon residents think residents at Animal Farm may be dumping waste, including asbestos, in one of their fields adjacent to the public footpath. The Clerk will speak to the Environment Agency.

6. Matters arising

a. Clerk's report.

The information delivered within the Clerks Report was noted.

Regarding the Royal Garden Party – it was agreed that the Parish Council would nominate ex Cllr Lunn.

b. Chartridge Playing Fields

Members agreed that the new sign 'Franklin Playing Fields' should be positioned just inside the pedestrian access, close to the children's play area.

c. To do list

The list was reviewed.

d. Local Area Forum

Cllr Lherbier had no update as there has been no meeting since October 2013.

e. LAT update

The Clerk advised members that she is to meet with the two new LAT contacts on 21st January 2014. Cllr Keen expressed an interest in attending.

f. The Bull

The Clerk advised members that the Parish Council have submitted the request to make this site an Area of Value to the Community.

Members agreed that a letter would be sent to the owners of the property to advise them.

g. Bellingdon & Asheridge Village Hall

This item will be held until further proposals and plans are received.

h. Hedgecutting & Parish Clearance Scheme

Hedge cutting, as agreed at previous meetings, has been completed. The Clerk will raise an invoice to Hazledene Farm for the section cut around their fields. The Clerk will also add a paragraph to the website explaining that a small amount of the precept will be used to maintain roadside hedges each year; however in many cases the responsibility lies with the landowner and in such cases the Parish Council will always consult with the landowner first, and appreciate some reimbursement.

Cllr White suggested that the Parish Council draft a standard letter to landowners stating that the council is happy to cut hedges collectively as this may well save costs, but would be invoiced for their respective section.

Cllr Keen suggested hedges are cut in the summer also. Members will consider this at the May meeting.

Regarding the Parish Clearance Scheme, the Clerk will find out how much BCC are prepared to grant the Parish Council for carrying out maintenance work

i. To discuss the request for donations from Bucks Playing Fields Association and the Chilterns Conservation Board

Members agreed £50 to each.

j. Footpath gateway at Chartridge Village School

Cllr Lherbier could not identify any spare gates. The Parish Council will ask if Cllr Birchley could fund this.

k. Risk Analysis, Financial Procedures and Asset Register

These documents were approved at the meeting on 4th December 2013.

l. Budget 2014-2105

Members were advised that the precept, of £10,000.00, has been applied for.

7. Planning

Cllr Jones advised members that all comments included within the Parish Council's response to DDPD have seemingly been ignored, with the exception of the request to remove the site opposite the end of Cogdells Lane, Chartridge, from possible development.

a) Decisions.

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|---------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1608 FA | Cherry Tree Farm, Chartridge | Extensions to detached outbuilding | Withdrawn |
| 1665 SA | 4 Widmore Close, Asheridge | Single-storey rear extension | Permitted |
| 1715 FA | Chartridge Park | Detached storage building | Conditional Permission |
| 1797 FA | Highmore House, Bellingdon | Single-storey rear extension | Conditional Permission |
| | | | |

b) Outstanding applications.

| | | | |
|---------|---------------------------------|---|--|
| 1825 FA | The Cottage, Bellingdon | Replacement dwelling | Parish Council to object |
| 1975 HB | The Cottage, Bellingdon | Listed building consent for the above | As above |
| 1907 FA | Cherry Tree Farm, Braziers End | Alterations to existing detached outbuilding | No objections |
| 1931 FA | High Mead, Bellingdon | Extensions, loft conversion, front porch, etc | Parish Council to ask that CDC consider the already extensive development to a site that sits within the green belt |
| 2033 FA | Chess Spring House, Pednor | Single-storey extension | Parish council to ask that CDC consider historic developments to the property and ensure new proposals do not contravene planning regulations |
| 2042 FA | Rosebank, Bellingdon | Extensions | No objections |
| 2043 FA | Bolt Hole Farm Barn, Chartridge | Conversion of barn to dwelling | Objections on the basis that these proposals are contrary to CDC Local Planning Policy GB1. In addition the property was originally intended for the purpose of agricultural and non-agricultural storage. If not being used for this purpose it should be dismantled. |

c) Appeals.

None

8. Finance

Accounts to 31st December 2013 were circulated

9. Invoices were approved for payment, including:

Clerks salary & Clerks expenses

P Matthews – hedge cutting at Chartridge Playing Fields.

Manor Signs – Chartridge Playing Fields.

10. Representatives' Reports

Chartridge Village School – parents of children attending the school have received a letter from the police regarding parking at the school.

11. Items for road gangs

Road sign cleaning, in particular the 'heavy vehicle restriction' sign, top of Rays Hill, heading to Bank Green.

Westdean Lane, silt is building up at the bottom of the lane, and needs clearing.

Salt piles around Pednor.

There being no further business, at 9.50pm, the Chairman requested members of the public and the Clerk leave the meeting. During a brief discussion members agreed that the Clerk's salary should increase to Point 19 on the SLCC salary scale.

Chairman.....

Date.....

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 5th March, in Bellingdon & Asheridge Village Hall, at 8.pm

E L van Hullen
Clerk to the Council

January 2014