

CHARTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30 P.M. ON TUESDAY 19th JANUARY 2010 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD, CHARTHAM, NR CANTERBURY, KENT, CT4 5HX.

Present:

Cllr. A. Dawes – Chairman
Cllr. D. Butcher
Cllr. G. Hoare
Mr P Hornibrook – Clerk

Cllr. J. Jeffries
Cllr. S. Dungay
Cllr. R. Doyle CCC

KCC Community Warden Tom Tucker-Smyth

Cllr. Dawes welcomed Cllr. Hoare to his first meeting of the Parish Council, having recently being co-opted onto the council.

(1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. D. Thompson, Cllr. D. Weatherall, Cllr. A. Frost, Cllr. M. Goff, Cllr. P. Graveson.

(2) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolution: To confirm minutes of meeting held on 8th December 2009 (previously circulated).

Proposed by: Cllr. Jeffries and Seconded by: Cllr. Dawes.

Resolution carried unanimously.

(3) COUNCIL: a) Declaration of any member's interest in agenda items.

Cllr. Butcher noted an interest on a planning application at 49, Shalmsford Street, Chartham.

b) Any change in declaration of member's interest.

No changes in member's interests were noted.

(4) MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk noted to all members that now Cllr. Barlow had resigned from the Parish Council as from the 31st December 2009, there is a vacancy for another councillor to replace him. Notices have been displayed advertising the vacancy and the period for applying to be a councillor expires on the 25th January 2010. CCC will then notify us of the number of applicants, or if we are able to co-opt another councillor without an election.

The Clerk noted that Southern Water had now completed the installation of new fencing around the sewage plant on the Memorial playing field.

(5) TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE

(A folder of correspondence was available for all Councillors to view the correspondence and make comment on)

The following issues were raised for discussion:

- Item 1: CCC – Chartham Parking Regulation Review 2008. Cllr. Dawes read out details to all members of the two proposals for ‘yellow lines’. It was noted that ‘enforcement’ of the new rules would still be a problem with no regular traffic wardens patrolling the village.
- Item 2: Reply from ‘The Over 60’s Community Service’ group to a recent report in Chartham. Cllr. Dawes read out the reply from the group to all members.
- Item 3: Policing Kent – Magazine- December 2009. A copy was available for all members to read.
- Item 4: Jacobs – Services provided. Details were available for all members to read.
- Item 5: Kent Top travel – Coach Hire. Cllr. Dawes noted details to all members and it was agreed to place the details on the village hall notice board.
- Item 6: KCC – Community Wardens. Cllr. Dawes read out details to all members.
- Item 7: CCC – Agenda – Development Control Committee – Tuesday 5th January 2009. A copy was available for all members to review.
- Item 8: AWCIRK – Oast to Coast Magazine – Winter 2009. A copy was available for all members to read.
- Item 9: Balfour Beatty Mott MacDonald – A2/M2 Junction 7 Improvement Works. Cllr. Dawes read out details to all members.
- Item 10: CCC – Street Monitors Meeting – Tuesday 15th December 2009. Details were available for all members to read.
- Item 11: KCC – Annual Performance Report 2008/2009. Details were available for all members to read.
- Item 12: Kent Downs AONB – Statutory Management Plan 2009 – 2014. A DVD was available for all members to view.
- Item 13: CCC – Agenda – Joint Meeting of the Rural Area (North) Member Panel and the Rural Area (South) Member Panel – 18th January 2010. (Budget). Details were available for all members to read.

(6) TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS & MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

(a) Finance and General Purposes Committee:

A resolution that orders for payment as shown in attached schedules was agreed unanimously. They were signed by Cllr. Dawes and Cllr. Butcher.

The Clerk reported that he was in the process of completing the last quarter's VAT claim.

The Clerk noted that the Finance & General Purposes Committee had met recently to discuss the 2010/2011 'Precept' application. The Clerk handed out details of the proposed application to all councillors and discussion took place regarding the proposed figures. It was agreed that the Parish Council would submit an application for £84,275.00 for the 2010/2011 year which is some £5,000.00 less than last year and thought to be prudent in the current financial climate.

Discussion took place regarding the rental of the parish office for the 2010/2011 year and it was agreed that £2,000 would be an acceptable amount. The Clerk will arrange payment in April 2010.

The Clerk noted that he was in the process of completing a new signatory's form from Lloyds TSB, to delete Cllrs. Frost & Barlow and add the new members.

The Clerk stated that he has asked KCC Cllr. John Simmonds if he has any spare funds to help with the building of the new cemetery roadway and paths and to help support the 'Mother & Toddler' group. Cllr. Simmonds has agreed to donate £3,000 towards each project and the Clerk will arrange to submit the appropriate grant forms to KCC.

(b) Planning:

The Clerk reported that there were four new Planning Applications to be dealt with at the meeting:

CA/09/01871/CAC – Proposal: Demolition of agricultural buildings in connection with redevelopment: **Location:** Shalmsford Farm, Shalmsford Street, Chartham, Nr Canterbury, Kent: **PC Views:** No Objections.

CA/09/01898/LB – Proposal: Internal and external alterations to form two dwellings: **Location:** Shalmsford Farm, Shalmsford Street, Chartham, Nr Canterbury, Kent: **PC Views:** No Objections.

CA/09/02003/PEN – Proposal: Application for a new planning permission to replace planning permission CA/06/1350/CHA for a change of use from workshops/storage to two office units with associated alterations in order to extend the time limit for implementation: **Location:** Land adjoining The Royal Oak Public House, Hatch Lane, Chartham: **PC Views:** No Objections.

CA/09/01965/FUL – Proposal: Erection of dwelling with attached annexe and erection of two-storey extension to Butterfly Cottage: **Location:** Butterfly Cottage, 49 Shalmsford Street, Chartham, CT4 7RS: **PC Views:** No Objections.

The Clerk noted the 'Grant of Permission to Develop Land' CA/09/707 for the new slip road linking from the existing A28 Thanington Road to the existing A2 dual carriageway.

The Clerk noted that the CCC Enforcement Team is still investigating two untidy sites at Chartham Hatch and that enquiries are progressing to serve Planning Contravention Notices.

The Clerk also reported that the CCC Enforcement Team is also dealing with an alleged breach of Planning Permission on land adjacent to The Royal Oak, Chartham Hatch.

The Clerk read out an e-mail from a parishioner requesting that a member of the planning committee meet with him to discuss a proposed planning application on the Ashford Road. The Clerk will arrange to meet with the parishioner and then report back to the planning committee.

(c) Cemetery:

The Clerk reported that Foundation Property Services are still marketing the sale of the Cemetery Lodge. There have been several interested parties recently and one prospective buyer asked if the property could be used for commercial purposes. They asked if 'The Lodge' could be used as Offices with the garden turned into a car park. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would rather see the Lodge used only as a residential property.

(d) Countryside:

The Clerk noted that he was due to liaise with Cllr. Dawes regarding the positioning of the signs to be purchased from Kent Downs AONB.

Cllr Butcher was asked to contact the PROW and arrange repairs to the footpath sign which is still laid down at the rear of the Royal British Legion.

(e) Amenities:

The Clerk reported details printed-off the CCC website today regarding the issue of the proposed closure of the public toilets on the Memorial playing field. It noted that the toilets are to be offered to the Parish Council with financial support from the City Council for two years. Discussion took place concerning the matter and it was agreed that we should wait and see what is officially offered before constructing a formal reply.

Cllr. Dungay requested that consideration is given to the placing of a salt/grit bin at the junction of Bobbin Lodge and Shalmsford Street. The Clerk will contact Richard Dixon at Kent Highway Services to see if they will agree to a bin being sited there.

(f) No Man's Orchard Management Committee:

The Clerk reported that the next meeting of the No Man's Orchard Management Committee would be on the 28th January 2010.

(7) SPORTS PAVILION/PLAY AREAS.

(a) Sports Pavilion:

The Clerk reported that a site meeting had taken place with Craig Low from the Football Foundation to formally check the progress of the build. He was suitably impressed with the quality of the build and will now await receipt of the 'certificate of practical completion'. Craig will return for the official opening ceremony which is to be arranged for April/May 2010.

The pavilion when formally completed by the contractor will be insured by the Parish Council.

The fencing of the cricket pitch and pavilion area has now been completed and looks very impressive.

Due to the recent bad weather the preparation work on the new pitches has not taken place and we must wait for the ground to dry out before work can recommence.

The Clerk noted that he has submitted a grant application to Collyer-Ferguson for various pieces of equipment for the new Sports Pavilion on behalf of the Sports Club.

The Clerk noted a previous request from Cllr. Thompson to all councillors to consider a suggestion by the Sports Club to name the changing rooms at the new pavilion after local sportsmen who have contributed to the running and reputation of the Sports Club over the many years it has existed. Cllr Dungay suggested Bryan Taylor who has contributed so much to the club over the past few years and who worked tirelessly in submitting the grant application to the Football Foundation. Other names suggested were John Piper, Richard Baines and Jim Hornibrook.

(b) Play Areas:

The Clerk noted that he had submitted two grants to the CCC Capital Grant Scheme for a disabled roundabout and a half ball Multi-Sport basketball and goal.

The Clerk reported that he had eventually contacted the Area Manager of RSS Record and that they have arranged to visit the St. Augustine's play areas in February, to check all the wooden play equipment for signs of rot after recent problems with a swing crossbeam.

The Clerk noted that Ace Pest Control had been to the recreation ground at Chartham Hatch to clear the moles around the play area.

(8) VILLAGE HALL UPDATE.

The Clerk reported that a new door had been ordered from Herts Door & Window Company to replace the damaged one in the main hall that leads out onto the patio area.

It was noted that we are still awaiting a quotation from John Cummings to install a 'Butler Sink' on the outside of the hall for the cleaners to use.

The Clerk is also liaising with Sandra Cook (VHMC) regarding the insurance cover for the village hall and its contents.

Tom Tucker-Smyth as Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee reported on a meeting on Saturday 16th January 2010 at the City Council Offices to discuss and formalise a village hall reserves policy. He outlined the basics of the scheme and noted that he will be liaising with other members of the VHMC to finalise the policy and return it to CCC.

It was also noted that the VHMC will be applying to Action with Communities in Rural Kent (AWCIRK) for the first part of the 'Hallmark' scheme. There are three parts to the scheme and the scheme aims to reward and establish 'good practice' within the hall.

(9) HIGHWAY PROBLEMS / POLICE LIAISON.

(a) Highways:

The Clerk noted that he had asked KCC Cllr. Simmonds if there was any more news on the adoption of the roads at St. Augustine's, but had heard nothing recently. The Clerk will drop Cllr. Simmonds another e-mail requesting an update on the situation.

It was reported that KHS have filled the salt/grit bins around the village twice over the past couple of weeks, but nothing could be guaranteed if we have further bad weather.

It was noted that after the recent bad weather there are pot-holes everywhere around the parish. The KCC Community Warden and the Clerk will tour the parish next week and report all pot-holes to Kent Highway Services.

Cllr. Dawes noted that the road narrows sign at Town Lane need reinstating. The Clerk will contact KHS.

(b) Police /KCC Warden Liaison:

The KCC Community Warden Tom Tucker-Smyth noted the following issues:

- Lots of calls with regards to youths out snow balling. Most kids have been asked to have consideration for all people especially the elderly.
- Phone call received regarding duster sellers on The Crescent. Both youths were spoken to and removed from the village.
- There are numerous vehicles parked around the village with no tax, details have been passed on to the DVLA.
- Fly tipping in Denge Woods. Details were passed on to Serco and the mess has been cleaned up.
- Theft of milk bottles. Details were passed on to the Police and the youths involved have been spoken to.
- Gold spray paint. Details were passed on to the Police and the youths have been spoken to. All other graffiti is currently being removed.
- The Bus shelter by the side of Arnold Road has had the wooden panels smashed. This has been dealt with and repaired.
- A car was vandalised on Bolts Hill. The name of the offender has been passed on to the Police.
- Various reports of cars being driven in an anti-social way around the village. Various car owners have been informed of the complaints and have been asked to be more considerate in the 30mph speed limit.
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- The gas box at the top of Bakers Lane has had the pipes pulled out and there was a smell of gas, this was phoned in to the gas board and they were there within the hour to fix the problem.
- Various pot-holes around the village have been noted and over the next week we will be checking the streets for pot-holes and checking the street lighting.

The Clerk read out a Police 'Bulletin' from PC 8351 Paul Gibson noting details of criminal activity in the rural parishes.

(10) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed to be **Tuesday 9th February 2010** at 7.30 pm at The Village Hall, Station Road, Chartham, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT4 7HX.

(11) CLOSURE

There being no further business the meeting closed at 08.51 p.m.

Chairman.....Date.....