

CHARTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30 P.M. ON TUESDAY 10th NOVEMBER 2009 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD, CHARTHAM, NR CANTERBURY, KENT, CT4 5HX.

Present:

Cllr. A. Dawes – Chairman
Cllr. C. Barlow
Cllr. D. Weatherall
Cllr. M. Goff
Mr P Hornibrook – Clerk

Cllr. J. Jeffries
Cllr. A. Frost
Cllr. S. Dungay
KCC Cllr. J. Simmonds

(1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. D. Thompson, Cllr. P. Graveson, Cllr. D. Butcher, CCC Cllr. R. Doyle.

(2) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolution: To confirm minutes of meeting held on 13th October 2009 (previously circulated).

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

Resolution carried unanimously.

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

No interest was noted by any member in any specific agenda item.

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

No changes in member's interests were noted.

(4) MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk noted the matter of the recent resignation of Cllr. D. Frost from the Parish Council and reported that notices advertising the vacancy will be displayed on the parish notice-boards. The deadline date for replying to CCC is 14 days from the 9th November 2009, and if no replies have been received it will then be left down to the Parish Council to co-opt a new member.

(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: AWCIRK – Oast to Coast Magazine – Autumn 2009. A copy was available for all members to read and Cllr. Dungay took the magazine for perusal.

- Item 2: CPRE – AGM 17th November 2009, Thanington Resource Centre. Details were noted to all members.
- Item 3: Protect Kent – AGM – Friday 13th November 2009. Details were noted to all members. Cllr. Jeffries took the attached magazine for perusal.
- Item 4: CCC- Agenda – Standards Committee – Wednesday 4th November 2009. A copy was available for all members to read.
- Item 5: CCC – Agenda – Development Control Committee – Tuesday 10th November 2009. Details were available for all members to read.
- Item 6: CPRE – Countryside Voice Magazine – Autumn 2009. A copy was available for all members to read.
- Item 7: DDC – Town & Parish Quadrennial Review of Members’ Remuneration. Cllr. Dawes reported on the significant issues in the document relating to allowances available to councillors and councils.
- Item 8: CCC – Agenda – Joint Meeting of the Rural Area (North) Member Panel and the Rural Area (South) Member Panel – Monday 16th November 2009. The Clerk reported on details of the Concurrent Funding applications received by CCC from all parishes, noting the reduction in the amounts claimed from the previous year to try and meet the City Council’s budgetary savings for the 2010/11 year.
- Item 9: Kent Fire & Rescue Service – Integrated Risk Management Plan 2010/13. A copy was available for all members to read. The Clerk and Cllr. Dawes will review the document and return suitable comments regarding the report.
- The Clerk noted an e-mail from Nikko Hicks on behalf of the PCC asking if they can display some signs on Parish Council land to advertise the St. Mary’s Church Christmas market. The request was agreed by the Parish Council.

(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. Jeffries.

The Clerk noted that a Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting will have to be arranged when CCC issues the paperwork asking for details of our Precept request for the 2010/2011 year.

(b) Planning:

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

CA/09/01571/LB – Proposal: single storey extension to rear of dwelling and replace windows with timber sash windows. **Location:** 1 Underdown Cottages, Mystole Lane, Chartham, CT4 7BX: **PC Views:** No Objections.

CA/09/01571/FUL – Proposal: Single storey extension to rear of dwelling and replace windows with timber sash windows: **Location:** 1 Underdown Cottages, Mystole Lane, Chartham, CT4 7BX: **PC Views:** No Objections.

CA/09/01531/LB – Proposal: Installation of rooflight and sun tunnel to rear of dwelling: **Location:** 1 Mount Cottages, Hatch Lane, Chartham, CT4 7LS: **PC Views:** No Objections.

CA/09/01474/FUL – Proposal: Formation of hardstanding and vehicular crossover: **Location:** Iris, Howfield Lane, Chartham, CT4 7NA: **PC Views:** No Objections.

CA/09/01627/FUL – Proposal: Conservatory to rear of dwelling: **Location:** 29 Updown Way, Chartham, CT4 7TP: **PC Views:** No Objections.

CA/09/01655/FUL – Proposal: Submission of Reserved Matters (siting, design, external appearance of the proposed buildings, means of access and landscaping with associated details required by conditions 04,05,06,07,12, and 13) details pursuant to outline planning permission CA/95/0699/CHA for residential development, comprising 23 dwellings with garaging and parking, conversion of Oast to two dwellings, along with the provision of vehicular access, open space, incorporating compensatory flood storage provision, play area and landscaping: **Location:** Shalmsford Farm, Shalmsford Street, Chartham: **PC Views:** Meeting arranged for Thursday 19th November 2009 with the client and his Architect to discuss the proposals.

The Clerk read out three '**Granted**' Planning Application.

CA/09/00953/FUL – Sports Pavilion, Beech Avenue, Chartham.

CA/09/01255/FC – Burnt House Farm, Station Road, Chartham, CT4 7HU.

CA/09/01364/FUL – 173 Shalmsford Street, Chartham, CT4 7QP.

The Clerk read out a letter from the CCC Enforcement Team regarding the decision to grant planning permission at Bigberry Farm.

Notice of Proposed Work to Trees in a Conservation Area:

1, Rentain Farm Cottage, Rattington Street, Chartham – Reduce two Rowan trees and two apple trees to a height approximately 3 metres to reduce overhang over the road and clear the overhead cables. No Objections were raised from the Parish Council.

(c) Cemetery:

The Clerk reported that the sale of the Cemetery Lodge has now fallen through due to the length of time it has taken to register the property and grounds with H M Land Registry. It was agreed to leave the sale of the property with the current agents Foundation Property Services.

It was agreed to re-arrange the proposed Cemetery Committee meeting to Tuesday 24th November 2009 at 5.30 pm.

Cllr. Barlow raised the issue of cemetery guidelines for the erection of Memorials. Cllr. Barlow outlined a brief history of the cemetery, stating that the Parish Council has complete control over the cemetery and noted the duty of care that the cemetery committee has to uphold the appearance of the memorials and grounds. It was noted that all Memorial

applications must be reviewed carefully and must take into account other users of the cemetery. Cllr. Barlow outlined the thinking of the committee in authorising memorials and inscriptions and stated that the committee should abide strictly to the guidelines. Until 2007 the grounds were looked after by the Cemetery Superintendent and people have purchased the rights to burial from all over the country. Discussion took place regarding a specific memorial and it was noted that the committee will arrange to meet with relatives shortly to discuss the proposed application.

(d) Countryside:

It was reported that the 'kissing-gate' at the rear of the Royal British Legion has been stolen. The PROW Office has been informed.

There will be no organised walks in December 2009 or January 2010.

It was stated that the PROW Office are looking into the possibility of replacing the stile on the riverside path with a 'kissing-gate'.

(e) Amenities:

The Clerk noted that the glass has been broken in the Parish Council notice board at Chartham Hatch and that repairs are in hand.

Discussion took place regarding the proposed closure of the toilets on the Memorial playing field by CCC. It was agreed that we should fight vigorously the closure as the toilets as they are used by a multitude of users such as parents using the nearby play area, St Mary's Church visitors, Ashford Road Cemetery users, Commuters, Canoeists, Ramblers, Mill visitors, Football spectators and users of the playing field, visitors to the area and cyclists, etc. With the proposed Canterbury to Chartham cycle path also being built the toilets will be a necessary facility in the area. The Clerk noted that he has asked CCC Cllr. Doyle what the running costs per annum are for the toilets and that he is awaiting a reply. Another option for the City Council would be to put the toilets on the list of options for the Concurrent Function application that we submit annually. The Clerk and Cllr. Dawes will construct a suitable letter to CCC supporting the Parish Council's wish to keep the toilets in service.

It was noted that the Parish Council has discretionary powers to maintain public clocks and it was reported that the St. Mary's Church clock requires extensive repairs and needs to be taken away, dismantled and overhauled.

Cllr. Dungay stated that she had received a request from Peter Harrington on behalf of Chartham Sports Club to arrange a meeting between council and sports club representatives. The Clerk will arrange a suitable meeting after the Sports Pavilion meeting on Friday 13th November 2009.

(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 14th January 2010.

It was noted that pruning of the orchard will take place at the end of November/ beginning of December 2009. It was also stated that there will be a pruning workshop at the orchard in February next year. Further details will be available nearer the time.

It was reported that the BBC had undertaken two days filming in the orchard recently.

(7) SPORTS PAVILION/PLAY AREAS.

(a) Sports Pavilion:

The Clerk reported that Sports Pavilion build is still progressing on target, with the under-floor heating now installed and the floor screed in the process of drying out over the next few days. The extension on the side of the building has also been started with the roof trusses due to be erected next week.

(b) Play Areas:

There were no matters to report.

(8) VILLAGE HALL UPDATE.

The Clerk reported that the Village Hall Management Committee will take over the payment of all utility bills on the village hall from the 1st December 2009, after the VHMC AGM.

The Clerk noted that the Herts Door & Window Company has now installed a new frame on the patio doors in the lounge area of the hall. They are due to return to install a new door in the next few weeks as the original has split.

The Clerk noted that Blue Square Services had recently undertaken the annual electrical testing of all lights and rigging in the hall, as well as PAT testing all electrical items such as fridges, kettles, computers, photocopiers, etc.

Cllr. Barlow noted a request from the VHMC for the Parish Council to purchase a 'Butler Sink' at a cost of £700, to be installed in the gent's toilet, to enable the cleaners to wash their mops, etc. A resolution to purchase the sink was proposed by Cllr. Weatherall and was seconded by Cllr. Goff.

(9) HIGHWAY PROBLEMS / POLICE LIAISON.

(a) Highways:

The Clerk noted that he and Cllr. Dawes are due to attend a Kent Highway Services Seminar at Ashford on the 25th November 2009.

The Clerk reported that two new wooden posts had been erected on the crossroads at Chartham hatch, which are not quite the new 'stronger crash barriers' that we were originally led to believe were going to be erected.

The Clerk read out an e-mail regarding the 'Kent International Gateway', which is a proposed huge international freight/rail warehouse, proposed to be located near junction 8 of the M20. The Parish Council agreed with the views of KCC and a number of other local Parish Councils to support the fight against the project.

The Clerk read out an e-mail on behalf of the Wingham Traffic Action Group, asking if they can hire/borrow our Speedwatch equipment on an ad-hoc basis. The Parish Council

agreed unanimously to allow them permission to use the equipment as long as it is insured, stored in a secure location and that they agree to our proposed hire costs.

(b) Police /KCC Warden Liaison:

The Clerk read out a report from KCC Community Warden Tom Tucker-Smyth noting the following issues:

- No reports of nuisance motorbikes for quite a while.
- Drugs raid carried out by Kent Police in Retain Road recently.
- Spate of graffiti last weekend in the village where some festive gold spray was used, but this has now been cleaned. Many thanks to all who informed me of the problem.
- I have received various calls for advice and help in the past month.

(10) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed to be **Tuesday 8th December 2009** 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 09.27 p.m.

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