

CHARTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30 P.M. ON TUESDAY 8th JUNE 2010 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD, CHARTHAM, NR CANTERBURY, KENT, CT4 7JA.

Present:

Cllr. A. Dawes – Chairman
Cllr. C. Manning
Cllr. G. Hoare
Mr. P. Hornibrook – Clerk

Cllr. S. Dungay.
Cllr. A. Frost
Cllr. D. Weatherall

KCC Community Warden – Tom Tucker- Smyth.

(1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. D. Butcher, Cllr. R. Doyle CCC, Cllr. J. Jeffries, Cllr. D. Thompson, Cllr. M. Goff

(2) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolution: To confirm minutes of meeting held on 11th May 2010 (previously circulated).

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

All members voted in favour.

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

None were noted.

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

No changes in member's interests were noted.

(4) MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk noted that the minutes of the Parish Assembly recently circulated to all members and organisations, should be confirmed as a true record. A resolution to agree the minutes as a true record was proposed by Cllr. Hoare and seconded by Cllr. Manning. All members agreed.

The Clerk noted details to all members of the village hall car park sign which will be erected in the next couple of weeks. The Clerk will now arrange to leave a note on the windscreens of car users over the next few weeks explaining the situation and to give users a chance to apply for a permit.

It was agreed that a copy of the 'sign' should be erected on all parish notice-boards. It was also suggested that permits should be issued for a 12 month period only.

Cllr. Dawes read out a 'letter of thanks' from Rev. Barlow for the recent retirement gift he received from the Parish Council.

(5) TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE

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

The following issues were raised for discussion:

- Item 1: CCC – Development Control Committee – Agenda – Tuesday 25th May 2010. A copy was available for all members to read.
- Item 2: CCC – Agenda – Standards Committee Wednesday 26th May 2010. A copy was available for all members to read.
- Item 3: KCC – Kent County Council Environment, Highways and Waste Directorate: Statement of Community Involvement: Draft for consultation. Details were noted to all members.
- Item 4: Ashford Borough Council – Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act (2004). Details were noted to all members and copies were noted to be available if downloaded on the internet.
- The Clerk noted a letter from a parishioner requesting a donation of £100 towards a volunteer trip to an orphanage in Puerto de Vallarta in Mexico. After discussion a resolution to donate £50 towards the trip was proposed by Cllr. Dawes and seconded by Cllr. Dungay. The Clerk will notify the parishioner of the decision.

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

(a) Finance and General Purposes Committee:

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council Accounts for 2009/2010 had now been agreed and 'signed-off' by the Finance & General Purposes Committee and that the accounts had been forwarded for formal agreement to the Audit Commission.

The Clerk confirmed that the 2009/2110 'Risk Assessments' had also been forwarded to the Audit Commission after independent verification. This year's 'Assessments' are due for their first review shortly. A resolution to accept the 2009/2010 'Risk Assessments' was proposed by Cllr. Dungay and seconded by Cllr. Dawes. All members voted in favour.

The Clerk also noted that the last quarter's VAT reclaim had been sent to HM Revenue & Customs.

The Clerk reported that he will liaise with Jo Newman Estate Agents on Wednesday 23rd June 2010 to have all the Parish Council properties re-valued for Insurance purposes.

The Clerk confirmed that he had taken the 'signatory form' to Lloyds TSB and that the only outstanding signatory left to verify his ID with the bank was Cllr. Thompson.

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

(b) Planning:

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

CA/10/00779/FUL – Proposal: Two-storey extension to rear of dwelling and loft conversion (re-submission): **Location:** 6 Riverside Cottages, Riverside, Chartham, CT4 7JR: **PC Views:** No Objections.

CA/10/00810/TPO – Proposal: Coppicing of Silver Birch, Willow, Alder and Ash trees subject to TPO No.1 of 2001: **Location:** Greengate Wood, Denstead Lane, Chartham, CT4 7NL: **PC Views:** It was noted that Enforcement action is still thought to be under investigation at the site and that the Parish Council would not like to see any further trees coppiced until the matter is resolved.

CA/10/00823/FUL – Proposal: Single-storey extension to side of dwelling: **Location:** Romney, Hatch Lane, Chartham, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT4 7LW: **PC Views:** No Objections.

CA/10/00873/FUL – Proposal: Single-storey extension to side of dwelling: **Location:** Wychway, The Crescent, Chartham, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT4 7PX: **PC Views:** No Objections.

The Clerk noted that one other Planning Application was dealt with at a planning sub-committee meeting:

CA/10/00737/VAR – Proposal: Application to vary condition 06 of planning permission CA/05/0630/CHA to permit the retention of caravans until 30th November 2015: **Location:** Nickle Farm, Ashford Road, Chartham, Nr Canterbury, Kent: **PC Views:** No Objections.

The Clerk read out four ‘**Granted**’ Planning Applications.

CA/10/00591/LUE – Bobbin Lodge, Bobbin Lodge Hill, Chartham, CT4 7RB.

CA/10/00626/FUL – 11 Little Copse Close, Chartham, CT4 7TE.

CA/09/01871/CAC – Shalmsford Farm, Shalmsford Street, Chartham.

CA/09/01898/LB – Shalmsford Farm, Shalmsford Street, Chartham.

The Clerk noted three ‘Appeals’ against previous Planning decisions.

CA/09/01965/FUL – Butterfly Cottage, 49 Shalmsford Street, Chartham, CT4 7RS

CA/10/00282/FUL – Court Lodge, Parish Road, Chartham, CT4 7LD.

CA/10/00281/LB – Court Lodge, Parish Road, Chartham, CT4 7LD.

(c) Cemetery:

The Clerk reported that he had heard this afternoon that ‘completion’ of the sale of the Cemetery Lodge was due to take place this coming Friday. This was noted as extremely good news after nearly two and a half of hard work by the Agents and Solicitors.

It was noted that the new notice-board in the cemetery grounds will be due for installation in the next couple of weeks.

The Clerk confirmed that he had now received the Capital Grant funds from CCC and that the resurfacing of the car park and new paths and roadway can now be undertaken once the sale of the Cemetery Lodge is completed.

It was reported that the 'Millennium Garden' will be flattened shortly and the soil removed to the Shalmsford Street recreation ground.

(d) Countryside:

Cllr. Dawes noted that a broken stile on CB455 had been reported to the PROW Office.

(e) Amenities:

The Clerk noted that he was still in correspondence with CCC regarding the closure of the public toilets on the Memorial playing field. A recent e-mail sent by CCC indicated the closure of the facility would take place on the 31st March 2011. However, in recent minutes from a CCC Executive meeting it was stated that the closure would be 31st March 2012. We await a further reply from CCC.

Cllr. Dungay reported a broken slat on a bench on the Memorial playing field. The Clerk will ask Alan Groombridge to undertake repairs.

A leak in the toilets on the Memorial playing field was reported. The Clerk will contact 'Mears' to undertake repairs.

The committee agreed that we should purchase two new litter bins and two dog bins for installation on the cricket ground at St. Augustine's.

It was noted that we had received £3,677.00 from a CCC Capital Grant application towards a MUGA goal/basketball piece of play equipment. The Clerk will liaise with CCC and the Sports Club regarding a possible location for the goal on the Memorial playing field.

It was noted that the blockage in the gentlemen's toilet on the Memorial playing field had now been unblocked.

Cllr. Weatherall noted that the Youth Club was still very well attended but there had been several incidents of anti-social behaviour and that certain individuals had now been banned from attending.

Cllr. Manning asked for volunteers to help out at the 'Fair' on the 4th July 2010.

It was noted that we had now received payment of £5,265 from another CCC Capital Grant towards a disabled roundabout to be installed at the Memorial playing field. With £2,000 put aside on the Precept for play equipment this year, it means that we will only have to contribute approximately £2,500 from Parish Council funds.

Cllr. Hoare asked if the Parish Council would agree to have another 'disabled parking bay' marked out in the village hall car park, near the entrance to the large meeting room. After discussion all members agreed to the request and the Clerk will arrange for new signage to be erected and have the bay sprayed with the disabled logo.

(f) No Man's Orchard Management Committee:

Cllr. Dawes noted details of the previous meeting to all members and noted that the next meeting of the NMO Committee will take place on the 16th June 2010 at The Frater. The object of the meeting will be to discuss budgets and orchard management for the rest of the year.

The Clerk noted that the NMO Management Committee Accounts had been recently agreed and 'signed-off' and forwarded to the Audit Commission for formal agreement.

(7) SPORTS PAVILION/PLAY AREAS.

(a) Sports Pavilion:

The Clerk reported that the issue of reclaiming the VAT on the pavilion had now been resolved and that the reclaim will be made at the end of June 2010.

The Clerk reported that the pavilion has now been officially 'signed-off' by the Architect and builder and that we have had three successful cricket matches take place at the facility.

It was noted that Craig Low from the Football Foundation has visited the site for a final inspection and was extremely pleased with the build quality and finish as well as the surrounding fencing and car parking facilities.

It was reported that the storage container at the side of the pavilion will be fenced shortly and some other small areas of fencing repaired.

The Clerk noted that the official opening of the pavilion will take place on the 3rd July 2010 at 1.30 pm and all members of the Parish Council are invited.

The Clerk stated that he will approach the Sports Club to see if they are interested in purchasing the old cemetery sit-on TORO tractor mower and petrol strimmer for use on the St. Augustine's site.

It was also noted that we had received £2,500 from KCC Cllr. John Simmonds in the form of a KCC Grant towards sports equipment for the new pavilion, and that this had now been paid to the Sports Club. It was also stated that we are awaiting the outcome of a further grant application to the Collyer Ferguson Trust for further sports equipment and storage lockers for the pavilion.

The Clerk noted a request from Andrew MacNally on behalf of Chartham Sports Club to use the sports field at St. Augustine's between the 2nd and 5th August 2010 for a Summer School Football Skills training session. All members agreed to the request.

(b) Play Areas:

The Clerk reported that some vandalism had occurred to both the junior and senior play areas at St. Augustine's with play equipment and fencing being damaged. Repairs will be undertaken by Campbell's' fencing and the Contracts Service Manager from RSS has visited the site to access the damage to the equipment. It appears that children were swinging on a crossbeam which then snapped.

It was agreed that the Clerk will liaise with Cllr. Manning and Cllr. Frost to arrange a rota for checking the play areas at St. Augustine's and at the Shalmsford Street recreation ground.

(8) VILLAGE HALL.

It was noted that new chairs, settees and tables had now been purchased and were in situ in the lounge area of the hall.

It was also reported that the VHMC will be submitting the 'Hallmark' application to AWCIRK in the next week. This will hopefully provide the hall with accreditation for the services and facilities provided.

Cllr. Hoare reported that there is still a problem with the boilers in the hall and that it is a problem getting a reliable plumber/heating engineer to come out and look at the problems. The Clerk noted that he will contact the heating engineers who installed the boilers at the new sports pavilion and see if they would be interested in taking over the maintenance contract.

The floor in the main hall will be stripped back and lacquered again later this week.

It was also stated that the hall need painting internally and consideration should be given to asking some outside contractors to provide quotes for the work. This will be taken forward by the VHMC.

It was suggested that when the Canterbury to Chartham cycle-path is completed later this year, consideration should be given to having a vending machine in the hall for cyclists to be able to obtain drinks from. Again, this should be taken forward by the VHMC.

(9) HIGHWAY PROBLEMS / POLICE LIAISON.

(a) Highways:

It was stated that the sign near the bridge by the riverside walk has been reinstated but is still not straight. The Clerk will check the Parish Portal to see if repairs have been undertaken by KHS.

Cllr. Dawes also noted that the sign at town Lane had still not been reinstated. The Clerk will again check the Parish Portal system.

(b) Police /KCC Warden Liaison:

The KCC Community Warden reported that it had been quiet 'crime-wise' in the village this past month, but that he had undertaken a lot of reassurance work with parents and children after the recent murder in the village.

The KCC Community Warden and Cllr. Weatherall reported on a certain youth who has been banned from the Youth Club after a series of anti-social incidents. The youth has been thought to be responsible for damage to play equipment in the village as well as the flooding of the toilets in the hall when attending youth club. A request was made to the Parish Council to have the youth banned from all council land when the youth club is in session as the youth is such a disruptive influence on volunteers and other children. The volunteers who run the group have been upset and are fed up with the individual.

The Clerk will check with CCC Legal Department as to what is legally possible to ban the individual from parish grounds.

Cllr. Weatherall will also write to the youth's parents asking them if they would be willing to keep him indoors on Youth Club evenings.

It was stated that two Police Community Support Officers will be patrolling the St. Augustine's site in the evening over the next few weeks.

(10) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed to be **Tuesday 13th July 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 08.40 p.m.

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