

CHARTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present:

Cllr. A. Dawes – Chairman	Cllr. S. Dungay
Cllr. C. Barlow – Vice-Chairman	Cllr. A. Frost.
Cllr. P. Graveson	Cllr. D. Frost
Cllr. M. Goff	KCC Cllr. J. Simmonds
Mr P Hornibrook – Clerk	

One member of the public.

(1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. D. Thompson, Cllr. J. Jeffries, Cllr. D. Weatherall, Cllr. D. Butcher, CCC Cllr. R. Doyle.

(2) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolution: To confirm minutes of meeting held on 10th February 2009 (previously circulated).

Proposed by: Cllr. D. Frost and Seconded by: Cllr. A. Frost.

Resolution carried unanimously.

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

No interest was noted in any agenda items.

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

No changes in member's interests were noted.

(4) MATTERS ARISING

Cllr. Dawes noted that she would like the following note to be entered in the Parish Magazine: Chartham Parish Council would like to extend a warm welcome to Reverend Phil Brown and his family. At the same time we would like to express our thanks to St. Mary's PCC and their helpers for the excellent arrangements on the evening of Rev. Brown's inauguration.

(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: South East Water – Planning Future Water Supplies – Stakeholder Update – February 2009. Details were available for all members to read.
- Item 2: Eastern & Coastal Kent NHS – Patient and Public Involvement Bulletin. Details were available for all members to read.
- Item 3: Southern Water – February 2009 update. Details were available for all members to read.
- Item 4: Babcock Networks Ltd – Overhead Tower Line Refurbishment. Details were available for all members to read.
- Item 5: Kent Highway Services – Canterbury to Chartham Riverside Path. Cllr. Dawes reported that a new planning application for the cycle-path is to be submitted to CCC.
- Item 6: Kent Highway Services – Byways Open to All Traffic (BOAT) Crundale, Ashford, Canterbury. After discussion on the subject members agreed with the decision to allow quad-bikes on BOAT's as they have low ground pressure and are no more damaging than motor cycles. Members noted that excessive speed by vehicles on the by-ways is still an ongoing problem along with the noise nuisance to local residents.
- Item 7: CCC – Development Control Committee – Agenda – Tuesday 3rd March 2009. The document was available for all members to read.
- Item 8: CCC – Development Control Committee – List of Planning Applications – Tuesday 3rd March 2009. The document was available for all members to read.
- Item 9: Town & Parish Standard – February 2009 – Issue 4. Cllr. Dawes noted the important issues to all members and the Clerk will ensure that our Standing Orders and Financial Regulations are in order and comply with all procedures relating to complaints reporting.
- Item 10: Kent Primary Care agency NHS – Pharmacy Application – Chartham. Cllr. Dawes read out details from the meeting that took place on the 26th January 2009 and noted the Committee's decision to 'Refuse' the application for a new Pharmacy in the parish.
- Item 11: CPRE – Viewpoint newsletter. A copy was available for all members to read.
- Item 12: CCC – Herne Bay Projects Exhibition 25th March 2009. Details were noted to all members of the event.
- Item 13: Swale Borough Council – Public Consultation under Regulation 17 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 SI 2004/2204. Comments were requested. It was noted that the Parish Council has already made representations to Swale Borough Council.
- The Clerk noted details to all members of the next CCC Parish Forum Meeting to be held on Saturday 25th April 2009, 10.00 am to 12.00 pm at Spring Lane Neighbourhood Centre, Sussex Avenue, Canterbury.

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

(a) Finance and General Purposes.

The Clerk reported that the last quarters VAT claim has now been paid by HM Revenue & Customs.

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

(b) Planning.

The Clerk reported that there were no new Planning Applications to be dealt with at the meeting.

The Clerk noted that three further Planning Applications were dealt with at a Planning sub-committee meeting held on the 18th February 2009.

CA/09/00190/FUL: Proposal: Two storey extension to rear of dwelling: **Location:** 227 Shalmsford Street, Chartham, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT4 7PY: **Parish Council Views:** No Objections.

CA/09/00069/FUL: Proposal: Erection of building for office use: **Location:** Upper Horton Farm, New House Lane, Chartham, CT4 7BN: **Parish Council Views:** The Parish Council has concerns regarding this proposal as it appears to be a large building 'just for office use'. We do not feel that such a large building is required for 'office use' only. A proposal in 2007 was turned down due to the scale of the development in a rural area and this appears to be no different. However, with any decision made we would like to ensure that the proposal is built in materials sympathetic to the rural surroundings and well screened by trees.

CA/09/00097/FUL: Proposal: Erection of three terraced dwellings with associated garaging, parking and cycle store: **Location:** Land adjoining 52 Shalmsford Street, Chartham, CT4 7RJ: **Parish Council Views:** The Parish Council has 'No Objections' to the planning application, but has concerns over the access from the proposed properties onto an already busy road. We would like Kent Highway Services to visit the site and confirm if the proposed access/exit to the site is adequate.

The Clerk read out two '**Granted**' Planning Applications.

CAT/08/00037/TPO – Hunstead wood, Primrose Hill, Chartham, CT4 7NR.

CA/09/00059/TPO – rear of Rose Cottage, Hatch Lane, Chartham, CT4 7LS.

The Clerk read out one '**Refused**' Planning Application.

CA/08/01476/FUL – Hillside Farm Building, Cockering road, Chartham, CT4 7LH.

(c) Cemetery.

The Clerk reported that Alan Middlemiss (Stonemason) had completed repair work to the St. Mary's Church wall.

The Clerk noted that the cemetery tractor and strimmer are still up for sale, but it was noted that once the new sports pavilion is built at St. Augustine's the tractor and strimmer may be of some interest to the Sports Club for use on the new football and cricket pitches.

The Clerk noted that he and Cllr. Jeffries are still updating the cemetery grave plans to computer format and completing the review of 'Dangerous Memorials'.

The Clerk reported that Alan Groombridge had been asked to prune the fir trees along the length of the main pathway in the grounds as well as near the Chapel. He will also clean the footpaths which have become very dirty and slippery recently.

(d) Countryside.

The next footpath walk will be on Sunday 19th April 2009 at 2.30 pm from opposite the Royal British Legion Hall. Sandra and Martin Cook will be leading the walk.

The Clerk noted that he had ordered a further 20 hornbeam and 20 oak trees to be planted at St. Augustine open spaces. It was noted that the Parish Council Tree Warden Alun Griffiths and the Clerk had recently planted some trees around the perimeter of the Shalmsford Street recreation ground and further trees will be planted there in due course.

The Clerk noted a letter from the Chartham and District Angling Society regarding the position of the stile around the Shalmsford Street recreation ground. They would like to see the stile removed on Health & Safety grounds as it allows children access to the lakes and the possibility that they will skate or walk on the lakes when they are covered in ice. It was reported that Cllr. Dawes has contacted the PROW Officer for advice and that we are awaiting a reply. It was also noted that there is a footpath around the lakes that allows anyone access to the area and that there are lifebelts in various locations.

Cllr. Dawes reported that a new board noting the various footpath walks around the Chartham Hatch area will be installed in the Chartham Hatch village hall car park at the end of April 2009.

Cllr. Dawes reported that the stile near the Brett's quarry works was recently broken but has now been repaired. The steps in the same area remain in poor condition and require urgent repair work.

It was also reported that FP463 was strewn with rubble in various places which appear to have come from a barrier of bricks along the side of the pathway. It appears that it might be an issue of fly-tipping and the matter will be reported to CCC.

(e) Amenities.

It was reported that the Parish Emergency Plan is now complete and will be issued to all members to comment upon, before being officially 'signed off'.

The Clerk noted that he had asked Alan Groombridge to cut the hedgerow along the Parish Road as well as the trees along the Station Road footpath and on the Village Green.

It was reported that the lamp-posts in the village hall car park will be painted green to match the surrounding fencing.

It was noted that a new Parish Council notice-board is required on the St. Mary's churchyard wall, as the old one is warped and is leaking, which means the notices inside become wet and unreadable. The Clerk will research notice-boards prices in various brochures and also ask local craftsmen for quotations to construct a new one.

It was also reported that the Clerk is researching various designs for a new Basketball/Goalmouth which will hopefully be erected on the Memorial playing field.

The Clerk reported that a new picnic table, notice-board, and litter bin have now been erected on the Memorial playing field and cycle racks will be installed shortly.

The Clerk noted that four new salt/grit bins were delivered today and will be installed at various locations around the village in the next two weeks.

It was reported that the cradle swings at the Chartham Hatch play area are damaged and require replacement. The Clerk will investigate and order new equipment if necessary.

It was requested that the bench on the riverside path should be cleaned and stained and the area nearby weeded and planted with bulbs. The Clerk will arrange the staining and Cllr. Dawes and Cllr. Dungay will undertake the weeding and planting.

It was reported that the finger-post near 'The Local' Public House has still not been repaired.

(f) No Man's Orchard Management Committee.

It was noted that the next meeting of the No Man's Orchard Management Committee is on the 1st April 2009.

(7) SPORTS PAVILION/PLAY AREAS.

(a) Sports Pavilion.

The Clerk reported no real change in the position of the sports pavilion project. The Football Foundation have been sent the build tender documents and they have now requested further tenders to be submitted for all associated works such as the fencing of the site, pitch reconstruction, clearance of the site, tree work and the installation of a car park. Until all the further tenders are submitted and agreed, the Football Foundation will not sanction the release of any funds to start work.

(b) Play Areas.

The Clerk noted that he had taken new drawings to Robinson Solicitors to complete the proposed transfer of a strip of land adjacent to the Chartham Hatch recreation ground to the Parish Council.

(8) VILLAGE HALL UPDATE.

The Clerk noted that despite several visits from Berkeley Construction, the final 'snagging list' has still not been completed to the satisfaction of Clague Architects and the Parish Council. Some minor works are still outstanding and should be completed this week.

The Clerk reported that Robinson Solicitors are still in the process of working on the 'Trust Deed' for the village hall and that they have again been given an updated list of the current members of the Village Hall Management Committee and Trustees.

The Clerk noted that Graham Hoare has now moved the 'Mother & Toddler' shed at the rear of the village hall. There are further works to be completed to concrete the path around the shed and this will take place in two weeks time.

The Clerk read out an e-mail from Sandra Cook requesting that some of the Farmers Market stallholders can use the village hall car park. It was noted that a plant stallholder wants to operate outside the hall and after discussion the request was agreed subject to the proviso that he does not block any disabled car park spaces. The situation of stallholders using the car park will be monitored regularly as the car park becomes extremely busy on Farmers Market day.

The Clerk reported on a meeting with Cllr. Dawes and John Durham from The Northgate Ward Over 60's Community Service, regarding a 'Rural Research Project'. The project will concentrate on services and facilities for rural residents aged over 60, in particular those who are vulnerable and isolated. Before any decisions can be made the group has to talk to other organisations in the parish such as 'Helping Hands, St.Mary's PCC, Over 50's and both Doctor's surgeries. Cllr. Simmonds outlined that backup he had given to various groups in a similar position. He also reiterated the possible option of providing a mini-bus for use by the parish. The bus would be insured, maintained and serviced by KCC, but local drivers would be required who have a PSV Licence and the vehicle would have to be kept in a secure location. It was suggested that the mini-bus could also be used to provide shopping trips to local Supermarkets. The issue will be discussed further.

(9) HIGHWAY PROBLEMS / POLICE LIAISON.

(a) Highways:

The Clerk noted an e-mail from CCC relating to a response they had received from Taylor Wimpey regarding the maintenance contract arrangements currently in place at St. Augustine's. The City Council will report back to us once they have reviewed the letter and noted the implications in depth.

KCC Cllr. Simmonds noted that he has also been in contact with Taylor Wimpey and that he was working on ways to clear the outstanding issues at St. Augustine's, such as damaged traffic calming bollards, broken street lights, pot-holes and the clearance of rubbish in certain areas. The Parish Council will be kept informed of the progress of the discussions.

KCC Cllr. Simmonds also asked the Clerk to identify who is responsible for an area of grass near Updown Way and Sycamore Close. The Clerk will research the maps of the area and let Cllr. Simmonds know.

KCC Cllr. Simmonds also reported that work will take place shortly on the Stone Street road to try and prevent further flooding problems on the road. The work will cost in the region of £80,000 and will entail the road being closed for approximately six weeks.

KCC Cllr. Simmonds reported that he had received representations from residents of Carmel Close regarding vehicle access to and from the site after a recent vehicle accident. There is a problem with restriction of access which requires further investigation.

The Clerk reported that he and Cllr. Dawes had recently attended a Kent Highway Services Roadshow at the new KHS Ashford Depot, where we were shown demonstrations of how KHS are using new technology to report and manage various highway issues. This included the use of Blackberry handheld computer/phones by Highway Inspectors who then report issues direct the Ringway Control Centre who in turn organise and monitor the teams who undertake the repair work.

KCC Cllr. Simmonds noted the possibility of a park & ride site for Canterbury being operated in the Swale Borough Council area at Brenley Corner, Nr Faversham. Some interest has been shown by Swale Council but research is still in its infancy. It was noted that there are still issues to be resolved relating to the proposed park & ride sites at Faulkners Lane and Wincheap.

It was noted that a meeting with Kent Highway Services is still to be arranged to discuss traffic issues at Chartham Hatch.

KCC Cllr. Simmonds updated members on the progress of the application for a new footpath on the A28 outside 'Stourmead and The Firs'. It was noted that further evaluations had to be made on the priorities and costing for the project.

(b) Police Liaison:

The Clerk noted an e-mail from Dave Garland the Police Community Support Officer Supervisor stating that the Chartham PCSO vacancy will be filled in April 2009, after a new intake of PCSO's for the CCC area.

The Clerk also read out an e-mail from PC 8351 Paul Gibson reporting on a number of crimes around the CCC rural areas.

The Clerk read out an e-mail from Chris Wallis at CCC regarding proposals by CCC to introduce a further 'Dog Control Order'. All members agreed to support the proposal.

The Clerk reported that he had attended the newly formed Police Rural Parish Forum meeting at Nackington Police Station. The Clerk noted that the meeting was informative and useful and would be convened on a quarterly basis. The Clerk outlined the basis of the meeting and noted the following issues were discussed at length – Neighbourhood IT Systems, Kent Police Website, Statistics, PCSO funding, PCSO use of Penalty Notices, Speeding and an open debate and question section.

The Clerk noted details of a report from the KCC Community Warden as follows:

Not so many calls this month, and most of the calls received were to report 'Suspect' vehicles.

The Warden and Clerk spent a day recording all the pot-holes and other highway issues around the village and reporting the information to Kent Highway Services.

Graffiti is now in the process of being eradicated from all areas around the village.

(10) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting confirmed as **Tuesday 14th April 2009** at 7.30 pm at The Village Hall, Station Road, Chartham, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT4 7HX.

It was agreed that the Annual Parish Assembly meeting would take place on Tuesday 19th May 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 09.06 p.m.

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