



## **CHIPPERFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the meeting of the Chipperfield Parish Council, held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019 @ 7.45 pm following Planning Meeting in the **Blackwell 10 The Common, Chipperfield**

To Councillors: *H Laverack - **Chairman**, - E Flynn – **Deputy Chairman**, W Bathurst, K Cassidy, G Bryant McGuinness CA Heaphy Councillor Roberts, Riddick and Adeleke.*

*In attendance* Mrs U Kilich Clerk to the Council and two members of the public.

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**85/18 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman announced details of the arrangements in case of fire or other events that might require the meeting room or building to be evacuated.

**86/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None to report

**87/18 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest

**88/18 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

It was proposed by Cllr McGuinness, seconded by Cllr Cassidy and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2018 were a true reflection of the proceedings.

**89/18 CHAIRMANS REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE**

None to report.

**90/18 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS**

**Finance and General purpose**

**a. Accounts Summary YTD**

It was reported by Councillor Laverack that YTD Summary shows CPC is on trend and no major adverse variance to report, Councillor Laverack emphasised that CPC will take steps to make savings in the coming year.

**b. Budget 2019/20 Precept**

The revised budget was approved. The estimated income for 2019/20 is £67,924 and expenditure of £71,343. The paper entitled Precept 2019/20 was reviewed and discussed. The paper is attached to these minutes for ease of reference. The following actions were taken:

Signed

Dated

12/3/19

- (i) The recommendation that the precept be set at £46,333 for the year 2019/20 was **RESOLVED** unanimously. This represents an increase of 5.86% on the 2018/19 precept of £43,203 and an increase in the Council Tax band D equivalent rate of £3 (£51.22 increasing to £54.22):
- (ii) It was agreed that the Clerk should advise DBC of this decision by returning the Completed Parish Precept form.
- (iii) Councillors on the F&GP working group Councillor Laverack, Councillor Flynn and Councillor Cassidy signed the Precept form completed by the Clerk.

**c. Noticeboards**

The main noticeboard with three panels and another two, one by Stanley's Newsagent with two panels and one at the bus stop will be ordered. The supplier has agreed to honour the quote given in August 2015.

**d. Grant Applications**

F&GP working group proposed to keep the grant at £9k, further clarification required on grant application received by the PTA of St Pauls School. Councillor Luff and Council Heaphy had the information at hand which will be emailed to the Clerk. Councillor Luff asked for the Grant Application to be on the agenda for 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

Village Hall: It was felt that members of the Village Hall were not co-operative during the office being refurbished, no offer to assist with the physical move or storing non-confidential items. There have been other issues such as the fiasco of annual schedule meetings and lack of responsibility for the restoration of the office.

**e. Receipt of Locality Budget £812.**

Councillor Laverack thanked Councillor Roberts for the locality budget of £812.

**f. Email address for Councillors**

Councillor Laverack informed the members that there is a technical issue in setting up the councillor's uniform email address, it is anticipated that the Clerk will resolve the issue with the assistance from Peter Fleming. Item will be reported at the next council meeting.

**Action: The Clerk to liaise with Peter Fleming.**

**g. Election/chip News**

It was reported that at the present moment in time, there does not appear to be a vacant position, however, should anyone wish to apply for a councillor's position an election will be called in May 2019. One individual has shown interest, upon request the Clerk will give relevant details.

**h. Van Insurance**

It was reported that the insurance on the van is due on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2019, the Clerk obtained few quotes, however, the current insurance provider proved to be the cheapest. It was unanimously agreed to stay with the current provider.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_



**i. HCC Pension Scheme**

Councillor Laverack informed members that CPC has received a penalty for the late charge of £350 for not submitting Year-End Return 2017/18. The penalty will be disputed by CPC as Mrs Butcher (Clerk) tried to complete the relevant spread-sheet only to be "thrown out", it was a common error experienced by other Clerks. Mrs Butcher was asked to send the information to Local Pensions Partnership who assured Mrs Butcher the form would be completed. Councillor Roberts asked to be copied in on correspondence.

**j. Audit**

Councillor Laverack informed members that CPC has carried out two internal audits, this is not necessary for the size of the council with low turnover, it was proposed by Councillor Laverack to have one internal audit which will result in cost savings. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to carry out one internal audit per financial year.

**Action: Clerk to inform Audit Solutions of CPC's decision.**

**k. Maxwell Haus**

Councillor Laverack updated council members on the following:

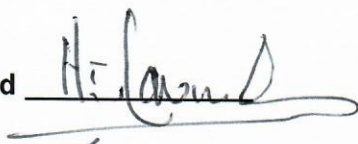
- (i) House Sign (Planning) Planning Enforcement Officer Cora Watson has until 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019 to carry out the statutory visit to Maxwell Haus.
- (ii) Boundary dispute (Legal) no further development, meeting will be arranged with Legal Department.
- (iii) Criminal damage (Legal) no further development, meeting will be arranged with Legal Department. Copy Councillor Riddick on all correspondence, Councillor Riddick will do his best to attend the meeting with CPC members. Councillor Roberts offered to provide some contribution towards funding legal fees should the case go to litigation. CPC would consider providing some funding from its village protection earmarked reserve should the case go to court.

**The Clerk to place an order once it has been ascertained which noticeboard CPC should go for.**

**2 Open Spaces**

Councillor Bathurst reported that since the last meeting CPC has received the locality budget of £812 to cover the costs of 2 new trees and 2 benches and removal of a tree stump from the front of The Common, DBC has been paid for the works. Luke Johnson will be writing to the owner of the White House for the removal of the rail on the bird's beak fencing that has been erected on The Common. Two meeting has taken place on Friends of Chipperfield Common, the Christmas one, with Luke Johnson which was well attended, with the help of Friends of Bunkers Park vast amount of weed from Manor Pond was cleared to create a good area of open water. Sam Buckley recently graduated from Cambridge (Natural Sciences) identified a good population of Otter Spiders and some unusual water fern and some of his speciality liverworts. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> January a small group carried out some more holly clearance opposite the Windmill. Tree Officer has identified trees that are considered not safe, the list will be sent to various contractors

Signed



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Chipperfield News AGM: Councillor Bathurst attended the AGM before Christmas there is still need for more advertising and unfortunately the new Advertising Manager left the week before the meeting has been in post just for a couple of months. A couple of candidates were suggested but so far, the post has not been filled. There was an increase in the number of inserts last year, many at the last minute, which made life harder for the Distribution Manager, she is also struggling to find enough people to deliver. A new computer was purchased.

### **3 Youth and Education**

Councillor Luff informed members that there was no update on Eco School at St Pauls School. It was reported that there are two ladies football team that has started at Chipperfield Football Club, they are getting professional coaching. Councillor Luff would like to see the team at Ladies Watford FC. Councillor Luff mentioned that Will Hobhouse from Chipperfield and Sarratt Community Trust would like to meet with Chipperfield Parish Council members.

**Clerk: to add the item for next Council Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019 for discussion.**

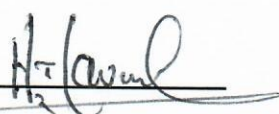
### **4 Police Report**

Councillor McGuinness reported on the crime report for Chipperfield has dropped according to social media. The crime figures will be presented at the next Council meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

### **5 Highways**

Councillor McGuinness informed members that Speed Indicator Device (SID) has now been erected on Tower Hill. The Road Safety grant application is now closed, CPC will find out in due course whether the application was successful. Councillor Heaphy emailed council members on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018 to which County Councillor Roberts followed up and identified the following:

- (i) Blackwells pavement will be repaired next financial year, in addition to that Councillor Roberts has put forward the pavement in front of Didsbury Cottages and village shop (Chapel Croft to Alexandra Road)
- (ii) School pavements although Councillor Roberts reported initially that this was the responsibility of the school, however, he has agreed to get the path repaired as it is in poor condition.
- (iii) The gravel path is there because around 12 years ago the school children designed, it is up to Parish/Borough to decide how this should be upgraded/repaired.
- (iv) Footpath to Tower Hill approximately three years ago locality budget paid for several repairs, in 2018 a big length sided out i.e. dig back the grass and path vegetation.
- (v) Resurfacing by Didsbury Cottages and village shop (Chapel Croft and Alexandra Road will be carried out.

Signed 

Dated 12/3/19



- (vi) Councillor Roberts has instructed highways that the hedges past Tower Hill to be cut back for the safety of the pedestrians. This has been budgeted for in this financial year.

The resurfacing of The Common was delayed from last year which will be repaired on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019.

Kings Lane needs attention, this will be done as part of the main works programme. Councillor Roberts suggested reporting the drains by Blackwell to Herts Highways fault reporting.

## 6 Planning

Councillor Bryant informed members that both Spice Village and Garden Scene Development (GSD) has been refused by DBC, which is great result for CPC. Councillor Laverack thanked Councillor Bryant for his hard work regarding GSD as well as Councillor Riddick and Roberts for their support.

Councillor Bathurst was disappointed that Badgerdell Lawful Development Certificate was granted on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018 reference number 4/02670/18/LDE, for the ancillary residential use/storage use of the equestrian building is not a breach of planning control, however, it would appear the applicants had no intention of using it as a stable.

Royal Oak Village Asset of Community Value lapses in May 2019, the decision needs to be made whether CPC puts in the application or the village in which case 21 signatures are required. Councillor Cassidy proposed that CPC puts in the application, it was **RESOLVED** by majority CPC to apply. Councillor Riddick informed CPC members that Flaunden has recently gone through a similar exercise, and to speak to Vivian for her advice on the matter.

## 7 Allotments

The Clerk reported that all allotment rent has now been received, it was recommended that CPC freeze allotment rent for October 2019 which was agreed by all members.

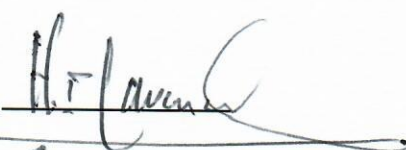
## 91/18 Report from Borough/County Councillors

Councillor Roberts is now responsible Adult Care and Health as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019. Financially Herts County Council is stable, however, money is becoming tight. Councillor Roberts had a meeting with the Manager at Land Rover Garage (LRG) he was informed that LRG will communicate with Chip New with their time table on their move to Aylesbury towards the end of 2019. Regarding heavy traffic, Councillor Roberts was ensured by the Manager that there will be sufficient space on the path for public use. £9k was spend on hedge cutting between Chipperfield and Bovingdon.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

## 92/18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019 following the planning meeting at approximately 7.45, to be held in the Blackwell, 10 The Common WD4 9BS

Signed 

Dated 12/3/19