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CHIPPERFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the Chipperfield Parish Council held on 30th March 2021 @ 7.45 pm following Planning Meeting. (Meeting was held via Zoom). The meeting commenced at 7.55 pm.

*Councillors Present: K Cassidy- **Chairman**, G Bryant, T McGuinness, C A Heaphy, J Sayers, Sutcliffe, and L Hinton.*

In attendance: Mrs U Kilich Clerk

70/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Flynn sent his apologies through Cllr Bryant.

71/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There was no Declaration of Interest.

72/20 MINUTES

To approve the minutes of the meeting of 16th February 2021.

RESOLVED, proposed by Cllr Bryant, seconded by Cllr Sayers that the Minutes be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and be duly signed by the Chairman. Unanimously agreed.

73/20 CHAIRMANS REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

To receive the Chairman's report and note any correspondence received.

- a. HAPTC Unitary bodies – open for comments up until May which affects parish/town councils. Herts has three tier council which works well, it was reported that 80% of councils wish for the structure to remain as is.
- b. To update on lawn mower – a lawn mower has been purchased, item was discussed at F&GP and within the Chairman and Clerks approval as per Financial Regulations.
- c. To update on cricket ground – likely to take place in August/September time, it was suggested that the Cricket Club share any news on social media platform.
- d. To update on fireworks and fete – for information only, CPC is not involved in organising the Fete and yet there were no firm plans for either event. CPC would consider insurance cover for fireworks should that event go ahead.
- e. To discuss Annual Parish Meeting – Dates decided were 27th April for APM and 4th May for the Annual Council Meeting.

Cllr Cassidy

Date

74/20 FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSE

a. To discuss Accounts Summary YTD

It was noted that F&GP discussed the YTD Summary, no adverse variance to report. Cllr Cassidy informed members that the Council will have a surplus of approximately £7k.

b. Update on WCAG 2.1

Cllr Cassidy reported that the Council website is now live, there are few issues that need to be resolved. It is anticipated that the Clerk will try and resolve the issues early next week.

c. To consider Terms of References

Cllr Cassidy circulated the updated version of Terms of Reference, Cllr Bryant proposed, seconded by Cllr McGuinness, and it was resolved to adopt the Terms of Reference.

Terms of reference discussed and approved were: Planning, Personnel, F&GP and Open Spaces.

d. To review broadband in Chipperfield

Cllr Cassidy reported that there are only limited sections of the village that currently do have fiber. Open reach may be focused on other priorities in the village currently, but a potential (if costly option) could be that sections of the village or communities could band together and approach a “provider” with a view to sharing costs. Cllr Heaphy will link a parishioner to Cllr Bryant.

e. To consider Cricket Club car park portioned off.

Cllr Cassidy informed members that DBC portioned off the car park, CPC was not informed. It was suggested to review the car park during summer period.

f. To review Action List

Croft Estate Car Park- Cllr Heaphy has been in contact with Rob Cassidy (DBC) this is on their list, however, the budget may be an issue.

Speed Indicator Device has now been installed.

Regarding use of the telephone box; various options have been discussed, eg library (but concern over maintenance of stock and book dumping), information centre (leaflets could be strewn across the common, internally sited maps would be hard to view in the confined space, maps or information on the widows would be unsightly) IT hub (the cost of connection and monthly line rental would be prohibitive and the limited range of WIFI signal would be of little value) but none that are viable. The committee was asked to continue to consider potential uses for the Telephone Box but right now no action was proposed.

g. To consider Chipperfield Ecology Survey

Cllr Cassidy informed member that Herts and Wildlife Trust have quoted £2600 to carry out the survey this will cover three ponds in CPC, Cllr Cassidy would like more information on what CPC will get from this survey before a decision can be made. Cllr Bryant suggested we ask for a previously executed survey to evaluate what we may gain by conducting our own. Item to be deferred to Extraordinary Meeting in April.

Cllr Cassidy

Date

h. To approve CPC paying for Chip News domain

Cllr Cassidy informed member that CPC have been paying for Chip News's internet domain with this years annual cost of £130. This annual payment was agreed by council as part of and on set-up of Chip News some years ago. Cllr Cassidy proposed CPC continue to support Chip News in this way and this was seconded by Cllr McGuinness and it was resolved to continue to pay.

i. To consider purchase of two new bins

Bins on the common have deteriorated and their replacement was discussed. It was suggested that the Clerk circulate a description on new bins to be purchased with the amount. Cllr Bryant suggested replacing 2 single bins like for like would not be sufficient and the clerk will check current quote is for double bins. The approval of this item will be deferred to Extraordinary Meeting in April.

j. To approve wooden posts on the Common

It was reported that Cllr Bryant is waiting for a third quote, item to be deferred to Extraordinary Meeting in April.

k. To update on Little Wynch

Cllr Cassidy reported that DBC have emailed to say the legal process has been settled and the boundary determined. The next stage is to review the current situation on infringement and follow up, DBC will update CPC on progress.

l. To review costs for signpost

Cllr Cassidy reported that further quotes are pending and that Cllr McGuinness is now following up this item and based on this information it was agreed to defer the item to Extraordinary Meeting April.

m. To consider correspondence on GDS storage building.

Cllr Cassidy mentioned that original discussion with Marchfield had resulted in an inclusion on the approved plans for a parish storage facility. CPC through Cllr Bryant will write to Oakwood Homes (current owners of the development) to clarify the whether the storage still forms part of the approved plans and what the facility may include with regard to services.

n. To discuss National Design Code

Cllr Bryant reported that he has written to DBC and has not had any reply, Cllr Bryant will involve Cllr Stewart if need be.

o. To approve and adopt

- (i) Standing Order
- (ii) Financial Regulations
- (iii) Risk Assessment
- (iv) Code of Conduct
- (v) Grant Awarding Policy
- (vi) Privacy Policy

It was proposed by Cllr Cassidy, seconded by Cllr Hinton, and it was resolved to adopt the policies.

Cllr Cassidy

Date

75/20 REPORT FROM BOROUGH/COUNTY COUNCILLORS

To receive a report from Borough/County Councillor (s)

Cllr Riddick reported that the Planning applicant for The Street which was refused has lodged an appeal. The basis of the rejection was a strong objection from the Conservation Team based upon the historic connections of Pale Farm and the land concerned. The applicant’s appeal is based on the assertion that this historic interpretation in which the land is thought to be historically connected to the ancient Royal Park is wrong. CPC would like to know if the Conservation Team are confident of their facts, Cllr Riddick will get more facts and relay back to CPC on this issue as well as the status of the appeal on The Spice Village application for 7 houses.

76/20 REPORT FROM WORKING GROUPS

1. OPEN SPACES

Nothing to report.

2. YOUTH AND EDUCATION

Nothing to report.

3. POLICE REPORT

Cllr McGuinness reported that the crime rate for Jan and Feb was low with one reported crime of theft from motor vehicle and three other crimes not itemized on the police printout.

4. HIGHWAYS

Cllr McGuinness reported that Speed Indicator Device has been installed. He commented on the poor state of the road surface of Windmill Hill.

5. PLANNING

CDA Housing Needs Survey (report delayed due to Covid), deferred to Extraordinary Meeting in April 2021.

6. ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk reported there was a problem with the tap which has now been fixed by the Warden.

77/20 Exclusion of Press and Public; To **RESOLVE** that under Section 1 of the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded for the remainder of the meeting, because it is likely that publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in the resolution, arising from the nature of the business proceedings.

78/20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on the 11th of May 2021 following the planning meeting @ 7.15 by Virtual Meeting.

Cllr Cassidy

Date