

CHISELBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th of September 2014

Present: Mr R O'Neill, Mr I Hodge, Mrs H Doodson, Mr M Langdon

In Attendance: 14 Members of the Public.

- 2.01: **Apologies for Absence:** Mr Jim Macartney, District Councillor Ric Pallister and County Councillor Marcus Fysh.
- 2.02: **Declarations of Interest:** R O'Neill Church matters as Church Warden
- 3.01: **Public Forum:** A Parishioner commented that old minutes and documents have not as yet been deposited at the Heritage Centre for archiving. The Clerk explained this was her next task and this would be done as soon as possible. **KP**
- 3.02: A Parishioner asked if the Parish Council were aware of the new legislation for local government, which concerns making local councils more transparent and accountable to local people. The Chairman commented that he was not aware of this at present but would look into this and add this legislation to the agenda for the next meeting. **RO**
- 3.03: A Parishioner commented that the parish website had not currently been updated with details of the new Vice Chairperson. RO said we would get this updated. **KP**
- 3.04: A Parishioner asked about the progress on the repairs to the gate at the top of Hempalong Path. IH commented that we were still waiting for the gate to be returned. IH would check on the progress with this. **IH**
- 4: **Minutes of the meeting:** Held on the 9th of July 2014 were agreed as a correct copy and signed. Matters arising under:
- 2014.07.3.02 RO did email BT about the overgrown land around the telephone exchange and it was cut.
- 2014.06.13.03 Highways have promised that the blocked drain near Springfield has been sorted. It was supposed to have been rodded and a camera put down. A Parishioner commented that he would like to see the camera footage as he believes the drain is still broken. ML will contact Highways. **ML**
- 2014.05.3.01 RP has spoken to Chris Cooper who has agreed to take an informal test of the problem tree near the telephone exchange. RO needs to make contact with him to arrange a convenient time to come and do this. **RO**
- 2014.07.12.04 It was decided that have a speed limit in the village was a non starter due to the cost implications and having to have street lighting put in. RO commented that in other villages nearby they have signs which read 20 is plenty and this might be just enough to remind drivers to slow down. ML will find out from Highways if these are official signs and if we need planning permission for them. **ML**
- 2014.07.12.05 We are still awaiting feedback from MF on the progress of the report on the Flood Alleviation Pool. RO will email MF regarding this. **RO**
- 2014.07.13.03 The email exchange regarding the drains on East Street ties into the issue with the blocked drain on Springfield, which has already been discussed.
- 2014.02.4.02 IH has looked at the sign at Cat Head Cross and has put some oil on the sign to try and loosen it, however this has not worked. The top will need to be cut off and it will need to be re-sleeved. After discussion it was decided that a parishioner would be able to assist the Parish Council. **ML**
- 5: **District Councillor's Report: Read by the Chairman**
- 5.01: Flooding – There is a delay setting up the Rivers Board due to funding issues. The Government have asked that it is paid for through the Council

Tax but this would result in a 20% increase and SSDC are pushing for it to be funded as a separate tax, similar to that for the fire service and police.

5.02: SCC have leased one floor of SSDC's Council offices at Brympton Way giving SSDC an income of £200k. The CAB are relocating back to Petters Way.

5.03: SSDC have had a major upgrade to the phone systems and there have been some teething problems resulting in people being unable to get through to them. Improvements are happening and normal service will be resumed very quickly.

6: **County Councillor's Report Marcus Fysh**

No report this month as MF was not present.

7: **Community Land Trust:**

7.01: The houses on Minchingtons Close will be completed this Friday and people will be moving in the following Friday.

7.02: Progress with the community shop is moving along well. £30,000 has been raised from Parishes and donations. 'Awards for all' has given £10,000 and SSDC has donated £9,300. The shop is opening as a community shop on the 3rd of November.

8: **Flood Alleviation Pool:**

As MF is not present RO will email him as already discussed.

9: **A356 Speed Limit:**

The Parish Council have now received a letter with maps from SCC with their proposals for the safety improvements to the A356. A brief outline of their proposals are: 50 mph limit from Crewkerne up until just past the Norton/Wigborough turnoff.

- Renewal of hazard signs and adding more signs to warn of tight corners.

- 20mph recommended/warning speed signs on tight corners.

The Parish Council have sent their comments on the proposals. The main concern is that the 50mph restriction stops before you go over the rise to Holy Tree, which is felt to be one of the most dangerous areas for cars pulling out. Therefore the 50mph limit should go all the way to the A303. There are currently no proposals for heavy work anywhere, however the Parish Council feel that the radius of the first left hand bend coming from Crewkerne is too tight for lorries. Therefore the radius should be made bigger.

The Parish Council have also highlighted their concern that SCC have not taken into account the poor visibility by the turnings into Chiselborough and Wigborough.

Highways will now meet with the contractors and we will wait to hear further details.

10: **Parish Council Website:**

The Chairman asked KP to update the website as discussed earlier in the meeting.

11: **Parish Noticeboard Refurbishment:**

KP has looked into this and is struggling to find a suitable sign company who will carry out this work locally. It has been suggested that the Council get a local carpenter to carry out the work.

ML knew of someone in Martock and another parishioner also knew of a local carpenter who may be able to do the work. After discussion it was decided we would get quotes from both for the repairs

ML/KP

- 12: **Planning:**
- 12.01: Determination has been received for Strapp Farmhouse confirming the go ahead for internal modifications including a damp proof course in the hallway.
- 12.02: The application for Waggoners Cottage for the erection of a dwellinghouse with parking and the erection of a carport has been withdrawn.
- 13: **Finance:**
- 13.01: The current internal auditor has now retired and a replacement needs to be found. Initially a candidate was put forward, however, after discussion the vote was cancelled and it was decided that this role would be advertised prior to the next meeting in the Parish Magazine and on the website. **KP**
- 13.02: Cheque for £301.92 was paid to SSDC for the Parish Ranger Scheme. This was agreed, signed and sent prior to the meeting as it was due for payment during the summer break. All councillors were happy with this as it is a routine payment.
- 13.03: Cheque for £19.20 payable to R O'Neill was signed this was repayment of monies paid out for strimmer repairs. All councillors were happy with this payment.
- 13.04: Cheque for £548.21 payable to the Clerk for four months wages and expenses was signed.
- 14.01: **Reports: Lengthsman:** There was no report submitted this month. A parishioner also commented that details of the Lengthman visits have not been added to the website since April. KP will contact JM and ask him to update this. **KP**
- 14.02: **Parish Land:** IH is about to contact the common group to discuss the next cut of the Common. The Parish Council has not received the invoice for the last cut as yet. IH will chase this up. The Parish Council agreed that they were happy to go ahead with the next cut without further discussion as long as the cost is not more than £250.
- 14.03: **Highways.** ML is still trying to get various potholes around the village sorted The main ones are near Cat Head Cross and also on Skillgate Lane. He is also still chasing Highways to get them to cut back the trees near Grintley Lane. **ML**
- 14.04: **Rights Of Way:** Various people have reported faults through the internet which the Ranger is actioning. Steps have now been put in at the end of the footpath from Chiselborough to Norton near Norton recreation ground. There is no barrier at present but this has been reported.
- 15: **Correspondence:**
- 15.01: An email had been received from The Somerset Local Access Forum regarding the dangers of Neospora a disease affecting cattle, which can be spread by dog faeces. It was decided that we would put a note on this in the Parish Magazine and details on the Parish Website. **KP**
- 15.02: Skinners Lane will be closed for a day on the 22nd of September to allow cable to be laid. Details will be put on the noticeboard and on the website. **KP**
- 15.03: HSBC at Crewkerne will be closing soon and Parish Council accounts will now be managed in Yeovil.
- 16: **Points for New Business:** New Legislation for Local Government

The next Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th of October 2014 at 7.30pm

Signed _____ Date _____