

CHISELBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9th October 2019

Present: Mr R Brown, Mr A Pipe, Mr M Langdon, Dr R Bulley
 In Attendance: Members of the public, Mr Mark Keating, Mr A. Vaughan, Mr M. Hamlin (Clerk)

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| 1: | Apologies for absence: Mrs J. Buckmaster. | |
| 2: | Declarations of Interest: Dr R. Bulley, Church. | |
| 3: | Public Forum: | |
| 4: | Minutes of the meeting: Held on 11 th September, these having been circulated were taken as read, agreed and signed. | |
| | Matters arising under: | |
| 2017.07.16
Road Markings. | Cnty Cllr Mark Keating advised that he had spoken to Gary Warren Traffic Engineer and was awaiting his reply. Reiterated that the issue now was to obtain advice on how new road markings are commissioned to avoid future misunderstandings. Agreed that the clerk would forward relevant information to Cllr Keating as a reminder. | AP/Clerk |
| 2018.1.15.2
Large delivery vehicles. | Cllr Brown advised that following his meeting with Gary Warren Traffic Engineer it had been agreed that the sign to the lane between Beverley House and Cartref would be changed from 2.5 to 2.2 meters and this action was awaited. Clerk to email Highways for an update | AP/Clerk |
| 2018.11.15.3
Calendar/Welcome Pack | Cllr Pipe advised that the calendar was live on the site and was taking submissions. He was trialling alternative software to enable a greater number of events to be displayed than allowed by the free application currently being used. | AP/Cllr Pipe |
| 2019.09.14
Water drainage from common | Following an approach to a Parish Councillor in August followed up by a letter dated 26 th September from Mrs Frost of Yew Tree House, regarding standing water collecting outside of Yew Tree House and Rose Cottage, a site meeting took place on 9 th October with Lee Norman of County Highways attended by Cllr Langdon. Cllr Langdon was awaiting further information from Highways and was also liaising with Dist Councillor Vaughan, noted that SSDC installed the flood alleviation drainage system on the common. Cnty Cllr Keating advised that depending on further advice, the Flood Authority could possibly assist. Clerk to update Mrs Frost with developments. | AP/Cllr Langdon |
| 2019.09.14
Finger post by Church | Cllr Pipe reported he had approached a sign maker Andy Coleman who makes wooden signs who had quoted £115.00 + VAT to replace the broken finger post with oil treatment and lettering, plus £58.00 + VAT for a new post and £20 delivery. Cllr Pipe had spoken to Ian Hodge who had agreed to assemble and install the sign. Les from SCC rights of Way had confirmed a new post would be supplied free of charge. Ian also offered to treat the sign with a better product than oil, (which might attract a discount), and it was agreed that as the post would already have the words public footpath on the side these words would not be needed on the sign which could attract further discount. It was proposed by Cllr Langdon, seconded by Cllr Brown and resolved to purchase the lettered and untreated sign for £115 + VAT which Cllr Pipe would collect once ready. | AP/Cllr Pipe |
| 2019.09.15
Reimagining the levels | Sue Hasell had attended a meeting and fed back information to Cllr Buckmaster. Of particular interest was a draft tree policy which sought to address tree loss and promote tree planting. It was agreed that this would be circulated to the Parish Council for | |

2019.09.15 GDPR
Emails/cleansing

consideration. It was further agreed to consider the possibility of having a Tree Warden who would inform the Parish Council about tree matters and take a lead on tree planting projects. It was suggested that grants were available from the Woodland Trust and other organisations. To be discussed at the next meeting after the Parish Council had seen the draft tree policy. A date would need to be arranged to go through historic papers held by Cllr Brown. Cllr Pipe had established that @chiselboroughvillage emails could be provided by Wix our website provider and he would come with prices by December meeting.

AP/Cllr Pipe

5: **District Councillor's Report: Anthony Vaughan** Dist Cllr Vaughan reported that currently contacting the District Council was proving difficult. The contract with Gigaclear to deliver broadband had been terminated and Connecting Devon and Somerset were tendering for a new supplier. One of the senior planning officers, Andrew Gunn was leaving the authority which would put additional strain on the planning department. The Council were looking at reorganisation to help clear the backlog. There was a new notification system in place and Cllr Vaughan encouraged everyone to register for alerts (Cllr Pipe had produced a step by step aide memoir to help with this). Cllr Vaughan was unaware of any imminent plans to cease providing Parish Councils with paper copies of planning applications although Dist Cllr Pallister had mentioned this was a possibility. The statutory requirement to notify neighbours by post and to display a planning notice had not changed.

6: **County Councillor's Report: Mark Keating** Cnty Cllr Keating reported that grit bins would be refilled before the winter free of charge. Cllr Langdon would let Lee at Highways know which ones needed filling. Cllr Keating asked to be copied into any correspondence about the County Farmland. His October report was on the website.

**AP/Cllr
Langdon**

7: **Planning: Richard Brown** 19/02544/HOU the erection of a replacement garage and replacement single storey extension to rear of dwelling house. Cavill Cottage Fair Place. Cllr Brown reported that he had received the plans but would be giving them further consideration as it was not clear how the drawings matched the elevation plans. The deadline for comments was 22nd October. Comment was made about the water table, construction traffic and the problem of flooding and standing water affecting nearby properties. It was emphasised that all interested parties should make their views known to the Planning Department by 22 October.

8: **Car Parking on the Common:** There were no developments to report, work continued to try and establish a starting point being the definitive boundary of the common. This was difficult to establish as the maps held showed a thick red line along the boundary which was not detailed enough. Work would continue ongoing.

9: **Defibrillator / VETS, Painting of phone box.** Arrangements were being made to extend the VETS system to cover non-emergency situations. The additional costs would be £180 a year plus a £35.00 set up fee. Once the agreement had been received the CHT would offer dates for the VETS seminar at a one-off cost of £175.00.

**AP/Cllr
Brown**

Cllr Brown had approached Dave Chant who had quoted the sum of £350 to pain the phone box. A second quote would be

obtained before a decision made.

Proposed by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr Pipe and resolved to site the Village Map in the bus shelter. The Parish Council had received a request to contribute the sum of £30 towards the cost of the toughened glass for the case to house the map and this was unanimously agreed. Thanks recorded to Brian and Ian for their work providing the case.

10: **County Council Farmland Working Party Update:** Nothing further to add.

11: **Risk Assessments:** Cllr Pipe reported that he and Martyn had reviewed all the assets on Friday 4th October. The result was largely unchanged from the previous review last year. The wooden benches were showing signs of deterioration and needed to be treated with wood preservative and the metal needed treating with hammarite or equivalent. Cllr Pipe would write up the risk assessment sheet and circulate it to the Parish Council.

AP/Cllr Pipe

Burridge Copse was inspected and nothing further was found further to the risk assessment carried out by Ayers Forestry in May. Noted that there was a fallen branch along the roadside not currently posing any danger but would be monitored. Further noted that Ayers Forestry recommend an annual assessment of the roadside which would fall in May 2020.

Noted that the assets listed on the asset register had not recently been revalued and were mainly shown at their purchase/installation value which would be neither a current value nor a replacement value. Question was posed whether a serious attempt should be made to obtain realistic current values (which could have a knock-on effect on the insurance), and whether to have accruable pots for replacements held in reserves. Agreed to give further consideration and discuss further at next meeting. Clarified that the mowers were owned by the Parish Council who had provided the capital for purchase but maintenance and running costs met by the Parochial Church Council.

12: **Community Land Trust:** The AGM was well attended. The existing directors remain unchanged. Noted that the option remained for a further Chiselborough Parish Councillor to join the board as a non-voting director.

13: **Finance:** Nothing to report and no bills to pay.

14: **Reports: Ranger** The Ranger had not been used and no outstanding issues.

Highways: As reported under agenda item 4 the only issue was the water drainage which Cllr Langdon was following up with South Somerset District Council.

Parish Land: Nothing to report.

Common: Cllr Buckmaster had sent a written report which advised that she had asked Pauls Agriculture to cut the brambles and this was in hand. The Waitrose cheque for £356 had been received. A list of tools had been compiled for use on the common with an estimated cost of £258. It was suggested that the tools be kept in the church shed with the mowers so that they would be available for village use. It was agreed to ask Cllr Buckmaster to liaise with Mr O'Neil about getting a new key cut for the shed for Parish Council use to ensure ready availability of the tools. Also, to consider an inner cupboard to keep the tools in within the shed. It was proposed by Cllr Langdon, seconded by Cllr Pipe and resolved that the Parish Council agreed that the

AP/Cllr
Buckmaster

tools on the list be purchased. Invoices to be made out to Chiselborough Parish Council to facilitate VAT recovery. Thanks expressed to Cllr Buckmaster for her work on the common.

Burridge Copse: No reply had been received from Mr Ritchie Scammels of Wessex Scout Group to the Parish Council request for a review meeting. Cllr Pipe advised that there had been no sign of any activity at the copse since the last meeting. It was agreed that the clerk would contact Mr Scammels and request that he state the groups' intentions regarding working with the Parish Council at Burridge Copse.

AP/Clerk

Rights of Way: Cllr Pipe reported that the six-month closure notice of the footpath from Manor Farm to Higher Street Norton expired on 10 October. Cllr Pipe would check to ensure that the bridge was now considered safe and that the path was indeed now open. (No notification had been received regarding an extension being applied for).

AP/Cllr Pipe

15:

Correspondence: A letter had been received from a villager asking if some action could be taken about cars blocking access to the post box opposite the Cat Head. All the Parish Councillors present were familiar with this problem having all experienced difficulty physically getting a letter in the box with a car parked up against it. Several possible solutions were suggested. A No Parking sign, but it was thought this would have little effect. Hatched lines painted in front of the box which would carry legal enforcement, but with possible opposition to this from the village. A tub of flowers to make it impossible to block the box. It was agreed that further consideration would need to be given to this and discuss at next meeting.

An email had been received from Sue Hassell requesting permission to lay gravel on the track over the common leading to her house. Her vehicle was getting stuck on the soil that was washed down by rain. She proposed to use the same small grade gravel that she used 25 years previously with permission. Cllr Buckmaster made a site visit on 4th October and looked at the track and discussed the matter with Sue. She reported in a written report how mud had covered the original gravel at the point at the bottom of the track where Sue usually parked her van, making it difficult to reverse back up the track. It was proposed to lay new gravel professionally, like that which had been used before, not the whole track, just at the point of the problem with the grass untouched.

It was noted as relevant that currently the Parish Council were actively working on resolving the wider issue of parking on the common and wanted to arrive at a settled and agreed policy before any new decisions were made. Currently clarification had not been received from this householder or any other of what rights had been previously granted. The Parish Council were aware of the law whereby usage over statutory time spans can confer rights.

It was suggested by a member of the public that an alternative low impact solution would be the laying of plastic mesh which would give traction without spoiling the grass and can be done cheaply and easily (as at Stonehenge).

It was resolved to defer a decision until all Councillors had made a site visit and then consider further.

16:

Points for New Business: Mr John Ball updated the Parish Council on the verbal abuse issue. Both Mrs Freeman and Mrs Ball had received letters of apology via the police, but the letters

were written in general terms and were more of an apology to the village and not specific apologies to the two victims of the verbal abuse. Wickes had never replied directly in any form. This was as far as the matter could be taken.

Cllr Pipe reported that he and Cllr Buckmaster had attended a course put on by SALC about digital mapping. There were lots of advantages to this, but there was a cost involved. It was agreed that this would be on the agenda for the November meeting when Cllr Buckmaster would be present.

The next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 13th November

Signed _____

Date _____