

## CHOLESBURY-CUM-ST LEONARDS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in St. Leonard's Parish Hall on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at 8pm

Present: Cllrs Allen, Blomfield, Brown, Joseph, Matthews, Minting and Sanger.

Also present: Mrs Lewis (Clerk), District Cllr Rose and County Cllr Birchley.

1602) To receive apologies for absence

None.

1603) Matters arising

None.

1604) To receive declarations of interest

None.

1605) Questions from members of the public

County Cllr Birchley said that her current priority for the Parish was to resolve the flooding at Sandpit Hill. A recent investigation of the borehole concluded that either the borehole needs re-boring (as this has become silted up over time through lack of maintenance) or that a ditch be re-established on neighbouring land. All involved parties agree that the first option is the most effective and long lasting solution and Cllr Matthews will support County Cllr Birchley and the LAT contact Kathleen Wilmhurst in communicating this to TfB management in order to achieve this result.

It was noted that it has been announced in the local press that works to the full length of Oak Lane, Cholesbury Lane from Rays Hill to Pound Lane and Swan Lane from Chapel Lane to Arrewig Lane are planned.

County Cllr Birchley is still working on the Care Act and Better Care Fund, as previously detailed.

Cllr Allen asked County Cllr Birchley her opinion on the Budget Consultation that is currently on going, as to whether she would support a rise in Council Tax for an improvement in services and she replied that she would.

District Cllr Rose reported that there were no questions thus far on the DDPD for this Parish; that he was heavily involved with a review of Traveller sites, but again, that this did not affect this Parish; that he also would support a rise in Council Tax from this review. Regarding the planning application for J&L Travel on Jenkins Lane, District Cllr Rose confirmed that the approval of the plans is currently subject to a legal agreement on a contribution by the developer to the construction of social housing elsewhere in the County. Cllr Brown asked for District Cllr Rose's opinion on the recent Bucks Business First report, which concluded that a saving of up to £20 million could be made by formation of a unitary authority for Buckinghamshire. District Cllr Rose replied that this is not currently a legal possibility; however, he believes better, more tangible savings can be made from "joint working" with other councils. Cllr Brown also asked for a confirmation that BCC will fund their contribution to SFBB roll-out in the rural areas to bring the service to the last 8% of households. This has been confirmed. Cllr Allen requested confirmation that following recent 11+ results that there would be sufficient Grammar School places for Buckinghamshire children. This was confirmed. District Cllr Rose reported that it was now likely that the Planning Committee to discuss the planning application at The White Lion would be in December 2014.

1606) Questions to the Chairman

None.

1607) To approve the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council

It was resolved to approve the minutes from the Meeting of the Parish Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2014 (adding "The proposed stood adjourned to the next meeting in accordance with Standing Order 111" to item 1595) and those of the planning meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2014.

1608) Reports

(a) *Clerk's Report*: The report was received from Mrs Lewis (see attached) and actions agreed.

(b) *LAF*: Cllr Brown reported that Chief Inspector Vine had attended the LAF meeting and stated that crimes such as burglary and car theft were down, but violent crime and drug offences were up. There is to be a "Meet the Public" event at Cholesbury cricket pitch car park on the 30<sup>th</sup> October, which Cllr Brown will advertise on the Grapevine and Cllr Brown has suggested that another property safety event be arranged in the Parish for next year, as the majority of burglaries in the Parish are from sheds/stores, rather than dwellings. The locations of salt bins/piles in the Parish were reviewed and Cllr Brown will feedback to TfB on this. It was reported that £1500 from the delegated budget had been donated to Cholesbury Village Hall for activities related to personal exercise.

(c) *Rural Policing Group*: No meeting.

(d) *Turpin Charity*: Cllr Allen has notified the Chairman that the charity must appoint three representatives from Aston Clinton (including one with financial investment experience) to constitute a new committee of trustees. The developer has notified the committee that he wishes to exercise his option on the land and it is expected that, following a valuation of the land, this will be completed by June 2015.

1609) Finance

(a) Orders for payment were approved for: The Clerk's salary (for October); Fixing of the Defibrillator Cabinet to Cholesbury Village Hall, Clifford & Gough (£48.00 inc. VAT).

- (b) The quarterly budget report (Jul-Sep) was received without comment.
- (c) The proposed budget for 2015-16 was reviewed, with comment and will be re-reviewed at the November meeting. It was resolved to maintain the precept at current levels.
- (d) The new Financial Regulations for 2014-15 were adopted.
- (e) Payment of VAT on the MVAS application was noted (£70.00)

1610) Planning

- (a) *Applications*: None.
- (b) *Decisions of Chiltern District Council*:
  - i) CH/2014/0212/FA: 1 & 2 Hawridge Vale Cottages, Hawridge Vale, Hawridge; two storey side extensions, alteration to fenestration and retaining wall; Appeal dismissed
  - ii) CH/2014/1400/FA: Units 8, Woodlands Farm, The Vale, Hawridge, Buckinghamshire, Change of use from agricultural building to Use Class B8 (storage and distribution); Conditional Permission
  - iii) CH/2014/1492/FA: 2 Wood View Cottages, The Vale, Hawridge, Buckinghamshire, HP5 3NT, Part two storey, part single storey side/rear extension, front and rear dormer windows; Conditional Permission
  - iv) CH/2014/1460/FA: Holmwood, Cholesbury Lane, Buckland Common, Buckinghamshire, HP23 6NQ, Part two storey, part single storey side/rear extension, new front bay window, insertion of three dormer windows to existing and proposed front and rear roof slopes to facilitate habitable accommodation within the roof space and erection of front porch; Conditional Permission
  - v) CH/2014/1526/AGN: The Old Farmhouse, Heath End, Hawridge, Buckinghamshire, HP4 3UE; Agricultural storage building; Permitted Development refused
  - vi) CH/2014/1453/KA: Quiet Corner, Cholesbury Lane, Cholesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP23 6ND, Work to various trees in accordance with a submitted plan - all trees within a Conservation Area; No TPO, therefore approved.
- (c) *Notice of Appeals*: None.

1611) The Green at Buckland Common

Cllr Allen thanked Cllr Blomfield for the final cut of the year.

1612) Springall Hill allotments

- a) The Clerk reported that £37.50 was outstanding in allotment fees for 2014-15 and follow-up letters would be sent.

1613) Highways

- a) There were no questions on the report of the LAT meeting on 23/9/14. It was noted that the water leak on Little Twye will be fixed by 9/11/14. Cllr Brown and Cllr Joseph will review MVAS locations with Kathleen Wilmhurst on 30/10/14. The next LAT meeting is planned for 8/12/14.

1614) To receive an update on actions regarding Japanese Knotweed growth

Cllr Blomfield reported that the owner of land near the Iron Age Hill Fort has agreed to spray the area in Spring. Cllr Matthews is still trying to make contact with the landowner near Heath End. Knotweed has also been noted at the old Dunton brickworks site. The Clerk will confirm current reporting requirements for the plant.

1615) To review the amended Risk Assessment report for 2014-15

The Clerk will check with the auditor regarding the acceptability of planned IT back-up arrangements and check with the insurer that cover is adequate for the planned Defibrillator & MVAS sign. The report will be re-reviewed at the November meeting.

1616) To discuss the Council's response to the BCC Budget Consultation

Cllr Brown has already responded as LAF representative to the effect that the Council would support an increase in Council Tax to support services. Cllr Allen will reply on behalf of the Council to the same effect.

1617) To consider a proposal (by Cllr Sanger, seconded by Cllr Brown), to amend Standing Order number 2

It was resolved to amend the proposal to read; "All meeting of standing committees of the Council shall be held at St. Leonard's Parish Hall or Cholesbury Village Hall or in another public place and shall commence between 19.00 hours and 20.00 hours, at the discretion of the proper officer, unless the Council decides otherwise at a previous meeting. Such a meeting shall last no more than two hours unless the committee resolves otherwise at the meeting itself." The proposal was agreed and adopted as such.

1618) To consider a proposal (by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr Sanger), to amend Standing Orders to reflect the new Financial Regulations

It is proposed to renumber paragraph 112 and 113 and add new paragraph 112 in the section entitled "VARIATION, REVOCATION AND SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS" to read "Should these Standing Orders conflict with Financial Regulations adopted by the Council, the Financial Regulations shall prevail." The proposed stood adjourned to the next meeting in accordance with standing Order 111.

1619) To propose the formation of a Working Group by the Council to examine the set of NALC model Standing Orders (complementary to the set of NALC model Financial Regulations already reviewed) and, if deemed appropriate, prepare a draft set of new Standing Orders for consideration by the Parish Council at the next meeting

It was agreed that Cllrs Allen, Brown and Sanger would form a Working Group, but that, should it be agreed to prepare a draft set of new Standing Orders, that this may not be done for the next meeting, but timetabled as appropriate to ensure completeness.

- 1620) To discuss attendance of members to the BMKALC AGM and the Branch AGM of CPRE  
Should members wish to attend, they should inform the Clerk.

- 1621) To discuss approval of current representation of the Council on the BMKALC Executive Committee  
It was resolved to approve Cllr Darby and Cllr Bray as representatives of the Chiltern region on behalf of this council. Cllr Allen, it was resolved, would request that more feedback, including minutes of Executive Committee Meetings be provided for the Council's information.

The meeting closed at 10.05pm.

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

Date of next meeting: Monday 24th November 2014 in Cholesbury Village Hall.