

CHOLESBURY-CUM-ST LEONARDS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in St. Leonards Parish Hall on Monday 23rd November 2015 at 8pm

Present: Cllrs Allen, Blomfield, Brown, Joseph, Matthews, Minting and Sanger.
Also present: Mrs Lewis (Clerk) and County Councillor Birchley.

1840) To receive apologies for absence
District Cllr Rose.

1841) Matters arising
None.

1842) To receive declarations of interest
None.

1843) Questions from members of the public
County Councillor Birchley commented on the recent press release by BCC that a freeze on non-essential spending was in effect from now until March 2016, in order to limit a projected overspend of approximately 6-8 million pounds. 40-50% of the County Council's budget is spent on adult/social care and this is placing a significant strain on other services. County Councillor Birchley also mentioned the recent incident regarding the theft of Christmas Trees from the farm off Horseblock Lane, which lies at the Hertfordshire/Buckinghamshire boundary and the location of which contributed to a delay in police response to the incident, due to confusion over which police force should respond. County Councillor Birchley is aware of several issues relating, not only to police, but also to fire, waste and other matters, which are affected by such "confusion" and is taking this matter up with the relevant authorities.

1844) Questions to the Chairman
None.

1845) 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 held on 26th October 2015. In item 1835) "Highways" "CDC" was twice replaced by "BCC" for cause of accuracy.

1846) Reports
(a) *Clerk's Report*: The report was received from Mrs Lewis (see attached) and actions agreed.
(b) *Turpin Charity*: The developer, charity and adjacent landowner are to meet to discuss and agree a value for the land on a 'without prejudice' basis.

1847) Finance
(a) Orders for payment were approved for: The Clerk's salary (for November); St. Leonards Parish Hall (Hall Hire Apr-Dec 2015) £52.00. A cheque was signed for £524.34 (inc. VAT) to Swarco Traffic Ltd. following receipt of the additional MVAS equipment (as authorised at September's meeting (item 1809 (e)). The exc. VAT amount will now be claimed back from BCC in line with the terms of the grant letter.
(b) The budget for 2016-17 was agreed in principle, although an amendment was agreed to allow an annual amount of £200.00 for website hosting. It was agreed that the total amount to be requested in precept (including any grants) would remain the same as the previous year at £9,800.00. The grant amount (if available this year) will be finalised by CDC in December and then the exact precept amount will be known.

1848) Planning
(a) To deal with any planning applications, including those received after the date of the agenda;
(i) CH/2015/1991/FA Hawridge Court Farm, Church Lane, Hawridge, Buckinghamshire, HP5 2ZB, Detached carport and store to replace existing. The council agreed to send a comment of "No comment" on this application.
(ii) CH/2015/1990/FA Hawridge Court Farm, Church Lane, Hawridge, Buckinghamshire, HP5 2ZB, Single storey side extension, widening of existing rear dormer windows. The council agreed to send a comment of "No comment" on this application.
(iii) CH/2015/2026/FA Heath End Cottage, Heath End, Hawridge, Buckinghamshire, HP4 3UE, Detached triple garage with office store in roofspace. The council agreed to send a comment of "No comment" on this application.
(iv) CH/2015/1816/FA The Bungalow, Bottom Road, Buckland Common, Buckinghamshire, HP23 6NU, Single storey front, single storey rear extensions and erection of detached double garage and widening of original vehicular access (amendment to Planning Permission CH/2015/1115/FA). The following reply is to be sent to the planning department "The council note that this application does not include the timber building in the garden, which was the subject of a letter received by the Parish Council from the planning enforcement department on 25 July 2015 - reference 2015/00200/AB. Consequently, the Parish Council objects to this application on the basis of it being incomplete and District Councillor Rose has been requested by the Parish Council to refer the matter to the Planning Committee".
(v) CH/2015/2083/FA The Bury, Cholesbury Road, Cholesbury, HP23 6ND, Erection of detached garage outbuilding and store. The council agreed to send a comment of "No comment" on this application.
(b) To receive decisions of Chiltern District Council.
None.

(c) To receive notice of appeals.
None.

(d) To receive an update on enforcement cases.

Cllr Allen has written to Mrs Francis, Senior Enforcement Officer at CDC and to District Councillor Rose regarding the outstanding enforcement cases concerning Woodlands Farm, Shire Lane and The Bungalow, Bottom Road and has received no reply, as of the time of this meeting. It was agreed that Cllr Allen would make a further attempt to obtain a satisfactory reply by the end of the week by speaking to District Cllr Rose, seeking confirmation that some progress is being made with these matters, before initiating the complaints procedure through the District Council's website.

(e) It was noted that the council decided not to meet to discuss application CH/2015/1884/FA Kiln House, Shire Lane, Cholesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP23 6NA, Two storey rear extension, removal of chimney, flat to pitched replacement garage roof, replacement roofs with slate, exterior rendering to brickwork (amendments to planning permission CH/2015/0384/FA) and that therefore a response of "No Comment" was sent by the clerk.

1849) The Green at Buckland Common
There were no matters to discuss.

1850) Springall Hill allotments
(a) All allotment rents for the coming year, bar £12.50 for half a plot, have been received, but this fee has been sent in the post.

1851) Highways
Some further potholes have been repaired, but in light of the freeze on non-essential spending by BCC, other road improvements are on hold.

1852) To review and discuss the Risk Assessment for 2015-16
The risk assessment was agreed and signed by the chairman.

1853) To receive an update on matters relating the condition of bridleway CY25 and discuss any other footpath issues
Cllr Blomfield met with Rosie Taylor (Rights of Way Officer BCC) on 6th November to inspect the state of the bridleway. Ms. Taylor explained that she had already obtained a quote for £5,000.00 to improve the condition of the bridleway and this was in excess of the available budget. Cllr Blomfield estimates that it may be possible to undertake the necessary work (to remove the excess mud, lay a membrane and add plantings) for closer to £2,000.00, which may be within budget. Therefore, the landowner will be contacted to discuss this and his consent be requested to work on and deposit "mud" on his land. Should the work not be able to be undertaken, it may be necessary for BCC to close the bridleway.

1854) To receive an update on Superfast Broadband
Buckland Common and St. Leonards and Bellingdon went "live" last month, but the system is already oversubscribed. Work is ongoing to increase capacity. It is projected that the necessary electrical works to allow Hawridge and Cholesbury to go "live" will be completed by early December.

1855) To receive an update on the current status of the transport devolution project
Cllr Brown attended a meeting on 4th November to receive an update on the project and ask questions. Information to date seems to indicate that there is approximately £1,000.00 of annual funding available (guaranteed for the next three years) to cover certain works, as BCC looks to devolve responsibility for selected activities. The council agreed to discuss the matter further at the next meeting, and potentially form a working group to manage the contract process, once more information has been received.

1856) To discuss celebration of the Queen's 90th birthday, including the "Clean for the Queen" initiative
It was agreed that Cllr's would investigate what different societies within the parish had planned to celebrate the event and then discuss the matter again at the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

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

Date of next meeting: Monday 25th January 2016 at Cholesbury Village Hall.