

CHOLESBURY-CUM-ST LEONARDS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in St. Leonards Parish Hall on Monday 22nd February 2016 at 8pm

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

Also present: Mrs Lewis (Clerk), District Councillor Rose, County Councillor Birchley, District Council Leader Isobel Darby, District Councillor Martin and approximately 15 members of the public.

1885) To receive apologies for absence
None.

1886) Matters arising
None.

1887) To receive declarations of interest
Cllr Blomfield declared an interest in Planning Application CH/2016/0004/FA as he is acquainted with the applicants.

1888) Questions from members of the public
County Councillor Birchley reported that the County should be proud of last summer's GCSE results with five school's achieving a 100% grade A-C pass rate. She also praised the facilities at Chiltern Hills Academy and the good work being undertaken there. County Councillor Birchley had been contacted by concerned residents and parents regarding the parking situation at Hawridge and Cholesbury School and she reported that the school was undertaking a parking review. With regard to the budget for BCC, this coming year sees the worst settlement for all councils being awarded to BCC, resulting in the council arguing for additional funds from central government and achieving an additional £5 million for this and the next financial year, although this is in the context of an overall budget exceeding £300 million. The agreed council tax increase has been agreed at 3.99%, with 2% designated for social care. Roads are another important priority and it is hoped that this year The Vale will be surface dressed and that patching will be performed in Heath End, Parrotts Lane and Little Twye, amongst others. Cllr Allen pointed out the quick deterioration on the repaired road surface at the corner of Jenkins Lane with St. Leonards Church. The opposition to HS2 continues and the current focus is to try to ameliorate the impact on the A413 and surrounding areas with regard to traffic congestion, if the project goes ahead.

1889) Questions to the Chairman
None.

1890) To approve the minutes of the Meetings of the Parish Council
It was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 25th January 2016.

1891) Reports
(a) *Clerk's Report*: The report was received from Mrs Lewis (see attached) and actions agreed.
(b) *Turpin Charity*: Further to the agreement of a price per acre, negotiations continue as to the overall price to be paid by the developer.
(c) *LAF*: A Thames Valley Police representative spoke at the recent LAT meeting and confirmed that the current crime rate was very low in the Parish, although there had been a recent spate of thefts from outbuildings. Communication between the police and the community was encouraged to ensure that the rural setting was adequately represented and monitored.
(d) *St. Leonards Parish Hall*: Cllr Joseph reported that a new audio visual system had been installed. The fete will be on 4th June this year.

1892) Finance
(a) Orders for payment were approved for: The Clerk's salary (for February)
(b) Agreement of the Clerk's salary increase from April 2016 had to be postponed as the new pay levels are yet to be agreed nationally.
(c) It was resolved that Cllr Minting would be added as signatory to the NS&I account, in addition to Cllrs Blomfield and Sanger, and the appropriate paperwork was signed at the meeting.

1893) Planning
(a) To deal with any planning applications, including those received after the date of the agenda;
(i) CH/2016/0113/FA The Great House, Parrotts Lane, Buckland Common, Buckinghamshire, HP23 6NX, Alterations to existing double garage to include new pitched roof and extension to rear of garage to create storage area. The Parish Council had no comment to make on this application.
(ii) CH/2016/0162/FA The Kiln, 3 Shire Lane, Cholesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP23 6NA, Detached four bay garage with storage above, extended vehicular drive. The Parish Council resolved to object to this application on consideration of the size of the proposed outbuilding with respect to the dwelling and other development on site.
(iii) CH/2016/0004/FA CH/2016/0004/FA Land Between Woodfield Cottage and Thorncroft, Bottom Road, St Leonards, Buckinghamshire, Erection of a detached single storey dwelling. The Parish Council resolved to object to this application in relation to the relevance of the agricultural necessity stated in the application, that development in the green belt and AONB was against planning policy and that it would have a negative impact on the outlook of the area and neighbouring dwellings.

(iv) CH/2016/0112/FA CH/2016/0112/FA Thorncroft, Bottom Road, Buckland Common, Buckinghamshire, HP23 6NU Single storey side/rear extension. The Parish Council had no comment to make on this application, other than to note the close proximity of the extension to the property boundary.

(b) To receive decisions of Chiltern District Council.

(i) CH/2015/2287/FA The Bungalow, Bottom Road, Buckland Common, Buckinghamshire, HP23 6NU, Detached outbuilding (retrospective). Conditional Permission granted.

(c) To receive notice of appeals.

The appeal on application CH/2014/1622/SA Mildmay Cottage, Hawridge Common, Hawridge, Buckinghamshire, HP5 2UQ, Application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for a proposed operation relating to the siting of a shepherd's hut (caravan) for uses ancillary to Mildmay Cottage has been allowed by the planning inspectorate.

(d) To receive an update on enforcement cases.

Cllr Allen will contact Mrs Tracey Francis (Senior Enforcement Officer at CDC) to enquire as to whether a retrospective application was submitted with regards to Woodlands Farm, Shire Lane by the deadline set by her of 18/01/16.

(e) To receive an update on The White Lion appeal.

Cllr Allen reported that the hearing on appeal against enforcement action and planning refusal at The White Lion, St. Leonards, will be heard at Chiltern District Council Offices on 11th May. Cllr Allen will request to speak as well as the Save the White Lion group.

1894) The Green at Buckland Common
There were no matters to discuss.

1895) Springall Hill allotments
There were no matters to discuss.

1896) Highways
There were no matters to discuss.

1897) To agree a response to the New Local Plan, including a presentation by Leader of the District Council, Cllr Isobel Darby
Cllr Darby and Cllr Martin introduced a presentation by Graham Winwright (Planning Policy Manager, Chiltern and South Bucks District Councils) on the aims of the plan and its public consultation and answered questions from the public and Cllrs present. All residents are strongly encouraged to comment on the plan, which can be found at <http://www.chiltern.gov.uk/planning/localplan2014-2036> and need to be submitted by 14th March 2016. All comments from the Parish Council will be collated by Cllr Allen and submitted.

1898) To consider the proposal that the Council signifies, via a formal agreement, to take on certain transportation-related tasks with Bucks CC to commence April 2016 (Cllr Brown)
On review of the financial offer and forecast workload, as defined through extensive discussions with the Devolution project and similar sized councils that have already signed up, the council resolved to accept the contract. A formal agreement will now be entered into, making clear the extent of responsibilities on each side.

1899) To discuss celebration of the Queen's 90th birthday, including the "Clean for the Queen" initiative and "Beacon Lighting"
Cllrs Allen and Brown had discussed the potential for a Beacon with the HCCPS and commons owner, Christine Stott, and they were in favour of a Beacon, if organised by the Parish Council. Cllr Matthews volunteered to construct the Beacon and Cllr Allen volunteered to undertake the necessary administrative requirements. The Parish Council resolved to support the event within the agreed budget.

1900) To nominate an internal auditor for the 2015-16 financial year
The clerk confirmed with Kevin Rose of IAC Ltd that the fees remain unchanged and it was resolved by the council to solicit his services again for this year's audit.

1901) To discuss a speaker for the Annual Parish Meeting
Cllr Allen suggested that Emma Adams and Partners, the group contracted to under take the Conservation Area review, be invited to speak at the meeting and it was resolved that the Clerk will contact the group to suggest this.

1902) To agree sites for the forthcoming MVAS use 7-20th March 2016
It was agreed that the equipment would be used for one week at the site near the junction of Chapel Lane/Chapel Road in St. Leonards and the other week at the site previously used near Hawridge and Cholesbury School. The site near the Cricket Pitch on Cholesbury Common will be used during the cricket season.

The meeting closed at 10.03pm. Please note it was resolved by the council to continue the meeting to its close, exceeding the two-hour limit.

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

Date of next meeting: Monday 21st March 2016 at Cholesbury Village Hall.