

CHOLESBURY-CUM-ST LEONARDS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in St. Leonards Parish Hall on Monday 24th October 2016 at 8pm

Present: Cllrs Allen, Brown, Matthews and Joseph.

Also present: Mrs Lewis (Clerk), County Cllr Birchley. District Cllr Rose and one member of the public.

2003) To receive apologies for absence

Cllrs Blomfield, Minting and Sanger.

2004) Matters arising

None.

2005) To receive declarations of interest

Cllr Allen declared an interest in 2010) (c) as Chairman of Trustees for Cholesbury Village Hall and did not take part in the discussion or the decision that was made.

2006) Questions from members of the public

County Cllr Birchley reported that the jet-patching recently completed on The Vale/Cholesbury Lane had prepared the roads for future re-surfacing work, which, if re-elected in 2017, would be a priority for County Cllr Birchley within her remit. County Cllr Birchley is aware Heath End in particular needs attention on the roads. Gulleys have been cleaned down The Vale, but not yet at Dorriens Farm. County Cllr Birchley is working to support Cllr Allen to ensure that all outstanding road issues are dealt with. County Cllr Birchley also reported that work continued with regard to HS2 to limit the impact of development traffic on local roads; that presentations were ongoing to interested parties on BCC's case for formation of a Unitary Authority; that support was ongoing for Bucks Business First, for which it had been shown that for every £1 invested in it, £43 of benefit was received by the local economy.

District Cllr Rose reported that the outcome of an investigation by Deloitte's on behalf of the four district councils had been inconclusive as to the benefits of the formation of a Unitary Authority and the process of consideration within the councils continues. Briefings on CDC's position would follow in due course. CDC was continuing with the Local Plan and was busy with the second round of consultation, including meetings for the public, the most local for our parishioners being at CDC offices, Amersham 5/11/16 9am – 12pm and at Chesham Town Hall 5/11/16 2-5pm. District Cllr Rose was asked to clarify the 'next steps' with regard to enforcement action with regard to The White Lion Public House.

A member of the public asked for feedback concerning a previous planning application decision and it was replied that all documents explaining decisions made by CDC could be found on their website.

2007) Questions to the Chairman

None.

2008) 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 26th September 2016.

2009) Reports

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

(b) *Turpin Charity*: The charity will receive this week a presentation from a company with expertise in investing money for charitable organisations, in order to review the options for investing the capital and they are also considering advice from other parties. In his position as trustee of the charity, Cllr Allen recently wrote an article, which featured in the October/November edition of the Hilltop News, to explain the history of the charity and its future aims, which will hopefully be enabled in approximately one year's time. It was also reported that the charity had recently made a donation from the capital to a fundraising campaign for a boy in Aston Clinton with cancer, requiring treatment unavailable on the NHS.

(c) *Cllr Allen reported that the meeting of Chairman with Isobel Darby, Leader of CDC, covered:*

(i) A presentation by a HS2 community engagement officer, whose responsibility it is to ensure that the HS2 construction team are aware of and take into account the concerns of local residents in all that they do. The officer is available to meet with the council and parishioners as necessary. It was agreed that this was not currently necessary.

(ii) A presentation on the next steps of the Local Plan. There are meetings for Cllrs in the coming week and for also for the public in the weeks after. Primarily the focus will be on the fifteen areas of current Green Belt land that have been suggested for development. There are none in this Parish, with the nearest being in Chesham.

(iii) A presentation on CDC's work with South Bucks DC on shared services. Shared service working has had proven financial benefits, however, this does not necessarily translate into a positive case for a Unitary Authority.

(d) *LAF* Cllr Brown reported that the LAF had also received a presentation from a HS2 community engagement officer. An officer will regularly return to the LAF meetings to provide updates. It was explained that by the third quarter of 2017, it can be expected that heavy plant will start arriving in the area, which may result in traffic diverting through the Parish and may generally effect journeys locally. Cllr Brown had also confirmed that Mark Averill was the person with responsibility for gulleys, as well as roads, and it was agreed that Cllr Allen will write to him with regards to work needed to the gully at Dorriens Farm, whilst following up on the work outstanding on the roads. It had been confirmed that the work on the roads was incomplete due to budgetary constraints.

2010) Finance

- (a) Orders for payment were approved for: The Clerk's salary (for October); WEL Medical (replacement defibrillator pads) £44.88; Chiltern District Council (Dog bin emptying Apr-Sep '16) £284.59.
- (b) The budget report for Q2 was received without comment.
- (c) A grant for £700.00 was agreed to be paid to Cholesbury Village Hall for 2016-17.

2011) Planning

- (a) To deal with any planning applications, including those received after the date of the agenda;
 - (i) CH/2016/1794/FA 7 Little Twye Cottages, Little Twye, Buckland Common, HP23 6PB, Rear roof dormers to facilitate habitable accommodation in roofspace, fenestration alterations. The Parish Council agreed 'No Comment'.
 - (ii) CH/2016/1893/FA Vale Farm House, Hawridge Vale, Hawridge, Chesham, Buckinghamshire, HP5 2UG, Replacement oak framed barn. The Parish Council agreed 'No Comment'.
- (b) To clarify the appropriate action to be taken by the Parish Council with regard to 'prior notifications' & applications for 'certificate of lawfulness'.
 - (i) CH/2016/1685/AGN Vale Farm House, Hawridge Vale, Hawridge, Chesham, Buckinghamshire, HP5 2UG Replacement agricultural building. This application had already been refused by the time of the meeting and a full application made, as referenced above in 2011) a) ii).
 - (ii) CH/2016/1599/EU Glebe Farm, Heath End, Hawridge, Buckinghamshire, HP4 3UE, Application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for an existing use relating to the use of 'The Dairy' Glebe Farm as an independent residential dwelling (Class C3). It was agreed that Cllr Brown would check further after the meeting that no evidence of previous occupancy could be found and if so, a reply would be sent by the Clerk to the Planning Department at CDC stating so. In general, Cllr Rose explained to the members that 'prior notifications' and applications for 'certificate of lawfulness' were evidence based decisions made by the Planning Department at CDC as to whether the submissions met the conditions of the relevant legislation and therefore were not open to comment by the Parish Council, unless the Parish Council had evidence contrary to the claims made by the applicant. A list of suffixes and their meanings would be provided to the Parish Council for clarity. It would also be investigated as to why, when the Parish Council did not send a response on such cases, that the report sometimes read that we had made 'No Comment'.
- (c) The following decisions were received by the council;
 - (i) CH/2016/1570/FA Thorncroft, Bottom Road, Buckland Common, Buckinghamshire, HP23 6NU, Single storey rear extension, replacement roof to existing garage. Conditional Permission.
 - (ii) CH/2016/1609/KA & CH/2016/1605/TP The Old Manor House, Cholesbury Lane, Cholesbury, HP23 6ND, Crown reduction of an apple tree within a Conservation Area & Reduction of length of lowest lateral branches of two ash trees - both protected by a Tree Preservation Order. No TPO shall be made.
- (d) To receive notice of appeals.
CH/2014/1748/FA & 2014/00031/AB The White Lion Public House, Jenkins Lane, St. Leonards. Appeals dismissed and enforcement notice upheld.

2012) The Green at Buckland Common

Cllr Matthews had been unable to cut the Common due to holidays and so Cllr Blomfield had undertaken the final cut of the year and will invoice the council accordingly.

2013) Springall Hill allotments

The Clerk reported that there was a plot available as one tenant had not wished to renew this year and this would be advertised in the next edition of The Hilltop News. All rents had been collected, except from two tenants, who will be sent reminder letters. A letter had also been received from one of the tenants requesting assistance with overgrowing trees from a house on Brown's Rise casting shade on her plot. It was agreed that the clerk would send Cllr Matthews details and he would investigate and if necessary trim back the trees that overhang the allotments. The Clerk would also write to the relevant homeowner regarding the issue.

2014) Highways

It was reported by the clerk that the grass area opposite Laburnham Cottage in St. Leonards had been cut by BCC. Many of the works required to the roads in the Parish had been completed using the Jet Patcher, however there was still work required to several areas (including Brazier's End, Parrotts Lane, Rays Hill and improvement to work already completed on Jenkins Lane opposite Gilberts Hill) and Cllr Allen had reported this to the relevant persons at BCC, but at the time of the meeting he had not received a reply. As detailed in 2009) (d), Cllr Allen would also follow-up on work required to local gulleys. It was noted that Scott White had now been appointed as the new LAT for the area. Also, Rosie Taylor had updated Cllr Brown that two-thirds of the granite sets required to kerb the triangle at the bottom of Church Lane, Hawridge, had been sourced and they continued to try and source the rest. Cllr Matthews noted that the faded white lining at the junction of Rays Hill and Cholesbury Lane was causing confusion for motorists and needed re-painting. It was agreed that the clerk would raise this with the LAT.

2015) Devolved responsibilities

- a) In addition to the original quote received for siding out of the footpath from St. Leonards Church to the Parish Hall in St. Leonards, for £900.00, Cllr Matthews provided a quote for the same for £450.00 and this was accepted by the Parish Council.

2016) To compile questions to BCC for their presentation to the Parish Council for the case for a Unitary Authority, to be held on 21/11/16

It was agreed that all Cllrs would submit their questions to the Clerk for forwarding to BCC prior to the meeting.

2017) To agree feedback on proposals for a Community Infrastructure Levy as part of the Local Plan

It was agreed that the council was in favour of the proposals and the clerk should complete the survey in this regard.

2018) To agree feedback on proposals to introduce referenda requirements to Parish Councils with regard to certain levels of precept increase

It was agreed that the council was not in favour of the proposals and the clerk would reply in this regard.

2019) To consider a response to the suggestion of the re-formation of a District BMKALC Association for Chiltern Town and Parish Councils

It was agreed that the council did not support re-formation of such an association and Cllr Allen would reply in this regard.

2020) To discuss the need for a refresher Defibrillator Awareness Session

It was agreed that the council would support another Awareness Session and the Clerk would arrange this with SCAS for the second half of January on a Saturday morning at 10am, to be held in Cholesbury Village Hall. The community would then be invited to attend.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

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

Date of next meeting: Monday 28th November 2016 at Cholesbury Village Hall.