

## CHOLESBURY-CUM-ST LEONARDS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in St. Leonards Parish Hall on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017 at 8pm

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

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

2037) To receive apologies for absence

Cllrs Blomfield and Matthews.

2038) Matters arising

None.

2039) To receive declarations of interest

None.

2040) Questions from members of the public

District Cllr Rose reported that the next stage of public consultation of the Local Plan would take place in the Autumn of this year. The Conservation Area review is also ongoing with a report expected in March of this year. Cllr Allen requested that the Parish Council be allowed to review the report for this Parish prior to sign-off and this was agreed. Cllr Brown requested that thought be given to alignment of the review with the Local Plan to prevent anomalies and, whilst it was too early in the stage of the Local Plan for this to be immediately relevant, it was agreed that this would be taken into account before finalisation of either document. It was also reported that the proposal to government from the four District Councils (Chiltern, South Bucks, Wycombe and Aylesbury Vale) for a suggested formation of Unitary Authorities in the County, had been submitted and a meeting held with Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. A decision by government on how to proceed between the opposing proposals of the Districts and the County Council is expected by March of this year. Cllr Brown noted that in the District's proposal, that the benefits for Aylesbury Vale seemed to significantly outweigh those for the other three councils. Cllr Allen asked whether there was consideration of a referendum on the decision. It was thought that this was very unlikely. District Cllr Rose also brought to the council's attention that there was to be a survey on affordable housing need undertaken in Bellingdon by a landowner with development plans.

County Cllr Birchley reported that she had been asked by a neighbouring Parish whether the Oxford Clinical Commissioning Groups 'Big Consultation' would affect Buckinghamshire residents. It would seem that only users of Horton Hospital in Banbury may be affected. It was also reported that HS2 plans for passage through the Chilterns (nr. Great Missenden) may alter in response to geological findings by contractors bidding for the work. Also, the new funding formula for schools, recently announced by government, will mean an extra 10 million pounds for Buckinghamshire schools, that are historically underfunded due to relatively low levels of deprivation compared with the rest of the country. Adult social care still remains the primary cost for the county and is bound to continue to require increases in Council Tax. Cllr Allen reported to County Cllr Birchley the promise made by Mark Averill (Head of Highways) that all works highlighted in Cllr Allen's email of April 2016 would be completed by 27/1/17. Cllr Allen stated that he was not confident that this would happen. County Cllr Birchley reiterated her support for Cllr Allen's efforts to improve the roads in the Parish, but explained that rural roads were a lower priority to BCC due to them having a lower usage than urban roads.

2041) Questions to the Chairman

None.

2042) 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 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

2043) Reports

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

(b) *BCC Unitary Authority Feedback Session*: Cllr Brown reported that the meeting in early December consisted of discussions of Parish and Town Council views on the BCC Unitary Authority proposal with regard to:

(i) Hubs – where locally based information could be disseminated/sourced and issues dealt with

(ii) Revised 'LAF' type groups – where local councils meet with BCC representatives

(iii) Future devolution opportunities – what other services could be taken on by local councils from BCC

Cllr Brown reported that he challenged Cllr Tett (Leader of Buckinghamshire County Council) on the low level of consultation of Town and Parish Councils to date in the process and also regarding the limited effectiveness of 'Hubs' so far in other Unitary Authorities across the country.

(c) *St. Leonards Parish Hall*: Cllr Joseph reported that the 'Taste of Christmas' event had been a great success and that further 'pub nights' and 'film nights' were planned. Following security advice from the police, there would be increased security measures introduced imminently. Also, following a recent RoSPA inspection, there were plans to replace some of the playground equipment in the coming year. There would liaison with 'Little Bears' playgroup. Sources of funding are being researched.

2044) Finance

(a) Orders for payment were approved for: The Clerk's salary (for January)(and payment of December salary was noted); Castle Water £5.71 (Allotment Water Supply); P. Matthews Agricultural Contractors £540.00 (siding out of

footpath in St. Leonards £450.00 plus VAT); Chris Brown £13.90 (mileage to BCC Unitary Authority Feedback Session, plus parking charge).

(b) It was agreed to donate the sum of £100.00 to the South Central Ambulance Charity in thanks for the recent defibrillator awareness session given by SCAS. Cllr Allen proposed that the Parish Council should support another session offered by SCAS on Emergency First Aid and it was agreed that the Clerk would contact them to arrange this.

(c) To review the finance report for Q3. The report was received without comment.

(d) To finalise the budget for 2017/18 and related precept level. The budget for 2017/18 was agreed without alteration and it was agreed that a total precept of £9,800.00 would be requested via CDC for the financial year ahead.

2045) Planning

(a) To deal with any planning applications, including those received after the date of the agenda;

(i) CH/2016/2292/FA 2 Springhall Hill Cottages, Springhall Hill, Buckland Common, Buckinghamshire, HP23 6NL.

Part two storey, part single storey, part first floor front/side/rear extensions, replacement garage. The council agreed to object to this application on the basis that the plans for the extended frontage to the building will be significantly out of keeping with its semi-detached neighbour and will be an intrusive addition, as observed when passing through the village.

(ii) CH/2016/2261/FA Field View, Hawridge Common, Hawridge, Buckinghamshire, HP5 2UQ. Two storey rear extension, front roof dormer. The Parish Council agreed to send a comment of 'No Comment'.

(iii) CH/2016/2267/HB Dundry Manor, Oak Lane, St Leonards, Buckinghamshire, HP23 6NN. Demolition of rear single storey extension and erection of single storey oak frame extension. The Parish Council agreed to send a comment of 'No Comment'.

(b) To note that the Parish Council agreed not to meet to discuss the following application and that a reply of 'No Comment' was sent to the Planning Department at the District Council.

(i) CH/2016/2158/FA Ivy Cottage, Cholesbury Lane, Cholesbury, HP23 6ND. Replacement garage.

(c) The following decisions were received by the council;

(i) CH/2016/1893/FA Vale Farm House, Hawridge Vale, Hawridge, Chesham, Buckinghamshire, HP5 2UG, Replacement Oak Framed Barn. Conditional Permission.

(ii) CH/2016/1598/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). Granted.

(iii) 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 Flat' Glebe Farm as an independent residential dwelling (Class C3). Granted.

(iv) CH/2016/1942/FA Unit 8 Woodlands Farm, The Vale, Hawridge, Buckinghamshire, Replacement Storage and Distribution Building. Conditional Permission.

(v) CH/2016/2067/TP The Bury & Adjacent Land, At Cholesbury Camp, Cholesbury Road, Cholesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP23 6ND, Felling of five beech trees, crown reduction of a beech tree, pruning of side branches of two beech trees, and pollarding of a hornbeam - all protected by a Tree Preservation Order. Conditional Permission.

(vi) CH/2016/2030/FA Windyridge, Jenkins Lane, St Leonards, Buckinghamshire, HP23 6NW, Erection of a replacement garage. Conditional Permission.

(vi) CH/2016/2094/FA The Kiln, 3 Shire Lane, Cholesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP23 6NA, Detached double garage with roof storage area, extension of existing gravel driveway; Conditional Permission.

(vii) CH/2016/2158/FA Ivy Cottage, Cholesbury Lane, Cholesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP23 6ND, Replacement Garage. Conditional Permission

(d) To receive notice of appeals.

None.

2046) The Green at Buckland Common

It was noted that several parishioners had sent written notes to the Clerk in advance of the meeting regarding their interest in and use of the common and their related opinions on how the mowing regimen for the coming year should be approached. As the mowing regimen will not be discussed until the March meeting, the correspondence will be held over until then.

2047) Springall Hill allotments

It was agreed that the Clerk would check with Cllr Matthews regarding the inspection of trees reported to be overhanging from Brown's Rise.

2048) Highways

County Cllr Mark Shaw (Member for Transportation) and Mark Averill (Head of Highways) had responded to Cllr Allen and it has been promised that all outstanding works noted in Cllr Allen's original email from April 2016 will be completed by 27/1/17. The Clerk also inspected all roads in the Parish with the new Local Area Technician (LAT). It was also agreed that the Clerk would write to the Forestry Commission to request hedge cutting along the Chapel Lane between the Church and Taylors Lane. The Clerk was also requested to question with TFB why grass cutting was observed in the Parish in December.

2049) Devolved responsibilities

It was noted that the work on the footway in St. Leonards had been completed by P. Matthews Agricultural Contractors. Cllr Brown noted that from the BCC Unitary Authority Feedback Meeting he attended, in the session on future devolution possibilities, that there were very few areas in which a rural parish like this could be involved.

2050) To consider dates for Parish Council meetings April 2017- March 2018.

The dates suggested by the Clerk were agreed and the meeting halls will now be booked.

2051) To review MVAS data collected at the Hawridge site in November.

The data showed that there were no significant speeding issues during the period of MVAS use, with only occasional individual cases of speeding, usually late at night. The data clearly showed that traffic is significantly slowed during school pick up and drop off times. Cllr Brown will share the data with the police at the next Rural Policing Group Meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.37pm

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

Date of next meeting: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at Cholesbury Village Hall.