

CHOLESBURY-CUM-ST LEONARDS PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council Meeting took place at St Leonards Village Hall on Tuesday, 10th October 2023 at 6.30pm

Present: Cllrs Ingram, Maury, Matthews, Kersting, Neighbour, Baddon and Wellenreiter

In attendance: Cllr Jane Macbean and Mrs H Farrelly (Clerk)

- 5603) To receive apologies for absence
Apologies were sent from County Councillor Birchley
- 5604) To approve the minutes of the Parish Council held on 5th September 2023 and deal with any Matters Arising
Approved and signed by the Chairman
- 5605) To receive declarations of interest
None
- 5606) Reports from Buckinghamshire Councillors
Councillors raised the continued incidents of dog attacks in Baldwin's Woods, having received a number of very concerning emails from local residents. The law on control of dogs is inadequate.
- Cllr Macbean explained that it was her understanding is that the police have visited the person of concern and are aware of what has been happening both in this parish and in The Lee.
- Cllr Macbean has checked with Environmental Officer who has confirmed that there is no strict legislation on the number of dogs you can have, but they have to be under control.
- 5607) To suspend standing orders and invite questions from members of the public
Five members of the public attended the meeting.

The intention from the parish council was that they wanted to revamp the allotments and to put in a perimeter road for tractor access for hedge cutting and maintenance, enhance the water supply and also overcome some of the inconvenience of unkept allotments in an economical manner. Bill Ingram, Graham Kersting and Philip Matthews met today at the allotments. After much discussion and considerable objections from current allotment holders, it has been decided not to go ahead with the proposed works. After further discussion, the parish council agreed to introduce an inspection schedule and to reconsider how hedges and pathways can be maintained to a higher standard.

The council stated that it had no objections to plot holders undertaking maintenance of neighbouring untidy plots should they so wish.

The clerk will issue the yearly tenancy agreements at the same rate as the previous year (£25).

- 5608) Reports
- (a) Chairman's Report and Questions including
- (i) Updates on fibre installation and power outages
The fibre installation is now complete.
- (ii) Power Outages
We have been collecting outage dates, time and duration from residents which we have merged with equivalent data points from The Lee Parish Council. This will be presented to UK Power Networks in an attempt to point the power network provider toward a remedy that their own systems have failed to identify.
- (b) Clerk's Report
Nothing to report
- 5609) Finance
- (a) To note the following regular orders of payments
- (i) Clerk's net salary for October 2023 - noted
- (ii) HMRC – £123.80 - noted
- (b) To approve the following orders for payment and any other arriving after this notice
- (i) Clerk's Expenses - £8.00 – approved
- (ii) Clerk's Expenses - £12.00 - approved
- (iii) Dog Bin Emptying x 1 - £148.80 – approved
- (c) To note the Q1 and Q2 report
Noted

- (e) Budget 2024-25 - to consider possible financial demands for the next financial year that will affect the precept required

There was no precept increase for the current financial year. This has meant that our income versus expenditure has been tight, due to increased cost. Councillors will need to consider expenditure costs for the next financial year ahead of setting the budget and the consequent precept at the November meeting.

5610) Planning (see planning schedule)

- (a) To note any responses to planning applications since the last meeting
- (i) PL/23/2856/FA - The Chiltern Velo Café Hawridge Common Hawridge Bucks HP5 2U - noted
 - (ii) PL/23/2818/FA - Chiltern Rise Jenkins Lane St Leonards Buckinghamshire HP23 6NW - noted
 - (iii) PL/23/2900/FA - 8 Chiltern Cott Cholesbury Ln Buckland Common Bucks HP23 6NQ - noted
 - (iv) PL/23/2817/FA - Hill Dale Rays Hill Braziers End Buckinghamshire HP5 2UJ - noted
- (b) To deal with any planning applications, including those received after the date of this notice:
- (i) PL/23/3054/FA - Old Brittanica Bottom Road Buckland Common Bucks HP23 6NU – no comment
- (c) To receive decisions from Buckinghamshire Council
See schedule
- (d) To receive notice of appeals – see schedule
- (i) APP/X0415/D/22/3310320 Longmead, Cholesbury Lane, Hawridge Common, Hawridge, Chesham, Buckinghamshire, HP5 2UH – Appeal Allowed
 - (ii) APP/X0415/D/23/3316731 Bracken View Hawridge Common Hawridge Buckinghamshire HP5 2UQ – Appeal Dismissed
 - (iii) OS Field 4800 enforcement appeal - ongoing
- (e) To receive an update on enforcement matters
See schedule

5611) To consider matters relating to Highways and Rights of Way

- (a) Update of tour of the parish with Cllr Birchley and the Local Area Technician for Highways
Cllr Ingram met with the LAT and Cllr Birchley in the parish to discuss matters identified in the area that require attention. This included the stolen cast iron finger sign that was replaced in previous years, which was funded by a community board grant.

The other point brought up was flooding at junction of St Leonards Church and now requires obtaining photographs of the source of the flooding when it rains heavily.

Signage issues with Parrots Lane for traffic calming signs – Cllr Maury is looking at this and if this is progressed, will need Highways permission if signage is to be on a highway. Can be put on The Green. No control over design if on private land.

Verges have been cut in the area.

Horseblock Lane, verge on left hand lane is very sharp and lane is too narrow to pass without dropping off the verge. LAT agreed that this needs to be fixed and has been reported on Fix my Street.

5612) To consider matters relating to the Green at Buckland Common, Springall Hill Allotments and other maintenance matters

- (a) To review the cutting schedule of Buckland Common
The parish council had received a number of letters in support of the current cutting schedule, noting the increase usage for residents and families. Councillors were pleased to hear that the The Green had returned to a useful public space for leisure activities and agreed, on a unanimous vote, to continue the Cutting programme for a further year.
- Councillors discussed the area under the apple trees and seats and noted that these were extremely overgrown. Cllr Neighbour agreed to look into costs for clearance with Cllr Matthews and this will be factored into the budget for the next financial year.
- (b) To agree maintenance programme and schedule for improvements at Springall Allotments
- (i) Report on any progress toward getting agreement to file grant applications
In the light of the Council's decision not to proceed with the renovation of the allotments (as stated in item 5597 of the minutes) there is no need to apply for grants for the work involved - hence
No progress as yet.
- (c) Noticeboard
A grant application for a new notice board in Buckland Common will be submitted.

5613) To note date of the next meetings:

- (i) Tuesday, 21st November 2023 at 6.30pm