

WEST & MIDDLE CHINNOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 5th July 2017

Cllr Shaun McMillan - Chair
Cllr Bill Mannering
Cllr Gill Langford
Cllr Phillipa Coleman

Cllr Raymond Bailey
Cllr Tony Cawley
Cllr Mark Bennett
Clerk, Kim Duller
6 Members of the Public

Public Forum:

- a. Neil Vout confirmed that the query regarding the lock/locked gate at the Allotment had been addressed and the issue resolved.

17/343 Apologies for Absence: None.

17/344 Declarations of Interest: Cllr Cawley, Allotments.

17/345 Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 7th June: Agreed with one correction. It was noted that the "Fly Tipped Bath" had been reported on Chiselborough Hill and not Hollowell Hill as stated in the Minutes, item 17/340, c.

17/346 Matters Arising (Other than those on the Agenda): None.

17/347 County Councillors Report: Cllr Keating commented that the village verges were probably the "best" in his patch and commented how good the villages were looking. He confirmed that the SCC cut of the verges was likely to take place in the next 3-4 weeks. Cllr Keating also requested that his County Council email be used for correspondence rather than his personal one MAKeating@somerset.gov.uk. Cllr Keating also commented as follows: **a)** Surface dressing on the A30 Crewkerne-Yeovil stretch is taking well, the A37 is due to be completed soon **b)** 2nd exit from Tesco now completed **c)** New classroom at Frogmary Farm completed. Further details of latest County issues are outlined in Cllr Keating's Newsletter, to be made available online with the Minutes. **Action: i) Councillor Keating agreed to follow up broken signs on the A356 with Ian Warren, Highways Engineer (SCC). ii) Cllr Coleman queried whether there was a new primary school planned to be built at Lufton. Cllr Keating agreed to make enquiries.**

17/348 District Councillors Report: SSDC Cllr Pallister sent apologies, however confirmed that he would ask Sally Nash to follow up on the Tree Inspection in the Recreation Ground, if the PC had not had any further news. The Clerk confirmed there had been no response. **Action: Clerk to inform Cllr Pallister.**

17/349 Planning Applications: None.

17/350 Determinations: 17/01790/LBC, Brook Barn, change of use of land from agricultural use to site a domestic LPG tank with associated landscaping. Concern was raised that it wasn't made clear in the Determination that the change of use of land was specifically for the area associated with the LPG tank and if the tank was removed that the status of the land would once again be agricultural use only. Also a query was raised regarding the flood bund not being breached, which doesn't appear in the Determination details. **Action: Clerk to query both concerns with the SSDC planning officer responsible for the determination.**

17/351 Finance:

- a. **To agree 1st Quarter Accounts:** June statements not received. **Action: Clerk to complete accounts during July and circulate to Councillors.**
- b. **To pay Clerks 1st Quarter Salary £588.00 net and £147.00 tax to HRMC:** Agreed unanimously.
- c. **To pay Clerks 1st Quarter Expenses £142.03:** Agreed Unanimously after Cllr Mannering confirmed he had inspected the expenses.
- d. **To pay £325.20 to Somerset Landscapes for grass cutting Recreation Ground, 4,18 May & 1 June and bus shelter, allotments, children's shelter and well, 8 and 22 May.**
- e. **Notice to Display Accounts – 26th June for 30 days:** Actioned by the Clerk.
- f. **Accounts submitted to Grant Thornton 29th June 2017:** Actioned by the Clerk.
- g. **To Pay any Routine or Previously Agreed Invoices:**
- i) **Somerset Landscapes £254.40 for cuts at the Recreation Ground 15 & 29 June and bus shelter, allotments and Well on 8 and 21 June.** Cllr Mannering confirmed he had checked the cuts against the invoice and all were correct as stated.
- ii) **Play Safety invoice for Annual Inspection of the Recreation Ground, £79.80:** Agreed unanimously after discussion of the report.

17/352 Allotments:

- a. **Communication:** Cllr McMillan confirmed he had spoken to Jenny Coman regarding how to improve communication between the Allotment Committee and the Parish Council. Both agreed it would be much better if at least one member of the Allotment committee could be at each PC meeting in order to be able to feedback immediately any discussions and to keep lines of communication open. Also Parish Council meeting Minutes would be sent to Jenny in order for her to be kept updated and for her then to update other Committee members and Allotment holders.

17/353 Matters arising from the June Meeting:

- a. **Damaged Drains – Further Updates: None.** Keep on agenda until there are photo's available. Layne Terrace and also Opposite the School, Drain Overflow Opposite the Allotments. **Action: Members/local residents to take photographs of drains when they are under pressure/overflowing when it is raining to present as evidence to take back to Highways.**
- b. **Tree survey in Recreation Ground:** No Response from SSDC. **Action: Clerk request intervention from Ric Pallister.**
- c. **Damaged Signs A356: Action requested under County Councillors section 17/347 on Minutes.**
- d. **Insurance Cover: Cllr Langford to continue to investigate.**
- e. **Painting of Post Boxes: Cllr Mannering confirmed these were due to be painted later in the year.**
- f. **Phone Box Cleaning:** Actioned by Cllr McMillan and his son. **A vote of thanks was given by the PC.**
- g. **Meacham's Corner Signs:** Repairs Completed. **A vote of thanks was given to Cllr Bailey.**
- h. **Sandy Lane Dog Fouling:** Signs have been removed again and the fouling is continuing. A number of suggestions were made on how to resolve the issue. **Action: The Clerk to escalate to SCC Dog Wardens and report in the Parish Magazine.**

17/354 Reports & Correspondence:

- a. **Roads & Maintenance Update:** Cllr Bennett confirmed that no further pot holes had been filled, however will continue to chase. Concerns were raised about the drains on Hollowell Hill which are still overflowing and blocked. It was agreed to take photos of the Hollowell Hill drains when they next flood in order that these can be sent to the County team. **Action: Cllr Bennett, ongoing.**
- b. **Community Plan:** The Clerk confirmed her discussion with Neil Cochran and read out his feedback regarding the data contained in the Community Plan. The Parish Council were happy with the feedback. **Next Steps: The Community Plan team agreed to reconvene and consider how to take the plan forward.** The Clerk confirmed no volunteers had come forward.
- c. **Stage 3 Post Construction Audit:** The Parish Council were disappointed at the lack of detail contained in the audit and possibly out of date information. In particular the PC was concerned that no mention was made on the condition of the signage which it is believed was still broken at the time of the audit. However the Parish Council acknowledged that a lot of the recent changes made to the Road, including the significantly improved re-surfacing and drainage had made an improvement to the Road safety. **Action: Signage to be chased by Cllr Keating. (Already Minuted).**
- d. **The Haunts Parking Concerns:** Following correspondence with Carey Howard at Yarlington Housing Group, it was confirmed that the land to the front of Haunts cottages, 2-5, is owned by Yarlington and that these parking bays are not allocated to any individual, but are available on a first come, first serve basis. There is no restriction regarding private owners, private tenants or Yarlington residents. All residents may park in these bays. If any person then parks on a public highway and is causing an obstruction, or parking dangerously so as to obstruct visibility, the matter will be reported to the police.
- e. **Hedge Cutting Concerns:** Correspondence, including photo's had been received from a local resident regarding concerns regarding recent verge cutting. The Parish Council discussed this item in detail and concluded the following: The Parish Council has a difficult balance to consider, that of protection of the environment and legislation regarding the cutting of verges and hedges and also the safety of Road users including pedestrians, horse riders, cyclists, large vehicles and cars. The Parish Council reported it had worked incredibly hard in the past year to find a balance between safety and the environment and has worked in partnership with local farmers, who cut the verges free of charge. The Parish Council appreciates that the farmers do endeavour to sympathetically and sensitively cut the hedges and verges to protect the environment, in particular nesting birds. Verges were cut this year on the request of the Parish Council after a number of safety concerns were raised due to the overhang of the verges, however the tops of the hedges were not cut. It was reported that the Parish Council had been commended by local residents and also at County level for the sensitivity of its cutting of the verges, especially in a time of reduction in funding for any form of verge cutting and the good working partnership with local farmers. The Parish Council did acknowledge that in some cases it appeared that the hedge had been cut back to expose rough cut

branches, however after investigation were confident that this only occurred on occasions when access for the cutting equipment was difficult. The Parish Council confirmed that it values the feedback of all residents and will always investigate any concerns raised. **Action: Cllr McMillan to write a letter in response to concerns raised.**

- f. **Blocked Footpaths:** Two blocked footpaths were reported due to summer crops. Both Farmers were notified and took immediate action to rectify the situation.
- g. **Community Led Housing Events:** Rescheduled. For information in future if considering a Community Led Housing scheme.

17/355 Reports and Correspondence since the Time of the Agenda:

- a. **Rotary Club of Yeovil:** Last Night of the Proms, 8th September 2017. **Action: Clerk to put poster in Village notice board and website.**
- b. **ROSPA Report:** The report was circulated at the meeting and discussed. It was noted there were no major weaknesses, however some monitor areas of maintenance were required including nuts and bolts being oiled and sprayed. **Action: Cllr McMillan and Cllr Cawley to meet to discuss the report and any action required.**
- c. **Hedge Overhang on Pavement, Lower Street:** **Action: Cllr Langford agreed to talk to the owners and ask for the hedge to be cut back.**
- d. **Free Health Checks for Residents:** **Action: Clerk to follow up.**
- e. **Computer Communication Concerns for Councillors:** **Clerk to arrange an IT specialist to carry out investigations with Cllrs/Clerk computers.**
- f. **Parking Concerns, Lower Street:** A number of concerns have been raised regarding on-going safety issues with parking on Lower Street, with a number of incidents where the Road has been completely blocked. **Action: Cllr Bennett to talk to residents in the first instance and report back to the next meeting.**
- g. **New Build Property, Eastfield Lane:** **Clerk to confirm if it has been sold and report back to the Parish Council.**

The meeting ended at 8.55p.m

Next Meeting

Please note there is no meeting in August

Wednesday 6th September 2017 – Village Hall

7.30p.m

Everyone Welcome!

