

WEST & MIDDLE CHINNOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 1st March 2017

Cllr Shaun McMillan - Chair
Cllr Bill Mannering
Cllr Gill Langford

Cllr Tony Cawley
Cllr Phillippa Coleman
Kim Duller, Clerk
5 Members of the Public

Public Forum: Neil Cochran thanked the Parish Council for the comprehensive grant application form which had been made available to all grant applicants in December 2017.

17/287 Apologies for Absence: Cllr Raymond Bailey.

17/288 Declarations of Interest: Cllr Mannering, Community Playground grant application; The Clerk, Defibrillator grant application; Tony Cawley, Allotments.

17/289 Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 1st February 2017: Agreed & signed by the Chair.

17/290 Matters Arising (Other than those on the Agenda): None.

17/291 County Councillors Report: Standing Apology from County Cllr Marcus Fysh.

17/292 District Councillors Report: Verbal report - Ric Pallister. **Written report to be circulated with the Minutes.**

Main items included: Open event for the new Westlands Leisure Complex; SSDC budget has been agreed for Council Tax with a straight line £5.00 increase across the area; From 1st April planning fees will be increased by 20% for larger organisations; Move to 3 weekly black bin collection in 2018, only when and if there is an increase in the variety and amount of recycling rubbish that can be collected.

17/293 Planning Applications: 17/00289/FUL: 24 Highfield, West Chinnock. The Parish Council discussed this application and requested that planning permission only to be awarded on the condition that the stone which is specified should be in style and keeping with the surrounding houses and area. **Action: Clerk to advise SDCC immediately.**

17/294 Determinations: 17/00139/FUL: 8, Ridgway West Chinnock.

17/295 Finance:

- a) Quarter 3 Accounts: Reviewed by Cllr Mannering prior to the meeting who proposed they be accepted. **All in favour.**
- b) To Pay Clerks salary £588 and PAYE £147.00 for 4th Quarter and PAYE 3rd Quarter £147.00. **All in favour.**
- c) To Pay Clerks expenses for 3rd Quarter and 4th Quarter, £181.20. **All in favour.**
- d) **Internal Auditor:** John Wheatley has kindly agreed to be the internal auditor for the 2016/17 Parish Accounts.
- e) To pay any routine or previously agreed invoices;
 - The water rates bill for the Allotments £166.00 (no VAT) had been received on the 23.02.17 **All in favour.**

17/296 Allotments: i) **Receipt of Rents:** One plot still outstanding. Clerk to follow up one more time, if no luck the Allotment Committee to chase. ii) **Vacant Allotment:** Possible interest, Clerk to follow up. iii) **Outstanding Queries as discussed in the February Public Forum;** Clerk to follow up and report back to April meeting.

17/297 Matters arising from the February Meeting:

- a) **Coker Councils 'Forum Event 2nd March 2017:** The Chair may be able to attend.
- b) **Response to David Fothergill, A356 and Roads Maintenance:** Report submitted by Cllr Bennett, Cllr Langford and the Clerk.
- c) **Pot Holes and Roads Maintenance Report:** Positive action taking place with marked increase in repairs and general maintenance activity. **Action: Clerk to request the residents keep reporting issues via the SCC Website. (Parish Magazine and website).** It was noted that the condition of West & Middle Chinnock Roads appeared to be better than other local villages.
- d) **Community Plan update:** Conclusions have been published on Community Website. Awaiting further input from SSDC communities' team on next steps.
- e) **Avian Influenza:** Ban on keeping poultry outside, now lifted.
- f) **Rural Policing base – update: Action: Clerk to follow up on queries and additional detail.**

17/298 Reports & Correspondence:

- a) **A356 road closure – update:** The Clerk confirmed she had fed back a number of concerns raised by residents and Members to the County Roads team regarding the proposed diversions, including recommendations to prevent HGV's coming off the A303 to look for short cuts.

- b) **Report of barbed wire and broken stile on the Recreation Ground: Both had been repaired by Cllr Cawley**
- c) **Report of broken stile; field between Manor Farm: Action; Cllr McMillan to identify and report on the SCC public right of way website.**
- d) **Mud on road near Poop Hill development:** Members had investigated and confirmed that whilst there was likely to be a small amount of mud on the Road from the water works at the site, the mud on the Road was being caused by farm traffic. **Action: Watching brief.**
- e) **Report of blocked drain opposite Twindown Mead:** Drain now cleared.
- f) **Query on size of Flood Markers:** The Chairman reported that this had been queried in the past and that due to legal reasons, all flood markers now had to be this size. It was also noted that Members felt that the flood markers had reduced the amount of cars which had previously been caught up in flood water.
- g) **Report of ditch being blocked, Middle Chinnock: Action: Chair to discuss with Cllr Bailey.**
- h) **Change of date of April PC Meeting from April 5th to 29th March 2017: Action all to note.**
- i) **Reports of dog fouling in Sandy Lane:** Signs to be put up. Members to monitor the situation, including “full” plastic disposal bags left in bushes/verges. **Action: Cllrs Langford and Bennett to erect signs, all Members to monitor the area. Clerk to ask residents to keep a watch and report any incidences where fouling occurs and it is not removed.**
- j) **Path signs by Little Silver knocked over:** Already reported.
- k) **Middle Chinnock Church footpath sign missing: Action: Cllr McMillan to report.**
- l) **Parish Maps:** Cllr McMillan formally thanked Cllr Bennett for printing the maps for the Parish walks leaflet.
- m) **Employers insurance liability:** Clerk to forward details of current insurance policy to Cllr Langford.
- n) **Playground assessment:** Clerk to compare SSDC costs with ROSPA.
- o) **Trees in recreation ground: Action Cllr Bailey and Cllr McMillan to re-visit the growth of Trees and any potential risks, including the fallen branch by the Chinnock Brook, including consideration of a Tree surgeon.**
- p) **Cars blocking Smiths Hill:** Due to parking space shortages on Smiths Hill there has been an increase in cars parked in the Road which block large vehicles, including emergency vehicles. **Action: Members to ask residents to park more considerately via a polite notice.**

17/299 Village Grant Applications:

The Parish Council Members had all reviewed individual applications. It was noted that the level of grants requested by local organisations this year had again increased and unfortunately exceeded the money available from the Parish Council budget. The total amount requested from local organisations was £2984.00; however the Parish Council only had a total of £1745.00 to allocate towards grants due to budget cuts and a reduction in central support services at County level. Nine organisations applied for a grant and despite the funding application form being considerably more detailed this year, Parish Council members still felt it was incredibly difficult to make decisions based on a significant “business or community” case in order to award one organisation a larger amount of money than any other. A decision was therefore taken, which the Parish Council believed to be a fair solution, to award all grant applicants an equal percentage of money equating to 67% of what they were awarded in 2016. (Apart from those who applied for a lesser figure in 2017 and a one off application for the Defibrillator). Members agreed that the process of annual grant giving to village organisations should be reviewed and that discussions will be taking place with the team who are driving ahead the Community Plan to consider a number of options including a “Community Fund” which the Parish Council will then contribute towards on an annual basis. **Action: Clerk to write to all grant recipients and enclose a cheque. A full list of grant allocations to be distributed with the March 2017 Minutes.**

The meeting ended at 8.45pm

Next Meeting

Wednesday 29th March 2017, 7.30p.m in the Village Hall

Everyone Welcome

