

WEST & MIDDLE CHINNOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 7th November 2018

Cllr Shaun McMillan (Chair)
Cllr Mark Bennett (Vice Chair)
Cllr Phillipa Coleman

Cllr Tony Cawley
Cllr Raymond Bailey
Clerk, Kim Duller
5 Members of the Public

Public Forum: Circulation of information relating to the local Astrological Society. Details available from the Clerk

118/504 **Apologies for absence:** None

118/505 **Declarations of interest:** Cllr Tony Cawley, Allotments.

118/506 **Minutes of the meeting held 3rd October 2018:** These having been circulated were taken as read. No amendments. Signed as a true record.

118/507 **Matters arising (Other than agenda items):** None.

118/508 **County Councillor's report:** Apologies received. **Outstanding action: Cllr Keating to advise the PC regarding grit and hedges if any further news is received.**

118/509 **District Councillor's report:** Cllr Pallister advised that he had spoken to the planners with regards to the Somersby query on planning timescales and advised that due to the current stress on the planning team, the team had felt that there was no point in re-submitting the amendments to the PC as they were minor. Cllr Pallister also reconfirmed that if there were concerns over the decision at Smiths Hill due to planning pressures within the department at the time of the decision, it should be taken to the Ombudsman and not SSDC. Cllr Pallister confirmed he was still pursuing the land use query at the Haunts and was in conversation with Yarlinton homes and County Road Officers. Cllr Pallister reported that the Yeovil Innovation Centre additional start up accommodation for small businesses was now available, with a third of the units already let. He also reported changes to the Recycling Centres which will be published in the near future.

118/510 **a) Applications:**

i) 18/02794/HOU: The Parish Council discussed this application at length and whilst taking into account the need for additional accommodation; decided to object to the application on a number of planning grounds. **Action: Clerk to submit decision to SSDC.**

b) Applications Since Time of the Agenda: None

c) Determinations: None

118/511 **Finance:**

a) To Approve Qtr2 and half year accounts 2018/19: The internal auditor had reviewed the accounts and was happy to approve. The recommendation to accept the accounts was made by the Cllr Mannering and seconded by Cllr Cawley. **Approved unanimously.**

b) Budget update against forecast year end and half year review: Proposed by the Chair, seconded by Cllr Mannering. **Approved unanimously.**
the Chair. **Approved unanimously.**

c) Discussion on Precept: Members believed that the precept should stay the same based on the previous year's expenses; however this should be reviewed in 2019/20 based on whether residents would like to see an increase in order to support more grant giving to local groups and organisations and if expenditure was likely to increase following cuts from SSC and SSDC. It was suggested that a review take place on the level of precept for similar sized parishes and also the level of grant giving. **Action: Clerk to obtain information if possible.**

d) Discussion on Parish Grants 2018: It was agreed that £2000.00 be made available for capital grants to be match funded by local organisations. This could be a single grant or split

between a number of capital projects. **Action: Clerk to write to local organisations in December and publish in the Parish Magazine.**

e) VAT Return: £450.03 has been received.

f) Wreath Payment for Armistice Day Service £17.00: Agreed Unanimously

g) To Pay Routine or Previously Agreed Invoices: None

Allotments:

a) Feedback from Allotment Committee:

i) **Plots 14 & 15, non compliance with good husbandry regulations:** The Clerk had written to the tenant, however no feedback had been received. As there was no representation from the Allotment Committee the Clerk was asked to follow up with the Committee before taking any further action.

ii) **Confirmation of weed killer used on plots 14 & 15:** Confirmation still required to establish whether the weed killer used was commercial or domestic. **Action: Clerk to contact Allotment Committee for confirmation.**

iii) **Confirmation regarding "good husbandry" on plots from inspection:** Following agreement at the October meeting regarding regular informal reviews by the Allotment Committee relating to cultivation and Good Husbandry, the PC had received a proposal from the Allotment Committee which declined the initial agreement. The PC discussed this at length and asked the Clerk to contact the Allotment Committee with proposals which would hopefully help resolve the difficulties with monitoring levels of good husbandry and cultivation. So that there was no room for confusion an independent qualified horticulturist to act in an advisory capacity was considered and the PC felt that this would allow the Committee to retain the positive relationship with its members which they were keen to do. **Action: Clerk to liaise to Allotment Committee.**

iv) **National Allotment Society Membership:** The Clerk proposed Membership of £55 plus VAT for the Parish Council as the Clerk regularly consulted the Society for legal advice. However the rules had now become far more stricter and advice was now only being given to Members. All Agreed unanimously.

v) **Sub letting of plots and liability insurance:** As a result of conversations with the Allotment society, it was agreed that it was reasonable for a person to have access to another person's plot for a period of up to 3 months, with the sole purpose of "trailing" the experience of becoming an allotment holder. It was also noted that all plot holders should confirm that they have their own personal and public liability insurance on their plots, this was also confirmed by the PC's insurer. This will be written in to the new contract, however the Clerk to check first to see if the Allotment committee would like to organise this through the Allotment society. **Action: Clerk to liaise with Allotment Committee.**

vi) **Allotment Hedge at Plot 1: The Chair has organised for this to be cut.**

vii) **New Proposals from Allotment Committee: Action Clerk to liaise with Allotment Committee in order to discuss at the December Parish Council Meeting.**

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118/513

Matters Arising from October Meeting:

a) **Improved Disabled Access to Recreation Ground:** Still no response had been received from SSDC. **Action: Standing Item until actioned.**

b) **Hollowell Hill – Land use query:** A visit by Members hasn't taken place yet. **Action: Cllr Bennett to suggest dates for meeting with owner and Clerk to co-ordinate setting up of meeting with other Members. Carry Forward.**

c) **Guide stone Update: To be taken off the Agenda, report by exception in the future.**

d) **The Haunts, Creation of Parking Space on Public Highway:** SSDC Cllr Ric reported under District Cllrs report.

e) **Complaint at Recreation Ground 6th April 2018:** The original complainants have followed up with Luton Town Chair. **Update at December meeting.**

f) **Grit update:** No bins will be filled under the new cuts unless it is a major Road, therefore

the PC will have to buy salt bags. **Action: Members to immediately calculate how much is required and to find out if there is any cheaper grit they could buy. Cllr Coleman may have a supplier. Priority is to ensure there is enough grit for a cold spell.**

g) Grit Bin Purchase Mechams: It was agreed to buy a grit bin a.s.a.p. **Cllr McMillan to let Clerk have size to order a green bin.**

h) Car Park Rails at the Recreation Ground: All have been repaired. Cllr Mannering confirmed that Somerset Landscapes were not dismantling the posts, and there had not been any sightings of cars and passengers causing damage. **If the damage continues the PC may have to consider security camera's at the Rec.**

i) Green Box Scotts Way: Owned by Telecoms as part of the new superfast highway. **It was reported it may have to be moved due to incorrect siting.**

m) Neighbourhood Watch: Clerk had not heard back from the PCSO's contact at Neighbourhood watch. **Clerk to chase in particular in light of local burglaries.**

j) Grill over Higher Street Well: Review December 2018

k) Recreation Ground Purchase and Development: Whilst residents have come forward to be part of the Committee, there was difficulty in finding a Chair due to the amount of work involved in the Business planning side of the project and purchase of the Rec. It was agreed to put a small team in place to kick start the scoping of the project and then invite more volunteers once the project had been scoped out. **Action: Clerk to liaise with Cllr Bennett and McMillan.**

l) Footpath complaint, Hollowell Hill to Kempster's Farm: Clerk to follow up.

m) Stiles and Access: The Chair had carried out research on legislation relating to access and confirmed there was no legal requirement for farmers to put in access for dogs.

n) The Knapp: Meeting arranged for 24th November 2018

118/514

Reports & Correspondence:

a) Highways & Drains: Drain on Higher Street rattling again. **Cllr Bennett confirmed that these would not be mended by SCC unless they were considered dangerous, and currently they are not.**

b) Mud on Road, Scotts Lane to Bow Bridge: There had been a number of complaints and concerns made during October that this Road was very dangerous due to the level of mud and represented a potential breach of health & safety legislation. **Action: Cllr McMillan to discuss with the farmer concerned whether they would have access to a mud sweeper in future in order to keep road users safe.**

c) Surviving Winter Appeal: Any residents who would like to donate to the appeal can do so on: <https://www.somersetcf.org.uk/winter>

d) SALC AGM: Somerton 18th December 2018, 6pm

e) Libraries Service: Final decision 5th November 2018, although it is believed Crewkerne library will remain.

f) Presentation from 10K run Committee planned for Saturday 18th May 2019. No representation. **Action: Clerk to ask for further updates from organising committee, in particular with relation to the use of the rec, parking, roads, Insurance liability and route.**

g) Council Tax setting event: Monday 19th November 2018: No attendance this year by Members.

h) Police: New ways of working survey from Sharon Baker, Chief Inspector and Local Policing Area Commander. The clerk has responded to the survey, requesting more support for rural communities.

i) Remembrance Sunday: Cllr McMillan to lay a wreath and read a lesson on behalf of the PC.

j) Flood Campaign for Communities: For Information, Clerk to promote on the website when the campaign goes live.

k) Launch of Patient Participation Group: Norton Sub Hamdon asking for volunteers.

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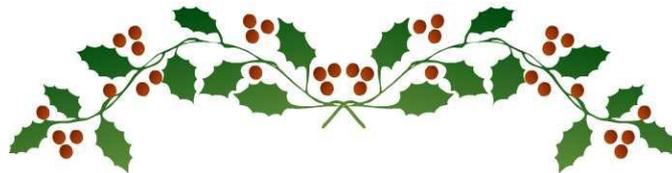
Correspondence Received Since Time of Agenda:

- a) **Fly tipping complaint:** East Lane. Cleared within 24 hours of reporting.
- b) **2 Burglaries have been Reported:** Clerk to get exact information for local PCSO.
- c) **Extra Money for Villages Halls and Health & Wellbeing:** Announced by Rishi Sunak MP at a recent national conference.
- d) **Speed Indicator devices:** SCC has confirmed that there is no money available from SCC to fund the devices, but support on purchase and usage is available.
- e) **White Ford Connect Van 56, with part of its number plate missing at the front, seen acting suspiciously in the area, asking for old batteries in order to come to the property. Please report any suspicious activity immediately.**
- f) **Community Infrastructure Levy:** Clerk received update information detailing payments.
- g) **Dogs on Lead:** Farmers have asked if local residents could please ensure dogs are kept on leads when walking on footpaths through farmers fields and that owners keep to the footpaths.

The meeting ending at 9.05pm

Next Meeting

Wednesday 5th December, 7.30pm in the Village Hall.



Everyone is invited to join the Parish Council after the December meeting for Christmas Drinks & Nibbles, provided by Members and the Clerk.