

CHARNEY BASSETT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY 13th SEPTEMBER 2006 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Mr G Beer, Chairman
Mr G Rumble
Mr J Stiles

Mr P G Davies (Clerk)

06/54 Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies had been received from Councillor J Harper, Vice-chairman and Councillor Jos Bath. County Councillor Melinda Tilley, District Councillor Elsa Boyce and seven members of the public were also in attendance. There were no declarations of interest.

06/55 Minutes of the July 2006 Meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the July 2006 meeting be approved and signed by the Chairman.

06/56 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

06/57 Residents' Questions

RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned to deal with questions from the public and be re-convened when the questions had been dealt with..

NOTE: The question asked is contained in an addendum to these minutes.

06/58 Clerk's Financial Report

The Clerk presented his financial report CBPC/FIN/06/05 (appended to minutes) which had been distributed to councillors. He presented accounts for payment for street cleaning, grass cutting, external audit, inspection of the play equipment on Charney Field and printing of Charney Chatter.

RESOLVED that:-

- a) the report be adopted.
- b) the accounts presented be paid.

The Clerk presented the Annual Return which had been subject to external audit with no matters arising.

RESOLVED that:-

- a) the Council take note that there were no matters arising from the external audit
- b) the Annual Return as presented be approved.

06/59 Planning Matters

A planning application on behalf of the Parish Council had been made for development of the Village Hall. Four objections had been made to the application, most of which were not relevant to the planning issues and two of which had come from non-residents. The outcome of the application is still awaited, however, contact with the planners for a status report suggests the application will receive approval shortly.

06/60 Rights of Way

As requested at the last meeting, The Clerk had been in contact with OCC Countryside Services to report the poor conditions of Footpath 1 to Cherbury Camp and the Stanford-in-the Vale bridle path. He had also asked them to look into the work which had been carried out to Bridleway 3 to Pusey. Mark Sumner, the relevant official at OCC had agreed to visit the parish to discuss the various issues but it had proved impossible for him to meet with the Council before this meeting. The Clerk will contact him again towards the end of the month to arrange a date.

The Clerk had established that the work carried out to the Pusey bridle path was a planning condition applied by the Vale planners when permission to build a house at Bushy Barns had been granted.

The Clerk is continuing to look into the provision of suitably-sized maps of rights of way around the village for the Village Hall, Notice Board and Charney Manor.

RESOLVED that:-

- a) The Clerk should continue to liaise with OCC to arrange a meeting to discuss rights of way issues.
- b) The Clerk should continue to investigate the provision of rights of way maps for potential users.

06/61 Clerk's Correspondence

The Clerk had received notification that the portfolio he had submitted in order to achieve a Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) (needed before the Parish Council could achieve Quality Status) had not been acceptable to the examiners and assessors in two sections. He was allowed to re-sit the two sections without re-submitting the rest of the portfolio and the advice of OALC was that he should do this, at a cost of £50.

RESOLVED that the Council should pay £50 for the re-sit.

The Clerk had received a letter from Dr Philip Morgan which had been dealt with under resident's questions (see addendum to the minutes).

The Society of Local Council Clerks had written to both the Chairman and The Clerk, inviting the latter to become a member. Although two councillors had thought this was a good idea, The Clerk had decided to decline the invitation.

06/62 District Councillor's News

The main item of news from District Councillor Boyce was that she would be standing down at the local council elections in May 2007. She invited the people of Charney Bassett to come forward with a possible replacement. Principal qualification was a wish to provide support at the District Council to the eight parishes she looked after; political affiliation was secondary.

06/63 County Councillor's News

Councillor Tilley reported that OCC had been very busy throughout the holiday month of August. She referred to a number of ongoing initiatives including Local Democracy Week from 16th to 20th October, in which visits would be made to schools to encourage a knowledge of democracy; the refurbishment of Oxford's High Street; the commissioning of a "green" road-sweeping machine using rape seed oil as fuel and the setting up of Waste Partnerships with District Councils in Oxfordshire.

The Clerk noted that he was deluged with press releases from OCC some of which he passed on to councillors so that they should be up-to-date with OCC developments. Mr Rumble pointed out that these releases contain only about 25 kB of text but the banner heading lifts the file size to over 400 kB, increasing download time, even on broadband. Mrs Tilley agreed to raise this issue with the OCC Press Office.

06/64 Information Exchange

The Clerk reminded the meeting that PC Holder had now officially retired and had been replaced by PC Kevin Salway. His mobile phone number was in Charney Chatter and he recommended adding it to phone memories. He should be invited to attend a Parish Council meeting at some time in the future.

06/65 Next meeting

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday 8th November 2006 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.36 p.m. with thanks to all those who attended.

Signed.....

Chairman

Date.....

ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES - RESIDENTS' QUESTIONS**06/Q5**

Dr Philip Morgan had written to The Clerk requesting that the Parish Council replace an "amateurish" notice placed on the Village Hall gate to deter parking and to make it more likely that the notice would be obeyed. He welcomed the notice which he felt was long overdue in view of the parking problem in Chapel Lane. He quoted the "Turning Circle" notice on Bridle Path as a precedent.

The Clerk pointed out that the notice had not been placed by the Council nor would it have done so as it did not own the Hall and experience with the provision of the notice on Bridle Path had led it to adopt a policy of not providing such notices in future. The notice was a matter for CHAFT. The Council was unaware that there was a parking problem in Chapel Lane but Dr Morgan said there was and would write to the Clerk with details.

Mrs Elisabeth Dahele, Chairman of CHAFT was present and explained that CHAFT had no wish to cause a problem by placing the notice and would remove it forthwith.

Councillor Tilley undertook to determine OCC's view on the provision of extra notices in villages and to inform Dr Morgan direct.