

CHARNEY BASSETT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2013

Present: Mr M Cox, Chairman
Mr D Nellist, Vice chairman
Mrs J Fry
Mrs S Dobson
Mr D Roberts

Dr SK Cowlam, Clerk

Ten members of the public were in attendance.

13/56 Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence had been sent by Village College Manager Lynn Brookes. There were no declarations of interest.

13/57 To approve the Minutes of the July Meeting and Matters Arising

RESOLVED: the minutes of the July 2013 meeting be approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising from the July 2013 meeting were as follows.

- 12/83 RESOLVED. OCC had provided some "kill your speed" signs free of charge that we may erect. John Daghish had fitted two of these in the telephone box. Steve Champion has posts for erecting others. David Sibbert had arranged to fix adhesive signs to residents' wheelie bins.
- 13/50 RESOLVED. Watercourses had been inspected: vegetation needs to be removed at various places, a continuing job for the Charney Army.
- 13/51 RESOLVED. The Clerk had arranged a meeting with the Neighbourhood Plan officer at VWHDC to progress matters.
- 13/54 RESOLVED. The Clerk had liaised with various people in connection with improving communications with residents, as reported in paragraph 13/65.
- 13/54 RESOLVED. The Clerk had contacted Kay Adamson, who wishes to give up maintaining the telephone box display.

13/58 County Councillor's News

- OCC has an annual budget of £190M, from which it must now find a 10% saving. Over the planning period £129M has to be saved, of which £22M is from Melinda's education budget.
- Her own responsibility is for education, and she is engaged in raising literacy and numeracy standards in the county. Remarkable progress has already been made with literacy improvement, and a numeracy programme is about to begin.
- OCC is arranging a road show for Oxfordshire residents to give their views on where budget savings can be made. OCC have a desire to protect the budgets for children/education and the fire service.

13/59 District Councillor's News

None reported.

13/60 Clerk's Financial Report

The Clerk presented the financial report CBPC/FIN/13/05 (appended to minutes) which had been distributed to councillors. The figures represented the situation at 20 August 2013, and had been approved by the internal auditor. The PC account holds £300 of Jubilee funds on behalf of CHAFT/Jubilee Committee, and £1506.63 remains of the flood grant. The position is satisfactory. RESOLVED: the report was adopted.

13/61 Flooding/Project CHAFFINCH

- The Environment Agency has considered our proposals for flood avoidance work, and is supportive. We shall now need to apply for consent to do the work.
- Peter Dela of VWHDC has visited the site of the proposed works. He, too, is supportive, though needs further detail. We shall need to obtain OCC/VWHDC approval for land drainage works.
- The Clerk is progressing these matters.

13/62 Neighbourhood/Community Plan Project

- The working party had assembled the information necessary to register with VWHDC our intention to produce a Neighbourhood Plan, and had passed it to the Clerk for onward passage.
- The Clerk had arranged to meet the Neighbourhood Plan officer at VWHDC with Neil Dobson to discuss the topic. We are seeking clarity over the status of Charney Bassett as a "Smaller Village" or "Open Countryside".

13/63 Village College Report

Lynn Brookes had provided a report as follows.

- Patchwork & Quilting classes are to resume shortly, with morning and afternoon sessions on Wednesdays.
- Yoga and Pilates classes continue both with waiting lists. Sessions have changed from Friday to Monday.

13/64 Clerk's Correspondence

• OCC's winter preparation officer has contacted clerks offering road salt, and bins if required. RESOLVED: the Clerk to procure a salt bin and salt from OCC (at a cost of £250).

13/65 Information Exchange

- The Clerk had summarized proposals initiated by David Sibbert for improving communications to residents. Further views had been incorporated from John Wright (village website manager), Roger Watson (Charney Chatter editor), and Rosemary McClintock. A working party would be set up to detail proposals to bring to the November or January PC meeting.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to update the summary of proposals as terms of reference for the working party. David Sibbert, John Wright, Roger Watson, Rosemary McClintock and Jane Fry agreed to form the working party to draft the proposal.

- Some residents complained at the state of weeds in the gutters. Others commented on the increase lately in dog fouling.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to put a note on these in Charney Chatter.

- Some parish councils hire a skip from time to time for residents to dispose of waste. However, Charney Bassett is close to the refuse centre at Stanford in the Vale.

RESOLVED: Parish councillors to consider and report at the next meeting whether the PC should hire a skip.

- David Sibbert asked whether the PC should consider procuring a defibrillator. He was asked to provide more details on this: who would advise, where it would be located, how it would be used, and by whom.
- Road safety at the Lyford Road/Winter Lane crossroads is a concern. Melinda Tilley agreed to alert OCC Highways.
- Pam Edwards asked that the book on Charney Bassett history by Maud Ody be updated. Neil Dobson remarked that this topic had been considered for inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan.

RESOLVED: Pam Edwards and Neil Dobson liaise and to seek funding for this from Melinda Tilley's fund.

- The telephone box needs its display to be maintained.

RESOLVED: the clerk to find a successor to maintain the telephone box.

13/66 Date of next meeting

13 November 2013, at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:30pm.

Signed..... Date.....
Chairman