

CHARNEY BASSETT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 22 MARCH 2000

PRESENT:

Mr G Beer (Chairman)
Mrs B Douglas
Mrs E Dahele
Mr J Harper

Mr P G Davies (Clerk)

Eight members of the public were in attendance.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the meeting on 12 January 2000.
2. Matters arising from those minutes.
3. Clerk's Financial Report.
4. Playing Field.
5. Charney Mill.
6. Village College.
7. Clerk's Correspondence.
8. Ten minutes for Residents' Questions.
9. Any Other Business.

1. MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 12 JANUARY 2000.

These were approved and signed by the Chairman.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MEETING ON 10 NOVEMBER 1999.

1. No action had yet been taken by OCC on the pavement in Orchard Close.
2. The Clerk had carried out all the financial actions placed on him at the last meeting.
3. The war memorial has been cleaned. The Council were pleased with its appearance.
4. The Green Boxes are here.
5. The Clerk is still waiting for OCC's production of copies of the footpath map for the notice board.
6. The Vale planners cannot provide copies of the planning guidelines for councillors due to copyright.
7. The Clerk advertised again in the Cherbury News for a fifth councillor and Mrs Bath, Buckland Road had expressed interest. She was unable to attend this meeting but the Chairman would speak to her before the next.

3. CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk presented his financial report, which was adopted.

It was agreed to continue membership of CPRE for another year (£17.50), to enter the Best Kept Village Competition (£12.00), and to donate the sum of £25.00 to the Hanney Playgroup. Other budget items to be paid were: Clerk's expenses (£45.00), Hire of Village Hall (£24.50), Ock Green Lease (£1.00). **The Clerk** was given authority to apply for planning permission for change of use of Charney Field to leisure use, at a cost of £95.00. Mr Baxter's offer to continue to mow the parish grass was accepted at rates 3% up on last year. **The Clerk** was asked to make him aware of the situation regarding the playing field lease, which runs out on 31 May 2000.

4. CHARNEY FIELD

OCC have now given the Council permission to apply for planning permission for the Field and The Clerk was asked to undertake this.

5. CHARNEY MILL

The Clerk reported on his efforts to resolve the question of insurance for The Mill. The Vale Conservation Officer had conceded that "in the event of a total loss, it would be unlikely that the local planning authority would or could require the full re-instatement of the Mill to full working order". However, he had suggested that if this were to happen, the Council should have sufficient cover "to provide a replacement building of comparable quality but of modern construction". The Clerk was asked to determine what this meant in an effort to expedite the resolution of the insurance problem. Mr Hook, County Councillor, commented from the floor that he was sure a solution could be found and that negotiation with OCC should continue to see if they might be able to help deal with a total loss.

6. VILLAGE COLLEGE

Mrs Dahele spoke to a brief report she had prepared on this topic which was a proposal to establish educational classes in the village. She had met with Mr Steve Billcliffe, Director of Client Services at Abingdon College, who are already working with Appleton and East Hendred, and had shown him village facilities which might be suitable. The village is small for such a scheme, which normally requires a population of 600-1000. The general idea is to seek funds, possibly from the Charney and Lyford Educational Trust, to purchase computers and install facilities (e.g. telephone lines) with Abingdon College providing teaching support.

The Council agreed that the scheme warranted further study and Mrs Dahele was encouraged to pursue the topic by determining whether there was a demand for it in the village. A further meeting, to include Rev Roy Woodhams, was arranged for 28 March 2000.

7. CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from Mr and Mrs Saunders, owners of Hillside Cottage, concerning the proposed extension to The Chequers, which adjoined their property; councillors had also received copies. As councillors had not had time to study this letter and the planning application had not yet been circulated, discussion was deferred until the Council had met to consider the application.

The Chairman considered that Council decisions on planning applications should be recorded in the minutes, even if not discussed at a Council meeting. The Clerk suggested that the agenda item "Planning Matters" should be reinstated for future meetings and this was agreed. Meanwhile, **The Clerk** was asked to include a list of recent planning applications in the minutes.

Mrs Dahele attended the Vale Planning Committee meeting for the Minmere Farm application and reported on the discussion which took place.

Clerks Note: The table below shows those planning applications received or decided since the beginning of the year.

Date of Appn.	Proposed development	For	Council decision	Vale decision	Decision date
18/11/99	Loft conversion/extension, Gable End, New Rd.	Lemmer	N	Y	06/03/00
01/12/99	Museum/house/holiday lets at Minmere Farm	Vacher	N	N	06/03/00
13/01/00	Double garage and office, Bagmere Farm	Martin	Y	Y	10/02/00
31/01/00	Window replacement, Green Farm	Hook	Y	Y	08/03/00
15/02/00	Lean-to extension at 33 New Road	Allen/Belton	Y	Y	14/03/00
12/11/99	Extension to Minmere Barn	McDonnell	N	Y	10/01/00
14/02/00	Change of use to equestrian centre, Sedges Farm	Rhodes/Foltier	Y	?	-

8. TEN MINUTES FOR RESIDENTS' QUESTIONS

Mr Davies, in his capacity as resident and not as Clerk, asked whether the Council would consider making representations to the Vale planners about the activities of Mr Jezzard in Coral Oaks. He explained that at the time of the original planning application, the Vale gave the Council an assurance (contained in a letter, copies of which he handed out) that despite Mr Jezzard having a carpentry business "no such work takes place on the premises, nor are there any deliveries of materials, nor will any employee visit the site". He pointed out that all three of these assurances had been broken with employees permanently on site apparently manufacturing items in the large workshop which had been erected in the garden and deliveries of materials and goods. He considered that this was a wholly unsatisfactory state of affairs and the presence of what was, in effect, a small industrial unit in a residential area was undesirable. The Council agreed that this matter should be brought to the attention of the Vale planners and he was invited to draft a letter to them for the Chairman to send.

Mrs Rumble asked whether the existing playing field could be mowed for summer activities, even though the lease would run out on 31 May 2000. **The Clerk** was asked to investigate whether this could be done under the terms of the lease.

Mr Daglish asked about progress on the speed limit. The Clerk reported that due to an under-estimate of the workload involved, OCC had been forced to defer this to May 2000.

Mr Peters, on behalf of the Village Hall Committee asked for another councillor to join this committee to fill a vacancy. The Council agreed to consider this request.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman reminded the meeting of the two working party dates, Saturday mornings, 8th and 15th of April 2000, the latter being a fall back in case of bad weather on 8th April. Mr Harper agreed to post notices at entries to the village a day or two beforehand to remind villagers of the event. Mrs Dahele owned up to retrieving nine scrap wheels from ditches in advance of the working parties and The Clerk owned up to arranging to have them removed by Vale of White Horse Council.

Mr Harper said that the pamphlet "Welcome to Charney" was now out of date and in need of reprinting. He had agreed to undertake this with Mr Daglish and asked whether the Council would fund this, as it had done with the first edition. The Council agreed unanimously that this was a valuable document, which merited its support. It hoped it could include a map and Mr Dagish stated that he was in the process of redrawing his map for this very purpose.

The Chairman, on behalf of all the Council, thanked Mrs Marian Gardiner for her contributions to most village activities and organisations and wished her well in her two-year stay in America, for which she would depart shortly.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, 10 May 2000 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. Because an Annual Assembly must be held before the end of May and preferably shortly before a Council meeting, it was agreed to make 10 May the Assembly date with the next Council meeting proper held on 31 May.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.21 p.m. with thanks to all those who attended.

Signed.....
Chairman