

## **CHARNEY BASSETT PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN ST. PETER'S CHURCH AT 7.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2009**

**Present:** Mr G Rumble, Chairman  
Mr M Cox, Vice-chairman  
Mr J Harper  
Mr D Hughes

Mr P G Davies (Clerk)

#### **09/57 Apologies**

An apology had been received from County Councillor Melinda Tilley and Councillor Mrs J Bath. District Councillor Anthony Hayward and four members of the public were also in attendance. There were no declarations of interest.

#### **09/58 Minutes of the September 2009 Meeting**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the September 2009 meeting be approved and signed by the Chairman.

#### **09/59 County Council Matters**

The Clerk reported that he had written to Brian Hook to congratulate him on his appointment as an Honorary Alderman of the County and had had an acknowledgement.

#### **09/60 District Council Matters**

District Councillor Hayward updated the Council on four matters:-

- A new waste and recycling collection arrangement will be introduced in the Vale in Summer 2010. Among the significant changes is the provision of a small black box specifically for food waste; this will be collected weekly to prevent vermin getting at it. Full details of the new arrangements will be sent to all residents before implementation. The scheme is similar to that in operation in S Oxon DC which is said to be successful.
- Both applications for incinerators at Ardley and Sutton Courtenay have been turned down by OCC but an appeal has been lodged.
- He explained the new arrangements for dealing with planning objections from Councils and individuals but there was some confusion as to exactly how these would operate.
- The Vale Council is currently struggling with its budget for 2010/11 because of a significant reduction in investment income. It has benefited from additional government funds for assisted travel.

#### **09/61 Clerk's Financial Report**

The Clerk presented his financial report CBPC/FIN/09/05 (appended to minutes) which had been distributed to councillors. The Internal Auditor had commented favourably on its content.

RESOLVED that the report be adopted

#### **09/62 Planning Matters**

There were no planning applications awaiting Council comments. The Clerk had written to the Vale Council seeking the cost of the Vale's abortive exercise in taking the application for two workers' cottages at New Manor

Farm to the High Court but although the request, made under the Freedom Of Information Act 2000, had been acknowledged, a reply was still awaited.

### **09/63 Village Hall Project**

Work on the Village Hall extension was proceeding well, on time and within budget, despite some recent diversion of labour to another project. The banking arrangements to ensure the Council account did not become overdrawn are working well with TOE turning over claims quickly. Completion is still expected by mid-January 2010. The problems caused by HSBC refusing to talk to The Clerk about the Council account have been resolved to the Council's satisfaction.

### **09/64 Clerk's Correspondence**

#### **09/64/01 Flooding:**

Charles Dingwall has begun the work needed to clear the roadside ditch in Longworth Road.

The Clerk and Steve Cowlam attended a very useful flood group workshop on 29<sup>th</sup> October, sponsored by the Vale Council and the EA. Ideas were exchanged and it is likely that a flood group alliance will be set up to maintain momentum in the flood protection area. One item of bad news was that although The Clerk had submitted a claim totalling £2,346 for tools and protective equipment it was unlikely to receive this in full as the remaining funds are heavily over-subscribed. In general, flood protection work around the village has been highly successful, particularly work on the River Ock, but only a flood like that of July 2007 would prove that.

#### **09/64/02 Telephone Box**

The Clerk had formally applied to BT to purchase the box for the nominal sum of £1. BT had responded by sending a contract which was circulated to councillors for approval; none of them had any comments on its contents. The Clerk was therefore asked to sign the contract on behalf of the Council. It seems that the statement in the minutes of the last meeting that the Council would have to pay to keep the light in the box working may have been in error as it transpires that the electricity to the box is provided from an "unmetered" source but this is yet to be confirmed. There may be planning implications in this transfer but they are taken care of in the process; Vale planners have been informed of the Council's intentions.

RESOLVED that the BT contract for purchase of the box be accepted and signed.

#### **09/64/03 Charney Field Trees**

Following a tendering process, a contractor, Russ Gooding of Buckland, will spend one day dealing with the over-large white poplars which are threatening adjacent properties. If this "day contract" is successful he may be asked to repeat the exercise.

### **09/65 Information Exchange**

The Chairman indicated he would attend the OALC meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> November but reminded the Council that the invitation was for two representatives.

### **09/66 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday January 13<sup>th</sup> 2010 at a venue to be decided.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45 p.m. with thanks to all those who attended.

Signed .....  
Chairman