

CHARNEY BASSETT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 21 JULY 1999

PRESENT:

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

Mr P G Davies (Clerk)

An apology was received from Mr T Cox, District Councillor. Five members of the public were in attendance.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the meeting on 12 May 1999.
2. Matters arising from those minutes.
3. Clerk's Financial Report.
4. Playing Field.
5. Millennium Celebrations.
6. Clerk's Correspondence.
7. Ten minutes for Residents' Questions.
8. Any Other Business.

1. MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 12 MAY 1999.

These were approved and signed by the Chairman.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM 12 MAY MEETING

Cherbury Camp: **The Clerk** had not yet raised improved access to Cherbury Camp with the new owner of Pusey House.

The Mill: **The Clerk** had not yet written to EA re restoration of water flow through The Mill.

3. CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk presented his financial report which showed some minor items of expenditure which were not included in the budget but these had been more than offset by the provision for an election which would not be needed. There was confusion over the sum due to OCC for playing field rent, which needed to be resolved. The report was adopted.

4. PLAYING FIELD

The Clerk read out a letter from The Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment which held out the promise of a successful outcome to the application for funding but not until the TOE Board had considered it again in September.

5. MILLENNIUM CELEBRATIONS

Although the change of ownership of the Chequers Inn had resulted in cancellation of the arrangements proposed for year-end celebrations previously outlined by Mrs Pam Barrett, the new owners were proposing to hold a millennium party in the pub, admission by ticket only. They would also arrange another dinner on The Green on the lines of the highly successful post-Feast event, in the middle of the year 2000, providing the catering.

Mrs Douglas and Mrs Dahele announced that they would be drawing up plans for a street party. In order to help with the planning of this, **The Clerk** was asked to bundle together the various items of information on

funding for such events received over the past year. A meeting outside the Council would be arranged to discuss details of the party and any other suitable celebrations such as the provision of a permanent memento, for example another seat on The Green or a new notice board.

An invitation to Charney Bassett to take part in a float procession in Southmoor on 24 June 2000 was passed to Mrs Gardiner to deliver to Jackie Harris as The Islanders might be interested.

6. CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE

Notice of three planning decisions had been received. The work at The Gilletts in the Manor grounds was approved but the proposed new barn to replace the old chicken house in Buckland Road and the extension of a garden at Minmere Barn had both been rejected.

OCC had reported on their visit to Sedges Farm and had recommended that the question of the environmental state of the farm should be referred to the Environment Agency. The outcome of this was not yet known and **The Clerk** was asked to find out whether any action had been taken.

Notice of the annual round of tree planting had been received. It was agreed that **The Clerk** should write to VWHDC asking them to consider planting trees on the new playing field as soon as it had been purchased.

The Clerk had received Wantage Shoppers Survey forms. Mrs Mills kindly agreed to deliver them to every house in the village.

7. TEN MINUTES FOR RESIDENTS' QUESTIONS

Mrs Hook asked about time-expired notices displayed at various locations in the village, such as telegraph poles. It was agreed that provided the date being advertised had passed, anyone could remove them. The Clerk pointed out that planning notices could be removed 21 days after the date displayed on them.

A question was raised about the continued deterioration of Mount Pleasant and **The Clerk** was asked to raise the matter again with VWHDC. Mr Hook suggested he might mention the problem to the Oxfordshire Buildings Trust.

A question was asked about the village's performance in the Best Kept Village competition. The Clerk reported that he had not been notified of the marking. *Note: A report in the local paper on 22 July revealed that the village had not been successful in winning any prize.*

The question of clearing the Ock Brook was again raised but The Clerk reminded the meeting that all advice received so far recommended that this should not be done. The discussion on this topic was inconclusive.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Jim Harper who was believed to be interested in filling one of the vacancies on the Council.

The Chairman reported that he had notified Ian Burgess, Footpaths Officer of OCC that the footpath from Buckland Road to the Bridle Path was in a bad state; he agreed to investigate.

It was reported that repairs to the Bridle Path had been successful and spoil deposited in the potholes had remained in place. Mrs Dahele explained that she had been instrumental in inviting BT contractors to use the spoil from cable repair work in Orchard Close to do the repairs. It was suggested that this approach might help to restore the track down to the Manor Farm barns. As a follow up to this matter, **The Clerk** was asked to report the poor condition of the pavement in Orchard Close to OCC.

A further quantity of spoil had been dumped at the entrance to The Mill. **The Clerk** was asked to write to Ms Quirke to see if she could shed any light on its origin.

It was agreed to hold an autumn village clean-up on Saturday 16 October.

Mrs Gardiner reported that the Charney and Lyford Trust had made its first four grants to applicants.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 13 October 1999 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. In order to be able to form a quorum, this meeting is out of sequence.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.38 p.m. with thanks to all those who attended.

Signed.....
Chairman