

CHARNEY BASSETT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY 11 MAY 2011

Present:

Mr M Cox, Chairman
Mr D Nellist, Vice-chairman
Mr D Hughes
Mr J Harper
Miss P Edwards

Dr S K Cowlam, Clerk

Twelve members of the public were in attendance.

11/27 Apologies and Declarations of Interest

County Councillor Melinda Tilley and District Councillor Anthony Hayward had sent their apologies for absence. There were no declarations of interest.

11/28 Election of Officers

The parish election of 5 May 2011 had been uncontested. The five nominated candidates were duly elected, and had signed declarations of acceptance of office before this meeting, witnessed by the Clerk. Mr Cox was proposed as Chairman by Mr Harper, seconded by Mr Hughes, and duly elected. Mr Cox signed a declaration of acceptance of office of Chairman, witnessed by the Clerk. Mr Nellist was proposed as Vice-chairman by Mr Cox, seconded by Mr Hughes, and duly elected.

11/29 Times and Dates of Future Meetings

It was agreed to continue with the existing arrangement to meet in the Village Hall at 7:30pm on the second Wednesday of every odd month.

11/30 Appointment to other Committees

The following appointments were made.

- Minibus Committee: Mr Colin McGuire.
- Transport Representative: Mr Jim Harper.
- Charney Hall & Field Trust: Mr Geoff Rumble and Mr Doug Hughes; Mrs Lynn Brookes represents the Village College.
- Charney & Lyford Educational Trust: Mr Geoff Rumble and Mrs Jos Bath (though the latter may wish to be replaced before CLET's September meeting).
- Longworth Charities Trust: Mr David Douglas.
- Neighbourhood Action Group: Mr Mike Cox. (Mr D Sibbert holds a personal appointment).

11/31 Other Responsibilities

The following responsibilities were made or noted.

- Grass cutting liaison: the Clerk.
- Cherbury News Reporter: the Clerk.
- Charney Chatter Editor: Mr John Daghish.
- Village website Editor: Mr John Wright.
- Village College Manager: Mrs Lynn Brookes.
- Internal Auditor: Mr Peter Leaver (but with a view to a successor during the year).

11/32 To approve the Minutes of the March Meeting, and Matters Arising

RESOLVED: the minutes of the March 2011 meeting be approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising from the March 2011 meeting were as follows.

- 10/77 RESOLVED now that the Clerk had invited Keith Lead (Environment Agency) who had visited and reviewed Project CHAFFINCH progress. The Clerk had issued a note for the record of the visit which identified a number of recommendations for further work.
- 11/25 RESOLVED now that the Clerk was being more ruthless in removing inappropriate notices from the village notice board.
- 11/25 The Clerk has still to find out the qualifications necessary for inspection of the children's play area.
- 11/25 The Chairman has still to consider installation of a dog bag dispenser on Charney Field.
- 11/25 RESOLVED now that Councillor Hughes had found an expert to access land ownership records in connection with riparian ownership along the River Ock. He could arrange for this expert to brief the Council.

11/33 Clerk's Financial Report

The Clerk presented his financial report CBPC/DIN/11/03 (appended to minutes) which had been distributed to councillors. The figures represented the situation at the end of the financial year ending 31 March 2011, and had been approved by the internal auditor. The Council approved the Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement in the Annual Return which would now be submitted for external audit.

RESOLVED: the report was adopted, and the Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement in the Annual Return was approved and signed.

11/34 Clerk's correspondence

The Clerk reported as follows.

- The PC had been invited by Stanford in the Vale PC to send two representatives to the minibus committee. RESOLVED: the Clerk to reply that we would nominate one. (See paragraph 11/30).
- CHAFT had obtained agreement from VWHDC to close Main Street on 9 July 2011 for the village fete.
- VWHDC had advised of revised arrangements for planning applications, and a training workshop for this in the autumn.

11/35 Information Exchange

- Councillor Cox reported that the Neighbourhood Action Groups' main activities relate to antisocial behaviour, and illegal drugs, neither of which is a concern in Charney Bassett.
- Thames Water had still not made good the disruption that they had caused during recent work to the water supply.

11/36 Date of Next Meeting

13 July 2011, at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:10pm.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting followed immediately after the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

11/37 Chairman's Annual Report

First of all, the Chairman wished to acknowledge the work done over many years by the previous Chairman, Mr Geoff Rumble, including his key role in project-managing the Village Hall Project. His knowledge of the village was wide, and his practical skills impressive; (his wooden sheds are legendary!) The Chairman gave the annual report that had been prepared by the previous Chairman. This is reported in full in Charney Chatter and on the village website, and is therefore not detailed here.

11/38 County Council Matters

None reported.

11/39 District Council Matters

District Councillor Anthony Hayward had sent the following.

- VWHDC now has a conservative majority, following the election.
- It will seek two-hour free parking in Abingdon, Faringdon and Wantage as a step to stimulate the local economy.

11/40 Residents Questions

Villagers present were most concerned at the poor standard of Thames Water's work in the village, and the condition that they had left behind.

RESOLVED: the Chairman and the Clerk would seek better restoration of the village by Thames Water, after consultation with the previous Chairman.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:30pm.

Signed Date
Chairman