

CHARNEY BASSETT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY 10 JULY 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.

13/45 Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence had been sent by District Councillor Anthony Hayward, and Village College Manager Lynn Brookes. There were no declarations of interest.

13/46 To approve the Minutes of the May Meeting and Matters Arising

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

Matters arising from the May 2013 meeting were as follows.

- 12/83 RESOLVED. The Clerk had contacted OCC about relocating the 30mph speed limit signs. This proposal was added to OCC's list for consideration, though this was unlikely to be brought forward for a considerable time due to limited funding. In the meantime, OCC have offered us some "kill your speed" signs free of charge that we may erect.

13/47 County Councillor's News

- OCC has an annual budget of £190M, from which it must now find a 10% saving.
- 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.
- Nevertheless, she has to find £0.5M saving in school transport, and the £19M budget for children's services is under threat.

13/48 District Councillor's News

None reported.

13/49 Clerk's Financial Report

The Clerk presented the financial report CBPC/FIN/13/04 (appended to minutes) which had been distributed to councillors. The figures represented the situation at 20 June 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.

13/50 Flooding/Project CHAFFINCH

Jim Gardiner and the Clerk had met the owner of the land through which the Gainfield Brook and the Charney Wick Ditch flow in March when we explained that our aim was to seek agreement to three small projects that would reduce flood risk in Charney Bassett. He is still considering these and will give us his views in due course, and the clerk would progress this. It is timely to inspect the watercourses for blockages.

RESOLVED: the Charney Army to inspect watercourses.

13/51 Neighbourhood/Community Plan Project

- Iain McGregor could no longer lead the working party, and Neil Dobson has assumed the duty.
- 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.

RESOLVED: the Clerk would forward Charney Bassett's application information to VWHDC.

13/52 Village College Report

Lynn Brookes had provided a report as follows.

- Patchwork & Quilting classes have now reached the end of term.
- Yoga and Pilates classes continue on Fridays, both with waiting lists.
- An exhibition of students' patchwork and quilting was held on 25 May, and was most successful.

13/53 Clerk's Correspondence

- VWHDC has advised that Mount Pleasant has been renamed Bear Cottage.
- OCC has issued an Emergency Planning Survey.

RESOLVED: David Nellist to review this and compare it with our own Emergency Plan that he had produced recently.

- The Clerk had received a letter from Phil & Jackie Morgan about inconvenience to them from car owners loading and unloading outside the village hall. A second letter from them reported that the matter had largely been resolved. This was done by actions of the CHAFT Chairman (Jane Fry) and the Village College Manager (Lynn Brookes). Councillors agreed that matters such as this are best resolved by tolerance, consideration and common sense. Chapel Lane is a public highway. Motor vehicles are entitled to use it. Equally, road users should not prevent residents' access. It is unfortunate that this matter has resulted in upset, and some loss of use of the village hall.

13/54 Information Exchange

- Emma Buchanan briefed us all on the meeting she had arranged with Gigaclear on the company's ability to bring fast broadband to Charney Bassett. They would run fibre optic cable from Kingston Bagpuize industrial estate. They would need about 70 clients from our and neighbouring villages (eg Lyford, Goosey Wick, etc) and would charge £100 connection fee, £80-120 installation fee, and £37/month to each user. They could do the work within weeks of obtaining sufficient clients, and provide broadband speeds of up to 50mbps. Apparently, we are now high on BT's priority to provide fast broadband, following petition by residents. By contrast, the Oxonline target has now receded from 2015 to 2017.

- David Sibbert talked about his proposals for a computerized communication network for Charney Bassett. The Clerk had already set up two of his proposals: an email information service to residents that is compliant with the Data Protection Act, and a link to the village website. John Wright had relaunched the village website. Councillors do not favour phasing out the paper version of Charney Chatter. It is not clear what are the intended roles of a webmaster and an email manager, nor on what link there needs to be with Seven Voices.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to liaise with David Sibbert, John Wright and Roger Watson, and for David Sibbert to draft his proposal.

- Steve Champion had sent a note from CBAG. It is not clear what Pye Homes' intention is for the development of Buckland Road, and he would attempt to elicit this shortly. His view is that Mr McBain's development of the school and his yard would not progress until the Pye Homes matter is clarified.
- The telephone box needs its display to be improved, and a village map to be added.

RESOLVED: the clerk to contact Kay Adamson in this connection.

13/55 Date of next meeting

11 September 2013, at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:45pm.

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