

CHURTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Council held at **CHURTON VILLAGE HALL**, on **TUESDAY 25 May 2021 AT 8PM.**

Present: Cllr C Hayes, Cllr R Crump, Cllr K Cundill, Cllr P Kitchin, Cllr D Rudd, Cllr A Thacker, Cllr P Thacker.

In Attendance: Cllr P Roberts, PCSO McKeivitt, A Farbon and S Dawson representing Grosvenor Estate, C Taylor (Clerk).

1. Election of Chairman

Cllr D Rudd – Nominated by Cllr A Thacker, Seconded by Cllr P Thacker.

2. Acceptance of Office

The elected Chairman signed the Acceptance of Office form.

3. Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr R Crump – Nominated by Cllr P Kitchin, Seconded by Cllr A Thacker.

4. Apologies for Absence

None received.

5. Declarations of Interest

None received.

6. Public Participation

A member of the public attended to express concerns regarding excessive speed on Chester Road as borne out by data collected with the community speed gun. Along this stretch of road, at Briarfields, there was a concealed entrance at which point the excessive speed was particularly dangerous. It was felt that more stringent controls on speed were required as the current 60mph was too high.

Ward Cllr P Roberts advised that following on from a speed limit review on Sibbersfield Lane CWAC had agreed to extending the 50mph to be imposed along that lane into Chester Road.

7. Police Update

PCSO McKeivitt was in attendance and updated: In response to the address made at public participation she advised that any data captured using the community speed gun should be forwarded to her within 3 days. The Clerk reported that CWAC had recently advised that the gun could now be used again following a period of cessation due to Covid.

In response to concerns raised regarding to sometimes inconsiderate road use of cyclists PCSO McKeivitt advised that it was not against the law to ride two abreast but that cyclists should not ride in packs.

8. Borough Councillors report.

In addition to his previously circulated monthly report Ward Cllr P Roberts informed:

i) CWAC had now set up a flood action group which was looking at flooding in the area.

9. Minutes of last meeting (9 March 2021).

Resolved as agreed.

Proposed: Cllr K Cundill Seconded: Cllr P Kitchin

10. Matters Arising

i) Litter picking: Noted that a small group had now been co-ordinated, and that organised litter picking was now underway by residents.

11. Approval of Statutory Documents:

i) CWAC Code of Conduct

ii) Standing Orders

iii) Financial Regulations / Appointment of Signatories

iv) Risk Assessment

Noted: Approved unchanged.

Proposed: Cllr A Thacker Seconded: Cllr K Cundill

12. Accounts

Resolved: That the payment of salaries and expenses, the payment of invoices for goods received and services rendered be approved and the receipts and balances be noted.

Balances of accounts £7611.03 and £1388.08 to 18 May 2021.

13. Annual Audit/Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR)

i) **Noted:** Internal Audit concluded by Hacker Young.

ii) **Resolved:** To approve Annual Statement of Accounts Part 1. Signed by Chairman.

and then

iii) **Resolved:** To approve Annual Statement of Accounts Part 2. Signed by Chairman.

iv) **Resolved:** To declare Smaller Authorities Exemption from external audit. Signed by Chairman.

v) **Resolved:** Appointment of Hacker Young as Internal Auditor for 2021/2022.

Proposed: Cllr D Rudd Seconded: Cllr A Thacker Agreed by all.

14. Annual Insurance

Noted: Due and renewed March 2021.

15. Planning Matters

Planning applications/decisions received by the Parish Council since/outstanding from the last meeting:

Noted: Existing applications where decision still awaited:

20/03656/FUL Grace Cottage Sibbersfield Lane Farndon Chester CH3 6LQ Single storey front extension, two storey side extension.

20/04496/FUL Sibbersfield Farm Sibbersfield Lane CH3 6LQ Single storey extension.

21/00346/FUL Greenhaven Stannage Lane Churton. Extensions and alterations to dwelling and erection of garden room.

New applications:

21/00728/FUL Land at Sibbersfield Farm Sibbersfield Lane Farndon Erection of a livestock building to house cattle.

21/01147/FUL 2 Sibbersfield Cottages Sibbersfield Lane Farndon Installation of brick pillars, wall and timber driveway gate.

21/00539/FUL Land at Marsh Lane Kings Marsh Chester Erection of stable building and a storage building for hay and straw with associated hardstanding, construction of outdoor arena for exercising horses. Falls within Farndon Parish but comment made by Churton PC as a non-consultee.

Decisions:

Refused: 20/02380/FUL Outbuildings at Monument Place Stannage Lane Churton by Aldford Chester. Building works to facilitate a C1 use as granted under 20/00216/PDR.

16. Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)

Cllr Rudd advised that he had circulated a flyer to residents asking for volunteers willing to assist with the making of a NDP as part of a steering group and had received 10 responses.

Resolved: Cllr Rudd to set up a steering committee and explore the grant situation. All agreed subject to grant aid being available.

17. Village Hall Update

Cllr Cundill updated:

i)NWAS had not come out to the hall to discuss/assess the defibrillator, but the hall were still reporting on the NWAS site.

ii)A new cleaner was starting the following week.

Cllr Kitchin reported on the proposed new play area:

- i) The fee for inspection was approximately £100 per annum with no effect on insurance.
- ii) No progress had been made on grants.

Clarification was sought regarding whether it would be a Parish Council or Village Hall Committee (VHC) initiative. There would need to be a commitment for taking responsibility for running the play area and undertaking weekly visits/inspections etc. It was suggested that as the lease was held by the VHC it would be their responsibility.

Resolved: Cllr Kitchin to make some more enquiries regarding grants and formalise a proposal to bring back before the Parish Council.

18. The White Horse

Cllr Rudd reported:

- i) The recent offer to purchase made by the Parish Council had been rejected and ideally there now needed to be an open day for residents.
- ii) Following the distribution of the recent flyer further pledges had been received from the community.
- ii) WHAM were looking at becoming a Ltd company body in order to qualify for matched funding, grants and government initiatives.

Resolved: Noted.

19. Correspondence.

- i) CWAC Community Resilience Plans. **Resolved:** CPC to explore the making of a plan. Clerk to advise CWAC.
- ii) MHCLG: Electronic Communications Infrastructure Consultation. **Resolved:** Noted.
- iii) DCMS: Rural Broadband Consultation. **Noted:** Cllr Rudd looking into Community Broadband scheme.
- iv) Chal: High Court ruling regarding cessation of virtual meetings with effect from 7 May 2021. **Resolved:** Noted.
- v) Platinum Jubilee: **Resolved:** Cllr A Thacker to explore the Mersey Forest 'Plant A Tree' initiative with a view to possibly planting a commemorative sapling in the village.

20. Standing Consideration of Highway Matters

- i) Road surface at Edgerley Farm reported as in bad repair.

Resolved: Cllr Roberts to raise with CWAC.

21. Date of next meeting: Thursday 14 September 2021.