

Chiddingly Parish Council
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18th July 2018

Minutes of Chiddingly Parish Council meeting held on 17th July 2018 at 1930 hours in Chiddingly Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Goss (Chairman), Cllr Richards, Cllr Newham, Cllr O'Hare, Cllr B Marchant, Cllr C Marchant, Cllr Strong, Cllr Tolhurst, ESCC Cllr Bennett and the Clerk.

No members of the public present at this meeting.

MINUTES

1. Apologies and reasons for absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Luke and WDC Cllr Watts.

2. The Chairman will invite Councillors to declare any interest they may have in the following agenda items.

Cllr Goss declared a personal interest in respect of item 14 of these minutes, as he is Chairman of the CLT Steering Group.

3. Minutes of 19th June 2018 Parish Council Meeting to be agreed and signed as a true record.

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

The meeting was not suspended as no members of the public were present.

4. Clerk and Councillor reports arising from the minutes of 19th June 2018 not covered elsewhere in the agenda:

There were no reports.

5. Councillor Reports:

5.1. Cllr David Watts (WDC). *Not present at this meeting.*

5.2. Cllr Nick Bennett (ESCC)

The WDC Local Plan will go to full council tomorrow, where hopefully it will be ratified.

ESCC have been considering their cuts with contributions to services. ESCC need to save another £37 million over next three years. ESCC will have to put statutory offer to county –

what they legally need to provide services for. There may have been some misleading comments in the press about cuts to Education. Cllr Bennet will keep the parish council updated with regards to the cuts.

Cllr Richards heard that the Keir waste disposal contract is finishing, and that there were issues with people not having their landfill collected for some time.

Cllr Bennett – the Kier contract is coming to the end of its term, and a new contractor will be appointed by WDC. Clerk advised that she was aware the Keir were having staffing issues but were doing their best to get back up to date with their collections.

6. Correspondence.

7. Jubilee Field and verge

7.1 Bollards for the verge – Cllr Strong attended a meeting with Highways (Robin Hayward and Kym). Robin appreciated the predicament of the parish council and promised to discuss the issues with colleagues in his office. Robin said he would also explore the possibility of a layby, although believed this may need to be mutually funded by ESCC and Chiddingly Parish Council. Cllr Strong explained he was unsure if the parish council would have such funds. Cllr Strong showed Robin an email from Marissa Hayes (ESCC) from March 2017 where it said it would be possible to licence the installation of posts at 5 metre intervals. A copy of this email was given to Robin. Cllr Strong enquired if it would be possible for us to install the posts at 5m intervals, and re consider them at 2.5m intervals if it was not working successfully. It was left in the hands of Robin, who said he would give the situation further consideration and come back to the Clerk.

Cllr Bennett – at some point you were given permission, you have gone ahead and bought the bollards, so we will wait to see what Robin Hayward comes back with. Cllr Bennett will assist where he can. **Action:** Clerk to await a further week then if no response to advise Cllr Bennett who will take this up with Robin Hayward.

7.2 Japanese knotweed. **Update:** Highways are aware of the areas identified within the parish and are dealing with this.

8. Jubilee Play Park

Issues highlighted in the annual RoSPA safety inspection:

- Operator sign – with Chiddingly Parish Council details – this needs to be replaced.
- Gates: need to be adjusted to avoid entrapment. There needs to be 12mm gap throughout the range, and on the hinge side.
- Rake mole hills so that they are level.
- Replace cap (to bolt) underneath the slide.
- There is strimmer damage to the wooden struts of the play equipment, which could accelerate timber rot – so to try to prevent further damage.
- The swing seats (junior and toddler) have cracks/splits in them – so this needs to be monitored (but doesn't need to be replaced at this time).

Action:

Cllr Newham will replace the bolt cap and see if he can adjust the gates.

Clerk to request Vince Fisher avoids additional strimmer damage and rake the mole hills to level, if required.

Clerk to order replacement sign with correct contact details.

The swing seats can be monitored, but do not need to be replaced at this time.

9. Jubilee Garden.

Jon Hounsell is submitting the application for works to WDC, he will then carry out the works to the tree. The bench within the Jubilee Garden is now broken. **Action:** Clerk to get quotes for a heavy duty teak bench.

Cllr B Marchant suggested that maybe we could have a metal bench, to match the gate to the garden, made by Chiddingly Company A F Metal Fabrications – and for it to mark the centenary of the end of the war, or alternatively as a memorial to local persons.

Clerk: speak to A F Metal Fabrications for a quote.

10 Councillor Reports:

10.1 Village Shop – update from Cllr O'Hare - nothing to report from the last attendance. Cllr O'Hare will be attending again this coming Saturday.

10.2 Saturday Morning Market – update from Cllr B Marchant: one parishioner asked if the parish council are doing anything about speeding traffic and potholes. Cllr Marchant explained it is ongoing problem, that we continually report to Highways.

Another parishioner also commented on how the church is looking quite sad, the grounds are looking tired, fence broken. Cllr Marchant explained to them that the church is managed by the parochial council, rather than the parish council. Maybe there should be some fundraising towards fence repairs? **Action:** Cllr Goss will speak to the Church warden Nick Sharpe about these concerns.

Cllr Tolhurst is due to attend the Saturday Morning Market on 4th August 2018.

11. Footpaths – No issues to report.

12. Highways

12.1 Village Gateway Signs for Burgh Hill Road. Highways have assessed and said that the current signs are adequate, and they do not have funds to finance this. They suggested we could pay for this ourselves. The Clerk has requested quotes for this, but they have not yet been received. **Action:** Clerk to chase Highways Contracts department for this quote.

13 Financial Matters – Clerk

13.1 To approve the Bank reconciliations for June 2018. **Resolved:** the parish council unanimously agreed to approve the current account and savings account bank reconciliations.

13.2 To approve and authorise accounts payable (as detailed on the payment list). **Resolved:** the parish council unanimously agreed to approve the payments of cheques 102250 to 102255 totalling £1748.47 + VAT.

14. Community Land Trust – an update from Cllr Goss. The constitution was agreed and sent off. They then had a couple of queries on it and some amendments were made. This has now been returned to Wessex Community Housing – who are acting as the agent for legal side of the CLT corporation. Hoping this will be accepted very soon. The next step would then be to recruit members. The CLT had a meeting with the Architect and land owner of Willets Field to talk about specifications. They are planning on making timber framed construction with brick outside skin. Timber frames will be manufactured at Whitesmith. They are looking to get full application in during autumn 2018, hoping for approval by Spring 2019, with building works to start the middle of 2019 with completion middle to end of 2020.

There has been further discussion about access to the site. CLT requested a new access entry, this was originally refused due to expense. CLT spoke to them again when government money was announced for CLT's, and how this could possibly assist. They have considered this further but are still not happy to do so – they have ecological concerns and concern that there would

be an argument in future for additional infill development. When the application is submitted it is likely to have current access route – with a wider splay at the entrance.

Cllr Strong – when CLT go for long term loans – it may be worth checking that they are happy with timber framed design.

15. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Contributions

These are payments on new builds that go to WDC, and an amount is awarded to the parish council. There are strict regulations on how this money could be spent by the parish council, but at some point, the parish council could have such funds. Cllr Strong – would these funds be able to be used towards the CLT project? Answer: unsure but it is worth asking the question of WDC. **Action:** Clerk to forward details to Cllr Goss, who can contact them from a CLT position.

16. Any items for inclusion on next month's agenda:

Jubilee Garden bench

Additional action: Clerk to speak to Cricket Club re grant cheque and progress on nets.

Meeting closed at 2030 hours.

- *The next planning meeting will take place on 24th July 2018 in Chiddingly Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.*
- *There is no parish council meeting in August 2018.*
- *21st August 2018 there will be the planning meeting, and the cheques for any payments will be made.*