

Chiddingly Parish Council
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20th June 2018

Minutes of Chiddingly Parish Council meeting held on 19th June 2018 at 1930 hours in Chiddingly Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Goss (Chairman), Cllr Luke, Cllr Richards, Cllr B Marchant, Cllr C Marchant, Cllr, Cllr Strong, Cllr Tolhurst, ESCC Cllr Bennett, WDC Cllr Watts, Tree Warden Andy Barnes and the Clerk.

(Two members of the public were present prior to the start of this meeting and left prior to the meeting starting at 1946 hours).

Prior to the meeting starting Caroline Belchem, Head Teacher of HeadStart School, Golden Cross, spoke to those present at the meeting about the facilities and opportunities at Head Start.

MINUTES

1. Apologies and reasons for absence.

Cllr Newham apologised for not being present at this meeting.

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 17 of these minutes, as he Chairman of the CLT.

3. Minutes of 15th May 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 suspended at 1947 hours for Andy Barnes, Tree Warden to speak: Andy Barnes advised that he had attended ESCC Tree Warden Forum at Vert Woods in Laughton. This was very useful. Two representatives from National Tree Council (a registered charity) were also present. They advised me that they are organising a National Tree Warden Forum. Andy Barnes has been asked to attend to represent East Sussex

Tree Wardens at this meeting in Birmingham. Which he will attend as feels that this will be very interesting and useful.

The meeting reconvened at 1956 hours.

4. Clerk and Councillor reports arising from the minutes of 15th May 2018 not covered elsewhere in the agenda:

There were no reports.

5. Councillor Reports:

5.1. Cllr David Watts (WDC).

Local Plan there have been some meetings taking pace at WDC talking about the outline of the Local Plan, without numbers being discussed at this time. The plan is due to be published on 28th June 2018 – with the numbers of houses for the whole district. Not expecting a considerable increase.

Major development will be in main conurbation areas – such as Hailsham, Polegate, and Crowborough.

Cllr Strong said he had heard that there was potential to have a significant increase in numbers. Cllr Watts could not offer any clarification on this as no numbers have yet been published.

5.2. Cllr Nick Bennett (ESCC)

I am one of the Woodland Trust County Tree Champions – and would always be willing to offer any assistance with this area of work.

A significant report comes out next Tuesday when ESCC cabinet meet. The agenda is entirely about trying to find savings for next year – which will be brutal, and even more so in the following year. Will consider cuts across all the counties areas of work. Cllr Bennett has been at meetings with South East Water with regards to water management, resilience and affordability – may even need to consider saline treatment works.

After the severe weather in March 2018 many pipes broke up, and some areas were without water for approximately 10 days. There is a significant problem with water supply in the South East because of the demand. This is one of the things ESCC are concerned about with the increasing number of houses – along with access to health services, education, travel etc.

2010 hours one member of the public arrived.

Cllr C Marchant asked Cllr Bennett why the ditches were dug in the summer. It was simply logistics – cannot get everything done in the winter. Cllr Richards and Cllr Goss said they were very impressed with the work carried out by the small team.

Cllr Goss asked if there was any update about the placing of posts on the Jubilee verge. Cllr Bennett advised he is talking to the relevant Manager about this situation.

6. Correspondence:

This year marks 100 years since the guns fell silent at the end of the First World War and it is important to mark such an important event. Wealden District Council have sent us a document from Bruno Peek, Pageant Master called “Battle’s Over” which is the Nation’s tribute and people all over the Country will be following this event guide. If the parish are taking part in any events, then they would like us to advise the Chairman of WDC as he is keen to support as many events as possible. The document is available on the parish council website.

7. **Jubilee Field and verge**

7.1 Bollards for the verge – update from Cllr Goss. Despite site meetings in the past, where Highways agreed we could have posts, ESCC Highways are now saying no to our posts being installed. The posts in Maynards Green that we used as our model are apparently under investigation by enforcement. **Deferred:** will await an update from Cllr Bennett and go from there.

7.2 Knotweed – Cllr Goss received an email from a resident in Muddles Green saying that he had knotweed in his garden, and that there was also some also in Jubilee Field. Received an additional email from another neighbour saying she had also noticed knotweed in her garden. This resident reported it to Highways who accepted that it was a Highways issue, and they would deal with it. Tamara Day from ESCC Highways say they have it on their list of works to deal with it.

Cllr Goss has also been advised that there is a large stretch of knotweed in the hedge by Six Bells Pub, opposite the Vicarage. **Action:** Clerk to report this to ESCC Highways.

8. Jubilee Play Park – Cllr Luke no new issues to report.

9. Jubilee Garden

9.1 Bench around the oak tree – The Tree Warden looked at this. The tree is strong enough to damage the bench. Parts of the bench that are quite decayed, and not sure it is repairable. Consideration may need to be given to removing the bench and replacing with a standard bench. **Action:** Clerk to get some costs for memorial bench/plaque.

9.2 Consider the quotes received for works to the oak tree.

The Clerk referred to the three quotes which had been obtained and circulated to the parish council.

Quote 1 reference JH, price £720.

Quote 2 reference RH, price £780

Quote 3 reference RI, price £800 plus VAT (which could be claimed back by the parish council).

The parish council reached a unanimous decision to award the contract to Jon Hounsell.

Action: Clerk to advise all those that quoted, and for Jon Hounsell to submit the application for the works to WDC on behalf of Chiddingly Parish Council.

10 Councillor Reports:

10.1 Village Shop – update from Cllr O'Hare – no complaints or issues raised but was happy to chat to residents.

10.2 Saturday Morning Market – update from Cllr Goss: spoke to plenty of residents about the state of the roads in the parish. Cllr Goss encouraged them to report any issues they saw to ESCC Highways. Cllr Goss has also put an article about this in the Parish Magazine, giving instructions on how to do so. *Cllr B Marchant is due to attend Saturday morning market on 7th July 2018.*

11. Footpaths – No new issues to report – Cllr Luke

12. Highways – Cllr Newham not present at this meeting. No new issues reported by other Councillors.

13 Mailing lists – Cllr Goss has considered the mailing list that the parish council operates to give out the agenda and minutes. Has emailed all those on the list, and the majority confirmed their wish to remain on the email mailing list. Cllr Goss would like to set up four mailing lists, using MailChimp:

1) Parish Noticeboard – council agendas and minutes, approx. 4 emails per month.

- 2) Parish List – notices generated by parish council, district council or county council which may be of interest to resident. Links to online surveys, notifications from Highways re road closures etc.
- 3) Neighbourhood Watch – this was previously run by a resident but fell in to abeyance. Would like to start this up again to share valuable information, expect a couple of emails a week.
- 4) Village Events – for the variety of events which take place in the parish, would allow village groups to utilise email to promote their events, using MailChimp which is GDPR compliant.

Cllr Goss has spoken to our website designer who could create a page on our website, with a link for people to subscribe to the email lists. MailChimp is free to use, the work on the website would not be charged for, it would purely be Cllr Goss' time. **Resolved:** the parish council unanimously agreed for Cllr Goss to proceed with this.

14 Financial Matters – Clerk

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

14.2 To approve and authorise accounts payable (as detailed on the payment list). **Resolved:** the parish council unanimously agreed to approve payments of cheques numbered 102228 to 102248 totalling £6183.69, as circulated on the payment list.

15 Policies – to approve and adopt the new General Data Protection Policy and the Personal Data request policy. **Resolved:** the parish council unanimously agreed to approve the General Data Protection Policy and the Personal Data request policy

16 Planning applications for consideration (due to the deadline set by Wealden District Council):

16.1 Application: [WD/2017/1727/MAO](#)

Location: The Old Brickyard, Chiddingly Road, Horam, TN21 0JJ.

Description: Part demolition of depot and erection of 65 dwellings comprising of one, two, three and four-bedroom houses, with access to the site from the side of Chiddingly Road (entrance via depot). **Technical note received date stamped 08/05/18.**

Chiddingly Parish Council response to Wealden District Council: The parish council would like to reiterate the comments as made previously; the parish council viewed these plans and have serious concerns over the number of traffic movements that 65 houses will create onto the Chiddingly Road. There are also concerns over the sight lines onto the Chiddingly Road.

16.2 Application: [WD/2018/0741/F](#)

Location: 2 Stream Cottages, Dern Lane, Chiddingly, BN8 6HG.

Description: Change of use of land to residential, timber framed garage with associated drive and hardstanding.

Chiddingly Parish Council response to Wealden District Council: The parish council reached a unanimous decision to object to this application, as feel that the area being converted from agricultural to residential is excessive. It is also unclear who owns the access driveway.

16.3 Application: [WD/2018/0706/F](#)

Location: Sherwood Rise, Swansbrook Lane, Horam, TN21 0LE.

Description: A new four-bedroom house to be built to 'lifetime living' standards, including own package water treatment plant. The double garage on the site will be allocated to this house.
Chiddingly Parish Council response to Wealden District Council: The parish council reached a unanimous decision to object to this application. The parish council feel that this is overdevelopment of the site, leaving no gardens for either the existing or new property. The new build would create a loss of privacy and light for neighbouring properties. There are also concerns over creating any additional traffic movements onto the A267 at what is considered to be a dangerous junction.

16.4 Application: [WD/2018/0953/F](#)

Location: Terra, The Dicker, Lower Dicker, BN27 4BY

Description: Remove existing buildings and erect detached replacement outbuilding for the storage of domestic vehicles and associated works. Extension to residential curtilage.

Chiddingly Parish Council response to Wealden District Council: The parish council reached a unanimous decision to object to this application, as the building is too large to visible from the main road. The parish council felt that was insufficient information about the proposed use of the building.

16.5 Application: [WD/2018/0750/F](#)

Location: 2 Stream Cottages, Dern Lane, Chiddingly, BN8 6HG.

Description: Alterations to existing garage to form family space.

Chiddingly Parish Council response to Wealden District Council: The parish council reached as unanimous decision to object to this application, as feel that the area being converted from agricultural to residential is excessive. It is also unclear who owns the access driveway.

17. Community Land Trust – an update from Cllr Goss; Still proceeding, the constitution is almost agreed. Hopefully be sent off at the end of the week. A second draft of design specification is being worked on. A meeting with the site owner and architect has been arranged for the end of the month to discuss the new specification. The CLT has agreed to appoint the Sussex Community Housing Hub and Tom Warder as advisor. The CLT cannot sign any contracts until incorporation is fully complete. Work continues with Tom Warder on the Business Plan.

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

CIL contributions

Knotweed

- *The next planning meeting will take place on 26th June 2018 in Chiddingly Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.*
- *The next parish council meeting will take place on 17th July 2018 in Chiddingly Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.*