

Chiddingly Parish Council  
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Chairman

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20<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Minutes of Chiddingly Parish Council meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at 1930 hours in Chiddingly Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Goss (Chairman), Cllr Richards, Cllr Newham, Cllr Luke, Cllr B Marchant, Cllr C Marchant, Cllr Tolhurst and the Clerk.

Five members of the public present at this meeting.

MINUTES

1. Apologies and reasons for absence.  
Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Strong, Cllr O'Hare, WDC Cllr Watts and ESCC Cllr Bennett.
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 15 of these minutes, as he Chairman of the Chiddingly CLT Limited.
3. Minutes of 17<sup>th</sup> July 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 1934 hours for members of the public to speak:*

*One member of public spoke in connection with traffic issues on the A22 causing people to cut through the village, and particularly the issue this causes with vehicles speeding through the village. Would it be possible to have some traffic calming measures which could still allow farm traffic – but would mean traffic had to slow down?*

**Action:** *Cllr Goss will request a site meeting with Highways Traffic Safety Officer Ian Johnson – as late in the afternoon as possible. Action: Clerk to provide the Think Child signs.*

*Meeting re convened at 1946 hours.*

*Item 12.4 was moved to this point of the meeting for discussion.*

*At 1950 hours all members of public left the meeting.*

4. Clerk and Councillor reports arising from the minutes of 17<sup>th</sup> July 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) *Not present at this meeting.*

6. Correspondence:

**6.1 Older Peoples Day:** Several events have been arranged for September and October 2018 to celebrate Older People's Day. The details have been circulated to the parish council and added to the parish council website.

**6.2 ESCC announcement of spending cuts.** Cllr Bennett not present at this meeting.

**6.3 Publication of the Wealden Local Plan – Proposed Submission Document**

Wealden District has published its Proposed Submission Wealden Local Plan for receipt of representations between Monday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2018 and 5pm on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

The document sets out planning policies for growth and change within Wealden District (excluding the area of the District which is within the South Downs National Park) up until 2028. After consideration of all representations received the Council intends to submit the document to the Secretary of State for examination later in 2018. You can view the Proposed Submission Wealden Local Plan and associated documents on the WDC's website; [www.wealden.gov.uk/wealdenlocalplan](http://www.wealden.gov.uk/wealdenlocalplan)

When submitting comments WDC encourage respondents to respond to the consultation questions on either the online consultation portal or the representation form. To assist the process, it is requested that consideration is given to any submission to ensure that they are relevant and to the point. If a long submission cannot be avoided, please provide a summary of the main points to be addressed. Before submitting any comments WDC would strongly encourage you to read their 'Guidance Note for Respondents'.

**6.4 SALC meeting with Sussex Police.** On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2018, SALC board members will be holding their biannual meeting with Giles York, Chief Constable of Sussex Police. If you have any strategic or unresolved topics that you would like to be raised at the meeting could you, please advise the Clerk by 30<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

There is also the opportunity to put questions to the Police and Crime Commissioner at a separate event (as emailed to the Parish Council) – Cllr Goss and Cllr Richards have put questions forward, if any other Cllr would like to do so, please send them to the Clerk.

**7. Jubilee Field and verge**

7.1 Bollards for the verge – (Cllr Bennett going to talk to Robin Hayward)

**Ongoing:** Cllr Bennett is still hoping for a solution from Robin Hayward, Highways.

Cllr Newham has the needs the posts to be removed from his garage as he requires the space. Due to the Chiddingly Festival they cannot be stored outside at the Village Hall. Cllr Newham kindly agreed to continue storing the posts outside of his garage.

**8. Jubilee Play Park – any new issues to report?**

The gate has been fixed and the new sign has been put up. The play area grass is getting very high, and the also the grass on the Jubilee Verge is very high. **Action:** Cllr Goss will speak with Vince Fisher about this.

## 9. Jubilee Garden

**9.1** To consider the costs for a replacement bench – Clerk

The parish council considered the costs of the replacement bench.

A metal hexagon bench to fit around the tree would be £600 plus VAT.

A standard shaped metal bench would be £300 + VAT.

A heavy-duty teak bench would cost between £291 and £329 (depending upon size) + VAT.

Carving of a 'message' would be £50.

Cllr C Marchant – wouldn't an oak bench be more suitable.

The parish council reached a unanimous decision that a wooden bench was preferred and to seek further quotes on an oak bench. **Action:** Clerk to look for quotes for an oak bench. Action: Clerk to contact A F Metal Fabrications and thank them for their time in quoting for a metal bench.

**9.2** Update on tree works – **Ongoing;** The Clerk reported that Jon Hounsell (Tree Surgeon) had chased WDC about the application to complete the works. WDC are doing a site visit on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018.

## 10 Councillor Reports:

**10.1 Village Shop** – update from Cllr O'Hare; not present at this meeting.

**10.2 Saturday Morning Market:** Cllr Goss attended, the issue of traffic speeding through the village was raised. Cllr Goss also spoke to a member of the church council about the condition of the fence around the church yard. They are aware and are trying to find the funds to replace the fence. Cllr B Marchant will attend the next market on 6<sup>th</sup> October.

## 11. Footpaths

**11.1** A broken stile at Scrapers Hill opposite Gate Cottage, and two overgrown stiles at Rosemount Farm – have been reported to Rights of Way Team, ESCC.

**11.2** Update on progress re footpath at the Mill and access to the Stream Pond by the bridge – report from Cllr Goss: a member of Chiddingly Footpaths Group spoke to Cllr Goss about this being reopened. This is a long-term ongoing issue. The current situation is that Chiddingly Footpaths Group have submitted their representations and the residents have submitted their response. The position now is whether the access to the water was permissive access or public rights access. Some believed this was public access, the residents believe it is private land. All papers are with East Sussex County Council for their consideration. Cllr Goss has also written to ESCC stating that the council understood that most parishioners believed they had access without having to gain the owner's permission first.

## 12. Highways

**12.1** Village Gateway Signs – consideration of the quote received from ESCC Highways to replace the current signs.

The parish council considered the quote from ESCC Highways of £1741.09 + VAT to replace the current signage with new village 'gateway' signs showing the speed limit. ESCC Highways have said this would need to be replacement signage and not additional signage – they would not allow both. **Resolved:** the parish council reached a majority decision to go ahead with the purchase and installation of these signs. **Action:** Clerk to advise ESCC Highways to proceed with these works.

**12.2** Stone Hill road name sign – the sign was broken into two pieces and this has been reported to WDC.

**12.3** Fingerpost repairs – to consider the works required to refurbish the fingerpost outside of Ash Cottage at Muddles Green.

The top of the through arm has some rot – which could be cut and filled, and the rest of the post repainted £90. Or £120 for a new through arm (top). So total for painting and new through arm £210 – of which 50% could be claimed back from ESCC. **Resolved:** the parish council reached a unanimous decision to go ahead with the work including a new arm. **Action:** Clerk to contact Phill Signs.

**12.4** Bench outside the Six Bells – Cllr Goss

East Sussex County Council claim that the bench is situated on an area owned by ESCC Highways, and that because it is their property they will not allow the bench on it.

However, other parishioners have said they believed in time gone by the Highway did not go right up to the pub.

Cllr Bennett has spoken to Paul Newman (Landlord) about this issue. The Mr Newman is due to provide some old photographic evidence to Cllr Bennett. **Action:** Cllr Goss to speak to Mr Newman about the photos.

**12.5** Update on the resurfacing work at Gun Hill/Nash Street

Cllr Goss – would like to query why the works were completed overnight. Some work surface removal work at 0100-0300 hours, which was exceptionally noisy. The works seemed quite disorganised too, and residents were not told it would be overnight works. **Action:** Cllr Goss to speak to ESCC Cllr Bennett about these issues.

Stalkers Lane – Clerk noticed that these resurfacing works were not on ESCC works schedule so has chased this up with them. The Customer Service Manager has today advised that at present, that are considering the nature of works required, and the Asset Management team will be looking into this further this week. **Action:** Clerk to keep liaising with Highways over this.

**13 Financial Matters** – Clerk

**13.1** To approve the Bank reconciliations for July and August 2018.

**Resolved:** The parish council unanimously agreed to approve the bank reconciliations for July and August 2018.

**13.2** To retrospectively approve the payments made during August 2018 (no parish council meeting in August).

**Resolved:** the parish council unanimously agreed to retrospectively approve the payments made in August 2018. Cheques 102256 to 102259 refer.

**13.3** To approve and authorise accounts payable (as detailed on the payment list).

**Resolved:** the parish council unanimously agreed to approve the payments made for September 2018. Cheques 102260 to 102272 refer.

**14.** Grants. To consider the grant applications received, and the amounts to be awarded during the financial year of 2019-2020. **Deferred:** as not all the grant applications have been received this will be deferred to next months agenda.

**15.** Community Land Trust – Cllr Goss: The CLT is now registered and is formally a limited company, with the majority of the steering Group being Directors. Mike Goss is Chairman, Sue Skan is the Secretary and Eugene Cassidy is Financial Director.

The CLT now have approximately 5 months to get the membership arranged, people are to pay £1 for a share, and the CLT will then hold a meeting of the members. The current directors will stand down and the members will elect a new board of Directors.

Willets Farm – the CLT fed their housing requirements into the Architects and are waiting for them to return the revised plans. They are still hoping to get the planning application in by the end of this year, with approval hoped for in the Spring, and the building work to start next summer.

Before the CLT can sign any contracts with Tony Penrose, the CLT need a business plan and work has started on this.

**16.** Recycling Centre – Cllr Goss. Was made aware by a parishioner that the recycling centre had not been visited by ECC for a while, and bins were overflowing. This has now been dealt with. Cllr Luke had also reported this to WDC.

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

- Grants
- Jubilee Garden bench
- Setting date for finance working party
- Triangle outside Ash Cottage; grass cutting and bench

Meeting closed at 2056 hours.

- *The next planning meeting will take place on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2018 in Chiddingly Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.*
- *The next parish council meeting will take place on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2018 in Chiddingly Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.*