

# Chedburgh Parish Council

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## MINUTES

of the Meeting held at the Erskine Centre, Chevington Road, Chedburgh on

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Councillors: Cllr Michael Chester (Chair), Margaret Rickard, Pat Fisher, Teresa Landymore, Alan Noyes, Sam Parrett, and Clare Varney.

**In attendance:** Maximilian Clay (Clerk to the Council);  
For part of meeting: County Councillor Terry Clements and Borough Councillor Angela Rushen;  
4 Members of the public

*Appendixes referred to below form part of the authorised minutes.*

In opening the meeting the Chair welcomed Cllr Alan Noyes, who had been co-opted to the Council at the previous meeting.

### **64. Apologies**

There were no apologies.

### **65. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations for which dispensations had not been duly authorised.

### **66. Minutes of the last meetings (Appendix A)**

a. The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017 were agreed to be a true record and the Chair was authorised to sign them as such.

### **67. County and Borough Council Reports**

#### **a. County Councillor Report**

County Councillor Terry Clements had submitted a written report (*Appendix B i*) and this was received by the Council. As this was to be the last meeting at which Cllr Clements would attend, prior to his retirement as a county councillor and assumption of the office of Mayor of Bury St Edmunds, the Council thanked him for his many years of service and wished him well for the future.

#### **b. Borough Councillor Report**

Cllr Angela Rushen was in attendance for this item and had submitted a written report (*Appendix B ii*) which was received by the Council. B.Cllr Rushen also contributed to discussions recorded under items 72 c and d, below.

### **68. Public Forum**

No issues were raised by the public.

### **69. Decisions taken since the previous meeting**

No decisions had been taken under delegated powers since the previous meeting.

### **70. Clerk's report**

The Clerk reported on a number of current issues:

a. There were no actions that were not to be reported on under other items.

- b. The Clerk had proposed meeting dates for the coming administrative year (to March 2018) and after brief discussion, the following dates were agreed: 15<sup>th</sup> May, 10<sup>th</sup> July, 18<sup>th</sup> September, 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017; 15<sup>th</sup> January and 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018.
- c. The Clerk reported on correspondence and other significant matters, including:
  - the Bury St Edmunds town plan is available for consultation and everyone is encouraged to go on line or to one of the several events, to see what is proposed and to comment.
  - A proposal to receive commercial advertising onto the parish noticeboard. The principle was agreed, subject to the specific relevance to residents. The Clerk to respond.
  - Changes to the laws relating to the protection of public spaces from dog-fouling; the Clerk to follow up.

#### **71. To Consider a request for a Financial Grant from Little Teapots (*Appendix Z*).**

Four members of the Little Teapots Trustee committee/ staff were present for this item. The detailed financial information that had been provided was deemed to be of a commercially sensitive nature and so had been circulated to Members but not published more widely.

Changes in Government funding are projected to cause the Pre-School considerable financial difficulties in the coming academic year and so it is seeking financial support from a variety of sources. After lengthy discussion of the changes, other potential sources of funding and the need for the Council to be confident of the financial stability and viability of the Little Teapots, it was agreed unanimously to make a grant of £1,000 towards 2017/18 funding, subject to the following conditions:

- a. The grant will be paid only once the Pre-School demonstrates that other funding or the assured promise of other funding, sufficient to assure viability for 2017/18 has been achieved and
- b. The grant will be paid only once the Council has received forecasts that satisfactorily project sufficiently positive cashflow to ensure that Little Teapots will remain solvent for the year.

#### **72. Planning and Environment**

- a. There were no new planning applications to consider.
- b. There were no planning decisions of the Planning Authority to report.
- c. Planning Enforcement at the Marquis Cornwallis Public House. It was reported that enforcement staff from the Planning Authority had visited the premises. At present, there were no breaches of planning regulations as, although there had been much stripping out of the premises there was nothing to suggest an actual change of use (as opposed, for example, to works preparatory to a re-fit). The Council agreed that it would be helpful to remain vigilant and report any developments to the Clerk.
- d. Brocket Park Development - More houses for private occupation were now complete and it was believed that two had been sold. The deadline for provision and completion of the Public Open Space remains 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.
- e. Ian Leggett's report (*Village Handyman, Appendix C*) was received. The Council noted the sterling work of village volunteers, along with the Handyman himself, in responding to problems created by Storm Doris, and expressed warm thanks. It was agreed to approve the proposed expenditure on a new Dog Bin (c£14) and on the materials necessary for maintenance works to the majors Close notice board.

It was also reported that the Castle Slide was out of action due to the failure of the central floor. This seemed to be caused by the use of inappropriate materials and it was agreed that

in any repair Marine Ply should be specified. The Clerk will check the guarantee and, failing ability to rely on that, will organise repair with a maximum of budget of £500.

It was noted that the VAS had behaved erratically on a occasion and it was agreed that the Clerk would investigate the service requirements of the device.

- f. Parking in Majors Close. The Clerk reported that the land in Majors Close was owned by the Borough Council. Cllr Varney reported that residents felt that specific provision was not necessary at present and so it was agreed to take no further action.
- g. Positions of the vehicle activated speed sign. There was discussion as to whether the current positions were still the most appropriate and effective. It was noted that previous discussion had identified a potential position for an addition VAS post in Queens Lane but the installation had not happened. The clerk will follow up with C.Cllr Clements. There was also consideration of whether there was merit in adding a post at the Depden end of the main road. The Handyman will identify a position for a test pole and liase with the Clerk with a view to seeking Highways approval.
- h. Potential extension of the 30mph speed limit on Queens Lane, to Queens Hill. It was agreed to seek monitoring by the Highways authority of speed and volume of traffic on this stretch of road and to review that matter in the light of that information.

### **73. Installation of Storage Containers at the Erskine Centre (*Appendix D*)**

After due consideration and discussion it was agreed to approve the installation of containers for storage. Illustrations of the type and colour of container were produced for the Council and it was agreed that the green colour was strongly preferable. Initially only one container would be installed but a second may become necessary. The installation will be carried out by the Community Council, as the Managing Trustees of the Centre and it is a condition of the approval that the Community Council undertakes to:

- a. cover all the costs;
- b. oversee the safe and satisfactory procurement and installation on behalf of the Council;
- c. ensure that any legal requirements associated with the installation are complied with and indemnify the council in such regards.

### **74. Summer Fete**

It was agreed that, because most Members of the Council had already committed to involvement in other capacities, a specific Council presence at this year's Fete would not be feasible.

### **75. Complaints Policy (*Appendix E*)**

The draft complaints policy was considered and adopted as Council policy, subject to the addition of instruction regarding the addressing of complaints.

### **76. Provision for Teenagers**

Ideas had been sought for ways in which teenagers might be served in the village. There was wide-ranging discussion about the provision of activities or clubs. It was agreed to investigate the potential to install (and achieve funding for) outdoor gym equipment and/ or a concrete tennis-table table.

### **77. Responsible Finance Officer's Business**

- a. The Council received the schedule of receipts (*Appendix F part 1*);
- b. The Council received and approved the schedule of payments (*Appendix F part 2*), together with the supporting documents.
- c. The Council considered and approved the

**78. Arrangements for provision of Wreaths for Remembrance Day**

It was agreed that the disbandment of the association representing the servicemen who were based at Chedburgh in the 1940s would not affect the Council's existing arrangements and so the Council would continue to provide a single wreath.

**79. Councillors' reports and items for future agendas**

- a. Reports on meetings attended: A helpful and informative meeting about Broadband had been held, at which Matthew Hancock MP (who is the Government minister responsible) spoke and took questions. A meeting with the same agenda and speaker will be held at 7pm on 21st April 2017 at Barrow - the meeting is open to all.
- b. There were no forthcoming meetings requiring representation of the Council.
- c. No items were raised for future agendas;
- d. No points of information were raised.

**The meeting closed at 9.16pm.**

Signed as a true record by authority of the Council:

..... Chair

..... Date