

Chedburgh Parish Council

MINUTES

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

Monday 9th May 2016 at 8.30pm

Present: Councillors: Peter Westcott (Chair), Pat Fisher, Teresa Landymore, Sam Parrett, Margaret Rickard and Clare Varney

In attendance: Maximilian Clay (Clerk to the Council),
Ian Leggett, Handyman
Cllr Angela Rushen (For items 73 to 80) and 1 member of the public.

Appendixes referred to below form part of the authorised minutes.

73. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Chester and approved by the meeting.

74. Declarations of Interest

None for which dispensations had not been duly authorised.

75. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting dated Monday 14th March 2016 were agreed to be a true record and signed by the Chair.

76. County, Borough and Community reports

The Council noted that annual reports had been presented to the Annual Parish Meeting, immediately prior to the Council meeting.

77. Public Forum

There were no questions from the public.

78. Decisions taken since the last meeting

There were no decisions to report.

79. Report of the Clerk to the Council

a. Councillors noted the Clerk's report of actions taken since the last meeting (*Appendix A*).

Arising from the actions:

- it was noted that the manhole covers alongside the A143 had now been removed by Brocket Park Ltd;
- it was noted that the Village Handyman had had discussion with the Environmental Health department and it had been agreed that as Anglian Water now seemed to be addressing the problem, progress would be monitored and that renewed contact would be made with the Environmental Health Department if problems persist.
- it was noted that the inappropriately parked car had been removed.
- The council considered a draft letter to residents in Queens Lane and agreed its content. The Clerk will print sufficient copies for circulation to residents of Queens Lane and its tributaries.

b. The Clerk also reported:

- On correspondence from the Chief Constable and Police Commissioner: Neighbourhood

Police Officers will no longer attend meetings unless the Council raises specific issues but a general report will be published for circulation to local councils.

- That because of the slowness of the Council's bank in setting up the new mandates, he had been unable to access the accounts and so completing the annual accounts in line with the planned timetable had not been possible. It was agreed to hold the Annual Meeting of the Council on Tuesday 31st May at 6pm.
- That the Suffolk Association of Local Councils had circulated information to the effect that Government has refused a petition to give parish councils the right to appeal planning decisions.
- That the Transparency Fund made available by Government to cover additional costs arising from Councils meeting their new obligations under the Localism Act provisions will again be available in 2016/17 and that the parameters for grants had been widened. The Clerk will investigate whether the Council may be able to benefit.

80. Planning and Environment

- a. **Decisions taken by the Planning Authority** - Councillors noted the following:

Application Ref	Address and Description of Proposals	Decision
DC/15/1878/VAR	Former Fireworks Factory (Variations)	Decision still pending

Borough Cllr Rushen reported that, in email discussion with the planning officer, it had been confirmed that various planning conditions had not been met in regard to both the nature and timing of certain works. As a result, an Enforcement notice was to be issued which would open the way for legal action in the event of ongoing default. The Planning Control office has ordered that all work cease, pending satisfactory resolution of the control breaches.

The Clerk was asked to contact the Planning Officer and express support for enforcement action, to confirm that work appears to be going on despite the order to the contrary and to establish the timing for the payment, by the developer, of s106 monies.

- b. **Planning Applications**

DC/16/0528/HH - Thornwood, Queens Lane; Extensions and re-positioning of gates. The Council confirmed that it had no objections.

81. Community Matters

- a. *Village Handyman report*

Written reports covering general matters and VAS derived information (attached as *Appendix B*) were noted by the Council.

- b. *Signage for Play Area*

It was noted that a new sign would cost c.£45. Members felt that, in the absence of a nearby public telephone, nothing would be gained by spending this money. Accordingly it was decided not to commission a new sign.

- c. *Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations*

An update was received from SP and CV and it was agreed to commit up to £1,200 to the event, using funds from the Isla Ashton bequest. (LGA 1972 s145)

The Clerk was asked to write to the Isla Ashton's sister acknowledging the bequest and informing her of how it was to be applied.

- d.** *Grant Application from Little Teapots Pre-School*
The application (Appendix C) was considered. The Council expressed support for the work of the Pre-School and noted its highly successful Ofsted inspection.
It was agreed to grant £500.00 and to invite the Chair and a colleague to attend the July Council meeting so that more could be heard about their work and related issues.

82. Finance

- a.** The Council noted the introduction of a monthly account fee of £6.00 by Unity Bank from 4th June 2016 and approved ongoing payment of the fee.
- b.** *Receipts and Payments*
The Clerk informed the meeting that whilst the precept was shown as received on the schedule, payment had been attempted to the Council's previous bank and was therefore delayed. Noting this, the Council received and approved the summary of Receipts and payments (Appendix D).
- c.** *Reference Books*
Members considered *Appendix E* and approved the purchase of the latest edition of 'Arnold Baker'.

83. Councillors' reports and items for future agendas

- a.** No meeting reports were made.
- b.** No meeting arrangements were advised.
- c.** Other items of information
- *Marquis Cornwallis public house* - The pub has re-opened.
 - Cllr Fisher reported that she planned a more permanent planting scheme around the village sign to reduce the level of work in the future.

The meeting closed at 9.37pm.

Signed as an true record by authority of the Council:

Chair

Date