

CHERITON FITZPANE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 16th February 2016

Clerk. John Wilkinson, 4 Silver Way, Shobrooke, Creeting, Devon. EX17 1HP

O1363 774751. johnawilkinson@talktalk.net

Present: Cllr C. Sheldrick (ch) Cllr S. Humphreys, Cllr J. Skinner, CCllr M. Squires. Cllr P. Colthorpe. Ms Willis.

1. Parishioners Questions.

None.

2. Apologies.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr S. Meads, Cllr G. Kingdon, Cllr C. Lawson.

3. Minutes.

Following a minor correction, the minutes of the January 2016 were signed as a true and accurate record.

4. Declarations of Interest.

None

5. Roads and Footpaths.

No action has been taken on Cherry Meadow. In the area of Ford Cross drains have been Syphoned CCllr Squires took Stephen Tucker on a tour of the faults so that he is aware of all the current faults.

There has been a collapsed Water board grid outside Lower Saunders and the surface at Coffin Tree Cross has lifted due to water erosion.

The flooding at Hayne Cross has cleared.

Cllr Skinner and Cllr Humphreys did, a site examination following the complaint by Mr. Meyer of Ivy Cottage. So much of the lane is tarmaced and is no trouble but where the metalling stops, tractor and general farm traffic have damaged the surface considerably in addition, a drain running under the road has been broken and is no longer effective. The drain appeared to have been made from 'domestic' materials, but it had been effective nonetheless. The PC has some responsibility here since the access to Jacks Acre Field lies along this lane.

Mr. Meyer is one of six adjoining neighbours affected by the condition of his lane and has been happy to keep it in good order up till recently but now feels that age and infirmity now preclude such action. It Would be foolhardy to make any promises concerning the lane without more research since high costs could be incurred and whilst any solution may be fine as far as it goes, future owners/tenants may find fault with it.

In the past, Mr. Meyer has paid for drain cleaning but feels ill inclined to do this again because the farmer shows no interest in the process whilst still being happy to cause damage

There was a hint that an adjacent field may be subject to a planning application which will need proper access, though it is unlikely that the Highways Department will approve access to the lane. MDDC or Devon CC are most unlikely to wish to adopt the lane. It was suggested that two local contractors be approached to improve the part of the lane leading on to Jacks Acre and also contact the litter picker to keep an eye on an alleged rubbish problem.

In all these activities, care must be exercised in not setting any precedents.

6. Playing Fields.

Mike Smith still needs to know who to approach concerning the trimming of hedges around Jacks Acre. He is to be advised to approach Ross Hext for an answer.

The Clerk reported that the annual inspection of the Playing Fields has been arranged with RoSPA for March.

An augmented precept claim means that funds are now available to repair the impending wall bordering the small Playing Field. This is notwithstanding the result of the grant claim made through Paul Tucker. Accordingly, the Clerk was asked to instruct Nick Guscott to decide on a date when Work can begin. Guscott's quote was the most advantageous. The work will involve the playground being closed for the duration.

7. Burial Ground.

Cllr Sheldrick said that proper signs needed to be procured for the burial ground since the ones attempted before were not satisfactory. Cllr Skinner undertook to manufacture signs which were more appropriate.

8. Allotments.

The Clerk reported that all being well, the last phase of the White Cross allotment land process was at hand - the registration of new tenancy with the Land Registry.

Two appeals were heard Concerning the proposed summertime activities of the Gardening Club. They wish to place floral displays around the village including one near the Millennium Stone Consisting of a wheelbarrow and tractor tyre arrangements. The approval of the PC was asked in this and this was freely given providing there was no interference with roadside vision for traffic. A further appeal for a donation toward a sign on the triangle of grass which the club has tended for some time.

A decision will be made on this when the cost of the notice is known.

9. Finance.

9:1. The current bank statement was presented, it showed a credit balance of £10,965.99

9:2. Because of difficulties at HSBC with signatories, it was suggested that the account be moved to the National Westminster Bank who have a branch in Crediton and may be of a more sympathetic disposition. It was thought that this would be more propitious after the payment of the first tranche of the precept.

9:3 Accounts to settle. Proposed by Cllr Humphreys, seconded by Cllr Skinner with all in favour.

9:3:1. The Land Registry Fee £40.00

9:3:2 Cheriton News charge £10.00

9:3:3 C.R. Hext Replacement £36.00

9:3:4 Mike Smith Grass cutting £12.00

9:3:5 John Wilkinson, Clerks pay £278.72

(salary £240.87 expenses £37.85)

A cheque was made out for £18.00 for Parish Hall rent. This will be ratified during the March meeting.

10. Planning.

16/00068/CLP Certificate of lawful use for erection of a conservatory in accordance with drawings submitted. Tree Tops, Moxeys Close. Granted.

14/02076/FULL Proposed non-material amendment to replace reception window with door and enlarge store and window at White Cross Farm, no objection.

15/02004/FULL Conversion of redundant building to dwelling at holes Cottage, bary Close according to revised drawings. Some changes have been made following the discussions held during the January meeting but the main item of contention is the window which abuts the entrance door of Ms Willis's property. No concession has been made in this. Members thought that it was not fair to build to the detriment of neighbouring property and it was felt that a shortened version of the window could be evolved. The Clerk was asked to reply in this vein, making objection if any other course is taken.

11. Correspondence.

A single item of printed matter was produced.

12. Bradninch Letter

A letter from the Town Council at Bradninch concerning precepts and Local Council funds was noted.

13. Chairman's Reports.

Some of the dog waste bins are showing signs of age and damage. Rusty tops and other failings. In addition, the bin at Arthurs Wood has not been emptied recently and has probably been forgotten. The matter will be considered during the March meeting.

A report from the recent meeting in Black Dog about rural broadband. CCllr Squires said that the essence of the BT response was that there was no intention to install immediately and maybe a re-try in six months might produce a response

Cllr Skinner said that it might be useful to give householders the chance to pay for their own connection but that any connection with copper wire will not serve, fibre being the only viable method.

The meeting closed at 9.02, next meeting Tuesday 15th March.