

CHESHAM BOIS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Council Meeting held at The Council Office, Glebe Way, Chesham Bois at 8.00pm on Monday 22nd February 2016

PRESENT: Cllr R Hartley (Chairman), Cllr J Bailey, Cllr D Buckingham, Cllr G Goldstein , Cllr R Harrison, Cllr D King, Cllr C Thomas, Cllr R Thorndike and Cllr C Woolveridge
Mrs S Payne – Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs J Austin-Lavery and Mr B Ford, BCC's Parish Devolution Team

87. Questions and Comments from the Public – None.

88. Apologies for Absence: None.

89. Presentation by Buckinghamshire County Council's (BCC) Parish Devolution Team on Tranche 2 Parish Devolution

Ms Austin-Lavery and Mr Ford presented their answers to questions previously raised by members of Council. They outlined the terms and funding available to Chesham Bois for Tranche 2. They informed Council that BCC have instructed Transport for Bucks (TfB) to reduce their service provision from six to four grass cuts in urban areas for 2016/17.

Ms Austin-Lavery confirmed that BCC would remain responsible for the metallic surface of footways and the need for maintenance work should be reported to TfB. Council requested confirmation of the footways to be devolved, especially in Milton Lawns. Ms Austin-Lavery would forward maps together with a more detailed grass cutting map for Chesham Bois. The hedge along Bois Lane was discussed as maintenance of this hedge would require traffic management.

Ms Austin-Lavery & Mr Bradley Ford left the meeting.

90. To Receive Declarations of Interest Relating to this Meeting. None declared.

91. To Consider Whether or Not to Accept Devolved Activities in Tranche 2 of the Parish Devolution on 1st April 2016

Cllr King led the discussion on why Council should agree to accept devolved activities in Tranche 2. He informed Council that it was likely that the cost to Council would be greater than the payment from BCC but Council would be in control of the quality and frequency of work.

Cllr Thorndike raised his concerns about the additional work devolved services would involve for the Clerk and Cllr King and the lack of detailed information and maps from BCC. With such a short time frame it would be difficult for Council to have the necessary tender specification and robust management processes in place.

It was resolved by 8 votes For and 1 vote Against to agree in principle to devolution on 1st April 2016 subject to Council satisfying itself that it is able to put in place schedules and processes to carry out the necessary work and Council can identify and BCC agree to the extent of works to be taken on.

Action: Cllr King/Clerk

92. To Agree Council's Response to Chiltern & South Bucks Local Plan (2014-2036) Consultation Document

Council discussed their response to the questions raised in the consultation document. Cllr Goldstein and Cllr Thomas would circulate an initial draft to Council for their comment. The Clerk would find out if the Council's response could be submitted after its next scheduled meeting on the evening of 14th March.

Action: Cllr Goldstein/Cllr Thomas/Clerk

If an extension of a day were permitted the final draft of Council's response would be presented to the Council meeting on 14th March for consideration. A notice would be displayed on the noticeboards and website informing parishioners that Council's response would be discussed at the next meeting and inviting them to attend.

Action: Cllr Goldstein

The meeting finished at 10.10pm

Date of next meeting of Council: Monday 14th March 2016 at 8pm