

CHESHAM BOIS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at The Parish Centre, Glebe Way, Chesham Bois at 8.00pm on Monday 23rd May 2022

Councillor Deborah Conway-Read, Chairman of Chesham Bois Parish Council, presided. There were approximately 30 persons present which included Buckinghamshire Councillors, a number of Parish Councillors and the Parish Clerk.

1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed the attendees

2. Report from the Chairman on the Activities of the Parish Council

It had been a year of changes and challenges for the Parish Council. During the year several new Councillors had been elected and the new Parish Clerk was appointed in October 2021.

The Annual Report was circulated. It was confirmed that the precept had been kept very low at £88,000.

The Parish Council had managed to organise several community events throughout the year, a drama workshop for children, Remembrance Service, Carols and Christmas Lights and a performance of Macbeth. In June 2022 a Summer Fete has been organised.

3. Questions/comments from Local Electors

The Common, Woodland and Burial Ground Working Group were thanked for their work on Tenterden Spinney to maintain this area as a safe place frequently enjoyed by local children.

It was requested that email alerts be set up for the website to notify of new information posted. The Clerk will look into this.

Updated information was requested on the redevelopment of the Parish Centre. The Chair confirmed that the appeal submitted had been refused. All documentation and planning information is available on the Buckinghamshire Council website.

A resident advised that several hedges were encroaching on to pathways around the parish. Residents were advised to write to or email the Parish Clerk with any issues such as this. The situation is monitored, and requests have been sent to several residents who have then had their hedges cut back.

A resident requested information on the priorities for the budget for the coming year. It was confirmed that ongoing projects are the Common and Woodland Management Plan which includes the refurbishment of Bricky Pond. A specialist botanical survey has been carried out and a further inspection is required to assess whether the pond is leaking. This is a work in progress. The report will be published on the website when it is received. The road in the Burial Ground needs maintenance work. The Parish Council is also responsible for maintenance of verges under devolved services and the organisation of the Summer Fete. Suggestions from residents are welcomed if there are any other services they feel the Parish Council could provide on their behalf.

The Transport Working Group looked into the cost of the unmetered streetlighting costs as the lights had been changed to LED. This resulted in a saving of over £2,600 over the next year.

The Parish Council have applied for the Chapel at the Burial Ground to be a registered place of worship. This is currently a work in progress.

4. Presentation from Dr Alison Wolfreys, Chair of the Buckinghamshire Badger Group

5. Presentation from Jean Slater of the Chesham Society

Interesting and informative talks were given on the Buckinghamshire Badger Group activities and the work of the Chesham Society. The talks were followed by questions from the public.

The meeting formally closed at 9.20pm and was followed by refreshments and the opportunity to chat further.