

Chesham Bois Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in the Parish Office, Glebe Way, Chesham Bois at 8.00pm on Monday 11th March 2024

PRESENT: Cllr L Winrow (Chair), Cllr J Harris, Cllr P Eckersall, Cllr D King, Cllr S Staite, Cllr J Bailey, Cllr V Yadav, Cllr D Buckingham, Cllr K Keen

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms A Dealey (Clerk)

99.1 Questions and Comments from the Public - None received.

99.2 Apologies for Absence – None received

99.3 To Receive Declarations of Interest or Dispensations Relating to this Meeting
None received.

99.4 To approve the Minutes of 12th February Council Meeting
Minutes were approved

99.5 Chair's Report

The Chair's report was noted. The Chair welcomed Karen Keen as a new Chesham Bois Councillor. It was noted that no further communication has been received from St Leonard's PCC regarding the office lease. In response to residents' concerns about the increase in local crime recently, Thames Valley Police have been invited to speak at the Annual Parish Meeting on 22nd April. Confirmation is awaited.

99.6 Clerk's Report

Clerk's report was noted.

The advice of the Open Spaces Society was noted regarding the condition of the North Road track. Further information on easements to be brought to the next Council meeting, together with a recommendation for a course of action. **Action: Clerk/Cllr Staite**

It was agreed that a Working Group would be created to progress the refurbishment of the War Memorial. Members of the Working Group – Cllr Eckersall, Cllr Harris and the Clerk.

The response to the Freedom of Information Request to Buckinghamshire Council re Planning Application PL/22/4974/FA was noted.

A speaker from both the Amersham Museum and the Chiltern Society are confirmed for the Annual Parish Meeting. Thames Valley Police have been invited to provide a speaker.

99.7 Finance

i) Finance reports were approved. It was noted that the Burial Ground income is £21,000 under budget, however a £28,000 rebate was received for rates for the Burial Ground. Meetings to be held with each WG to discuss reserves and any amendments and additions to finance codes prior to the April Council Meeting. Finance WG meeting to be arranged for first week of April.

- ii) Payments were approved.
- iii) It was resolved that Cllr Winrow would become an approver for bank payments and Cllr King would input payments in the Clerk's absence if required. Clerk to advise bank.

Action: Clerk

Payments approved at this meeting to be approved on the bank by Cllr King and Cllr Staite.

Action: Cllr King/Cllr Staite

99.8 To Receive Reports from Working Groups

a) *Burial Grounds Management WG Chair's Report*

- i) The Chair's report was noted.
It is the 100 year anniversary of the Burial Ground in December this year. Suggestions to mark the anniversary are a plaque for the chapel, new noticeboard for entrance to woodland section or nature board for main entrance area.

b) *Common and Woodlands WG Chair's Report:*

- i) The Chair's report was noted.
- ii) It was resolved to adopt the Common and Woodland Working Group remit.
- iii) Two trees suffering from ash die-back on the Triangle have been felled. The planting of an oak tree to commemorate the Coronation of King Charles III has been delayed due to the wet weather.
A budget of £350 was resolved for the purchase of a plaque for the commemorative oak tree.

Action: Clerk

Tree safety survey of the common is complete. A requirement of the Woodland Management Plan is that trees are inspected every 18 months. The Woodland Management Plan is due for review this year. Cllr Harris to arrange a meeting with the Forestry Commission.

Action: Cllr Harris

Repair work to Jacob's Ladder by the Chiltern Society is complete.

Cllr King to look into the viability of the adoption of a Neighbourhood Plan for Chesham Bois.

Action: Cllr King

Heritage Asset List to be created.

Action: Clerk/C&W WG

c) *Transport WG Chair's Report:*

- i) The Chair's report was noted.
- ii) It was resolved that the Council would accept the Devolved Services Agreement for 2024/25 from Buckinghamshire Council. The Highways Devolution payment for Chesham Bois PC for 2024/25 will be £3,928.30.
- iii) It was resolved to accept quotation from Contractor B to carry out devolved services works for 2024/25 in the sum of £5,300 plus VAT. Clerk to advise contractor.

Action: Clerk

d) *Communications Working Group*

- i) The Chair's report was noted.
A meeting of the WG will be held to discuss options for CBPC to move to a .gov.uk domain. Recommendations will be brought to the next Council Meeting.

Cllr K Keen was appointed as member of the Communications Working Group.

e) Environment Working Group

Cllr K Keen was appointed as a member of the Environment Working Group

f) Village Community Working Group

- i) The Chair's report was noted.
- ii) The proposed selection of food and drink vendors for the Fete was agreed.
- iii) A meeting to be arranged with Mayo's to agree fee for stall. All other food providers to be charged £50 for a stall plus 5% of any profit made at the event. Elangeni School PTA to be asked to run the bar.
- iv) Chesham Bois School PTA to be asked to run the bouncy assault course for children.
- v) Fees proposed by entertainment providers were agreed.
- vi) Charge for tickets for tombola stalls were agreed - £1 for adults and 50p for children.
- vii) A budget of £150 was agreed for prizes for the nature photography competition.
- viii) Any profit from the Fete to be shared equally between Elangeni School, Chesham Bois School, 1st, 2nd and 3rd Chesham Bois Brownies and 1st Chesham Bois Scouts.

99.9 To consider residents' concerns regarding local crime rate and resolve a course of action

It was resolved to invite Thames Valley Police to attend the Annual Parish Meeting on 22nd April to advise residents on safety and security. Once residents' views are heard at the Annual Parish Meeting consideration may be given to CCTV or Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

99.10 Planning Committee

- i) Minutes of 26th February Planning Committee Meeting were noted

It was unanimously resolved that under Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1990, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that they include the likely disclosure of exempt information, stated to be confidential.

99.11 Review of Burial Ground costs and procedures

- i) Burial Ground Custodian contract to be amended for approval at April Council Meeting.
- ii) It was resolved to accept resident's interment request.

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm