

Chesham Bois Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in the Parish Office, Glebe Way, Chesham Bois at 8.00pm on Monday 10th June 2024

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms A Dealey (Clerk)

103.1 Questions and Comments from the Public - None received.

103.2 Apologies for Absence – Cllr S Staite, Cllr J Harris

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

103.4 To approve the Minutes of 13th May Council Meeting
Minutes were approved

103.5 Chair's Report
The Chair's report was noted.

Cllr K Keen arrived at the Meeting, 8.05 pm.

103.6 Clerk's Report
The Clerk's report was noted.

- i) The Council agreed to the application for a Memorial Bench on the Common. The location of the bench is to be confirmed. Clerk to contact applicant. **Action: Clerk**
- ii) The Council agreed to Thames Valley Orienteering Club holding an event on Parish land on 14th December 2024. Clerk to advise applicant. **Action: Clerk**

103.7 Finance

- i) Finance reports were approved.
- ii) Payments were approved.
- iii) It was resolved that two new budget codes would be created. One for the Parish Centre Redevelopment and one for the Neighbourhood Plan. **Action: Clerk**

103.8 To Receive Reports from Working Groups

a) Burial Grounds Management WG Chair's Report

- i) The Chair's report was noted. Event to mark the centenary of the Burial Ground in 2024 will be considered at the July Council Meeting.

b) Transport WG Chair's Report:

- i) The Chair's report was noted. Schedule of roadworks for Chesham Bois area over the next few weeks was noted. Monthly updates to be added to the website. **Action: Clerk**

c) Environment Working Group

- i) The Chair's report was noted.
We await confirmation from Buckinghamshire Council as to whether Chesham Bois Common could be designated as a Local Wildlife Site.
The bat box will be delivered week commencing 17th June. Member of EWG to liaise and assess how best to install equipment when it arrives.
It was noted that the water in the pond is at a very low level. The cost of a depth measuring gauge to be researched and advice to be sought on topping up water level. **Action: Clerk**
The Council resolved to accept the quotation from contractor to mow the two footpaths across the Thomas Harding Meadow during June. Clerk to advise contractor. **Action: Clerk**

d) Village Community Working Group

- i) The Chair's report was noted. The final preparations for the Village Fete on 15th June are in progress. Schedule has been agreed for volunteers for the day.
It was resolved that revised date for the Picnic on the Common 2024 would be 31st August.

103.9 Planning Committee

Minutes of 28th May Planning Committee Meetings were noted

103.10 Neighbourhood Plan

It was agreed that the Council require consultant support to complete the process of application for a Neighbourhood Plan (NP). Grant funding is available totalling £18,000. The standard grant is £10,000 and CBPC would be eligible for an additional grant of £8,000 for technical support. Consultant has agreed to work 'at risk' prior to award of grant. With consultant support, the aim would be to complete the NP by end December 2024. One additional member of the Steering Group is required.

- i) It was resolved that a grant application would be submitted **Action: Clerk**
ii) Budget of £20,000 was agreed, to be funded on receipt of possible grant, or by partial or 100% funding from General Reserve
iii) Flyer to be drafted to be distributed at forthcoming Village Fete to raise residents' awareness of the NP. An information page to be added to the website. **Action: Chair/Clerk**

103.11 Parish Centre Redevelopment

The Council considered actions to be taken pending the anticipated formal Notice of Appeal. Details and minutes of the committee meeting held regarding Chiltern Beechwoods SAC document which was modified on 1st February have been requested from Buckinghamshire Council. We await their response. It was agreed that CBPC will require legal advice to deal with the range of issues relating to the appeal. It was therefore resolved:

- i) To allocate funds for legal advice from reserves when the appeal is received.
ii) To request quotes from companies to support CBPC in the appeal process, (for consideration at an EGM if required) **Action: Clerk**
iii) To form a sub-committee to progress work on the appeal over the summer months if required.
iv) EGM to be arranged for week commencing 17th June to resolve a course of action, if required.

The meeting closed at 9.33 pm