

Chesham Bois Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in the Parish Office, Glebe Way, Chesham Bois at 8.00pm on Monday 8th July 2024

PRESENT: Cllr L Winrow (Chair), Cllr P Eckersall, Cllr S Staite, Cllr J Harris, Cllr K Keen

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms A Dealey (Clerk)

105.1 Questions and Comments from the Public - None received.

105.2 Apologies for Absence – Cllr J Bailey, Cllr D Buckingham, Cllr D King, Cllr V Yadav

105.3 To Receive Declarations of Interest or Dispensations Relating to this Meeting

None received.

105.4 To approve the Minutes of 10th June Council Meeting and 28th June EGM

Minutes were approved

105.5 Chair's Report

The Chair's report was noted. The Chair thanked all who took part in the organisation of the 2024 Fete.

105.6 Clerk's Report

The Clerk's report was noted.

- i) The Council insurance policy held with Aviva is due for renewal on 14th July 2024. The Council resolved to accept the renewal quotation from Clear Councils/Aviva. **Action: Clerk**
- ii) The net profit from the Fete was a nominal amount. It was resolved that the Council would make a payment of £50 to each of the schools, brownies, guides and scout organisations that took part. **Action: Clerk**
- iii) It was agreed in principle to install an additional dog bin at the junction of Mayhall Lane/Chesham Road. Costs to be confirmed at September Council Meeting. **Action: Clerk**

105.7 Finance

- i) Finance reports were approved.
- ii) Payments were approved.
- iii) The payment schedule for payments due in August 2024 was approved.

105.8 To Receive Reports from Working Groups

a) Burial Grounds Management WG Chair's Report

- i) The Chair's report was noted.
- ii) The Council agreed to participate in England Heritage Week on Saturday 14th September.
- iii) The Burial Ground is 100 years old in 2024. Options for a commemorative plaque for the chapel will be considered at the September Council Meeting. The option to hold a commemorative service in the chapel was considered. Details of a celebrant will be brought to the September meeting. **Action: BGMWG**
- iv) Costs for the restoration of a war grave in the Burial Ground which requires repair will be considered at the September meeting. Further quotes to be obtained. **Action: Clerk**

b) Common and Woodland WG Chair's Report:

- i) The Chair's report was noted. The plaque for the Coronation commemorative oak tree has been received. Clerk to organise contractor to install plaque. **Action: Clerk**
- ii) Two quotes are awaited for the cleaning and refurbishment of the War Memorial. A budget of £5,000 was agreed to progress the refurbishment works over the summer period. **Action: Clerk**

c) Transport WG Chair's Report:

- i) The Chair's report was noted. It was resolved to accept the contractor quotation to plumb and concrete the damaged streetlight in Deep Acres. The inspection invoice of £580 plus VAT to be allocated to general costs and the repair work of £550 plus VAT to be allocated to the street lighting maintenance budget. Clerk to instruct contractor. **Action: Clerk**

d) Environment Working Group

- i) The Chair's report was noted. Unfortunately, CBPC are no longer able to take part in the BbatS project as the format of the survey has been altered and the common is not located near to any of the designated sites that have been chosen. Survey work is ongoing to establish whether the common would be eligible to be designated as a Local Wildlife Site.
- ii) It was agreed to approve version 3 of the Biodiversity Action Plan. WG to review the impact of the Plan on other WG remits. **Action: Environment WG**

e) Village Community Working Group

- i) The Chair's report was noted.
The Picnic on the Common will take place on 31st August 2024. Volunteers to help run the event to be confirmed. Band to be arranged. **Action: VCWG**

105.9 Planning Committee

Minutes of 24th June Planning Committee Meetings were noted

105.10 To review parish boundary survey report received and resolve a course of action

An advisory report has been received from a Chartered Land Surveyor to establish where the parish boundary lies to enable this to be marked. A further survey has been recommended. Contact to be made with the Diocese regarding the cost of this further survey. **Action: Cllr Staite**

105.11 Neighbourhood Plan update

Notification has been received that CBPC have been awarded a grant of £10,000 for the purpose of progressing the Neighbourhood Plan. CBPC are entitled to apply for further funding of £8,000 for the design code.

- i) The remit of the Steering Group together with delegated responsibilities was approved to enable the project to be progressed over the summer. Report will be made to the Council in September. It was agreed to allocate funds of £10,000 to the Neighbourhood Plan.

105.12 Parish Centre Appeal re Planning Application PL/22/4074/FA update

- i) The draft public statement was approved. Statement to be published on the website, noticeboards, social media and the August edition of YourAmersham.
- ii) Lawyers have been instructed to assist with the appeal process. An EGM will be arranged on 25th July to agree CBPC's official response.
- iii) The Chair will attend a meeting of Protect Chesham Bois, together with their Planning Consultant, on 10th July to provide an update on the actions taken so far by CBPC.

It was resolved under Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1970, 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.

105.13 Burial Ground procedures

- i) Council resolved to agree to two residents' requests for plot reservations due to exceptional circumstances.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm