

# CHEDDON FITZPAINE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Thursday 11 July 2013

in the Memorial Hall Committee Room.

**Present:** Cllr D Webber, Cllr R Isaacs, Cllr J Blackshaw, Cllr G Bridges, Cllr P Thomas,  
SC Cllr D Fothergill, D Cllr B Nottrodt

**Clerk:** Mrs J Pearson

- 1. Apologies for absence:** SC Cllr C Gordon, D Cllr N Cavill
- 2. Declarations of personal/prejudicial interests:**  
Cllr Webber – Planning Committee TDBC  
Cllr Isaacs, Trustee CAB  
SC Cllr Fothergill, Trustee of Hestercombe
- 3. Minutes of Annual Parish Council Meeting on 9 May 2013.** It was unanimously **resolved** these were accurate and signed by the Chairman.

**Public Question Time** – No members of the public present

- 4. Parish Councillor Vacancies:** These had been duly advertised widely on Notice Boards and the Parish Magazine but no-one had come forward. Co-option can take place during the year.  
**Nat West Signatories:** Cllr Julie Blackshaw offered her resignation at the previous meeting, and her authority is to be removed from the signatory list. **To confirm and resolve** the current signatories are: Denise Webber (Chairman), Rob Isaacs, Gareth Bridges, Phil Thomas, & Jo Pearson (as Clerk/RFO). **Proposed:** G Bridges, seconded: R Isaacs  
**NS&I Signatories:** The current signatories are **resolved** as: Denise Webber (Chairman), Rob Isaacs, Gareth Bridges, Phil Thomas, & Jo Pearson (as Clerk/RFO). Signatories to be removed: Kathy Musgrave, Julie Blackshaw. **Proposed:** G Bridges, seconded P Thomas

## **5. Village Issues:**

### **Section 106 Playground Money**

The Clerk and SC Cllr Claire Gordon/Knightstone had arranged a consultation for which play equipment could be sited at Stoney Furlong, Nerrols Drive. Local residents are invited on 20 July 2013 between 10-12 noon on the Open Space area to give their views. Claire Gordon/Knightstone have delivered posters advertising the event. A query had arisen with the Officers at DLO and a misunderstanding cleared up over the 'ownership' of land. It appears, with hindsight, that a consultation was not needed in this particular instance as TDBC DLO manage the site: however, it is thought the consultation will be a worthwhile exercise for Knightstone and their tenants/local residents, SC Cllr Gordon and the local parishioners, and the Parish Council as a whole to interact with the community. DLO Debbie Arscott records her delight that the process is taking place, and will be pleased to receive the suggestions or views of those who take part. The Parish Council wish to record their desire for the equipment to be placed on the Open Space Area and not the other smaller play areas; and they wish to be consulted by DLO.

### **Flood Mitigation Fund 2013/14 (closing date: 26 July 2013)**

The Clerk had been to meet Steve Webster, SCC Service Manager - Flood and Water Management for guidance on what could be included on the application form to reduce the risks of flooding in the future. After discussion at County Hall, and subsequently at the Parish Meeting, it was agreed to include the following:

1. **Upper Cheddon** – Cottages/Watercourse/Road – to look at strengthening the highway side approx. 200-300 yards south to Cheddon House.
2. Flood/depth Signs in **Maidenbrook Lane**
3. Private **road beside School Cottages** – to be repaired following erosion of river bank below.
4. **Wessex Water Pump Station** in Cheddon Fitzpaine village – is it adequate for the task required?

The form was completed and signed by the Chairman/Clerk. The clerk to forward the completed form to SCC.

**Lengthsman** – Tasks have been identified for the lengthsman around the Parish. The Chairman had left phone messages but none had been returned. The lengthsman may undertake work on C/D roads (but not A/B) having attended the Chapter 8 one-day course. It is to be ascertained whether Liam Holley is suitably qualified.

**Litter Bin by Cheddon Lawns** – The clerk had visited Nick Whitemore at DLO and understood that pressure of work was the reason for his lack of reply. A quote had now been received of £310 + vat to supply and install one litter bin. An additional cost of £2.50 per week for emptying = £125 pa. It was **resolved** to accept this quote: **Proposed** by R Isaacs, seconded by G Bridges

**Notice Boards:** Cllr Bridges has removed the board by Cheddon Lawns and this will be repaired for use at Upper Cheddon

**Summerleaze** board needs a minor repair – Action: Josh (Blacksmith)

**Waterleaze** notice board. A quote had been received from Josh Lindfield, Blacksmith of £1,370 + vat, and £260 + vat to install. Glasden have a large board priced at £876.90. The clerk will ascertain the cost to install from DLO. After discussion, it was thought that the Glasden price was value for money and it was **resolved to purchase the Large Post-mounted board for £876.90. Proposed:** G Bridges, seconded R Isaacs

**School Cottages road/riverbank.** Cllr Bridges informed the meeting of parking problems caused by the fenced off area. D Cllr B Nottrodt had spoken to Jean Adkins at TDBC, and D Cllr D Webber to follow up with TDBC as some residents are TDBC tenants along the private road.

**Staddens – Highways.** D Cllr Nottrodt reported the bank has collapsed beside the road on the section between Staddens/Kingston St Mary. The clerk to contact SCC Highways.

**Village Floods** – Nick Holley dug out the ditches by the Old Post Office and this was part funded by the Crown. Cllr Thomas reported that the foul drains overflow at least annually and the Old Post Office was badly affected during the reported floods. It is understood that there is a legal liability by Wessex Water to prevent raw sewage from causing problems. SC Cllr Fothergill to contact Robbie Williams, Regional Director of Wessex Water on this matter.

## 6. Maidenbrook Ward

**Bovis Homes/Adoption:** Adrian Shute, Estate Adoptions Manager (Cheltenham) was disappointed to understand that further tasks are required by SCC Highways to meet the obligations before Adoption of the area can take place.

### **Cycleway/Tudor Park/Yellands Hill**

Part of the cycleway has been cut by Tarka, and DLO has assured the clerk that the remainder will be cut shortly.

**Priorswood Liaison:** QueueCam has now been installed and visitors to the Recycling Centre at the Crown Roundabout can look online before departure to see the length of the queue. Visit: Somerset County Council website/Recycling sites/Taunton QueueCam for images.

7. **Crown Estate:** Crown Agent, Alastair Deighton, met Davin Eversett, Area Manager of Wessex Water. Quotes are being obtained to shore up the lower part of the stream in Gadds Valley to reduce erosion at peak times and this work will be co-funded by the Crown and Wessex Water.
8. **Hestercombe.** SC Cllr Fothergill declared an interest as a Trustee. There is a road closure by the Cheddon Primary School for 3 days from 29 July, 2013 to enable a larger pipe to be installed under the road to remove water from the area. Coaches to Hestercombe will be re-routed. It may be possible for the work to be undertaken with 'single file traffic' but this will not be known until the work begins.
9. **Highways.** The Chairman and Clerk had attended a meeting at SCC Highways with David Peake, Dennis Quick & Ian Titcombe. The details had been previously circulated. It is known that road side cutting of grass verges have been reduced to two per year because of funding cuts. Enhanced cutting of A/B roads/junctions can be requested. The Clerk was requested to ask the Crown Agent to allow the release of flood water through the hedge at Maidenbrook Lane. SIDs – it is understood to be installed in July 2013 near Pyrlands Farm, and Nerrols Drive.

## 10 Planning Applications for discussions

D Cllr D Webber declared an interest in 08/13/0015

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|---|----------------------|
| 08/13/0007 - Installation of a 50,000 litre replacement fuel tank at Unit N, Crown Ind Est.   | <b>No objections</b> |
| 08/13/0009 Change of use and conversion of two outbuildings to form nursery accommodation, and erection of entrance lobby to connect the two buildings at Kings Hall School,  | <b>No objections</b> |
| 08/13/0010 -Erection of conservatory to rear of 17 Summerleaze Crescent,  | <b>No objections</b> |
| 08/13/0011 - Erection of detached dwelling with associated access and works at Brook View, Tudor Park, Maidenbrook (amended scheme to application 08/12/0027)                 | <b>No objections</b> |
| 08/13/0012/LB Replacement of roofing to the rear extension, replacement of defective partitioning, and installation of kitchen and bathroom furniture at 97 Maidenbrook Lane, | <b>No objections</b> |
| 08/13/0013 Residential development of 26 affordable dwellings Ladymead Community School, Taunton (amended scheme to 08/10/0008)   | <b>No objections</b> |
| 08/13/0015 - Conversion of outbuilding to annexe with associated alterations at Cheddon Corner, Cheddon Fitzpaine –   | <b>no objections</b> |
| 08/13/0016/LB Conversion of outbuilding to annexe with associated alterations at Cheddon Corner, Cheddon Fitzpaine  | <b>no objections</b> |

## 11 Decisions received-

- |  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 08/13/0003/LB - Conversion and renovation of two outbuildings with the erection of a linking entrance lobby between the two at Kings Hall School, Cheddon Fitzpaine- | <b>CONDITIONAL APPROVAL</b> |
| 08/13/0004 - Erection of two storey extension at 10 Cashford Gate, Cheddon F.  | <b>CONDITIONAL APPROVAL</b> |
| 08/13/0006/T- Notification to fell one thuja tree within Cheddon Fitzpaine Conservation Area at Tara, Cheddon Fitzpaine-   | <b>NO OBJECTION - TREES</b> |

## 12 Reports:

**SCC** – SC Cllr Fothergill spoke of an Ofsted Inspection of the Child Protection Services which took place with 30 minutes' notice. The report is expected in August. Boradband is on schedule being rolled out across Devon & Somerset with extra coverage covering up to 92% of the community. A County flag has been organised by the County Gazette without consultation with SCC. In the current heatwave, everyone is asked to look after senior citizens.

**TDBC** – Cllr Nottrodt informed the meeting of the joint working party to integrate Sedgemoor District Council. It was noted the cuts in funding to the Fire Brigade and the difficulty in how to apportion them.

**Police** – No-one was present. Cllr Webber informed that Inspector Bell had spoken recently of crime figures being down significantly, and arrests up significantly. Current problems are a shocking increase in shoplifting for food. Many instances are of first time offenders who, in the current economic climate, pay their utility bills and then, without any further means of payment, shoplift in order to feed themselves. Food banks are increasingly busy, often running out of food.

**Priorswood Community Partnership.** The Chairman and Clerk had attended to strengthen links with the neighbouring unparished area.

**SALC Area Meeting** – the clerk attended the meeting in July with general briefings. The main concern has been the arranging and advertising of the position of County Secretary as Peter Lacey had such experience and knowledge. The group widely praised those who had stepped in and run SALC so efficiently and expertly.

**SLCC** – the clerk had attended a training day in July including sessions on VAT and Pensions. Both were valuable (if a little dry) and gave further networking opportunities with a useful exchange of information between clerks.

- 13 Internal Audit by Bryan Howe.** This had been completed and forwarded to the External Auditor. Points raised include a request for the clerk to note all standing orders and direct debits in the Minutes.
- 14. To approve payment to Internal Auditor £201.50**  
**Proposed:** J Blackshaw, Seconded P Thomas
- 15 External Audit:** completed satisfactorily and the signed Audit had been returned by Grant Thornton. One point arose in a minor error in the figure quoted for the PWLB. The information needed does not arrive until after the audit is required. The fee of £120 was **resolved** for payment. **Proposed:** J Blackshaw, seconded P Thomas.
- 16 PWLB payment on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2013 - £406.79 - noted**
- 17 To note Bank Reconciliation:** The clerk had not completed the Excel spreadsheet for 2013-14 owing to a lack of time, but showed the Bank statements which were checked and signed by the Chairman.
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|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 28.5.13 Clerks salary | £320.67                     |
| 3.6.13 PWLB           | £406.79                     |
| 10.6.13. SALC         | £25.00 councillor training. |
| 26.6.13 Clerks Salary | £320.67                     |
| 28.6.13 Interest      | £2.11                       |
- 18 Community Council subscription.** £35 – approved but agreed to review next year.
- 19 To agree CAB grant.** Cllr R Isaac declared an interest. It was agreed that this was potentially valuable to many parishioners and it was agreed to increase the amount from £30 in March 2012 to £50 this year. **Proposed:** J Blackshaw, seconded P Thomas

**20 To approve a donation of £10 in the memory of Peter Lacey/SALC. Proposed:** G Bridges, seconded R Isaacs

**21 Payments for Authorisation - Proposed** G Bridges, seconded P Thomas  
Clerks Expenses: £29.90 mileage office £37.45 Computer repair: £24  
Arnold-Baker Reference book (9<sup>th</sup> edition) £60 (SLCC)  
Internal Auditor – B Howe £201.50  
External Auditor –Grant Thornton - £120  
Community Council £35  
SALC £10 (Peter Lacey memorial)

**21 Matters raised by Councillors**  
The Chairman thanked Julie Blackshaw for her diligent and detailed work for the Parish over the past five years and wished her and family well for the return to Australia.  
Phil Thomas requested that Grit boxes be put on the next agenda, and the Clerk asked to find how much to install them.

**22 Correspondence.** Circulated

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Denise Webber (signed as a true record – 12 September 2013)

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Chairman