

## CHEDDON FITZPAINE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.00pm on Thursday, 9 February 2017

in the Memorial Hall Committee Room.

**Present:** Cllrs Webber, Batsch, Woollacott, Thompson. SCC Cllr Fothergill, D Cllr Cavill, WM Clerk Mrs T Cavill.  
Clerk: J Pearson

1. **Apologies for Absence:** SCC Cllr Adkins, D Cllrs Townsend, Tucker, Parrish. Cllrs Durham, Isaacs
2. **To receive declarations of personal/prejudicial/disclosable pecuniary interests:**  
Cllr Thompson signed the Application for Dispensation regarding the Precept thus permitting the ability to discuss financial matters for 2017; this being the first available occasion to sign since December 2016.  
Cllr Webber declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 13.
3. **The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12 January 2017:** It was **resolved** to approve unanimously and signed by the Chairman.  
**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - None**
4. **Neighbourhood Plan NP Update: Informal Consultation:** Flyers were distributed to every household advising that the draft document would be available in TDBC Offices, Taunton Library, and online on both Cheddon Fitzpaine and West Monkton Parish Councils websites by mid-February. An unexpected delay occurred with Specialists receiving many NP documents at the same time which need examining, resulting in an unexpected minimum two-week delay. Balancing the desire to move on with the process versus the legal requirements of staying within parameters is challenging. Websites will be updated to keep everyone informed. The Consultation will provide the EVIDENCE that the community has been consulted. It is vital before the formal NP document goes to TDBC for six weeks, and the Independent Examiner for six weeks. It is anticipated that Parishioners will get to vote in the Autumn (September?) to ratify this work. It then will become a legal document and binding. Detailed NP Minutes available on website.
5. **Cheddon Ward issues:**  
**Flytipping:** A sofa and associated rubbish had been reported to the TDBC twice in a gateway in Maidenbrook Lane. The advice received is that items on private land cannot be collected. Clerk informed the Crown, who informed the farmer to arrange disposal. It is believed flytipping has increased within the parish since restrictions were applied for disposing of items at the Recycling Centre: the reason for this is those outside County boundaries (where charging operates) are using Somerset recycling facilities and the restrictions were sought to rebalance matters. For the Parishes adjacent to the Taunton Recycling Centre it is to be expected that those who do not adhere to rules chose to disobey them and flytip in the vicinity. TDBC has a responsibility to collect flytipping, and this is usually undertaken within 24 hours of the item being reported.  
**Mud on Hestercombe Road:** Considerable depth of mud and slurry on the road was reported to SCC Highways. The farmer has been requested to reinstate/clean the road – which is used by Hestercombe visitors, ambulances to Gotton Nursing Home, as well as local residents.  
**Potholes in Rowford:** This had been reported previously, spray markings outlined, but no work undertaken. Cllr Fothergill to follow up: Note: work undertaken the following day.
6. **Maidenbrook Ward issues:**  
**Estate Adoption:** Taylor Wimpey are awaiting to hear from TDBC DLO regarding their papers. Bovis have confirmed they will clear their open spaces including the attenuation basin which will commence as soon as the boundary is confirmed by the legal department. Richard Burge, Manager DLO, has confirmed a meeting will take place with those concerned shortly. Clerk continually follows up.  
**Tudor Park:** A child had been injured at Tudor Park near the housebuilding where holes for road lighting posts had been left exposed. The builder had remedied; though this was reported to the Parish Council. Clerk had informed Dan Mawer, SCC Principal Estate Roads Engineer who in turn advised the TDBC Planning Officers. It was suggested for residents to contact TDBC Health & Safety. The ongoing slow housebuilding at Tudor Park has exacerbated the lack of final road surface. D Cllr Cavill to take the matter up with Planning Officers to understand the delay in approving two outstanding planning applications. Clerk to advise residents of Tudor Park of ongoing communications.
7. **Northwalls Grange/Summerleaze/Stoney Furlong:** no information

8. **Crown/Hestercombe/Gadds Valley:** no information

9. **Highways:**

**Bus Shelter at Crown Medical Centre:** A meeting took place at County Hall on 31 January 2017

Dan Mawer, SCC Principal Development Infrastructure Officer

John Perrett, SCC Service Manager, Transporting Somerset

Tom Main, (title unknown, but Support Officer)

Rachael Mulcaire, Assistant Estate Officer

Jo Pearson, Cheddon Fitzpaine Parish Clerk

**Background:**

- S106 made Dec 2010 with Crown, but when land sold to developer (DWH) takes on the obligations to carry out the S106 legal requirements.
- Martin Payne, new Director of David Wilson Homes.
- 1.11 page 3 bus furniture
- 1.77 – no fixed Travel Plan in place yet, but this paragraph refers to the ‘measures’ to be met.
- 1.78 refers to Travel Plan £25k, and Co-ordinator £4k
- (In due course), RM to apply for ALL £70k Bus Stop Contribution in one sum. DWH has legal obligation to pay sum in 20 days.  
Bus Stops and Furniture to go where previously specified (two at CMC on A3259, and eight on Nerrols Drive). No bus stops on eastern portion of A3259 as all Northwalls Grange houses are within 400m of Nerrols Drive.
- J Perrett to contact Albert Ward (also SCC) regarding the application/commencement of the Travel Plan. Travel Plan Co-ordinator is an SCC officer. JP/DM to identify person and report to RM.
- Currently, no buses run north/south on Nerrols Drive – therefore it would seem impractical to spend £70k on Bus Furniture that is not required (at present).
- No. 3 Bus used to run on Nerrols Drive – but this was with S106 money from Bishops Hull to Taunton Centre and on to Priorswood.

**Discussion took place** regarding the provision of buses, and timing when future developments come onstream. 260 houses in Phase 1.

Up to 340 houses in Phase 2 - though no information forthcoming from Crown at present time as to when this planning application will come forward.

Possible 300 houses on ‘Trust Land’ adjacent to Lyngford Lane/north of Priorswood (outside Cheddon Parish) – proposed in the future.

**Total 900 houses** on eastern side of Nerrols Drive to be built over (possibly) 10 years.

**Thoughts:** It would seem practical to establish a bus shelter on A3259 at CMC – AND link the footpath on the northern side of the road to Nerrols Drive. 40 yds @ £1k p/metre - £40k.

DM suggested the first Bus Shelter installed by TDBC (£3k) and Cheddon Parish (£2k) should be reimbursed by the Developer. It was not known that this bus shelter was covered by S106 at the time of installation as the Developer had not been chosen by the Crown in 2014 when planning commenced.

With SCC support, and discussion with DWH undertaken, this may be a sensible way forward.

DM/JP to investigate and report back to RM/Parish Clerk.

**New Bus Service** between Monkton Heathfield and Taunton Town Centre: SCC John Perrett advised tenders have gone out to bus companies to run either hourly or half hourly services using 32 seater buses.

**Crosslands, adjacent to Northwalls Grange:** Alistair Bacon contacted clerk regarding:

- the state/deterioration of Nerrols Lane (SCC Highways),
- the ditches (Crown),
- and the already-full attenuation pond (DWH)

Ryan Price has taken over Bob Sayle at DWH as Project Manager: RP has visited the site, and is well briefed considering he is new in post. Verbally,

- RP considers DWH has a duty to reinstate the Highway – and it is his ‘intention’ that this is done – he needs the support/financial authority from his superiors but does not see that as a problem.
- DWH want to keep in favour of the local residents.
- The reason DWH are using Nerrols Lane is to access ‘their’ houses on the east of the development. (Barratt are using Nerrols Drive).

- The ditches running north/south either side of Nerrols Lane are owned by the Crown, and traditionally have always been full of water (lack of maintenance?)
- the 'joining' road running west/east across Nerrols Lane will have two 30-40m ramps built to rise over the Lane ditches, and the intention is to put two culverts down the side of N Lane to take the water away. The western side will drain into the existing pond on site (near the primary school site I believe), and the eastern ditch will drain towards the newly dug attenuation area by the rear of Crosslands Yard entrance.
- The nearly full attenuation pond has not had any outflowing pipes connected/dug – which would explain why the water is present. This will be remedied.
- Lorry Washdown: This was discussed at a project meeting and it is expected to be arranged.
- Clerk has kept Mr Bacon informed and he is glad of the reassurance.

**Finger Sign Posts:** No volunteers have come forward. After discussion, Clerk requested to contact Lengthsman for a quote to refurbish the three fingerposts previously identified.

**Strimmer Project:** Information obtained: No volunteers have come forward. After discussion, it was felt this project not applicable to the Parish as the Lengthsman provides services to the parish.

**Road Closure:** Hestercombe Humdinger 12.2.2017 – Ladymead Road to Lyngford Lane 1020-1145 am.

**Cat Lane:** Dennis Quick, SCC Highways stated: "The lane is adopted public highway so bollards cannot be installed at either end as it would be an obstruction on the public highway. Several years ago, a bund made up from waste material 750mm high was made to restrict access to the lane and further antisocial behaviour. The height of the bund was reduced for legal reasons, thus allowing smaller vehicles access. This is a difficult situation to resolve and has been a problem for many years". Following discussion, the Parish Councillors requested the clerk write to request a 'Stopping Order on Cat Lane', and to request it to become a Restricted Right of Way/Bridleway.

**Lengthsman:** confirms clearance of road drains with high banks along from Lizanne House/Vicarage at least twice, will clear Maidenbrook Lane; and could take on more work if required at Maidenbrook estate.

#### 10. Planning Applications:

**08/16/0050/A** Display of 7 No. non-illuminated signs at Mechanical Transport Workshop, Venture Way, Priorswood Industrial Estate, Taunton – no objection

**08/1/17/0001** Erection of replacement garden shed to front of Chestnut Barn, Upper Cheddon, Cheddon Fitzpaine – no objection

**48/17/0003** Demolition of dwelling and outbuildings and erection of replacement dwelling with detached triple garage and detached stable block at Torrington, Goosenford (resubmission of 48/16/0043)

#### 11. Planning Decisions:

**08/16/0049T** Notification to reduce two sycamore trees within Hestercombe Conservation Area down to the height of the hedgerow. Conditional approval.

#### 12. Reports:

**SCC:** SCC Cllr Fothergill reported:

**Bus Service for A3259** from West Monkton to Taunton via Crown Medical Centre (WM S106 money): tenders out. Service expected to commence approx. Easter.

**County Council Precept Setting:** £18m shortfall, as Government has reduced spending by £140m over recent years. Budget to be set at 1.99% increase, and a further 2% to go towards Adult Social Care; the maximum increase permitted by Government.

**TDBC:** Cllr Cavill reported:

**NIDR** has to open before Taunton town centre can be pedestrianised.

**TDBC** has increased the budget for 2017 Council Tax by the maximum £5 per Band D household.

**Deane House:** Refurbishment of Deane House to cost approx. £7.5m – 4,800 sq m overall.

TDBC need 1,833 sq m, and the Police require 750 sq m. 2,035 sq m to be let.

New Phone system to be installed. An expected saving of £3.1m per year to be gained in running costs.

Western Relief Road: WRR: Bus gate to be installed at lower end of Milton Hill in Easter holidays.

Memorial Hall: Marcus Walker, Caretaker will retire in 2017, though happy to have a phased handover.

**Cheddon School:** Cllr Woollacott: The School has requested that the pile of soil left by SCC Maintenance Team be removed. JW to follow up. PCSOs have attended the school pick-up time, and there appears to be in improvement in how and where parents park cars. More cars are being parked in Cheddon Memorial Hall

carpark. Correspondence received from concerned parent regarding school parking/child safety. Clerk forwarded email to School.

**Pastoral Care Group:** Cllr Thompson reported:

A leaving service for Rev Tony Woodward will be held on 19 March 2017 at Cheddon Church with a United Service.

Pastoral Care work is increasing, and will continue to do so during the Interregnum.

During the Interregnum, a review will be made to establish what is required for the successor.

Cllr Thompson undertaking a 16-week training course as a Lay Pastoral Assistant.

Two local residents attended a Dementia-friendly course run by the Alzheimer Society. It is helpful for the community to be more aware of this matter; it was an educational meeting. A suggestion to run a similar event within the Parish to be explored. Establishing hall availability would determine when a talk could be held. Councillors agreed this was a good idea for Cllr Thompson to explore.

Mary Gunning will hold a Coffee Morning on 25 March 2017 – everyone invited to cottage behind church.

A request was made for a 'To the Church' sign to be erected from the A3259 towards Cheddon Fitzpaine.

Clerk to contact SCC Jo Sharp.

A 'singles' lunches/suppers group is being formed initially by invitation to see how it works, and may be extended to others in due course.

**Police:** PCSO Tony Wearmouth reported by email:

09/01/17 – 09/02/17 3 calls regarding CFPC: 1 x found stolen moped, 1 x threats and 1 x concern for welfare.

09/01/16 – 09/02/16 2 calls received

There have been no actual crimes.

There has been an increase in nuisance calls that appear to be a scam, foreign persons asking for money or your phone will be cut off. I have sent a piece for inclusion in the LINK UP.

**Administration:**

**TDBC & West Somerset: Consultation re new Council**

One Councillor left the room for reasons of personal and prejudicial interests.

The Parish Council of Cheddon Fitzpaine met on 9 February 2017 and considered the contents of your letter dated 22 December 2016.

The Parish Council support the proposal for a new District Council for Taunton Deane and West Somerset and favour the option to deliver the greatest saving.

The Councillors will individually reply to the online consultation at

[www.yournewcouncil.org](http://www.yournewcouncil.org)<<http://www.yournewcouncil.org>>.

**SALC Regional Conference:** 16.3.2017 at Taunton Rugby Club. Agreement for Clerk to attend for continued CPD.

**Community Asset Fund:** information circulated

### 13. Finance:

**Pension Regulator:**

The Parish Council has no obligation to provide pension contributions below £486 threshold.

Clerk earns approx. £460 p/m.

The Parish Council has a statutory obligation to provide a pension contribution over £833 p/m

From 1 April 2017, as Parish Clerk, my hours increase, as does an annual increment to approx. £500 p/m – and this gives Clerk the 'Right to Join' a Pension Scheme.

HMRC advises: Employer and Employee to contribute 1% each of the current salary.

- check if clerk's current Pension Scheme was a 'Qualifying Scheme'. Yes

- the 2% to be sent as one amount deducted from PAYE.

- Pension provider would want a letter from the Parish confirming the arrangements.

After discussion, the Parish Councillors agreed that as a responsible employer the Parish Council would consider a request for a pension from the Clerk. Clerk to follow up.

**Internet Banking:** For a pension payment to be made by PAYE, internet banking would need to be in place.

Separately, it had been conceded that it was time for this next step in the Parish admin affairs to proceed.

Clerk had obtained the NatWest forms for discussion. It was **resolved** for Internet Banking at NatWest to be requested, and for there to be one authorised signatory only. (ie the Responsible Financial Officer RFO who is already a signatory on the account). The current situation of Payment Authorisation whereby two signatures are obtained before cheques are signed to continue, and for the Clerk to use this authority to pay invoices online. **Proposer: Cllr Woollacott, seconder: Cllr Batsch.** Financial Regulations to be checked.

**NS&I account:** Interest received: £18.16. Account total at 1.1.2017 £3,39.89 (for election contingency)

14. **Payments for Authorisation:** Proposed: Cllr Batsch, seconded: Cllr Woollacott

**Payments for Authorisation:**

Clerks Expenses: (Mileage £43.55, NP hours £212.60) Total: £256.15

TDBC Printing: £167.30 (Oct/Dec Newsletter, and NP printing).

Community Council for Somerset CCS: subscription 2017 £40

(Annual renewal via Standing Order – held over: see internet banking)

15. **Matters raised by Councillors:**

-It is with regret that **Parish Councillor Annie Durham has resigned** from the Parish Council. Work commitments and a young family understandably mean time is short. The Chairman and Parish Councillors thank Annie for all she has undertaken during her time on the Parish Council and wish her well in her new endeavours. Her contribution to the Neighbourhood Plan was considerable and much appreciated. Clerk to advertise vacancy for a Parish Councillor to be Co-opted.

-Round Table Discussion: 14.2.2017 – Chair or suitable representative to attend MP discussion group on local infrastructure. Cllr Woollacott to attend in place of Chair.

-Cllr Thompson spoke of adverts that could be placed in the Newsletter. Space is the biggest limiter, but all items received will be considered for community value.

-Dog Pooh: Spray cans requested by member of public. Item for next agenda.

16. **Correspondence:** circulated.

Meeting Closed: 9.35pm

Denise Webber (signature on original)

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Signed by Chairman

**Cheddon Fitzpaine Parish Council**