

CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Christchurch Parish Council held in the Community Centre on Monday 11 July 2022 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs J Hughes (Chairman), S Aldridge, J Bliss, R Gladwin, K Miller, P Owen, Cllr W Sutton (FDC), D Gibbs (Clerk), A Nason, A Sparrow (Parishioners)

037/22-23 Apologies for Absence

None

038/22-23 Declarations of Interest

None

039/22-23 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman noted that new owners had taken on the Dun Cow public house and had many ideas to enhance the facilities.

040/22-23 Public Time

No matters were raised.

041/22-23 Vacancy for a Parish Councillor

Mr Sparrow had expressed an interest in joining the Council. Members resolved unanimously to co-opt Mr Sparrow to fill the vacancy. He signed his declaration of acceptance and was welcomed to the meeting.

042/22-23 Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2022 were correctly recorded and signed as being a true record.

043/22-23 Matters Outstanding

- a) Bus shelter improvement project - Street Pride will arrange for the work to be carried out shortly.
- b) Pavement outside Field Lodge, Upwell Road - No further update available. Cllr Sutton agreed to clarify with Middle Level whether all necessary permits had been issued. Cllr Owen outlined his opinion of the people involved in this dispute. Cllr Aldridge stated that this was inappropriate and that members of the Council should not discuss individuals.
- c) Roadside drains - A road closure is scheduled for the first week of August to rectify the drainage issue at the junction of Upwell Road and Crown Road.
- d) Benches, play equipment, outdoor gym - The Clerk confirmed that the benches will be delivered to Cllr Gladwin shortly.
- e) Street naming, former Memorial Hall site - Due to the delay in communicating the preferred option of Sayers Gardens, the developer has chosen Holy Cross Gardens as the name to be used. Members agreed to accept this choice.

044/22-23 Police Report

The Clerk reported that no meetings had taken place recently. The Police and Crime Commissioner is encouraging communities to nominate projects to be undertaken by the Community Payback teams which are now operating again after the pandemic.

045/22-23 County & District Councillors Reports

Cllr Sutton congratulated Cllr Sparrow on his appointment and recalled that his father had previously served on the Council. He also reiterated the Chairman's comments regarding the new licensees in the Dun Cow, as there had been concern about its future when the previous licensees announced their retirement. He thanked them for their contribution to village life and wished them well for their retirement.

Concern has been expressed regarding willow trees overhanging Padgetts Road and a vehicle had knocked a large branch off. The Clerk offered to investigate and report the trees as appropriate.

046/22-23 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on meetings attended and correspondence received, including a Combined Authority Local Transport and Connectivity Plan consultation event, Community Safety Partnership seeking invitations for drop-in sessions, Upwell Road closure 1 to 5 August and the return of the Local Energy Advice Partnership.

047/22-23 Members and Residents Issues

- a) Cllr Hughes reported that the article about the Emergency Plan will be published in the next edition of The Heron.
- b) Cllr Owen reported that the willow trees outside the Dun Cow need attention. Confirmation is required from the Tree Officer, as these trees are included in a Tree Preservation Order.
- c) Cllr Owen reported that several people had expressed an interest in a Youth Club for the village, although it isn't clear if anybody is prepared to take the lead responsibility for this. An article will be submitted to The Heron to invite residents to come forward. Some equipment and funding from the previous Youth Club is still available.
- d) Cllr Hughes suggested that all councillors should have dedicated email addresses for council business. This was agreed.
- e) Cllr Gladwin mentioned the humps in the road surface in Padgetts Road, near the junction with the Sixteen Foot Bank. The Clerk will discuss this with the Highways department.
- f) Cllr Miller asked when the marker posts will be installed on the Sixteen Foot Bank. Cllr Sutton advised that he will be meeting with Highways later this month to pursue this matter.
- g) Cllr Hughes reported that the road surface is breaking up at the junction of Upwell Road and the Toll Road. The Clerk will investigate.
- h) Cllr Bliss expressed concern regarding the edge of the Sixteen Foot Bank falling away north of Cotton's Corner Bridge. The Clerk will investigate.

048/22-23 Recreation Ground Extension

Cllr Gladwin confirmed that Fowlers will undertake the clearance of the dyke between the Recreation Ground and the extension before the start of the harvest.

A new email account will be set up for communications relating to the extension project.

049/22-23 Planning

Members considered the following application:

F/YR22/0730/F - Formation of an all weather riding arena and to erect a 1.50 metre high post and rail fencing - Land South of Willow Farm, Sixteen Foot Bank, Christchurch

They resolved to offer no objection.

050/22-23 Finance

- a) The management accounts as at 30.6.22 showed income of £8,001.52 and expenditure of £2,009.54, resulting in a surplus of £5,991.98 and total funds held of £46,548.25.
- b) Members noted the following sum received:
Barclays Bank (interest)..... £ 1.52
- c) Members approved the following accounts for payment:
Clerk salary and home office allowance £ 360.79
Middle Level Commissioners (drainage rates) £ 45.08
Upwell Internal Drainage Board (drainage rates) £ 37.03

051/22-23 Matters for Next Meeting

Update on affordable housing proposal, CFC Disposals site update, communications.

052/22-23 Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Meeting of the Parish Council will be Monday 12 September.