

# CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of a Meeting of Christchurch Parish Council held in the Community Centre on Monday 17 April 2023 at 7.30pm

**Present:** Cllrs K Miller (in the Chair), J Bliss, P Owen, A Sparrow, Cllr W Sutton (FDC), D Gibbs (Clerk), Five members of the public

### **167/22-23 Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs R Gladwin J Hughes and M Tanfield (FDC)

### **168/22-23 Declarations of Interest**

None

### **169/22-23 Chairman's Announcements**

None

### **170/22-23 Public Time**

Mr Sadler raised the issue of trees in the Recreation Ground again. The Clerk reminded members that the trees belong to the Recreation Ground charity. Members discussed options to address the issue but agreed that the final decision rested with the charity trustees.

Ms Hayes raised concerns regarding pedestrian safety in Wayside Estate, as discussed recently at the Annual Parish Meeting. Members asked the Clerk to arrange for the County Council's Road Safety Team to visit the location to consider options.

### **171/22-23 Confirmation of Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 March were correctly recorded and signed as being a true record.

### **172/22-23 Matters Outstanding**

- a) Bus shelter improvement project - No progress.
- b) Pavement outside Field Lodge, Upwell Road - No update.
- c) Affordable housing proposal - The Clerk reported that he will be contacting land owners to ascertain their interest in the proposal.
- d) Skate park repairs - The repairs will be carried out shortly.
- e) Household items outside property in Upwell Road - Clarion Housing Group is working with the tenants.
- f) Recreation Ground trees - see 170/22-23 above.
- g) Trees overhanging Padgetts Road - The Clerk has written to the landowner.

### **173/22-23 Police Report**

The Clerk reported that no meetings had taken place.

### **174/22-23 County & District Councillors Reports**

Cllr Sutton reported that the District Council was preparing for the elections and he would not be seeking re-election. He had attended a Planning Forum meeting at which concerns were expressed regarding staffing issues within the planning department.

He hoped to resolve the outstanding highway issues before the election. He had recently attended the coroner's court for the first time with the family of the victim of the recent immersion accident in the Sixteen Foot River, which was a harrowing experience.

Cllr Miller thanked Cllr Sutton for all he had done for the Council and the community over many years.

#### **175/22-23 Clerk's Report**

The Clerk reported on correspondence received, including the test of the UK mobile phone emergency alert system and an ACRE webinar for Rural Housing Week.

#### **176/22-23 Members and Residents Issues**

- a) Wayside Estate traffic calming - See 170/22-23.
- b) Request for an allotment - The Clerk reported that he had received an enquiry from a member of the public about the availability of allotments locally. Members suggested that there might be allotments in Upwell, Manea or March.

#### **177/22-23 Recreation Ground Extension**

The remainder of the hedgerow has now been planted. The Clerk advised members that the next deadline for the Whitemill Environment Fund is 30 July, so detailed plans will be required as soon as possible.

#### **178/22-23 Planning**

Members considered the following applications:

- a) F/YR23/0273/F - Conversion of barn to a single storey 1-bed dwelling involving the temporary siting of a caravan and storage container during construction - Barn at Willow Farm, Euximoor Drove, Christchurch  
Members resolved to offer no objection.
- b) F/YR23/0305/F - Erect single-storey and 2-storey side extensions and alterations to roof height and fenestration of existing dwelling - The Cottage, Rotten Drove, Tipps End  
Members resolved to offer no objection.

#### **179/22-23 Finance**

- a) The management accounts for the year ended 31.3.23 showed income of £22,678.02 and expenditure of £21,916.03, resulting in a surplus of £761.99 and total funds held of £41,318.26.
- b) Members noted the following sums received since the last meeting:

Christchurch Recreation Ground Charity (payment received in error).....	£ 810.00
Barclays Bank (interest).....	£ 25.03
HMRC (VAT refund) .....	£ 3,257.02
- c) Members ratified the following payments issued since the last meeting:

T A Blackamore Ltd (grass cutting) .....	£ 2,208.30
Christchurch Recreation Ground Charity (refund of payment received in error) .....	£ 810.00
R Gladwin (expenses).....	£ 16.50
- d) Members approved the following accounts for payment:

Clerk salary and home office allowance .....	£ 441.13
CAPALC (affiliation fee) .....	£ 423.00
Playsafety Ltd (play equipment inspection) .....	£ 213.60
- e) Members approved the mandate forms for the new NatWest account for signature.

**180/22-23 Play Equipment Inspection**

Members considered the report from Playsafety Ltd. The recommended repairs to the skate park are already in hand and the condition of the soft play surfaces will be monitored.

**181/22-23 Annual Parish Meeting**

Members discussed the recent Annual Parish Meeting. They agreed that the meeting had been successful with a good public response. Feedback from the speakers had also been positive. Next year's meeting will be held in April to allow the Council's annual accounts to be presented.

**182/22-23 Local Council Elections**

The Clerk informed members that with only four members nominated for re-election, there will be three vacancies to be filled by co-option. He offered to write an article for the May edition of The Heron to seek willing volunteers. Members were also reminded that photo identification will be required for all voters attending the polling station.

**183/22-23 Golden Age Fair - 30 June**

The District Council will be holding a Golden Age Fair in the Community Centre on 30 June. They have asked the Parish Council to cover the cost of the hall hire for the event. Members agreed to make appropriate arrangements with the Recreation Ground charity. The Council is invited to take a stand at the event to discuss its work with residents. Members felt that this would provide another opportunity to present ideas for the Recreation Ground extension. The Clerk and the Chairman will provide a statement on behalf of the Council for inclusion in the publicity for the event.

**184/22-23 Matters for Next Meeting**

None.

**185/22-23 Dates of Forthcoming Meetings**

The date of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will be Monday 15 May