

**MINUTES** of a Chalford Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 1 September 2022 at 7.00 p.m.  
at the Parish Centre in accordance with notice given.

**In the Chair:** Councillor Lilly

**Present:** Councillors Beioley, Lee, Mayo, Morris-Wyatt, Oakley, Pearson, Roberts, Samaroo, D Taylor, Wood

**In attendance:** Clerk, County Cllr Turner (part time), 2 candidates for the Bussage Ward Councillor vacancies.

**1.09.22 APOLOGIES** – Cllr L Taylor sent apologies.

**2.09.22 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – two candidates for the Bussage Ward Councillor vacancies attended to present/answer any questions on their application.

**3.09.22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – none

**3.09.22 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Cllr Oakley proposed, “**acceptance of the 7 July 2022 minutes.**” This was seconded by Cllr Samaroo. There were four abstentions.

**4.09.22 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT** – attached

It was agreed that agenda item 9 – complaints regarding vegetation overgrowth on roadside verges/gutters will be discussed under this item whilst Cllr Turner is present.

County Cllr Turner referred to the lengthsman scheme and asked councillors to advise of any small issues that need fixing. The following were advised:

St Mary’s footpath – the vegetation stretches across the footpath and needs clearing.  
High Street – pot holes were filled via ‘splat and pack’ and has not lasted.  
The Ridgeway – large clumps of weeds are growing out of kerbside gutters and near to drains.

In addition the following roads are desperate for surface work:

The Frith, near to the cemetery.  
Middle Hill, by allotments/Sycamore Grove.

Old Neighbourhood road – Cllr Turner has agreed with our Area Highways Manager that the top section of this road should be a priority for a large patch repair next year.

**5.09.22 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT**

District Cllr Jockel’s report is attached.

**6.09.22 CLERK’S REPORT** – attached.

**Silver Street car park transfer** – our solicitor has advised that it is taking longer than expected to amend the Parking Places Order. Finalisation is now expected to be the end of September.

**7.09.22 BUSSAGE WARD COUNCILLOR VACANCIES**

The following item took place without public or press present; details of the discussion are contained in a confidential note.

The candidates were invited back for the remainder of the meeting.

**8.09.22 RISING COST OF LIVING ASSISTANCE**

A discussion took place as to what the Parish Council can do to assist residents during the challenging time ahead. The Clerks have already set up a food bank that is very popular. The Long Table regularly restock

'Barry', the freezer of love. Stroud District Council has provided us with a small allocation of supermarket gift cards. Cllr Lilly suggested setting up a communal 'warm bank' for residents who are unable to afford their heating. It is suggested that we talk to all halls to see if they can help. It was agreed that the Parish Centre would not be suitable due to the disturbance it could cause to the working day. The Clerks have been approached by a resident who is willing to cook a nutritious meal one morning a week. It is thought that the Youth Centre would be an ideal place to be able to offer this service. The Clerks are investigating organisations that provide free food. Some difficulties that could occur are with heating bills, transportation of people, insurance and a possible increase in Covid. The Parish Council could possibly make a contribution towards heating costs. To be firmed up in October. **ACTION: Agenda**

**9.09.22 REFERRALS – none**

**10.09.22 COMMITTEE/EXTERNAL MEETING REPORTS**

The Works and PAC minutes were given to all councillors prior to the meeting and details noted accordingly. Councillors considered the minutes of all committees. Cllr Samaroo referred to the requirement for an Assistant Groundsman but at the same time appreciates the coming months will be difficult financially. In the circumstances, Cllr Samaroo asked whether the current Assistant Groundsman contractor could be used more. The Contract Labour budget has £10k and to date there is more than £5k remaining. Our Groundsman will be asked if he wants to use our contractor more. **ACTION: Clerk**

**11.09.22 EXPENDITURE**

Councillors were furnished with a copy of the expenditure prior to the meeting. After consideration, Cllr Samaroo proposed, "**acceptance of the attached expenditure.**" This was seconded by Cllr Morris-Wyatt and unanimously agreed.

**12.09.22 CORRESPONDENCE – none**

**13.09.22 ANY OTHER INFORMATION**

**Thomas Keble gym and equipment** – Cllr D Taylor asked if we knew what was happening with this facility that closed at the beginning of covid. No news has been received. The Clerk will write to TK and find out the current situation. **ACTION: Clerk**

**The Ridgeway playground sign** – The sign near to Bussage Village Hall is loose. The Clerk will report to Highways. **ACTION: Clerk**

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.30 p.m.