

MINUTES of the Works Committee Meeting held on
Wednesday, 15 March 2023 at 6.00 p.m. at the Parish Centre, Gerald's Way
in accordance with notice given

In the Chair: Cllr Wood

Present: Cllrs Lilly, Mayo, Oakley, D Taylor

In attendance: Clerk & Chris Attwood

W.01.03.23 APOLOGIES – Cllr Samaroo, L Taylor personal reasons

W.02.03.23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – none

W.03.03.23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – none

W.04.03.23 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Cllr Oakley proposed, “**acceptance of the minutes of 15 February 2023 with the above amendments**”. This was seconded by Cllr Lilly and unanimously agreed.

W.05.03.23 CLERK’S REPORT – attached

Band hall track – Gigaclear has confirmed the cable laying will only serve the Band Hall property. Before going back to Gigaclear, the Clerk will speak to the band to find out if broadband is required. It was said that if not currently, it could be needed in the future. The Clerk will also speak to ChalCAN as the work would affect the Parish Bank where trees have been planted. **ACTION: Clerk**

W.06.03.23 REFERRALS – none

W.07.03.23 CORRESPONDENCE

Chalford and France Lynch Garden Trail has asked if a plaque can be placed on the King Edward VII Oak tree in France Lynch Pleasure Ground. This was agreed but it should be a stand alone post adjacent to the tree, not fixed to the tree. They have also asked if they can purchase and plant another tree for King Charles III coronation. It was agreed that an oak tree can be planted to replace the tree that died, near to the Burcombe Way entrance. **ACTION: Clerk**

W.08.03.23 WORKS BUDGET

Committee members were furnished with an up to-date budget prior to the meeting. Friends of Frith Wood fencing – no invoice has been received for this.

W.09.03.23 DORINGTON COURT TREE PLANTING

A resident has asked if some trees are planned for the green area at the end of Dorington Court. Councillors considered the request. It was also suggested that shrubs are planted in front of the car port fencing. Following a discussion, the request and suggestion were agreed in principle, subject to the landowner (Highways) giving permission. If agreed, ChalCAN will be asked for advice for the most suitable tree/s and shrubs. Cllr Oakley reminded the committee that when the seat was installed here last year, it was agreed to place a bin here at a later date. **ACTION: Clerk/Works**

W.10.03.23 OLD NEIGHBOURHOOD

Residents have contacted us about an increase in large vehicles on Old Neighbourhood to the extent where smaller vehicles are having to reverse or pull in tightly to the edge to allow them to pass. Cllr Lilly advised there is a weight limit sign at the bottom and top of Old Neighbourhood. There is a Traffic Regulation Order in place from the bottom of Old Neighbourhood ending in Birdlip

so a large vehicle can access Old Neighbourhood legally. The police can stop a vehicle but cannot prosecute. SDC Trading Standards can prosecute. There is no enforcement at either GCC or SDC due to a lack of resources. A TRO costs approximately £25k but that could include several areas in the Parish. If we wanted to do this, we would need to ask Finance and Management to put £10k in the precept in the 24/25 and 25/26 years. Although a TRO would become a statutory requirement there is no enforcement available. That being the case, it was agreed it would be a waste of money. Cllr Lilly is due to meet with our Area Highways Manager regarding the issues on this road. It was agreed we will wait for this meeting to take place, before responding to residents.

Pot Holes - residents are also complaining about this issue. It is thought that Highways will be working on the surface in the new financial year. The Clerk will check this is the case. In the meantime, residents should continue to report the problem. Middle Hill – the question was asked as to whether the developers of Sycamore Grove are due to carry out work to the road outside of this area. The agreed patching work (10ft either side of the entrance) has already been done. There is no further work agreed. Frith Wood car park entrance – there are holes that need filling. Chris Attwood will carry out this work. **ACTION: CA**

W.11.03.23 2023/24 PLAY GROUND/EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

Cllr Wood proposed, “**we contract the Play Inspection Company to carry out the 2023/24 annual inspection of the playgrounds and play equipment.**” This was seconded by Cllr Lilly and unanimously agreed. **ACTION: Clerk**

W.12.03.23 SILVER STREET CAR PARK

Nine residents without a parking facility at their property have been offered a parking bay at this car park at an annual cost of £120. Cleaning, white lining and installation of posts will be carried out from Monday, 27 March to Wednesday, 29 March. Notices are to be put on vehicle windscreens and installed in the car park asking vehicles not to park in the car park on these days. An ‘H’ bar is to be placed on the corner of the car park to prevent parked vehicles obstructing emergency vehicles accessing the road. Cllr Lilly advised that he would ask the white lining company to refresh the lining at the bottom of the path from Abbenesse to Burcombe Road. Chris Attwood will monitor the car park going forward and flag up any maintenance needs as they occur. **ACTION: CA**

W.13.03.23 BUS SHELTER AT BOTTOM OF MARLE HILL

Four designs have been received from art students at Stroud College. The committee considered the designs. One was favoured over the others but needs more detail. It was agreed to ask the student to do the following:

Change the background to a lighter colour, incorporate more flowers, more detail in the foreground and insert some insects. More emphasis on wildlife is needed. **ACTION: Clerk**

W.14.03.23 CONTRACT LABOUR

Cllr Wood proposed, “**we contract Mr Kevin Harrison as our seasonal contract labour for the 2023 season at a rate of £140 per day.**” This was seconded by Cllr Lilly and unanimously agreed. **ACTION: Clerk**

W.15.03.23 FOOTPATH GROUP

- a. Councillor Oakley provided the committee with a summary of the work.
MCH72 Abbenesse to Burcombe Road – hatch painting on the path exiting Burcombe Road - Cllr Lilly will speak to F1 Lining and ask them to paint the required hatching. It was agreed to consider a sign at a later date, if required. **ACTION: Cllr Lilly**

GCC funding for PROW surfacing – the paths will be considered and prioritised according to the work required.

- b. Tasks – i. MCH13 to MCH16 Exit from Frith Wood car park to The Frith –** This task was agreed. **ii. MCH 32 Seat on Blackness Banks –** This task was agreed.

W.16.03.23 CHRIS ATTWOOD REPORT

Councillors considered the report. Defibrillator – Cllr Lilly advised that a bid is being made for the Methodist Church Rooms by a resident of the parish. If this is successful, the defibrillator will not have to be moved. A 5th one is required and consideration will be given to that at the next Full Council meeting.

A copy of the planned pleasure ground maintenance was distributed to all committee members.

Play equipment – a volunteer member of the Footpath Working Group will assist Chris Attwood with the painting of the equipment.

W.17.03.23 WARD MATTERS

Frith Wood – a sign has fallen down and is lying on the verge at the front of this group of properties. Chris Attwood will collect. **ACTION: CA**

Cllr Lily said that holes were appearing in the ground at France Lynch Pleasure Ground. It appears the holes have been made by animals.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 6.47 p.m.