

MINUTES of a Chalford Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 6 April 2023 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, Pearson Roberts, L Taylor, Trinder.

In attendance: Clerk and District Cllr Fenton

1.04.23 APOLOGIES – Parish Councillors Oakley, Samaroo, D Taylor, D Wood for personal reasons. County Cllr Turner and District Cllrs Jockel and Watson.

2.04.23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – none.

3.04.23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – 17 members of the public attended in respect of agenda item 7 – Silver Street Car Park. Representations from the public were made, expressing concerns at the management plans for the car park. One of the main concerns was the lack of consultation and transparency.

As a result of the above, the Chair recommended agenda item 7 is brought forward and discussed at this stage. This was agreed.

4.04.23 SILVER STREET CAR PARK

Cllr Lee provided the meeting with details of the management plan. It had been agreed to issue parking permits to 9 households in the vicinity of the car park without parking facilities at their property. Bollards have been installed in the 9 parking bays, white lining has been refreshed and the car park cleaned. The Council took on board the comments from members of the public and as a result Cllr Lee proposed, **“no further action to be taken until a wider consultation is carried out in respect of the management of the car park.”** This was seconded by Cllr Lilly and unanimously agreed.

It was agreed to hold a consultation meeting at a later date, prior to which members of the public to be invited to forward suggestions for the car park. It was agreed to remove the bollards.

ACTION: Clerk

Members of the public left the meeting.

5.04.23 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Cllr Trinder proposed, **“acceptance of the 2 March 2023 minutes.”** This was seconded by Cllr Roberts and unanimously agreed.

6.04.23 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

A report was sent to all councillors prior to the meeting.

7.04.23 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

A report was sent to all councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr L Taylor referred to a planning permission granted to Gussage Mill several years ago for a small development. The provision of a pedestrian footpath running up from the Mill was part of the conditions and this has never happened. Cllr Fenton will investigate. **ACTION: Cllr Fenton**

8.04.23 CLERK'S REPORT

Defibrillators – until we hear whether the Methodist Church/Rooms is to become a hub, a decision as to whether the defibrillator is to be moved or not will be deferred.

Old Neighbourhood Inn – the current owner has not been able to find anyone to run the pub so has put the pub on the market.

New Red Lion – this pub is due to reopen on the 23 May 2023.

9.04.23 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

This meeting will be held on Thursday, 11 May, commencing at 7.00 p.m. at Chalford Sports and Social Club. The theme is to be volunteering. It was agreed to have a panel to address the meeting. The panel to consist of representatives from Friends of Frith Wood, ChalCAN, Footpath Group and the Community Shop. Local organisations will be invited to have a stand displaying the service they provide. **ACTION: Clerk**

It is suggested that Chalford Band is invited to play at the Annual Parish Meeting, possibly at the beginning. The Clerk will contact the Chair. **ACTION: Clerk**

10.04.23 PLANNING PROTOCOL

PAC has discussed and developed a protocol addressing approaches from residents with requests for informal advice on potential planning proposals. Councillors were furnished with a copy of the protocol prior to the meeting. Following a short discussion, Cllr Morris-Wyatt proposed, “**adoption of the protocol.**” This was seconded by Cllr Trinder and unanimously agreed.

11.04.23 CHALFEST

A short discussion took place as to whether to have a Parish Council stand at Chalfest. Cllr Mayo, who led our 2022 stand, felt our stand was well attended last year. It was agreed that a more prominent place is required for the Parish Council. The Clerk will speak to the organisers. Cllr Beioley said it is important that we have a presence and it should be fun to attract visitors.

Cllr Roberts proposed, “**the Parish Council to have a stand at Chalfest 2023.**” This was seconded by Cllr Mayo unanimously agreed. Cllrs Mayo and Roberts volunteered to lead this project. Cllr Samaroo to be asked if she would like to be involved in the steering group. **ACTION: Cllrs Mayo/Roberts**

12.04.23 KING CHARLES III CORONATION

It was agreed to hold a tea party on the afternoon of Thursday, 4 May 2023. The Parish gazebo will be installed outside of the Parish Centre with tables and chairs offering afternoon tea and cakes. **ACTION: Clerks**

13.04.23 CHALFORD CHAMPIONS

Cllr Beioley referred to this initiative that should have started in early 2020 just as the pandemic started. Although one of the criteria was that Champions could not be Parish Councillors or employees, he referred to Cllr Lilly, our Chair for the last 8 years, who had championed many projects and would now be retiring at our next meeting. Cllr Beioley went on to praise Cllr Lilly for his dedication and commitment to the Parish Council over the last 8 plus years. Cllr Lilly was presented with a gift from Councillors and employees in recognition of his hard work.

Cllr Samaroo was unable to attend the meeting. A short message from Cllr Samaroo was read out thanking Paul for his dedication. Cllr Oakley was also unable to attend the meeting and had said how sorry he was not to be able to be present at Cllr Lilly's last meeting.

14.04.23 REFERRALS – none

15.04.23 COMMITTEE/EXTERNAL MEETING REPORT

There were no reports from any committee.

The following discussion took place with neither public nor press present, details of which are contained in a confidential note. District Cllr Fenton left the meeting.

16.04.23 EXPENDITURE

Councillors were sent a copy of the expenditure prior to the meeting. Cllr Trinder proposed, **“acceptance of the expenses.”** This was seconded by Cllr Mayo and unanimously agreed.

17.04.23 CORRESPONDENCE

A resident has referred to the Old Neighbourhood Inn and has asked if there has been the formation of an action group to save the pub. It was noted that the pub has been stripped of all items and it is estimated that the cost of fitting it out would be in the vicinity of £250k. It was agreed that if a community group needs our support we would be pleased to offer this but we are unable to fund or get involved at this stage.

Chalford Band has advised that the rebuilt Academy Band, comprising mainly of youth players, came a credible 10th out of 15 in the 4th section at the recent West of England Regional Championships in Torquay. The Senior Band were placed 1st from 18 bands and are the West of England 1st Section Regional Champions, qualifying for a place at the National Finals in September. The Council congratulates the band on these excellent results. The Clerk will relay this message to the band. It is suggested that the Band is invited to play at the Annual Parish Meeting. **ACTION:**
Clerk

18.04.23 ANY OTHER INFORMATION

Cllr Lee referred to recent incidents involving members of the public and the Clerks and advised the meeting that our employees should not have to tolerate these. Our zero tolerance notice will be displayed. The Parish Centre has a panic button but it does not connect anywhere. It was suggested that an alarm company in Stroud is contacted to find out if this could be done. **ACTION:**
FC/Clerk

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.40 p.m.