

MINUTES of a Chalford Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 6th July 2023 at 7.00 p.m. at the Parish Centre in accordance with notice given.

In the Chair: Councillor Trinder

Present: Councillors Lee, Morris-Wyatt, Oakley, Pearson
Roberts, Wood

In attendance: Clerk, County Councillor Turner

01.07.23 APOLOGIES – Cllrs Beioley, Mayo, Samaroo and L Taylor. District Cllrs Watson and Jockel.

02.07.23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

One member of public attended to raise concern about the announcement by Boots to close 300 branches, and if/how this will affect the branch in Bussage.

Cllr Trinder confirmed that she and the Clerk had been in contact with staff at Boots and the Practise Manager at Frithwood Surgery. It is understood that a decision has already been made and the closures are due to be announced imminently. It was agreed that should it be announced that the Tanglewood Way branch is to close, the Council commit to doing everything in its power to work closely with the relevant parties to secure an alternative dispensary and ideally a pharmacy within the Parish, as they provide such a vital service. In the interim it was agreed that the Council should contact the local MP Siobhan Ballie and work with the District and County Cllrs to raise awareness of the issue. It was also agreed to contact Bisley with Lypiatt PC and Cllr Martin Brown, as residents of that Parish also rely heavily on Boots. Cllr Turner confirmed that a letter has already been drafted which is to be sent to the CEO of Boots. Cllr Turner is to provide a copy of the letter so that the Council can do the same. **ACTION: Cllr Turner/Clerk**

03.07.23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None

04.07.23 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Cllr Oakley proposed “**acceptance of the 1st June 2023 minutes**” This was seconded by Cllr Morris-Wyatt and unanimously agreed.

05.07.23 a) COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr Turner drew attention to the Highways survey which is open until the 1st August. This is a great chance for residents to have their say about the poor road conditions within the Parish. The PC have already advertised this on Facebook, but it was agreed promote this further via every media channel to ensure that as many residents as possible are aware of and have the opportunity to complete the survey. **ACTION: Clerk**

Cllr Trinder congratulated Cllr Turner on her new role as Chair of the GCC Environment Scrutiny Committee. Cllr Turner has also taken a place on the Pensions Committee.

b) DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr Watson provided some updates prior to the meeting as she was unable to attend in person. The Commercial Manager at Stagecoach has confirmed that they have been granted some additional Government funding. Cllr Watson hopes that some of that funding can be invested into improving the service in Chalford, and she is still pressing for another meeting to address the cuts to the local service.

The enforcement case at The Red Lion is ongoing. Further updates to follow.

06.07.23 CLERK'S REPORT –

20 is Plenty – the Council has received a response to its call on GCC to implement a 20mph scheme in the Parish. Cllr Dave Norman, Cabinet member for Road Safety confirmed that ***“currently there is no plan for GCC to introduce a blanket 20mph scheme in Chalford. Every request is dealt with on a “case by case basis”, involving data gathering, through a speed survey and if deemed appropriate through consultation. Any change would be subject to the TRO process. The Community Speed Watch scheme is showing very positive outcomes across the County”.***

Flag Flying – This issue was raised at the last Full Council meeting. Further to that meeting, Councillors considered various options for the flying of the Union flag, the Ukrainian flag and the flag for Gloucestershire. There were mixed feelings about the flying of flags and the need to fly any one flag permanently was questioned. The Council's flagpole does not allow the flying of multiple flags at the same time. Cllr Lee highlighted the need for simplicity for the resident who looks after the flying of the flag on our behalf. After a lengthy discussion, Cllr Trinder proposed **“we do not fly any flag on a permanent basis. We fly the Union flag on key dates throughout the year and we fly the Ukrainian flag on key dates and for the first week of each month (dates tbc)”** This was seconded by Cllr Wood and unanimously agreed. **ACTION: Clerk**

Following the last Full Council meeting a detailed list of questions were submitted to GCC. The Council were pleased to receive a full and detailed response; in particular the Council noted that the A419 is scheduled for re-surfacing commencing 12 September. The full list of Q&As are attached.

07.07.23 TO RECEIVE ANY REFERRALS FROM COMMITTEES – None

08.07.23 SILVER STREET CAR PARK

Cllr Trinder reminded Councillors that at April's Full Council meeting it was agreed to hold a consultation event for members of the public after the Summer. The Council won't meet again until September, and it will be at this meeting that the detail of the consultation will be discussed, however Cllr Trinder proposed that the Council should decide now when to hold the consultation. After a brief discussion, Cllr Trinder proposed **“we hold a consultation event in mid-October and invite the community”** This was seconded by Cllr Pearson and unanimously agreed. **ACTION: Clerk**

09.07.23 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND EXTERNAL MEETING ATTENDEES.

Cllr Morris-Wyatt reported that the planning application for the 5G mast on Alder Way had been refused planning permission for the second time. This was welcome news. Cllr Morris-Wyatt also reported that the Finance and Management Committee have reviewed many policies and procedures, standing orders and financial regulations at their most recent meeting.

10.07.23 TO AUTHORISE EXPENDITURE

There was no expenditure requiring authorisation this month as the Finance and Management Committee had approved all payments at their meeting on the 27th June up until the 30th June.

11.07.23 CORRESPONDENCE

A resident copied the Clerk into an email which had been sent to the local MP Siobhan Ballie. The email raised concern at the number of Airbnb's which have opened in Chalford. Councillors were made aware of the residents' concerns.

Following a Full Council meeting at GCC held in May, a member of the public raised a question about road conditions. Cllr Dominic Morris, Cabinet member for Highways Customer Service, has agreed to attend a site visit in Chalford. This is excellent news. Initially the Council has been invited to a Teams meeting, date and time TBC, however the proposed meeting dates/times fall when Cllr Trinder is unable to attend. Dependent on the date, Cllr Morris-Wyatt will attend. If Cllr Morris-Wyatt is unable to attend for any reason, then either Cllrs Lee or Pearson will attend. **ACTION: Clerk**

12.07.23 TO NOTE ANY ITEMS FOR INFORMATION OR REFERRAL ONLY.

Cllr Roberts referred to the Works Committee minutes relating to the installation of a new noticeboard on the A419 triangle. He queried why the noticeboard was being installed on the green space. The Clerk explained that the existing noticeboard is being removed from the dis-used bus shelter due to the upcoming installation of the mural. Several Councillors raised concern about the proposed location and suggested that this is not the most accessible or safe area for a notice and/or map board to be located as it is surrounded by parked cars and just off the road. It was agreed that perhaps the map board should be removed, and an alternative location be sought for both the noticeboard and map board. It was agreed to refer this back to the Works Committee. Both Valley Ward Councillors (Morris-Wyatt and Roberts) are to be involved in identifying a more suitable location. **ACTION: Cllrs Morris-Wyatt, Roberts, Works Committee, Clerk**

Cllr Trinder has been contacted by the Head of Chalford Hill Primary School regarding their desire to install a gate(s) at the school. This has been discussed previously with The Council and Highways. Cllr Trinder liaised with the Local Area Highways Manager and is due to meet with the Head on 11th July.

Cllr Wood has been contacted by a resident who is concerned about vehicles speeding along Burcombe Way and Highfield Way. There was a short discussion, and the subject of the Community Speed Watch group was raised. The Clerk confirmed that the Assistant Clerk is in the process of setting a meeting up with a resident who is happy to co-ordinate the Group and get it up and running again as soon as possible.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.18pm.