

MINUTES of a Chalford Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 5th October 2023 at 7.00 p.m. at the Parish Centre in accordance with notice given.

In the Chair: Councillor Trinder

Present: Councillors Oakley, Pearson, Samaroo, Roberts, L Taylor, Wood

In attendance: Clerk

01.10.23 APOLOGIES – Councillors Beioley, Lee, Mayo, Morris-Wyatt, District Cllrs Fenton and Watson, County Cllr Turner

Cllr Wood joined the meeting at 7.30pm.

02.10.23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - two candidates for the Bussage and Hill Ward Councillor vacancies attended to present/answer any questions on their applications.

03.10.23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None

04.10.23 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Cllr Samaroo proposed “**acceptance of the 7th September 2023 minutes**” This was seconded by Cllr Oakley. There were two abstentions.

05.10.23 a) COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

County Cllr Turner’s report was circulated to members prior to the meeting.

GCC is looking for tree planting projects to be planted during the upcoming planting season. To suggest an area for planting an ‘expression of interest’ form needs to be completed. Details will be published to our Facebook page and website and shared with ChalCAN. **ACTION: Clerk**

b) DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

Unfortunately, Cllr Jockel did not attend as expected; he did not provide a report in advance of the meeting. Cllr D Taylor raised concern with District/County Cllr attendance. It was noted that County Cllr Turner and District Cllr Watson attend almost every meetings without exception, however this evening both had meeting clashes. Cllr Trinder will contact Cllrs Fenton and Jockel to express our disappointment with their lack of attendance. **ACTION: Cllr Trinder.**

06.10.23 CLERK’S REPORT –

Openreach are estimating that service should be restored by 6th October 2023.

It was noted that the resurfacing work to the A419 is going well, repairs are being carried out in a timely manner and to a high standard. There is a leak however in St Marys, Cllr Morris-Wyatt has already raised this with County Cllr Turner who will take this up with Highways on our behalf.

The removal of the Chalford Hill sign in Middle Hill remains a mystery. Investigations continue.
ACTION: Clerk

ANPR camera; our application is ongoing. **ACTION: Clerk**

The clock in Chalford Hill has been repaired and reinstalled and is ticking along nicely.

07.10.23 HILL AND BUSSAGE WARDS 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.

08.10.23 TO APPROVE MINOR AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS

Cllr Pearson felt that the wording was ambiguous and suggested the following was added '**between the appraiser and appraisee**' so that the sentence reads '**The reviews and appraisal will be confidential between the appraiser and appraisee and any substantive issues arising from them shall be reported to the Finance and Management Committee**'

Cllr Samaroo proposed "**subject to Cllr Pearson's suggested addition, we approve the amendment to the standing orders as recommended by the Finance and Management Committee**" This was seconded by Cllr Pearson and unanimously agreed.

09.10.23 TO RATIFY POLICIES AS AGREED BY THE FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

As there were no questions or concerns all policies were voted on in a block. Cllr Oakley proposed "**we adopt the policies as recommended by the Finance and Management Committee**" This was seconded by Cllr Samaroo and unanimously agreed.

10.10.23 TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF £6,500. FROM GENERAL RESERVES TO TREE WORKS.

Cllr Trinder proposed "**we approve the Finance and Management Committee's recommendation to transfer £6500 from general reserves to tree works**" This was seconded by Cllr Samaroo and unanimously agreed.

11.10.23 TO RECEIVE ANY REFERRALS FROM COMMITTEES – None

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

Finance and Management: Cllr Trinder confirmed that staff appraisals have been carried out and the opportunity for discussion was appreciated by the team.

SDC Working Together annual review: Cllr Samaroo attended the annual review of the SDC charter. The main concerns were in relation to the planning department. It was agreed the concerns raised will be addressed at a future meeting, date TBC.

13.10.23 CORRESPONDENCE - Friends of Frith Wood sent a video which was circulated to members.

14.10.23 TO NOTE ANY ITEMS FOR INFORMATION OR REFERRAL ONLY.

Cllr L Taylor raised concern about the maintenance of Frith Wood. He feels there is a big difference between the PC owned area of the wood and the Robert Hitchens owned area. This matter can be discussed at Works if necessary.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.08pm.