

**MINUTES** of a Chalford Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 6.30pm at the Parish Centre in accordance with notice given.

**In the Chair:** Cllr Trinder

**Present:** Cllrs Beioley, Funnell, Gardiner, Golding, Humberstone, Lee, Morris-Wyatt, Oakley, Pearson, Roberts, Samaroo, D Taylor, L Taylor, Woodfine

**In attendance:** The Clerk, Deputy Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Groundsman, Assistant Groundsman

**1.03.25 APOLOGIES** None

**2.03.25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –** None

**3.03.25 CIVILITY AND RESPECT TRAINING**

All Councillors and staff took part in the training which was run by Becky Walsh. This finished at 8pm. Members felt that the training was valuable although they would have liked more tips and tools on how to deal with challenging situations. Cllr Trinder will follow up on this with Becky. **ACTION: Cllr Trinder**

**4.03.25 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** - Cllr Samaroo proposed “**acceptance of the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025 minutes**” This was seconded by Cllr Oakley. There was one abstention.

**05.03.25 RE-ALLOCATION OF WARD FOR CLLR GOLDING**

Cllr Trinder proposed “**we re-allocate Cllr Golding into Hill Ward from Bussage Ward**” This was seconded by Cllr Samaroo and unanimously agreed. **ACTION: Clerk**

**06.03.25 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Agenda items 6 and 7 were discussed simultaneously as this year the suggestion is to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on the same evening as VE Day. The Clerk prepared a briefing note which was circulated to members prior to meeting. This explained that the Chalford Sports and Social Club is available to hire on 8<sup>th</sup> May and they would like to collaborate with the PC. Bussage Primary School and Chalford Hill Primary School would like to take part and propose that 40 children sing a medley of WW2 songs. Chalford Silver Band should be available to take part. A budget of £700.00 has been allocated for VE Day celebrations and £250.00 for the Annual Parish Meeting. Members were broadly happy with the suggestions that were made in the Clerk’s note and following a brief discussion, Cllr Trinder proposed “**we work on the basis of the paper that the Clerk prepared and the budget set, and delegate the finalisation of the finer detail of arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting and VE Day commemoration to a working group**”. This was seconded by Cllr Morris-Wyatt and unanimously agreed. Cllrs Golding, Humberstone and Trinder volunteered to be a part of the working group. **ACTION: Cllrs Golding, Humberstone, Trinder, Clerk**

**07.03.25 VE DAY** - As above

**08.03.25 CLERK’S REPORT –**

**St Marys Canal Path Flooding** – The Clerk had circulated an update via email. Network Rail should be carrying out the necessary remedial works within the next two weeks. The Public Rights of way Officer at GCC has been working closely with the senior Drainage Officer at Network Rail, and he will diarise to follow up on this with Network Rail to ensure that the work is undertaken.

### 9.03.25 CORRESPONDENCE –

**Smell in the Parish** - Since yesterday evening there has been an awful smell in the parish and a few concerns have been received from residents. This is due to muck spreading at a local farm and the smell should dissipate over the next few days.

**Beech Lane, Brownhill** – Concerned residents met with County Cllr Turner, District Cllr Watson and Cllr Samaroo to discuss the damage to the verges in Beech Lane and poor road safety due to parked vehicles. Cllr Turner is taking the lead on this and will be arranging a meeting with our Local Highways Manager to discuss further.

### 10.03.25 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

**Chalfest:** Cllr Trinder explained that the working group had met with the organisers of Chalfest and an updated contract has been drafted. The working group are due to meet with the organisers again soon and the finalised contract should be ready for discussion at the April Full Council meeting.

**Community Composting:** Cllr Samaroo updated members about the recent decision taken by the Works Committee. After thorough investigation and careful consideration, the Works Committee decided that the Middle Hill site is not suitable for the proposed scheme. However, Cllr Samaroo made it clear that it is not the scheme itself that is in question, as there is undoubtedly a need for a composting scheme in Chalford, their decision is purely based on the proposed site. The Committee are aware that finding a suitable piece of land could be a challenge, but one that they are happy to support the local community group with. Cllr Trinder suggested that perhaps the search for land could be investigated more formally as part of the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

A brief discussion followed and it was agreed that relevant information needs to be communicated to all members so they can respond when parishioners and members of the community group, who it is understood are feeling quite disheartened, raise the issue. The Clerk will circulate an update to Full Council. **ACTION: Clerk**

Concern was raised about the poor road condition in Middle Hill and Vatch Lane. Cllr Trinder suggested that the PC submit questions at the next GCC meeting. The Clerk will contact Cllr Turner to find out the deadline for submission. **ACTION: Clerk**

Cllr Morris-Wyatt asked if a Highways meeting can be set up with him and Cllr Samaroo and our Local Highways Manager (LHM) as issues like these can be raised. The Clerk will contact our LHM. **ACTION: Clerk**

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 8.57pm