

CHETNOLE AND STOCKWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10 May 2017 in the Chetnole Village Hall

Present: Cllrs G Ratcliffe (Vice-Chairman),
Cllrs S Darley, M Gallimore, W Henry, J Hume and J Meier

In attendance: Mrs S Woodford (Clerk).

- 1.1 Election of Chairman** - It was proposed by Cllr Meier and seconded by Cllr Henry and resolved that **Councillor Owen Pope should continue as Chairman.**
- 1.2 Election of Vice Chairman** – It was agreed that the selection of Vice Chairman should be postponed until the next Parish Council meeting.
- 1.3 Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Pope. Cllr Mary Penfold, newly elected Member for Dorset County Council, was introduced to the Council, but had to leave shortly after as she had a further commitment.
- 1.4 Playing Field Committee: To confirm membership of Playing Field Committee and Sub-Committee.**
 - 1.4.1 Resolved: That Cllr Pope (Chairman), Cllr Gallimore and Cllr Henry shall continue as the membership of the Playing Field Committee.**
 - 1.4.2 Resolved: To approve the membership of the Playing Management Team as: Mr C Hardy (Chairman), Cllr O Pope, Mr J Woodford, Mr Dave Orton, Mr Blair Siburn and Mr D Russell.**

The Parish Clerk will continue to act as Clerk supporting the team as a member.
- 1.5 Minutes of Meeting held on 8th March 2017.**

The Minutes were signed as a correct record.
- 1.6 Declarations of Interest:**

Cllr Meier declared an interest in item No. 14 as he has involvement with Ilchester Estates.
- 1.7 Matters Arising** from the Minutes of 8th March 2017

Item 7.5.2. Concern was expressed about the refusal of planning permission for the Old Forge in Mill Lane (WD/D/16/194). Cllr Legg had kindly chased up the application on behalf of the Parish Council and established that although it was hoped it would be considered by the Planning Committee, it was actually decided through the delegation procedure. The applicants have been offered advice to assist with any re-application they may make. Standing Orders were suspended to enable Cllr Legg to speak and he agreed to talk to the Case Officer seeking further pre-planning advice for the applicants.

Item 7.10.3 The minute referred to the resurfacing of Neals Lane, which prompted discussion on the use of Neals Lane by the building firm converting the agricultural buildings at the end of Neals Lane. Access to the site is officially off Back Lane and although there is a signpost directing site traffic to the Back Lane route, there have been complaints that contractors are using Neals Lane. The Clerk has spoken to the building firm who stated that the only vehicles using Neals Lane belong to the portaloo company who empty the loos on a weekly basis, they stated that they would instruct them to use Back Lane in future.

Item 7.12 It was confirmed that the gates at either end of Foys Field are now installed.

Item 7.13 Cllr Ratcliffe reported that the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group are meeting on a monthly basis and a character assessment of the village is being carried out. There will be an information area on the field at the Chetnole Flower Show in August.

1.8 Planning – under consideration:-

1.8.1 WD/D/17/000632 Erection of 1 no dwelling with associated parking, Myrtle Cottage.

1.9 Accounts

1.10.1 Accounts for Payment (See Appendix A for details)

Payment of **£1494.27** in total from the PC Current Account and **£270.00** from the Playing Field Fund Account.

Total assets at 10 May 2017: **Parish Council: £11,740,26**
Playing Field Fund: £2,209.02

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr Henry and seconded by Cllr Meier to approve the accounts for payment and balances recorded.

1.10 Playing Field:

1.10.1 Members were in receipt of a copy of the minutes of the Playing Field Management Team held on 19 April 2017, which were duly approved.

Discussion ensued on the problem of dog mess on the playing field, with members suggesting that there it is not generally a problem.

1.10.2 The Playing Field Management Team put forward the recommendation that the permission is given to the Air Ambulance to use Chetnole Playing Field as a designated as an area where it may land in emergency situations.

Resolved: Members were in unanimous agreement that permission be given to the Air Ambulance to survey the field and use it whenever an emergency situation demanded.

1.11 Annual Approval of Parish Council Policy Documents and Arrangements:

Members were in receipt of copies of the following policy documents and arrangements:-

1.11.1 Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

1.11.2 Council's Complaints Procedure

1.11.3 Freedom of Information policy

1.11.4 Risk Assessment

1.11.5 Asset Register

1.11.6 Meeting Calendar for 2017/18 council year

1.11.7 Details of Insurance Cover for 2017/18

1.11.8 Mr Robert Owen to continue as representative on the Boyles Trust and Cllr Darley to continue as representative for Sherborne Transport Action Group.

1.11.9 Undertake to nominate, on an annual basis, a recipient of the Sybil Howard Award.

Resolved: To approve Items 1.11.1 to 1.11.9 for 2017 / 2018.

1.12 To consider any matters arising from the Parish Meetings held on 10 May 2017 (prior to the present meeting).

The provision of a litter bin at the top of the Stockwood Road at the junction of the old slip road onto the A37. Agreed that this should be investigated.

1.13 Transport Provision – Members were in receipt of a guidance document (Tool-Kit) and were required to consider forming a Working Group to set up a Community Transport Scheme.

A lengthy discussion took place and Members agreed that rather than setting up a formal scheme, further consideration should be given to joining up with the surrounding villages to attempt to establish a joint community scheme and to assess what arrangements are already in place.

1.14 Stockwood Common - A letter had been received from Mr Stephen Neal, a Chetnole resident, expressing concern about the apparent loss of areas of Stockwood Common as Ilchester Estates appear to be installing fencing and hedging that may preclude access to parts of the Common. Members were in receipt of a copy of the letter, maps along with present and historical documents relating to the Common.

It was pointed out that the newly planted broadleaf hedge should be an improvement on the scrub hedge which had previously been there. It was noted that the Estate have ‘a right to fence for the protection of beasts’, so it was assumed that their actions are not necessarily contradictory to the laws on common land. The majority view of the Parish Council was that this was not a Council matter and that Mr Neal should take his concerns directly to Ilchester Estates.

1.14 Matters requiring the attention of the Council (that may be brought forward for resolution at a subsequent meeting).

1.14.1. At the Annual Statutory Meeting there is usually no business item for reports from other bodies, but as Mr Bob Owen was present it was agreed that he should update members on the recent activities within the Boyles Trust. He noted that the season for making grant applications is approaching and there will be advertisements in the local magazines, sufficient funds are being generated to enable the Trust to continue to provide grants for the foreseeable future.

1.14.2 Unfortunately Cllr Darley was unable to attend the recent STAG meeting, but Mr Owen was present and so able to give a report. A new group has been formed, the Salisbury/Exeter user group (SERUG). Track laying will be taking place on the 5th and 20th August and therefore delays are expected. Changes at Waterloo involving changes to the old Eurostar terminal will cause some disruption.

The plans to increase the line speed of the Heart of Wessex route may be a cause for concern as the ‘halt ‘ stations may be threatened.

1.14.3 Cllr Gordon Ratcliffe, having Chaired this meeting, announced that he wished to resign from the Parish Council and that this would be his last meeting as a Parish Councillor. Members thanked him for his work whilst on the Parish Council and wished him well. The Clerk explained that the co-option process would be put in motion, initially seeking whether the public wished call an election, assuming not, then the position will be advertised before the next meeting and hopefully a new member co-opted at the July meeting.

1.15 Date of next Meeting : Wednesday 12th July (*post meeting note – postponed to 19 July*)

PUBLIC FORUM

- Members of the public also wished to thank Cllr Ratcliffe for his work whilst a Parish Councillor, his tenacity and determination to pursue the projects in hand, including the warning signs in Deep Ford Lane and the formation of the Neighbourhood Plan project.
- It was also agreed to thank Mr Dave Orton for the wonderful repair work he has carried out on the ‘Cory’ bench in the Playing Field, ensuring that it has a good few years of service still remaining.

Meeting closed at 9.18 pm.

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Chairman