

Chislet Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 21st March 2024 at 7.00 pm at the Hersden Centre

Present : Cllrs Warnock (in the Chair), Stoward, Appleby, Prosser, Higglesden, Cassidy & Halfacre

In attendance : Mr. G. Eaton, Clerk to the Council, CCC Cllr Carnac, and one member of the public

Action by:

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Fee and KCC Cllr Marsh

2 Declarations of Councillor's Interests in items on the Agenda

There were no declarations of Councillor's interests in items on the Agenda

3 Public discussion

There was a general discussion with the member of the public regarding items of Council business and procedural issues

4 KCC & CCC Cllr reports

CCC Cllr Carnac reported on missed green bin collections, and the draft Local Plan 2040 consultation. Rachel also updated on the Hersden/Westbere boundary change proposal, and the recent cyber-attack on CCC from which it was still recovering

5 Minutes of the last Meeting and matters arising

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 22nd February 2024 were unanimously approved

The Clerk reported that he had contacted CCC asking for litter to be collected along the A28, Island Road. CCC had replied saying that they would arrange for a road sweeper to attend. Clerk replied confirming the request was for litter picking not road sweeping. CCC's reply was awaited

6 Voting on motions/agenda items

Cllr Appleby suggested that when items are voted on this be accurately noted in the Minutes i.e. number of Cllrs voting 'for' & 'against', unless it was agreed unanimously. This was unanimously agreed

Cllr Appleby also suggested that Agenda items are more fully explained so that Councillors are prepared to make considered decisions. It was noted that full details of all Agenda items are provided in the 'Notes for the Meeting' document which is sent with the other Meeting papers

7 To discuss correspondence received

Email from CCC re Community Governance Review (Westbere/Hersden boundary)

The emails regarding the complaint about SNC Farm were discussed and it was noted with regret that to date no action had been taken by any of the main players

Email from CCC re consultation on draft Local Plan to 2040 (closes 3rd June 2024)

Letter received from KSS Air Ambulance requesting a donation – a donation of £300 was unanimously agreed

8 Highway Improvement Plan (HIP) update

After a brief discussion it was agreed unanimously to publish the 2022 HIP on the website. Cllr Appleby to forward final version for the Clerk to arrange this **Cllr Appleby/Clerk**

Cllr Appleby updated on the response from Highways to the 2023 HIP proposals, in particular the non-viability of the 'safety refuge' proposed at the east end of Upstreet. A request has been made to Highways that the 2023 HIP document be updated with their detailed comments prior to publication on the website

It was unanimously agreed to position the two further 'It's a limit not a target' banners, supplied by Highways, in North Stream and near Chislet School. Cllr Higglesden kindly offered to organise this. Cllr Appleby to request two further banners for future use within the Parish **Cllrs Appleby & Higglesden**

It was unanimously agreed that the Village White Gates (when in place) which have been funded by Highways be added to the Asset Register and Insurance cover as they will be the responsibility of the PC. 'Ball park' values subject to confirmation by Highways as follows -

3 x Village gates @ £900ea = £2,700

3 x Village name signs @ £300ea = £900

Clerk

9 D-Day 80 commemorations

Cllr Halfacre, on behalf of the CE group, gave a full update on the D-Day 80 commemoration preparations-

After careful consideration of the risks of the Beacon lighting at Boyden Gate Hill being cancelled at the last minute due to the risk that the crop might be set alight, it was proposed to relocate the Beacon lighting to the chalk pit in Church Lane, opposite the Chitty Lane junction, owned by Mike Wilkinson. This proposal was unanimously agreed. Mike Wilkinson had kindly offered to construct a new Beacon

An approach has been made to the Gate Inn, who see the commercial opportunity presented by the event. In line with the national theme fish and chips will be on the menu. They have an event planned for the following weekend

Cllr Halfacre had engaged with 'Help for Heroes' who were happy to support the event and for money to be collected from the public on their behalf

David has a telephone call booked with CCC's events manager tomorrow (22nd March) to go through the submitted application in detail and to address the change in location

Work is progressing on a risk assessment and publicity for the event

The decision about who should light the Beacon still needs to be addressed

10 To consider Planning and Enforcement matters

There were no new planning applications to consider

11 Grass cutting

There was a brief discussion regarding the grass cutting specification which had been sent to local individuals and firms inviting them to quote for the work. It was noted that a separate quote would be requested for grass cutting and maintenance of the Churchyard. Quotes were awaited

12 To consider Finance matters

The following account was approved for payment -

BP	Inland Revenue	Clerk's tax	£100.40
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The Standing Order for the Clerk's salary & expenses for £457.32 was noted and approved

The bank balances as at 15.03.24

Unity Trust Bank	£ 27801.36	
Lloyds TSB	£ 0	Clerk reported he had asked for the accounts to be closed

Finance report 1st April 2023 – 29th February 2024

The Finance report for the period to end of February 2024, circulated by email, was discussed and noted

Spending proposals for 2024/2025

Several items were considered –

Bench at triangle – a budget of £350 was unanimously agreed

D Day 80th Commemorations – a budget of £500 was unanimously agreed to include

Application cost	£21.30
Road Closure	£75.00
Signage / Sundries	£400.00

Chislet Summer Fair – a budget of £150 was unanimously agreed to include hire of tables/stall and items for a children's competition

Chislet Christmas Fair – a budget of £150 was unanimously agreed to include hire of tables/stall and items for a children's competition

Moveable Speed Indication Devices (SIDs) x 2 – It was noted that SIDs must be authorised by Highways following a full site survey. It was agreed that quotes be obtained in order to consider the viability of taking this forward. To be considered further at the April 2024 Meeting **Cllr Prosser/Clerk**

13 Annual Parishioners Meeting (APM)

It was unanimously agreed that the APM would be held on Thursday 16th May 2024 at 7.00 pm, (followed by the monthly Parish Council Meeting at 7.30 pm), at the Hersden Centre

It was unanimously agreed that a representative from the Church and the Methodist Chapel be invited to attend the APM **Clerk**

14 Any Other Business

After a brief discussion it was unanimously agreed to invite Roger Loukes, Staple Parish Councillor, to give a talk at the April 2024 Meeting, about Staple Parish Council's experience of using Speed Indication Devices (SiDs) **Cllr Appleby**

There was a discussion regarding Cllr Rose's poor attendance record at Meetings. It was agreed that the Clerk should email Luke regarding this **Clerk**

After a discussion about the poor state of the noticeboard at Boyden Gate it was unanimously agreed that it should be refurbished. Cllr Higglesden kindly offered to obtain a quote **Cllr Higglesden**

Cllr Prosser kindly offered to reprint the poster for the defibrillator which had become unreadable
Cllr Prosser

15 Date of next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 18th April 2024 at 7.00 pm at the Hersden Centre

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 8.45 pm