

CHILBOLTON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT – Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 10 April 2024; 18:30, Chilbolton Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Tony Ewer (Chairman) (TE), David Griffiths (Vice-Chairman) (DG), David Hall (DH), Julian Hudson (JH) and George Marits (GM), Mandy Denyer (Clerk) (MD)
HCC/TVBC Cllr David Drew (DD), members of public: NONE

1. Apologies: Cllrs Geoff Cockram (GC), Rick Franke (RF) and Sue Larcombe (SL)
2. Declarations of interest: NONE
3. To sign as an accurate record of the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4 March and Tuesday 26 March 2024: These were agreed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

Cllrs thanked TE for chairing the 26 March '24 meeting so well given the technical issues and MD for the fully detailed minutes.

DD had another meeting to go to so it was agreed that item 6 would be discussed at this point of the meeting.

6. HCC and TVBC Councillor reports:
DD circulated the attached HCC report ([8424 20](#)) , TVBC report ([8424 20a](#)) and an update report on Fullerton Treatment Plant ([8424 20b](#)).

DH asked if there are any updates regarding waste and recycling collections – Not yet. As you know government has changed plans which have meant that TVBC have had to delay its plan to improve waste and recycling collections. TVBC have consultants looking into how TVBC can meet the new government criteria. Funding has also been delayed until 2026

JH asked if HCC are aware of the large fly tipping on the A272. – This is a matter for Winchester Council and as such complaints/reports should go to them.

TE asked about the Andover Master Plan – work is still ongoing on the plans for this project.

4. Matters Arising:

COSC –

There is a dead ash tree that have fallen on the Common boundary fence. RN to remove tree from fence when ground conditions permit. **Action: Ongoing**

Sleeper bridge on the Common will need repairing – The plan has been approved. DG to ask A Bond for a quote. **Action: Ongoing/DG**

COSC to close opening/access point on the West Down side of gateway as a matter of urgency by way of a barrier (e.g. post and rail fencing) and to investigate who needs to secure the loose manhole cover. AB has been instructed to carry out necessary works. **Action: In hand**

Common car parking signs update - DG agreed to get these installed signs along Coley Lane prior to Easter. AB has been instructed to install signs. **Action: In hand**

Extension to Purlygig Bridge – MD to write to Sparsholt to confirm their interest in carrying out this proposed project (see Correspondence) **Action: Complete**

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Agreement for Common residents parking – the 3 properties were emailed the Agreement on 5/3/24. No comments have been received. **Action: Complete**

COSC to investigate feasibility and cost of reinstating the path around the WMPF (from behind the pavilion to the Whiteland Path), thereby removing the need to fence the WMPF to apply for the Enclosed Sports Area' under the TVBC Public Spaces Protection Order. DG asked AB to investigate - It can be done but will be a big job and ground conditions may not be suitable for a path to run in this location. DG to get quote from AB. **Action: DG**

Adventure Tower

WMPF DG to forward information to DD so that he may ask the TVBC leisure team for any guidance regarding the depth of soil above concrete to ensure safety standards are met. **Action: Complete**

TE to speak with Caledonia Play and discuss the safety concerns – An agreement was agreed and final payment has been made to Caledonia Play. **Action: Complete**

Planning/SL and TE –

Request for TPOs to be placed on trees at Winston, Village Street not granted – Response from TVBC ([6223 2](#)). CPC to challenge this decision. SL email to TVBC ([6323 11](#)). SL to forward communications to DD, who will look into the matter. **Action: SL/Ongoing**

TE and SL to introduce CPC to the residents of Valley Field Park in early spring 2024. **Action: TE/SL**

First Aid course – Investigated course providers and costs. – Remove from agenda. To include in 2025/26 budget. **Action: Closed**

Highways

GC to investigate how easy or not an SLR/SID can be changed from 20mph to 30mph **Action: GC**

Open Gardens Event

DH to speak with Abbots Mitre re ticketing tent **Action: DH**
MD to speak with Mr B Hook re horse and carriage ride around gardens **Action: MD**

5. To take questions and to discuss and decide on any proposals within the monthly reports as follows:

A. Finance report: Prior to the meeting MD circulated the attached report ([8424 15](#)).

DH checked, agreed and signed the bank reconciliation check.

- i. Approval of accounts for payment: A Denyer salary, exps and Notrton reimbursement £850.94, A Denyer printer ink reimbursement £73.94 and HALC annual subscription of £424 were approved. MD informed that the Employer contribution to MD pension of £342.80 was paid (as approved at the 4/3/24 CPC meeting).
- ii. Discuss and decide on St Mary the Less grant request ([8424 5](#)): After discussion, Cllrs agreed as the precept has had to be significantly increased to cover necessary Council expenses, there is no free revenue available to additional grants. Therefore request was denied. MD to inform Church. **Action: MD**
- iii. Discuss and decide on the continuing use of the HCC Lengthsman Scheme 1/4/24-32/2/26 ([8424 18](#)): After discussion, Cllrs agreed to continue using the scheme. MD to sign and return the agreement to the co-ordinator.

Cllrs checked the 23/24 accounts and found nothing that needs to be amended. MD informed of a minor addition to receipts from bank interest. The draft accounts are therefore ready for internal audit.

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Cllrs agreed that the £172 adjustment from the WMPF Capital Account to the Current Account should remain on the bank reconciliation but not actioned at the bank.

MD to investigate Metro Savings accounts to see if the HSBC account for Batty Legacy and WMPF Capital can be transferred to Metro where the CPC current account is held. **Action: MD**

- B. Flood Advisory Group: GM informed that water levels are not dropping and it would take several weeks for dry weather before there is any significant drop in water levels.
- C. Highways: Prior to the meeting GC circulated the attached report ([8424 14](#)). Fallen trees on Little Drove Road where cleared by HCC.
- D. Open Spaces Committee (COSC)
 - i. COSC meeting minutes for meeting held on 14 March '24 ([8424 12](#)).

DD updated Cllrs on the request to HCC to repair part of the Test Way that runs inside the WMPF to the Whitelands Path ([8424 21](#)).

DG informed Cllrs of the COSC plan to improve the horse gate by the cattle grid (Joys Lane) and showed a diagram of the proposed new layout. HCC have agreed to fund 75% of the cost for the new gate that will be necessary (a grant application will be submitted for this). CPC will need to cover fencing costs.

Cllrs agreed, in principal, to this project. COSC/DG to get quote. **Action: COSC/DG**

DG informed that there is a tree down in the river upstream from the Purlygig Bridge. TE to investigate if Freelands are now responsible under the new Grant of Deed for the Fishing Rights.

DG informed about fly tipping on WD following the installation of a new fence to a property on Station Road that abuts West Down. DG has approved MD's letter to the property in question, this will be delivered tomorrow.

DG informed that Mr Gossling is interested in helping with any chainsaw work. MD informed that a chainsaw operator certificate will be required for insurance purposes. GM added that he would be willing to undertake a chainsaw course.

- ii. Fishing Rights update: TE informed that the Deed of Grant is now with the Church Commissioners. He will chase for a signed copy next week.
- iii. To discuss and decide on enclosing the WMPF to be able to apply for an 'Enclosed Sports Area' under the TVBC Public Spaces Protection Order: [see matters arising re alternative suggestion](#). A decision will be made once quotes have been received.

- E. Planning Committee: Prior to the meeting SL circulated the attached report ([8424 4](#)) and minutes of the meetings held on 4 and 18 March '24 ([8424 4a](#) and [4b](#) respectively).

JH briefed Cllrs on SL report. Cllrs discussed the suggestion of installing a fence on the Common adj. to Lynton Meadows. DG informed that this would not be possible due to the SSSI and NE conditions regarding fencing. DG informed that he had spoken to the land owner about the state of the fencing and the land owner told DG that he would not repair fencing and didn't mind if cattle got onto his land.

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- F. Village Hall: Prior to the meeting GC circulated the attached report ([8424 13](#)). As GC reported the ‘Warm Hub’ run by volunteers over the winter has been a success. Afternoon tea will replace this initiative on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month from 18 April ’24 during the Spring/Summer period. Cllrs thanked those volunteers for all their hard work in running both initiatives.
TE passed on the CVHMC thanks for the assistance with purchasing phase one of the new chairs. The old chairs will be sold.
- G. Community Fundraising update: To include update on Solar Farm: DH had no update to report.
- H. Strategy Working Group (SWG): TE informed that the CPC response to the TVBC 2040 Local Plan Regulation 18 Stage 2 consultation has been submitted ([8424 22](#)). Cllrs confirmed that they are in agreement with this submission.

Cllrs agreed that a separate letter needs to be sent to TVBC Chief Executive, Head of Planning and Head of Legal Department regarding the Test Valley Farm settlement boundary issue. TE to draft letter and circulated to Cllrs for approval.

Action: TE

7. To discuss and decide on renewal of the Abbots Mitre and Village Hall as Assets of Community Value (both due to expire August ’24): After brief discussion, it was agreed that both should be renewed. MD to write to Abbots Mitre informing them of the decision and submitted necessary paperwork to TVBC.

Action: MD

8. Correspondence:

5/3/24 - GM email response to Longparish PC re SW issues ([8424 1](#))

5/3/24 - HALC March '24 newsletter ([8424 2](#))

6/3/24 - MD email to Sparsholt re extension of Purlygig Bridge ([8424 3](#)) – awaiting response

11/3/24 - Request for grant re Church gates ([8424 5](#)) – to be discussed under Finance

7/3/24 - Cow Common sampling request ([8424 6](#)) – Consent was given and MG has made contact

12/3/24 - Savills re Future Farm Resilience Fund Report - Chilbolton Common and West Down ([8424 9](#))

14/3/24 - HCC RoW Officer email to GM re Purlygig Bridge extension ([8424 10](#))

15/3/24 - Community Planning Support in Test Valley ([8424 11](#))

29/3/24 - SSEN Priority Services Register Digital Toolkit ([8424 16](#))

4/4/24 – Resident email re Southern Water pump house and pipe works ([8424 17](#))

8 & 9/4/24 – WelMedical re Village Hall defib out of warranty and quote for new defib ([8424 19](#)). After discussion, it was agreed that there is no budget for this in 24/25. The matter will be discussed with the next financial year budget.

9. Questions from public: NONE

10. Any other business: NONE

11. Items for the next agenda: NONE at this time

12. Date of next scheduled meeting: Annual Parish Assembly Monday 22 April ’24; 18:30, Chilbolton Village Hall and CPC meeting Monday 13 May ’24; 18:30, Chilbolton Village Hall.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 19:55.

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