

Chilbolton Parish Council
Chilbolton Open Spaces Committee

DRAFT Minutes of Meeting held on 13th January 2022 at 18:30 at Poplar Dene, Chilbolton.

Present

David Griffiths (DG) – Chairman; Moya Grove (MG), Nick Horne (NH), Emma Noble (EN) Trish Heaton (TH), David Hall (DH)

Apologies

Glynne Evans (GE), Edward Painter (EP), Terry Gilmour (TG)

Members of the public present

None

Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting on 9th December 2021 ([THURSDAY 9 DECEMBER 2021](#)) were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising

Matters arising are covered under the main headings below.

Finance

A [report](#) was provided by Cllr Hall. Available balances as of 12/1/22 are:

Cow Common £19,680.27

West Down £9657.87

CWMPF £3777.48 (plus £15000 held in the Community Projects fund)

Batty Fund £5099.65

The budget for 2022/23 was also provided having been signed off by CPC on 10/1/22.

DH highlighted that the £5000 for the Mayfly footbridge has been reallocated to COSC as this work will not be carried out in this financial year. Particular thanks was directed to MG for arranging the Common educational visits which brought in £1400.

DH will be stepping down from his role within COSC but will continue with fundraising activities. *On behalf of COSC the Chairman would like to thank DH for his valuable contributions to the committee.*

Agreed that a monthly finance report will now be provided from CPC via the Parish Clerk.

CPC will not be asking for an increase in the precept this year.

Allotments

Nothing to report.

Chilbolton Cow Common

Report provided by MG ([13122 2](#)).

MG confirmed that the fence was still down in the south west corner due to fallen trees. However it is not posing a significant risk. DG agreed to take a look and report.

Further updates from MG as follows:

Update on Wessex River Trust proposal

There has been no further update from the Wessex River Trust.

There has been no further flooding on the common.

George Marits has rodded some culverts and HCC have refused to rod the culverts of the Abbots Stream which is currently flowing normally.

Update on Sparsholt Purlygig Bank Repairs

MG confirmed that there had been a delay owing to an email which had gone astray, but Natural England and Sparsholt College have now confirmed that work should begin and take place over 2 or 3 Wednesdays in March.

It was agreed that a contribution would be made to Sparsholt College and this was included in the £500 budgeted for the repairs.

A fence is to be erected for up to 6 months while plants establish and dragons teeth will need to be put around the ford to avoid future damage.

There will be a piece on the bank restoration project in the Parish magazine in the coming month.

Update on Common Information Boards

CPC has approved the wording of the new boards.

DG suggested a different map for the board as the previous one didn't show the Chilbolton side of the Common. MG is going to look into the possibility of using an OS map.

Machinery Maintenance

Report provided by DG ([13122 3](#))

DG confirmed Ed Treadwell has fixed the beast and also added blades to one of the brush cutters.

Parish Paths

DG is to check to see if the furthest part of the Mark Way has now been properly cut back and cleared.

Village Greens

War Memorial Playing fields

DG reported that the moles have now reached the football pitch and that the first mole catchers were deficient. However a new mole catcher has been engaged who seems more cost effective and efficient. There are no football matches until 23rd January so now is an ideal time. Report provided by DG ([13122 4](#)).

NH reported that the back boards for the basketball nets are still with LTL for repairs.

NH also reported that new lighting is required for the changing room but this is not pressing as the changing rooms are not being used at the moment due to covid. It is anticipated that Steve Picco will do this at some point in the future.

The crack in the pavilion wall is on the inside only and not thought to be a danger but NH will log movement and report on any significant changes.

The Development Group is applying to TVBC for up to 50% of the cost of the table tennis table and possibly the play tower under the Community Asset Fund. A decision is due in March.

NH reported that the far end of the playing field has been fenced off, presumably by Watch Cottage Estate but in fact this area is owned by the PCC. NH has a copy of the original conveyance and will email the chair of CPC.

Village Greens. Nil to report

West Down

Report from GE ([13122 1](#))

GE reported that some trees have been planted along the roadside slope with more ready to be planted and a further 45 trees arriving in February.

DG confirmed that no response has been received from HCC regarding the dragons teeth around the bottle bank so steps will be taken to have these installed.

COSC anticipates that the Countryside Stewardship Grant will go down over future years due to changes in funding.

DG confirmed that the trailer used for transporting The Beast is reaching the end of its life. EN will liaise with DG as she may have one available for use.

Correspondence

MG confirmed that she had returned a survey supplied by Natural England regarding Educational Access to the Common and provided appropriate suggestions. [Ecorys Educational Access Survey](#)

Correspondence was also received from the Rural Payments Agency [Rural Payments Agency](#)

Questions from the public

Nil

AOB Nil

DG suggested that Julian who stood for the CPC be approached to see if he might like to join COSC. He had emailed Julian but has not yet received a response.

CPC has approved the installation of a swinging gate to the Chilbolton entrance to the Common. It is hoped that the Common residents will support the gate suggested which will probably have a mechanical keypad lock, because an automatic gate will probably be too difficult and expensive to install and maintain. It is anticipated that a post will need to be put in the ground to secure it when open.

CPC have provided a proposed parking plan for the Chilbolton side of the Common. COSC agree with the proposed plan with the exception that they suggested the bins be moved to the 'New Shrubs' area next to the drive of Old Cottage, as they risk being shut off when the gate is open.

Items for the next Agenda NIL

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday February 10th 2022 at 18:30