

**Chilbolton Parish Council**  
**Chilbolton Open Spaces Committee**

**DRAFT Minutes of Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 18:30 at Poplar Dene**

**Present**

Moya Grove (MG), David Griffiths (DG), Emma Noble (EN), Trish Heaton (TH), Rick Franke (RF)

**Apologies**

Edward Painter (EP), Terry Gilmour (TG), Julian Hudson (JH), Nick Horne (NH)

**Members of the public present**

None

**Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022 ([Thursday 19 May 2022](#)) were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman, with one amendment, that the initials of Jasper Galloway be recorded as JG not JW.

**Matters arising**

Rick Franke was warmly welcomed as a new member of COSC.

Further matters arising are covered under the main headings below.

**Finance**

A finance report was provided by the Parish Clerk ([9622 3](#)) and noted.

**Allotments**

Nothing to report.

**Common**

Report provided by MG ([9622 6](#)). MG reported that cattle have now arrived on the common.

Wessex River Trust (WRT)

COSC supports the request of Geoff Cockram to CPC that an information board be requested from WRT and installed prior to the project commencing to educate visitors.

There has been some correspondence regarding the start date of the work between all involved parties ([6622 5](#)), ([6622 5a](#)), ([6622 5b](#)), ([6622 11](#)), ([6622 11a](#)) but CPC have now agreed to leave the start date of the project to WRT.

MG raised concerns about a letter sent to Strutt and Parker ([6622 24](#)), agents for the Church Commissioners on 27.5.22, in particular the line which states *'The following claimed rights are refuted but we would normally agree to (c) and (g) with prior notification and consent.*

*... g) A right of access with vehicles to the river for the purpose of stocking the river and maintenance purposes but notifying the owner of the Common in advance and agreeing the route.'*

COSC would like to recommend to CPC that stocking should be done from Freelands side of the river making vehicle transit across the Common not necessary

#### Fencing across River Test onto Common

MG considers that the reference in the CPC minutes relating to fencing across the river is incorrect. The minutes state *'On further investigation TE believes that the fencing is on Wherwell Priory land so no further action is required'*. MG to discuss further with CPC as the downstream fencing is secured on the common without permission.

#### Azolla

Weevils have now been delivered and will be released tomorrow (10/6/22). MG and EN to action. (Action now completed)

#### Gravel Area Redesign

In their meeting of 6/6/22 CPC have approved COSC's recommendations for only 2 disabled spaces and moving only the gate to the Old Inn and not both gates.

#### Report from Wild Trout Trust by N Lawrence

COSC discussed the report ([6622\\_9](#)) and supports all recommendations. COSC recommends to CPC that fallen ash trees at the sw margin of the Common be left unless they cause an issue with fencing. Moving the fence on the left bank was discussed but COSC preferred to leave it in place and not widen the bank for more mowing may be a possibility but would need discussing with Natural England. The management plan should be updated in line with Nick Lawrence's advice.

#### Warden Scheme

DG reported that he and other members of CPC met with Daisy Kennard and Samantha Roberts of Test Valley Borough Council's Countryside Team on 25/5/22. The meeting was very positive and they were keen to help CPC and supportive of the idea of a Warden Scheme where volunteers provide information and advice to visitors to the Common during busy periods. DG to write an advert for the Parish Magazine inviting applicants to volunteer for the scheme.

#### **Machinery Maintenance**

Nothing to report

#### **Parish Paths**

DG reported that an email had been received from a villager regarding overgrown nettles and thorn bushes on Whitelands Path. DG has arranged for Ian Daubney to cut it back.

TH / EN will investigate the further part of the Mark Way to confirm if it has been cut back. If not, DG will raise with TVBC.

#### **Village Greens**

CPC was approached by a resident and agreed to pursue her request that the greens at Test Rise be designated a public open space and be sown with wildflowers. No discussion

### **War Memorial Playing Field**

TH confirmed that CPC has agreed that the Table Tennis Table (TTT) should be put in the spot originally designated with the proviso that should there be proven antisocial behaviour around the TTT, CPC will investigate relocating it. A letter has been sent to Jasper Galloway.

### **West Down**

DG reported that all posts indicating the route of the bridleway had now been installed.

### **Lengthsman Work**

COSC looked at and agreed the lengthsman work in the proposal provided by Mandy Denyer on 6.6.22. COSC would like to request, in addition to this, that the picnic benches and table on West Down also be strimmed.

### **Bawden 2022 tree survey reports**

DG and RF have liaised with Glynne Evans and inspected trees on West Down requiring work highlighted in the report. There is some concern that works to very large historic trees may cause some controversy but will need to be carried out by professionals for reasons of both safety and tree health. This work is ongoing.

### **Safeguarding / DBS checks for Educational Access**

MG confirmed she is DBS checked but that this will expire in July. NH to be approached by MG to see if he will replace Alan James as second DBS checked COSC member.

### **Correspondence**

#### **Questions from Public**

None

#### **Any other Business**

None

#### **Items for the next Agenda**

None

#### **Date of the next meeting**

Scheduled date is Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022 at Poplar Dene, Village Street. This is amended from the originally proposed date of 14<sup>th</sup> July.