

CHILBOLTON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT – Minutes of the meeting held on 6 March '23; 18:30 at Chilbolton Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllrs Tony Ewer (Chairman) (TE), David Griffiths (Vice-Chairman) (DG), Geoff Cockram (GC), Julian Hudson (JH), Sue Larcombe (SL), George Marits (GM), Mandy Denyer (Clerk) (MD), HCC/TVBC Cllr David Drew (DD)
Member of public: One

1. Apologies: Cllrs Rick Franke (RF) and David Hall (DH)
2. Declarations of interest: NONE
3. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 6/2/23: These were agreed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. Matters Arising:

Finance –

Check on all the CPC assets yet to be undertaken – DG and RF will check. **Action: Closed**
2022/23 check now due. Most items have now been checked or will be checked soon. **Action: Ongoing**

SSE contract end and renewal quote - Cllrs agreed to stay with SSE current supplier. MD renewed Contract **Action: Complete**

COSC –

To install dragons teeth opposite the recycling centre by Easter 2023 – DG received a quote but this includes concreting of posts in place and installing dragons teeth on Village Pond Green. DG has requested quote be revised as concreting not required and to separate WD and Village Pond Green elements. **Action: COSC**

Warden arrangements for Common - DG to draft article for Parish Magazine asking for volunteers. (To date one volunteer has made contact with the Clerk) – Cllrs agreed to the scheme and to NH re-drafting an article for the parish magazine. **Action: NH**

Tree survey –

RF to obtain quotes to deal with larger trees (see item 5dvi of these minutes). **Action: RF/ongoing**
DG and RF to produce a full report of any actions to be taken and any reasons for not taking action. **Action: DG & RF**
This will be done before the next meeting when RF (and GE) are available. DG will also discuss with local tree person who may be able to assist.

DG/COSC to investigate who will clear Abbots Stream in future. Natural England to be approached to establish whether a mechanical digger can be used for this purpose. MG has been in touch with Sparsholt College who are running a River Management course and may be able to clear Abbots Stream as part of that course. **Action: Ongoing DG/COSC**

DG and GC to meet and discuss where WMPF boundary needs to be cleared to enable gate to be moved to the boundary and permanent posts installed. On hold until adj. land owner is available. **Action: DG & GC**

Green Canopy project: 11 mature trees have been ordered (£2000 with free delivery) balance of funds available will be used on planting and protection costs. **Action: Ongoing/DG**

TE to discuss with WMPF adj. land owner (Mr Saunders) If there is any possibility of providing a permissive footpath from Coley Lane to WMPF via the 'bee field'. On hold until adj. land owner is available. **Action: TE**

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DG to draft letter to Wessex River Trust thanking them for their work on the river –COSC recommend delaying letter until Summer '23 so as to see the full effect the changes have made to the river. **Action: DG/on hold**

SL suggested a PR exercise be undertaken to publicise the recent improvements on the Common – SL has produced the attached report for inclusion with photos in various publications and web sites as decided ([6323 19](#)). COSC to review. **Action: COSC**

Play Adventure Tower – TE has arranged for CAF grant application to be increased by £4000, which equates to an extra £2,000 onto the amount applying for, and is in discussion with J Brain re CPC's 50% contribution. TE and EN have also been in discussions with the supplier (Caledonian).

Planning –

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 chase. **Action: SL/Ongoing**

A number of trees have been felled on the Watch Cottage boundary with Colely Lane, immediately opposite Fenstanton and it is unclear why. TE to speak to Watch Cottage owner. Trees were removed as they were diseased. Replanting will take place. **Action: Complete**

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

Tunnel Tech –

TE to send draft letter to Caroline Nokes MP ([6223 4](#)). On hold **Action: TE/On hold**
TE to contact Bassetlaw District Council for a full report of how they achieved the outcome with Tunnel Tech North. **Action: Complete**
TE informed that Bassetlaw are happy to assist, if needed.

AOB:

MD to return of documents to Hampshire Archives **Action: MD**

CPC agreed some form of party/celebration should take place on Coronation Day 6/5/23. Liaison with Parish Church and Abbots Mitre to consider best venue and form it should take.
TE informed an event will take place (weather permitting) at the Abbots Mitre (or at Village Hall is weather bad).

Cllrs discussed issuing mugs to children of the village. MD to investigate at Wherwell Primary School to see if the mugs would be appreciated by children and if so, to ask how many children are there in Chilbolton. A grant of £500 from TVBC will be applied for, to use for purchasing mugs or go towards cost providing catering for children at the celebration event. **Action: MD**

Consideration to be given to upgrade the bench on Coronation 'plot' **Action: CPC**

Wherwell Proposed Solar Farm:

The company should be invited to do a consultation presentation at the Village Hall. GC to liaise with Wherwell PC. **Action: GC**
A joint response with Wherwell PC was also suggested and TE will discuss with their Chairman. TE informed that CPC will support Wherwell PC objections and submit its own comment to TVBC when the planning application is received.

DG is against this proposal on grounds that usable agricultural land will be lost.

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TE asked if perhaps local villages may get a reduction in their electricity bills. DD informed that there is no legislation that will allow this to happen. TE also asked if the site is given permission, can electric car charging points be installed on site?

DD informed that the Anaerobic Digestion plant proposed for Cowdown Lane, should produce and emit minimal smells.

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 ([6323 17](#)).

GM checked, agreed and signed the bank reconciliation check.

i. Approval of accounts for payment: A Denyer Salary, exps and reimbursement for printer ink - £508.72; Aviva Pension (Employer contribution to be paid before 31/3/23) - £378.40; G Whitefield Common gravel area design £875, A Denyer reimbursement for Norton annual subscription - £49.99 and DG reimbursement for printer ink - £23 were agreed.

ii. To discuss and decide on the grant request from a village group to provide Ukraine with a generator: Prior to the meeting, [via email](#), the majority of Cllrs agreed to part-fund 20% the purchase of one generator. MD to liaise with the group regarding payment.

GC asked if it would be appropriate to award Chilbolton Stores with an annual grant. Cllrs agreed that this is an important village asset. MD to investigate if there are any reasons that CPC cannot do this. If CPC can, then it's to be budgeted for in the 2024/25 budget onwards. **ACTION: MD**

DD reported that he is meeting Jenny Brain (TVBC Community Engagement Officer) this week to discuss ways that TVBC can support village/community chops (even if they are a commercial venture rather than community run shops).

B. Flood Advisory Group: Prior to the meeting GM circulated the attached report ([6323 16](#)). GM informed that Southern Water (SW) have been carrying out investigations to find out where water is getting into the sewage system.

TE suggested that CPC have formal discussions with SW regarding mains sewer drainage in the village. Cllrs present agreed. DD to send details of another village group who are having similar discussions with SW.

C. Highways: Prior to the meeting GC had nothing to report, other than the pothole by the Old School House has been repaired.

D. Open Spaces Committee (COSC)

i. COSC meeting minutes: Prior to the meeting DG circulated the attached draft minutes of the meeting held on 16/2/23 ([6323 15](#)).

ii. Cow Common signage update: SL informed that the information boards are still in production. SL to chase for completion date. DG informed that he is meeting G Whitefield to discuss re-installation of ladder boards tomorrow.

iii. Cow common gravel area redesign update: Project now complete.

iv. Professional tree survey update: [see matters arising](#)

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v. Fishing Rights update: TE informed that the person he was discussing the matter with at Strutt and Parker has left and is now in discussion with Mr W Frazer and Mr M Scott. Strutt and Parker have proposed amendments to allow access across the Common; TE has refused this amendment. Any access must be with CPC consent,(CPC wont unreasonably refuse access). They also want amendments to the grass cutting. TE will discuss these matters with Strutt and Parker with an aim to getting the agreement finalised by the summer.

- E. Planning Report: Prior to the meeting SL circulated the attached report ([6323 9](#)) and minutes of the meetings held on 6/2 and 20/2/23 ([6323 9a](#) and [9b](#) respectively).
- i. Update re TVBC meeting to discuss Settlement Boundary: No update given.
 - ii. To discuss proposed Wherwell Solar Farm: [see matters arising](#).

SL informed that: -

Fenstantons amendment has been refused,
MG and GE have produced a comprehensive response to the ecological report for the Test Valley Farm application that will support CPC (and residents) objection to this planning application, she will chase TVBC re potential CiL funds for the Middlebarn planning application.

TE asked DD to ask TVBC Planning that every planning application should include the area of existing buildings, whether to be replaced or extended, the proposed area of the new development at ground level, the total area of the development including all upstairs etc. and the land area. The expected CiL contribution should also be stated.

SL queried if the Middlebarn amendment to include a swimming pool is applicable for CiL?

Planning Committee to discuss the site adj. to Copyhold at their next meeting.

F. Village Hall:

i. Update on Village hall Warm Hub: TE reported that these are well attended. TE also reported that the management committee are investigating how to heat the Durnford room more efficiently. DG, SE and a group of volunteers have cleared vegetation from around the car park and new shrubs have been ordered.

G. Community Fundraising Group update: SL reported that to date 9 gardens are on the list for the Open Gardens event. A portable loo may be needed (c. £80). SL will ask the shop if they can provide tea and cakes on the day (however the shop is normally closed on Sunday afternoons).

H. Strategy Working Group update: TE reported that 3 pieces of land around the village have been submitted to SHELAA as land available for development (it is likely one of these will be removed). This does not mean that the land will be developed and certainly no permissions have been given for any development. This is merely an exercise by SHELAA to gain a speculative idea as to how much land could be available.

6. Policy Reviews:

- a) [Business Continuity Plan](#)
- b) [Scheme of Delegation](#):
- c) [Website Privacy policy](#)
- d) [Safeguarding Policy](#) (JH agreed to be Safeguarding Officer)

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e) [Constitution](#)

f) [GDPR policy](#)

Cllrs agreed none of the above policies need any amendment, therefore all policies were agreed.

7. Review of building waste materials outside 3 Branksome Close and decide on any action that may be required: DH reported prior to the meeting that good progress has been maintained in clearing up the front of the property at 3 Branksome Close in line with the owners email to DH. DH recommended removing this item from future agendas. Cllrs agreed.
8. Update re smell in village emanating from Tunnel Tech and decide on any action to be taken: [see matters arising](#). Item on hold for time being.
9. HCC and District Councillor report:
Prior to the meeting DD provided the attached report from HCC ([6323 20](#)).
DD gave the following report concerning TVBC: -
TVBC have issued another fly tipping fine, having located the person who left a dismantled bed.
TVBC Andover Master Plan has a budget of £6 million. Part of this plan is to open up the River Avon. This will hopefully have a positive impact on the Common and other rural areas. For more information see attached ([6323 21](#)).
10. Correspondence:
7/2/23 - Freeland emails to TVBC re Tunnel Tech smell ([6323 1](#)). 8/2/23 emails continued ([6323 1a](#)). 9/2/23 TVBC email to Freelands ([6323 1b](#)). There have also been a number of other emailed reports from Freelands to TVBC.

7/2/23 - HALC EGM Agenda 23rd February 2023 ([6323 2](#))

8/2/23 - email to SSE re pavilion electric contract ([6323 3](#)). 9/2/23 SSE renewal confirmation email ([6323 3a](#))

9/2/23 - TVAPTC - Transport forum and changes to bus service for villages ([6323 4](#))

13/2/23 - Proposed Solar Development – Parcels of land to the west of Winchester Road, Wherwell, SP11 7HW ([6323 5](#))

13/2/23 - HCC response re Barbed wire adjacent to Footpaths (Whitelands Path) ([6323 6](#)) – Forwarded to COSC

14/2/23 - Test Valley Tourism Information Exchange Event ([6323 7](#))

14/2/23 - TE email to TVBC re CiL ([6323 8](#)) and TVBC response ([6323 8a](#))

17/2/23 - Lengthsman Scheme 2023/24 agreement ([6323 10](#)) – signed and returned 22/2/23

18/2/23 -SL email to TVBC re Winston trees ([6323 11](#))

19/2/23 - resident email to TVBC Planning re TVF planning application ([6323 14](#)) – Forwarded to Planning Committee.

27/2/23 – TVBC Planning response to resident email re TVF planning application ([6323 14a](#))

21/2/23 - TVBC notification of Commonwealth Day Flag Raising Ceremony ([6323 12](#)) – TE to attend

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21/2/23 - Consultation on Hampshire County Council's new draft Guidance on Planning Obligations and Infrastructure Requirements – closes 31-3-23 ([6323_13](#)) – Planning Committee to discuss at next meeting. If any CPC approval required prior to submitting any comments, this will be done via email. **Action: Planning Committee**

1/3/23 – Resident email re bioenergy plant proposed for Cowdown ([6323_18](#)). [See matters arising](#).

11. Questions from public: ‘Are there any by-laws regarding the playing of loud music in back gardens until very late in the evening?’ DG advised the member of the public to contact the Environmental Health team at TVBC.

12. Any Other business (For information only):

MD will be on leave 13/3 to 17/3/23 inclusive.

Cllrs were reminded to submit their election papers to TVBC on time.

13. Items for next agenda: None at this time.

14. Date of next scheduled meeting:

Monday 3 April 2023; 18:30 at Chilbolton Village Hall. All reports are due by 12:00 Monday 27/3/23

Tuesday 24 April 2023 – Annual Parish Assembly; 18:30 at Chilbolton Village Hall

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 21:10.

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