

CHAPEL AND HILL CHORLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Chapel and Hill Chorlton Parish Council held on 12 January 2022

Present:

Parish Councillors: Amy Davies, Tom Davies, Mark Humphries, Richard Montague, Richard Oppenheimer (Chairman)

County councillor: Paul Northcott

1 member of the public was present.

001.01/22 To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Tom Davey

002.01/22 To consider any applications for co-option or resignations

An expression of interest in co-option to the Parish Council has been received.

003.01/22 To receive Councillors' declarations of pecuniary interest in items on the agenda

No interests were declared.

004.01/22 To consider approving and signing the Minutes of the last Regular Meeting

The chairman signed the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on 17 November 2021.

005.01/22 Public participation (open forum)

There were no Public Participation items.

006.01/22 Reports from Borough and County Councillors

County councillor: National bus strategy: SCC has bid for £113m to make improvement to design of the bus network and engage public more frequently. PN will be monitoring situation with regard to services on rural routes. SCC will roll out its household support fund from end of March. Gritting is now taking precedence over highways repairs. The jetting team will be out in February, PN requests to be informed of locations of drains that are causing particular flooding problems. There was lengthy discussion about the long-term flooding problem at the northern end of Sandy Lane. It was noted that Sandy Lane will become a "rat run" for vehicles displaced from their normal routes when HS2 works begin, would any funding be available from HS2? Advised to approach Becky Lewis (Community Engagement Manager HS2); David Greatbatch (SCC) with copy to Rob Steele and PN; Bill Cash. The possibility of getting an engineer to identify the problem so that it can best be moved on for a solution was discussed.

Borough councillor: Report by email that council services are running normally; work has commenced on demolition of the old borough council building. Additional information from PN: Interim head of planning is in place for 6 months. Betley NDP has passed referendum with 90% vote in favour.

007.01/22 Correspondence received

No correspondence had been received.

008.01/22 Financial matters

Financial report: Total cash at bank at 31 December 2021 = £10477.63.

Invoice of £2244.66 for the SID has been received.

VAT reclaim of £1173.75 for year to date will be submitted after payment of SID invoice.

Total cash available after invoice payment and VAT reclaim will be £9406.42, of which £4500.00 is reserve earmarked for charges for any future by-election.

Invoices for SPCA and SLCC subscriptions are currently awaited.

Parish precept and budget for 2022–2023: It was proposed and agreed to retain the precept at the same level as for 2021–2022, yielding an income of £6219.00. Budget for 2022–2023 will be reviewed and approved at the February meeting.

009.01/22 Parish appearance

Mowing contracts for 2022: The Council plans to spend the mowing budget across the parish. Three options for management of the green at Chapel Chorlton will be put to parishioners via a questionnaire in the January Newsletter. SCC currently pays Taylormade to mow verges at Chapel Bend Hill Chorlton and from Arnside to Sandy Lane and parish boundary Hill Chorlton – this will be continued. The Council will hire a contractor to mow verges on the A51 from Chapel Bend to Kennels Lane and Stone House to improve visibility, to create a safe route for pedestrians and to signal to drivers approaching Hill Chorlton that they are entering a settlement. Longer term, the verge from Stone House of Weston Lodge is in need of clearance to maintain a safe walking route from Hill Chorlton to Stableford.

Hedges: A parishioner is making arrangements for cutting the overgrown hedge on the bend between Stone House and Weston Lodge on the A51. At Sandy Lane/Woodside junction the property owners will be cutting back their hedge to restore visibility.

Plant tubs: Agreed to budget £100 for planting the tubs in Hill Chorlton.

Footpaths: Agreed to budget £100 for volunteers' expenses in maintaining Footpath no. 1. Stone for repairs can be obtained via SCC Rights of Way Office. Noted that there are a lot of exposed tree roots on the northern section of the path.

010.01/22 Highways matters

Traffic report: Michelle Shaker from Safer Roads Partnership will review positions for the Speedwatch now that the SIDs are in position. Speed data will be passed on to the Safety Camera Team so that they are aware of appropriate times to visit.

Update on village signs for Stableford and Hill Chorlton: Still awaiting approval/response from SCC Highways.

011.01/22 Planning

21/01091/FUL, Mount Tabor Farm, Haddon Lane, Chapel Chorlton: Draft response was reviewed and approved.

Local Plan and Strategic Options public consultation, 1 November 2021–24 January 2022: Draft response to the consultation was approved.

012.01/22 Public engagement

Update on website: Transfer to the SCC hosting service is expected to be completed by the end of February. The current web hosting service will be notified of the Council's intention to terminate the contract. The SCC hosting service will cost £100 annually as against £250 at present.

Newsletter for January 2022: The draft newsletter was approved for printing and circulation.

Parish noticeboard for Stableford: It was agreed to investigate locations to install a noticeboard in Stableford. £500 will be budgeted.

013.01/22 Councillor training

Dates of upcoming training sessions will be circulated.

014.01/22 Urgent business

There was no urgent business.

015.01/22 To confirm the date of the next meeting as 9 February 2022

The Meeting closed at 9.37pm.

Signed

CHAIR

Minutes 12 January 2022

Chapel & Hill Chorlton PC meeting 12th January 2022 Financial Summary:

Bank Account Balances @ 31st December 2021:

Current Account: £691.67

Reserve Account: £9785.66

Outstanding Invoice SID @ £2244.66 to be paid 13/01/22

Cash available: £8232.67

VAT reclaim for 21/22 year: £1173.75

Total Cash Available: £9406.42

Less Bye Election fund: £4500

Total Unmarked reserves: £4906.42

Budget & Precept:

Precept 2021/22: £6187

+ NBC/CTSG £ 190

Total: £6377

Precept: 2022/23 £6187 or £6219