

CHAPEL AND HILL CHORLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Chapel and Hill Chorlton Parish Council held on 9 February 2022

Present:

Parish Councillors: Amy Davies, Tom Davies (late arrival during public participation), Tom Davey, Mark Humphries, Richard Montague, Richard Oppenheimer (Chairman)

4 members of the public were present.

0016.02/22 To receive and approve apologies for absence

Borough councillor Graham Hutton; County Councillor Paul Northcott

0017.02/22 To consider any applications for co-option or resignations

The individual who has expressed an interest in co-option was unable to attend tonight's meeting, due to a work shift.

0018.02/22 To receive Councillors' declarations of pecuniary interest in items on the agenda

No interests were declared.

0019.02/22 To consider approving and signing the Minutes of the last Regular Meeting

The chairman signed the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on 12 January 2022.

020.02/22 Public participation (open forum)

Representatives from St Lawrence parochial church council (PCC) presented details of a planned Jubilee event on Chapel Chorlton green, which will also be a fundraiser for the church. The PCC will need to check whether its insurance policy will cover it for holding the event and will need to apply for a Temporary Events Notice. Alcohol licence would be covered by the licensed business selling drinks. It was suggested that visitors be asked to contribute £1 for parking, in recognition that there will be some damage to the green from vehicles driving onto it. In principle the Parish Council is happy for event planning to proceed and will await further details.

Councillors took the opportunity of the attendance of residents from Chapel Chorlton to raise parish appearance issues at Chapel Chorlton. The Parish Council is disappointed in the appearance of the village, e.g. the condition of the bench opposite the pool, the letter box and the dog bin. It was pointed out that the small size of the parish means that it is unable to raise a sustainable level of income through the precept and the participation of volunteer working parties in different areas of the parish is badly needed.

021.02/22 Reports from Borough and County Councillors

County councillor: Gullies and drain clearance work is being carried out in the Newcastle Rural area this week. The Local Plan consultation has now closed and it appears that a larger number of responses have been submitted than on previous occasions.

Borough councillor: Email from Graham Hutton: all council services running normally.

022.02/22 Correspondence received

Request from St Lawrence Parochial Council re use of green at Chapel Chorlton 2–4 June 2022 for a Jubilee event: This was dealt with under Public Participation.

023.02/22 Financial matters

Financial report: Forms regarding the 2022–2023 precept were completed and returned to NuLBC within the required time. The precept will raise an income of £6219 for the year 2022–2023. A VAT refund claim for £799.64 has been submitted (this is a correction on the figure noted the January 2022 minutes). Cash in the bank: £7982.75, comprising a reserve of £4500 for by-election costs and an unmarked reserve of £3482.75 available. SPCA and SLCC subscription demands not yet received.

Budget for 2022–2023: Proposed and agreed to budget £100 for stationery. After discussing mowing contracts (see 024.02/22) it was agreed to budget £2000 for grass cutting.

024.02/22 Parish appearance

Flooding on Sandy Lane: Councillors met on site with householders who have been complaining to the County Council. It has been learned from Robert Cooke used to keep the drain clear when he farmed the land. It is now so long since it was last cleared that it will now be very compacted. The best solution to draining the road might be to dig a trench through the hedge into the field and insert a pipe.

Sandy Lane/Woodside junction: Householders have received a letter from Highways regarding cutting back the hedge to restore leftward visibility of oncoming traffic in Woodside.

Hedge between Rose Cottage and Eden Rock: It is understood that neighbours have been in contact with Mr Timmis regarding cutting of the hedge.

Hedge cutting and litter picking on A51: The hedge between Stone House and Weston Lodge has now been cut back, through the generous assistance of John Waldron and volunteer work, making a safe route for walkers. Volunteers spent three afternoons collecting litter from Hill Chorlton to Weston Lodge.

Kennels Lane layby: The volunteer litter pickers are not prepared to collect the horrendous litter that has accumulated at the layby have suggested that the Community Payback team should be called in. A request has been submitted. Highways has been asked about the ownership of the layby and adjoining woodland and responsibility for its upkeep.

Responses to questionnaire on mowing green at Chapel Chorlton: 16 replies were received, mostly from residents around green; of the three options available, the preferred option was 4 cuts per season. The level of response shows how little interest the parish residents as a whole have in the green.

Mowing contracts for 2022: A number of quotes received, ranging from: £6,300 for A51 verges and green, 4 cuts; £480 per cut for A51 verges; £150 per cut for A51 verges; £400 per cut for green (noted that Glendale charged £150 per cut for the green in 2021). Some further quotes will be sought for the green.

Chorlton Moss – issues arising from Baldwins Gate sewer repair: It is expected that the contractors will repair the verges and sweep the road surfaces.

Platinum Jubilee tree for green at Chapel Chorlton: Noted for further discussion.

Jubilee tree planting – the Queen’s Green Canopy: Noted for further discussion.

Seating in the parish: It is suggested that benches could be installed on the wide verge on Chorlton Moss near the dog waste bin; on the visibility play at the Sandy Lane/Chorlton Moss Lane junction; among the trees at the Kennels Lane layby. Noted for further discussion.

025.02/22 Highways matters

Traffic report: Nothing to report. Noted that large number of contractors’ vehicles had been parking on the roadside outside the building site at Greenways.

Update on village signs for Stableford and Hill Chorlton: Still no response from Highways.

Footpath 2, re land change of use to railway land: To ask County Footpaths Office to send the Ranger to inspect fencing installed by Network Rail.

Footpath 1 repairs: To request County Footpaths Office to deliver materials for footpath repairs.

026.02/22 Planning

Application 22/00065/FUL, 30 Stone Road Hill Chorlton Newcastle Under Lyme Staffordshire ST5 5DR: Draft response was reviewed and approved.

21/01091/FUL, Mount Tabor Farm, Haddon Lane, Chapel Chorlton: The Parish Council’s response had not been added to the website or taken into account by the Planning Department. The Parish Council had not objected to the application, which has been permitted.

027.02/22 Public engagement

Update on website: The existing hosting provider has been informed that service will no longer be required, and has been asked to provide a copy of the content and to transfer the domain name to the Parish Council. SCC has said that a skeleton site will be set up and should be

available within a week.

Parish noticeboard for Stableford: Decided make a site visit to identify a suitable location.

Feedback on January newsletter: No general feedback has been received.

028.02/22 Councillor training

Dates of upcoming training sessions have been circulated.

029.02/22 Urgent business

There was no urgent business.

030.02/22 To confirm the date of the next meeting as 9 March 2022

The Meeting closed at 9.53pm.

Signed

CHAIR

Minutes 9 February 2022

