

Chaddleworth Parish Council

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL: Mrs Kim Lloyd
16 Nodmore

Chaddleworth, Berkshire RG20 7ES

Tel No.: 07867 310121

E-mail: clerk@chaddleworth.net

www.chaddleworth.net

Minutes from the meeting held on 8 January 2019

Present : Cllr Murphy (Chair), Cllr Wilson (Vice Chair), Cllr Ballard, Cllr Mills, Cllr Mcallister, Cllr Homersham and Clerk K Lloyd, (3 members of the public attended the meeting)

1. No Apologies

2. No Declarations of Interest

3. **Open Forum- un minuted** – Village Fete Meeting on Wednesday 16th January in the Ibex at 7.30pm, if anyone would like to support the fete and get involved please contact Jo uff jo.uff@btinternet.com or 01488 637002.

4. Planning –None

5. Minutes of the meeting of the 4 December 2018

Cllr Mills proposed and Cllr Wilson seconded the minutes to be a true record of the meeting. Cllr Murphy signed the minutes.

6. Finance

a) Bank Accounts

Balances 7 December 2018

Parish Council	£15,703.50
Bakers Trust	£7,607.69
Reserve Fund	£159.16
Football Field	£1,261.71

b) Cheques to approve in meeting

S/O	Kim Lloyd (Parish Clerk)	£402.35
100533	Kim Lloyd – back payment for January –March 2019 following NALC increase scale from April 2018.(£6.76 per month increase)	£20.28
S/O	Mrs H Anderson (Litter picking)	£20.00
S/O	Chaddleworth Village Hall	£23.00
100534	Chaddleworth Village Hall (W.Mill Mtg)	£25.00
100535	GMG Services & Solutions Ltd (Sign Cleaning)	£200.00
100536	Vale Press (newsletter for Nov & Dec)	£170.00
100537	Autela Group Limited (Oct, Nov, Dec)	£46.80

7. Barclays

The Clerk received a letter from Barclays in November asking if Council wanted to keep the Reserve Account open as no transactions had been made in the last 6 months. The Clerk

spoke to Barclays to inform them 'we did' want the account to stay open, and a transfer was being made from the Parish Council account into the Reserve account.

A letter to transfer £2,000 from PC account to Reserve account was sent to Barclays. A letter was returned to the Clerk which said one of the authorised signatories was not recognised (however the cheques were accepted with the same signature that month!).

The Clerk gained re-signature from the authorised signatures and re-sent the letter, also spoke to Barclays on the phone explaining the issue. After all efforts the Clerk received a letter from Barclays in December informing Council the transfer could not be actioned as the account is now closed, the Clerk called Barclays again! And complained but unfortunately it falls on deaf ears.

The Clerk was then told to visit Barclays bank with ID to retrieve the £159.16 that is being held in a secure holding account. A mandate would need to be submitted to re-open the account.

The Clerk asked Council If they would consider the Clerk to look into other bank providers and perhaps think about moving banks.

The Metro bank was mentioned by two Cllrs and all agreed for the Clerk to look into other bank service providers and report back.

Clerk

8. Norris Lane footpath update

Cllr Murphy had a reply from the ROW officer who had visited site and noted little disruption to Chad 2/2 or 2/4. The report for Chad 28/1(Norris lane) the short grassy track is adequate for pedestrians, but it is clearly used by vehicles as access as well. The only footpath which would be of concern to WBC is the section of Chad 28/1 which forms the access to the houses. WBC assessment has to be made in terms of the suitability of the surface for pedestrians. The aggregate undulating surface presents no hazards, but the broken tarmac, in places, could present a trip hazard.

If there is some doubt over the legal rights for the stud to use this section, we would be concerned if the use was resulting in rapid deterioration of the surface. Cllr Murphy asked Council for agreement to erect a sign at the above footpath 28/1 notifying the public this is a footpath only and not for horses/ponies/vehicular use. Cllr Murphy said he would also write to the landowner seeking permission. Council **resolved unanimously** to erect a sign. Cllr Murphy also reminded Council that recently the landowner had now declined right of access to the stud in Norris Lane.

Cllr Murphy

9. Home to School Transport update

Cllr Murphy reported following the last correspondence from WBC, Parish Council are unanimous in rejecting WBC's interpretation of the 'home to school' transport situation regarding our village. The correspondence from WBC contradicts each other on the distances to schools depending on who answers the emails. In addition we are being told that distances are measured in a 'straight line' (as the crow flies)

In addition; to save £3630 the Council is spending £15,200 to get one Chaddleworth pupil to a school in a different county. That is just over 4 times the expenditure needed to provide free transport for the 5 children involved.

Parish Council **resolved unanimously** to proceed to stage 2 at WBC of the complaints procedure. Once the formal complaints procedural steps (Stage 1: complaints dept. Stage 2: elected Cllr panel) have been taken at WBC, Parish Council can and 'will' as **resolved unanimously** take this to the Ombudsman.

10. St Andrews School

Cllr Murphy asked the School who would now be our school representative now that Mary Hardwood is retired?

11. Roads/Drains/Gullies flooding update

Cllr Murphy received a reply from the Department for Transport from his letter dated 3 December. It stated WBC have a duty under section 41 of the highways Act 1980 to maintain the highways network in their area and as part of this duty it includes ensuring that drains and gullies are cleansed on a frequent basis. Cllr Murphy forwarded a copy on to Highways in WBC and is waiting for their response.

12. Councillors Questions and Reports

Cllr Wilson raised the concern of seeing more litter around the village just lately.

Cllr Mills said the Memorial Garden roses needed replacing due to rose sickness, and trellis and stakes was also required. Cllr Mills said he would purchase all and retain the receipt for the Clerk for re-payment. The soil might need to be tested for re-planting roses. Failing this small shrubs maybe planted instead. Cllr Mills also said the soil will need aerating and asked for at least 2 other volunteers.

Cllr Mills

Cllr Murphy said the Christmas lights around the Memorial did not work this year and would need to replace ready for Christmas 2019. Cllr Mcallister said he would look into this and the Council agreed to give a budget for the lights up to £100.

Cllr Mcallister

Cllr Murphy received an email that a panel should be meeting soon to discuss the ACV (Asset Community Value) for the Ibex.

The thoughts on planting the memorial trees in the playground still needs more discussion, walnut trees were mentioned and a decision on where to site those needs further thought.

13. Clerk's Correspondence -

A note from our district Cllr Clive Hooker who could not be in the meeting- Graham Jones has indicated that he is standing down as Leader of the Council in May and as District Councillor for Lambourn, this will mean an election for a new leader and a new District Councillor for that Ward.

14. Matters for future consideration

None

15. Date of next meeting - Tuesday 5 February 2019

Close - 8.30pm