

# Chaddleworth Parish Council

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL: Mrs Kim Lloyd

16 Nodmore

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## Minutes from the meeting held on 2 April 2019

**Present :** Cllr Murphy (Chair), Cllr Wilson (Vice Chair), Cllr Mills, Cllr Ballard, Cllr Mcallister, Cllr Homersham, Clerk- K Lloyd and Cllr Hooker -District Councillor  
(1 member of the public attended the meeting)

1. **No Apologies** were given.

2. **No Declarations of Interest.**

3. **Open Forum- un minuted.**

District Councillor Hooker, present at the meeting, had attended most Chaddleworth Parish Council meetings over the last 4 years. Cllr Hooker congratulated Council Members, especially the Chairman, on how well CPC was run and managed in comparison with other Parish Councils. CPC has a Clerk that gives good support; the budget was well prepared enabling the precept to be justified if ever challenged. Other Parish Councils were not in such a fortunate position and with the increasing responsibilities being devolved down to Parish Councils from the local Authority, Cllr Hooker said CPC is doing a great job and representing their community very well.

Cllr Hooker reported that approximately £40 million had been cut in Government Welfare Grants over the last 4 years which had made a considerable hole in the Council budget. Inflation in the cost for welfare had added to the burden, resulting in difficult decisions having to be made in balancing the books going forward and cut backs had been made to support the priority issues identified by the Council and from public consultation. More funds are having to be allocated to social care due to our population living longer and the associated health and care commitments. The expenditure for looking after children taken into care and with special educational needs has also increased.

With devolvment of some services such as salt for roads and purchase of salt bins being taken on by Parish Councils, precepts are inevitably to increase over time. Council Tax will inevitably continue to rise over time due to inflationary impacts.

Cllr Murphy thanked Cllr Hooker for his support over the years and the compliments to CPC.

4. **Planning – 19/00542/FULD**

Barn 80M South East of Manor Farm, Section 73A Variation of Condition 2 of Approved Plans of Planning APP 15/03199.FULD.

<http://planning.westberks.gov.uk/rpp/index.asp?caseref=19/00542/FULD>

Cllr Murphy reported this planning application was raised in 2015 but no work was ever started. No further comments were made.

**5. Minutes of the meeting of the 5 March 2019 to be agreed, proposed and signed.**

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

**6. Finance**

**a) Bank Accounts**

Balances 7 March 2019

Parish Council (Incl. reserve fund of £159.16 reserve account now closed)	£12,160.48
Bakers Trust	£7,607.95
Football Field	£1,261.71

**a) Cheques to approve in meeting**

S/O	Kim Lloyd (Parish Clerk)	£402.22
S/O	Mrs H Anderson (Litter picking)	£20.00
S/O	Chaddleworth Village Hall	£23.00
100545	GMG Services & Solutions Ltd (March Rota)	£170.00
100546	Grahame Murphy (Payment for 'Slow Down' Vehicle Signs)	£35.96
100547	West Berkshire District Council	£66.18
100548	The Play Inspection Company Ltd	£78.00
100549	Willis and Ainsworth (Salt)	£105.60
100550	Autela Group Ltd (QTR 1 Jan, Feb, March)	£47.00
100551	CHEQUE VOID	
100552	Mrs K Lloyd – Clerk Stamps £13.92 & salary increase from 01/04 agreed 'new' NALC pay scales point 29. (Note: new point now 23) new payment is £429.78 (+£27.56) <u>Action.</u> s/o to amend from 402.22 to 429.78.	£13.92 £27.56 <u>£41.48</u>

**7. Playground Inspection Report**

Review of the Inspection report, everything was inspected as Low Risk. There were some advisory notes on items which were discussed in the meeting. It was agreed to obtain a quote from GMG for all remedial work listed in the report.

The three items to note was re-filling of Bark Mulch in the multi play areas, The Junior swing posts, and the play tube. Some adjustments to the gate were also noted. The Clerk will ask GMG to prepare a quote for the next Parish Council meeting to discuss further.

Cllr Mills said he would look at Bark and delivery costs.

Action: Cllr Mills

Action: Clerk

**8. Home to School Transport update**

Cllr Murphy had received written permission from the two residents to represent them in continuing the complaint submitted to The Ombudsman. The Ombudsman informed Cllr Murphy before they could investigate this complaint further; they had to wait for WBC Stage 2 of the Complaints procedure to be completed.

The Clerk recently had acknowledged on the WBC school transport website that Nodmore shows Trinity School as their nearest School, meaning Nodmore would also have to pay for the school bus.

**9. Roads/drains/gullies clearance update**

Cllr Murphy sent a letter to WBC (Highways) attaching a letter from the Department for Transport detailing the service the local authority should be offering.

The Highways Manager replied to the drainage at Two Acre Dairy that the Council has a finite budget for such work which is allocated on a risk based approach. The road is drained via grips in the verge which discharge water to a “blind” ditch with a central soakaway. But as there are no adjacent properties the risk is considered low but did confirm that works are due to be done. Also the section of Hangman Stone Lane (between the Un-named Road to Hill Green Lane and School Lane, Boxford) is due to be treated as part of the Council’s new three year programme in the summer.

**10 Memorial Trees update.**

Cllr Murphy previously emailed Council members for approval for the payment of the plaques. The plaques are brass with engraved/etched letters 'blacked in'. Each item is £54.99 making a total of £109.98. Cllr Mills said he would provide the stakes. Discussion of a dedication ceremony perhaps incorporating when the Fete is held will be discussed once the plaques are done.

**11 Councillors Questions and Reports**

Cllr Mcallister reported the sign recently erected in Norris Lane had gone. The Clerk was asked to contact the residents in Norris Lane to ask if they knew anything about the whereabouts of the sign. Cllr Murphy said he would contact the land owner.

Action: Clerk.

Cllr Murphy reported an update on the The Ibex ACV correspondence, he was hopeful it was going to be listed very soon.

Cllr’s Murphy and Wilson both attended the District Parish Conference and reported the police report and fire service talks were informative. There was not a lot of time for Q/A following talks as the time ran over.

**12 Clerk’s Correspondence**

The Clerk reported all Election Nomination Forms that was given to the Clerk had been handed in to WBC, and all had been accepted.

The Clerk will hear how many nominations were received and if Chaddleworth is contested on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April.

**13 No matters for future consideration following the Open Forum**

**14 Date of the next meeting is Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2019 which will be The Annual Council Meeting.**

Close. 9.30pm