

# CHADDLEWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to The Parish Council: Mrs Kim Lloyd

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## MINUTES

**TUESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2020– 7.00PM. THIS WAS A REMOTE MEETING USING ZOOM.**

**Cllr's Present:** Cllr. Murphy (Chair)

Cllr. Mcallister

Cllr. Wilson.

**Clerk:** Mrs K Lloyd.

**District Cllr.** Clive Hooker.

**Members of the Public:** 1.

The Clerk announced this meeting will be recorded for minute purposes and the recording will be deleted once the minutes are approved.

### 1 **APOLOGIES.**

Cllr. Ballard sent his apologies.

Cllr Mills cannot attend remote meetings due to not having the resources.

### 2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

Cllr. Murphy raised a Declaration of Interest on the planning application 20/01753/House.

### 3 **MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.**

Members then **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY** to confirm and adopt the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 7 July 2020.

### 4 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS.**

*One member of the public raised two questions regarding declaration of interest and how the Parish Council conduct their business when not quorate to discuss an agenda item, which the Clerk answered.*

### 5 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED.**

One planning application was received but could not be considered as Cllr Murphy raised a Declaration of Interest, and the members are not quorate to resolve. No comments were made.

**20/01753/HOUSE - The Martins, Botmoor Way.** A two-storey side extension built over existing extension and formation of new windows inside and rear walls.

<http://planning.westberks.gov.uk/rpp/index.asp?caseref=20/01753/HOUSE>

### 6 **FINANCE.**

Members then **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY** to approve the September payments as shown in Appendix 1.

The 2020/21 Cashflow was noted.

*(All finance documents emailed to members of the Parish Council before the meeting)*

**7 RURAL FOOTPATHS BEING USED FOR CYCLISTS.**

Following our last Parish Council meeting a member of the public asked *the Parish Council to consider supporting opening rural footpaths to cyclists.*

*The Parish Council asked West Berkshire Council (WBC) Right of Way Officer (ROW) advice on this, The ROW officer replied as shown below.*

*..... cycling on a footpath can be allowed by the landowner of the subsoil. The best thing might be to approach each owner with the request. It is important to consider, however, that footpaths are for pedestrians, and the duty under the Highways Act to protect the interests of rights of way users. There are other statuses of rights of which allow cycling. You would likely find some opposition from pedestrians if all local footpaths were to be used by cycles.*

Cllr. Murphy said he spoke to Cllr. Mills and Ballard before the meeting, who were not present in this meeting, both confirmed they would be opposed to this suggestion.

Cllr. Mcallister said it is difficult as we are trying to stop horse riders from using a footpath and to allow cyclists would make the Parish Council look biased. One resident had even said to Cllr. Mcallister that he was considering complaining about cyclists using one of the villages footpaths. Cllr. Wilson asked how many parishioners have asked the Parish Council about this proposal. It was confirmed that just one parishioner has approached Parish Council about this. Cllr. Wilson said If individuals contacted landowners and then brought the matter to the Parish Council to ask for support, the Parish Council could then reconsider. It was agreed that no further action will be taken at this time.

**8 NORRIS LANE SIGNAGE**

Following on from correspondence with WBC regarding the ongoing horse-riding users in Norris Lane. The Right of Way Officer asked if the Parish Council would like WBC to install a 'No horse-riding' sign. It was agreed by all to accept the offer for WBC to install a sign in Norris Lane. The positioning of the sign would be the responsibility of WBC and not Parish Council. The Clerk was asked to contact the ROW Officer at WBC.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**9 PLAYGROUND UPDATE.**

Following the last meeting. The playground was waiting on its annual check from Playground Inspection Company. The playground passed the safety check. The Playground was then opened. One of the companies who came out to quote to repair the climber surrounds, informed parish council that the two climbers were unsafe due to the shallow depth of the wood chippings. This was noted on the Playground Inspection Report to action but had still passed its safety check. The Parish Council members met in the playground and then agreed to close the climbers only, until the surrounds and wood chippings could be replenished. A notice was added to the park. Since, this decision was made, the Parish Council has been searching for quotes. The company that visited the playground to affirm the climbers were unsafe, in fact had no further communication with the Parish Council since, even though many attempts from the Clerk in chasing them was performed.

The Parish Council have now sourced one quote and all members resolved to accept this quote. The Clerk was asked to contact the person to ask when work could commence. As soon as the surrounds are repaired the wood chippings will be ordered and a working party co-ordinated (social distance) to help spread the wood chippings.

The Parish Council on behalf of the village THANK David Jennings for all the weeding and litter picking he did in the playground recently. It looks so much better, thank you.

The Clerk had spoken to the mowing contractors and confirmed once the fresh wood chippings are spread, they will in the future keep on top of the weeds in the playground.

The Clerk reported that four volunteers from the village had come forward to be added to the 'Chaddleworth Working Party'. The Parish Council thanked the parishioners that came forward. If anyone would like to join the working party to help and share with small jobs around the village. Please contact the Clerk.

The Clerk raised the thoughts to the members on paying for more regular visual equipment inspection checks in the playground. This is something that Cllr. Mills used to do but with more responsibility being put on parish councillors it is hard to give the time. The Clerk will investigate options and prepare a report for discussion.

**ACTION: Clerk.**

**10 BUS SHELTER WORK.**

The Clerk reported that the grass mowing contractor said they would include the Bus Shelter area work of mowing /strimming 'free of charge' into the current agreed work schedule.

**11 VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK RE-SURFACE UPDATE.**

Cllr. Murphy THANKED Cllr. Clive Hooker, District Councillor for submitting the members bid for the village hall's car park re-surface. This was successful. The parish will receive 50% of the full cost and were incredibly grateful to Cllr. Hooker.

Cllr. Murphy reported a revised quotation from the contractor was emailed to the members of the Parish Council previously, that the contractor had said he could not get the road planings he originally quoted for. Cllr. Murphy spoke to Cllr. Mills who recommended another supplier. Cllr. Murphy contacted the other supplier and found a saving could be made of £240.00 if used and passed this onto the contractor who was doing the work. The contractor said he will commence work on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September.

**12 CHAPEL COTTAGE – KISSING GATE UPDATE.**

No further update.

**13 AMENDMENT TO CODE OF CONDUCT REGARDING VEXATIOUS INDIVIDUALS.**

Cllr. Murphy proposed a section is added to the Parish Council current Code of Conduct.

Cllr. Murphy said that Parish Councillors are volunteers that put in a lot of time and effort, and it even costs money to be a Parish Councillor because of the things that Parish Councillors do from time to time. Cllr. Murphy' thinks Parish Councils need protection from certain individuals that constantly criticize the way the Parish Council conduct their business. Cllr. Murphy emailed the legal department at WBC and they suggested the Parish Council add a relevant section to our Code of Conduct.

Cllr. Murphy said he had spoken to Cllrs. Ballard and Mills and both were fully in agreement to Cllr. Murphy's thoughts.

The Clerk said a new Code of Conduct was out for consultation, and it may be worth having a read through this version again. The Clerk was under the impression that sections had been altered in the new template regarding this actual issue.

Cllr. Wilson said we need to tread carefully as we are here to represent our parishioners and need them to feel that the Parish Council are approachable.

Cllr. Mcallister said if NALC have done most of the work then we can look at reviewing and adopting their new template. The Clerk will email the template to the members of the Parish Council for review.

**ACTIONL: Clerk.**

**14 COUNCILLORS /CLERK REPORTS.**

Cllr. Hooker had previously emailed the WBC Parish Council report.

To note, Cllr. Hooker said the Green Bin Tariff is due from 1<sup>st</sup> September.

Cllr. Hooker said he has been involved with the 'White Planning Paper'. He believed WBC are in general agreement that the planning system is too slow and needs to be changed, but WBC has many concerns with the proposal. More of the details that are being proposed need to be examined.

The Wessex Sawmill is still ongoing and with the planning consultees regarding some conditions being lifted from the approved planning application. Cllr. Hooker said there is a lot of local interest and felt the applicant will try to do everything he can to ensure a solution is reached.

Cllr. Wilson raised the question to the email received 16/09 from a resident regarding moving their fence to the roadside. The Clerk showed the Bus Shelter Land Registry plan on the screen to the members of the Parish Council to confirm what land the Parish Council own. The Parish Council needs to ask the resident the exact detail of what they are proposing. Also, Highways at WBC would need to be contacted. The letter received said the Parish Council had 30 days for a reply. Cllr. Wilson reminded Council they are meeting again in two weeks. The item will be added to the October agenda for further discussion.

**15 MATTERS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION**

No more items raised during the public questions item 4.

**16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next REMOTE meeting is Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 7pm.

This will be a remote meeting unless government guidance is received to allow the members to meet again.

Meeting Closed. 9.15pm

## APPENDIX 1

**Statement of Accounts**  
**Accounts for Payment SEPTEMBER 2020**

Expenditure brought forward 20-21 £6,017.63

**Payments**

Cheque No	Payee	Description	Amount	
800030	Joe Mills	Rose Feed	£	9.99
SO	Mrs H Anderson	Litter Collection - Aug	£	20.00
SO	Kim Lloyd	Clerk Salary - Aug		
SO	Chadd Village Hall	Village Hall Rent - Aug	£	23.00
800031	Mrs R H Dumelow	Donation to Covid-19 Volunteers	£	100.00
<i>(All of above already paid)</i>				

SO	Mrs H Anderson	Litter Collection - Sept	£	20.00
SO	Kim Lloyd	Clerk Salary - Sept		
SO	Chadd Village Hall	Rent contribution - Sept	£	23.00
800032	Grahame Murphy	No Dogs Plastic Sign	£	3.98
800033	Kim Lloyd	Stamps /postage	£	10.74
800034	Scofell	Grounds Maintenance - Aug	£	225.00
			£	1,319.71

**Receipts**

30.07.2020 HMRC	VAT Refund	£	399.87
Total Receipts			£ 399.87

**Financial Position as at 1 September 2020**

Balance carried forward 31/03/20	£	13,687.75
Income for year 20-21 to date.	£	8,767.37
Less payments for year 20-21 to date	£	6,017.63
Total including Reserves	<b>£</b>	<b>16,437.49</b>