

CHACELEY PARISH COUNCIL

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30 JANUARY 2012
7.30pm, Village Hall

1 Attendance

2 Apologies

3 Minutes of the Last Meeting

4 Matters Arising

Drainage: Environment Agency presentation on IPP by Daniel Trewin

LSIDB update

Highways

Noticeboard

Village survey

5 Items for Discussion

6 TBC and County Councillors reports

7 Finance

Roses Theatre

8 Correspondence

9 Public Questions

CHACELEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting held 28 November 2011

1 Attendance

Gerald Kinahan, Tony Saxton, Nicholas Mullane, Tony Stephenson, Cllr Phil Awford, Barbara Mullane (secretary),

Jane Griffiths (Village Agent), 2 Members of the public

2 Apologies

Graham Hyde

3 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held 26 September 2011 were approved and signed.

4 Matters Arising

4.1 Broadband: The chairman welcomed Chris Cowcher, broadband champion for Gloucestershire Rural Community Council. He explained that the campaign's aim is to bring high speed broadband to as much of Gloucestershire and Herefordshire as possible by 2015. He provided the council with a questionnaire and urged as many homes as possible to respond to give a more accurate picture of the current situation. He reported that the procurement process is underway and the first improvements will be seen next year.

4.2 Village Agent: reported on an arts project for the over 65s in Forthampton, Chaceley and Tirley promoted by her in co operation with the Roses Theatre. The council undertook to circulate leaflets publicising the initiative.

4.3 Drainage - Environment Agency: councillors had received a copy of the EA cost benefit analysis of alternative schemes to protect Chaceley from river flooding. As anticipated, none meets the financial criteria set against a 1 in 100 year flood level of 12.41m AOD which would affect 12 properties. Option 1, defence in fields to the river side of Rock Street is costed at greater than £1.8m. Option 2, raising Stock Lane, would be greater than £2m and option 3, defence in private gardens, greater than £800k against economic benefits of £500-600k. However, the EA offers to support an IPP scheme for Chaceley - subject to all 12 properties agreeing - with the caveat that some personal funding may also be required above the grant aid. Cllr Awford explained that GCC would undertake a survey and prepare a scheme in order to make an application in June 2012. Funding, if approved, would be available in 2012/14. Cllr Awford offered residents the opportunity to see an IPP scheme if they were interested. The secretary was asked to circulate the EA's report to the properties involved together with a response form indicating interest.

LSIDB - following the September meeting, photographs have been taken of the Paradise Brook outfall, which is almost overgrown and Cllrs Saxton and Mullane had walked the ditch which could link New Hall Brook with an outlet - still in existence - at Tirley, should the EA be willing to reopen it. The council had hoped to have discussed Paradise Brook/Chaceley Stock and the Tirley outlet with Mark Harper but were unable to get a meeting with him until January. The council has tried to enlist support from

Tirley parish council with regard to the potential reopening of the Tirley outlet but without success to date. Cllr Awford reported that the Tirley Flood Report does not include the opening of the outfall. The secretary was asked to write to the chair of Tirley pcc again explaining Chaceley's position.

- 4.4 Highways:** the fingerpost on the island opposite Carver's Pool has been dislodged. Highways say they are concentrating on safety defects and therefore it may be sometime before this is repaired. More spectacularly, the bridge at Crooked Arch has been severely damaged by a car crashing into it. A surveyor has assessed the situation and has recommended that the bridge be rebuilt, that safety barriers need to be provided on both approaches to the bend and that either a wall of crash barrier needs to be provided opposite. Our stakeholder manager has said that all this will be subject to a risk assessment/safety audit before any works are considered and that therefore they have no timescale for the job. He was reminded that the surveyor said that such works were usually undertaken within 3 months – there has been no response. Cllr Saxton attended the Highways seminar which largely entailed Highways selling services if jointly funded by councils. The county has, however, much improved its salt stocks in anticipation of a harsh winter. Highways wrote to Graham Cutter at the beginning of October to ask for his hedge to be cut back. Apparently, Mr Cutter promised Highways that the work would be done by now.
- 4.5 Gravel Pit Village Green:** The Open Spaces Society has taken advice and confirmed that they cannot insist that the gate be removed only issue a fine, however, the fine would also result in a criminal record which may be a spur to removing the gate. They also suggested that were the path on the definitive map it could be removed by Highways. The secretary was asked to follow this up.
- 4.6 Queen's Jubilee Celebrations:** The council has applied to purchase a beacon but this will not be available or invoiced until Feb/March. Chaceley's participation has been registered with the Pageantmaster and with the County Council. BT has agreed to paint the phone box but this will be a part of a national painting programme starting in April and no date can be given. The post office has agreed to paint the letterbox.
- 4.7 Carver's Pool:** BTCV maintained their price of last year of £100 to clear the pond and the work was undertaken on 15th Nov.
- 4.8 Parish Council Seminar:** Cllr Mullane attended and reported that the majority of time was taken up with Highways report on winter maintenance but that the meeting had been told of the Community Payback scheme as part of which offenders carry out work free of charge and the church and village hall had made applications to have work carried out.
- 4.9 Noticeboard:** Details of 3 suppliers obtained – prices range from £1886 - £830. The chairman undertook to get a price from a local supplier.

5 Items for Discussion

Village survey: a compilation of comments had been circulated to councillors together with an analysis of wish list items concerning the parish council or other agencies. In relation to the council: Carver's Pool has been cleared though Cllr Awford agreed to approach LSIDB to see if their kit could dig out more roots; the suggestion of a commemoration of the Jubilee and the request for flowers/bulbs to be planted would be combined, though the planting opportunity for this year has passed;

Church matters had been passed to the pcc; the availability of parish council minutes would remain as at present.

6 TBC and County Councillors reports

GCC had lost its case in relation to equalities in its programme for libraries and this would now be revisited. The county was campaigning for a delay to works on the A4019 in favour of a south junction to the M5 being provided at the same time. The Estuary Study up to Gloucester was forecasting an increase in sea level of 20” by 2060.

Joint Core Strategy: Cllr Awford urged the parish council to take an interest in and comment on the 2000+ houses designated for the east of Tewkesbury – possibly on the army camp – and insist at the very least on rainwater harvesting to avoid more flooding.

7 Finance

7.1 Accounts – circulated. Payments to be made, secretary fee - £250.00, admin costs – £41.31. Form has been completed to change signatories to account but suggest also closing deposit account – only £1.29 interest accrued to date – would simplify account management. Agreed.

7.2 Precept 2012-13: out turn to date circulated had been circulated to councillors. It was agreed to maintain the budget at £4.5k.

7.3 Verge cutting contract: The chairman declared an interest and left the room. The contract was advertised in Severnsider. Cllr Stephenson had received only one tender which he opened. The tender from G Kinahan of £675.00 + VAT for the 3 years with an additional cut costing £100. was approved by the council.

7.4 Computer equipment: problems with BT email have required 2 support visits which will cost £40. At the same time it has been advised that the equipment needs replacement. Equipment compatible with the scanner and printer could be obtained for £500 including installation. £1250.00 currently accrued for replacement equipment. The council approved the expenditure of £500.00 plus cost of previous visits.

7.5 Roses Theatre: has again written for donation – asking for minimum £250. Could possibly become a “rosebuddy” - £160 pa – would get advice notice of events and (potentially) priority booking one week ahead of public (ie meant to be for individual subscription). Cllr Awford agreed to report back to the council on the theatre’s current financial position.

8 Correspondence

8.1 Review of Polling stations: wrote to TBC, result should have been on website today but was not.

9 Public Questions

None

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10pm