

Minutes of the Meeting of East Challow Parish Council, Wednesday 13th April 2016 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall

Present: Cllr Vanessa Bosley, Cllr Iris Game, Cllr Frances Webb, Cllr Sue Terry, Cllr Pat Gill

Clerk/Finance Officer: Julia Evans

County and District Councillor: Cllr Yvonne Constance (from 8.45pm)

Members of the Public: Phil Knight (Parish Planning Committee), Jean Panting

		Action
116/16	<p>PRESENTATION FROM DANDARA</p> <p>Representatives from Dandara gave a presentation on proposals for housing development and the Wantage Western Relief Road, on land north-west of East Challow. It was noted that the land for the Western Relief Road has been safeguarded in the local plan. This proposal is for approximately 800 units on the north side of the canal. The site is not included in local plan part 1, but the size of the development means that it would be considered strategic, not speculative. Dandara are seeking the Parish Councils thoughts on 1) is the road needed and could it be developed early; 2) Could the Parish Council and Dandara work together to achieve this? Dandara suggested that they may be able to help East Challow develop a neighbourhood plan. Members of East Challow Parish Council to consider a response to Dandara's questions.</p> <p>Dandara were thanked for attending.</p>	All Councillors
117/16	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:</p> <p>Apologies for lateness received from Cllr Constance. PCSO Pack sent his apologies.</p>	
118/16	<p>MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 9th MARCH 2016</p> <p>Cllr Game proposed approval of the minutes of the monthly Parish Council Meeting held on 9th March 2016. Cllr Webb seconded. RESOLVED.</p>	
119/16	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:</p> <p>Cllr Terry declared an interest re. Mr Terry.</p>	
120/16	<p>PUBLIC DISCUSSION TIME:</p> <p>Mrs Panting reported that the shrubs on the village green were not pruned in the autumn. Clerk to speak to Mr Wise.</p> <p>Mrs Panting raised the issue of parking on the hardstanding opposite the Goodlake Arms. The police are unable to take action. Mrs Panting has asked Cllr Constance (via email) if there is anything she can do. Mrs Panting was advised to follow this up directly with Cllr Constance who was not present at the meeting when this matter was heard.</p>	Clerk
121/16	<p>COUNTY COUNCIL AND DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS:</p> <p>Cllr Constance was informed of Mrs Panting's issue regarding parking. She noted that there is no parking restriction in the area. Cllr Constance agreed to send the complaint to Lee Turner. Any proposal to add parking restrictions would require a public consultation, which would require funding. OCC Highways will not impose traffic restrictions because they are not policed. She agreed that a layby on the green area would be a good idea but there is no money available for this. Regarding the issue of buses on Letcombe Hill, Cllr Constance agreed to talk to Lee Turner, OCC, Paul Fermer, OCC and Neal Darlington, OCC, who is responsible for school buses. Cllr Constance reported that the Park Farm planning application presented many challenges, however OCC would not consider traffic as a reason to object to any planning application.</p> <p>It was reported that the bus subsidies will be ending in June. The county is still negotiating with the bus companies. The 67 will continue to run on S106 money, but it will only run between Faringdon and Wantage. It will not run through the villages. It was reported that the Oxfordshire Together proposal has been badly delivered. However, maps are now available. A meeting is scheduled for 12th May at the</p>	

	<p>Beacon in Wantage to discuss children's services.</p> <p>Cllr Constance reported on the proposed restructuring of local government in Oxfordshire. The County Council and the District Council have put forward different options and separate consultations are ongoing. By the end of the year the proposals will be put to the Secretary of State.</p> <p>Cllr Constance was thanked for attending.</p>	
122/16	<p>POLICING REPORT:</p> <p>A general police report was previously circulated to councillors. Mr Knight reported that a motorcyclist had been reported driving along the Childrey Bridleway. This was reported to the police and the offender has received a restriction order. At the March meeting it was reported that parking in St Nicholas Place was becoming an issue again. PCSO Pack has been informed and he will monitor the situation.</p>	
	MATTERS ARISING	
123/16	<p>SIGNS FOR THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION</p> <p>At a previous meeting the Clerk reported that Lee Turner (OCC) had approved a sign at the junction of Main Street and Letcombe Hill. The Royal British Legion has agreed to the cost and they have been put in touch with Lee Turner, but there has been no progress to date. Maria Meads has agreed to contact Lee Turner again.</p>	
124/16	<p>ASSET REGISTER</p> <p>The Clerk has previously circulated a printed copy of register. Clerk to check the status with a target of adoption at the May meeting.</p>	C/F: Clerk
125/16	<p>GRANTS POLICY</p> <p>Clerk to create a draft for consideration by the council. Carried forward.</p>	C/F: Clerk
126/16	<p>STREET LIGHTING</p> <p>No problems have been reported.</p>	
127/16	<p>THE VILLAGE GREEN</p> <p>At a previous meeting it was reported that SSE have damaged the village green during the installation of the electricity for the new traffic lights. The damaged area needs to be re-seeded or turfed as it is a mass of weeds. SSE were due to send someone out to have a look on Friday 12th February but nothing has been done. To be discussed again in May.</p> <p>At a previous meeting it was reported that one of the posts has been knocked over again. New posts have now been installed.</p> <p>At a previous meeting Cllr Bosley reported that shrubs on the village green needed to be pruned. Mr Wise will do this in due course. Refer to minute reference 120/16.</p>	<p>C/F</p> <p>CLOSED</p> <p>Clerk</p>
128/16	<p>NEW COUNCILLOR PACKS</p> <p>The clerk is preparing information packs for new councillors. Ongoing.</p>	C/F: Clerk
129/16	<p>VILLAGE PROJECT/WISH LIST</p> <p>Noticeboard for Nalder Fields: At a previous meeting it was reported that Bewley homes had offered to purchase a single door notice board if the parish council would pay for planning permission and agree to publicity for the board and the new crossing. Cllr Bosley reported that a single door notice board was not large enough. The clerk has written back to Bewley homes twice agreeing to their terms if they agree to purchase a double door notice board but has still not received a response. Cllr Bosley has telephoned Bewley Homes and left a message. Still awaiting a response. Cllr Bosley agreed to try again, but felt that as the publicity has now been done Bewley Homes may not now donate a notice board. There has been no further progress on this matter. The meeting agreed that it should be closed.</p>	CLOSED
130/16	<p>VILLAGE CAR PARK</p> <p>At the March meeting it was agreed that the newly installed posts (which had been installed to narrow the opening) should be painted with reflective paint. Mr Knight reported that he had now done this. Mr Knight was thanked for this work and asked to provide an invoice for the paint he had purchased so that he can be reimbursed. It was reported that a bus had been sighted trying to reverse into the car park despite the barrier. This has been reported to Thames Travel.</p>	CLOSED

	the May meeting.	
139/16	OXFORDSHIRE TOGETHER It was reported that the maps have now been received. A separate meeting is to be arranged to discuss the options for grass cutting. Clerk to arrange.	Clerk
140/16	S106 FUNDS S106 Funds from Stockham Park development – It was reported that S106 funding had been received to update the Tennis nets and the toilet facilities. Clerk to discuss with Cllr Terry. S106 application for funds from the Challow Park Development – A meeting was held with Beth Elkins, Community Infrastructure Support officer. Clerk to update the S106 project list. A firm quote for the semi-artificial pitch is required. This is in progress.	Clerk/ST Ongoing
141/16	RECREATION AREA Play Area: Mr Wise has been asked to replace the rotten wood edging next to the swings. This has not yet been done but Mr Wise is aware of it. However, as it is becoming a trip hazard it was agreed to ask Mr Terry if he could do this. At a previous meeting Mr Miller noted that the dog fouling signs need to be replaced and he agreed to do this. The Clerk reported that Mr Miller has this in hand. Football Pitch: At the February meeting the Clerk reported that Mr Brewer (Sunday morning rugby practise) had asked if there was any work his group could do in the recreation ground. Cllr Bosley suggested that they could cut back the overgrowth on the east side of the pitch near the gate. Clerk to speak to him. There is a large dip in the sand at the goal mouth nearest to the pavilion which needs to be filled in. Cllr Bosley reported that Mr Wise will look into this. The meeting agreed that a second pitch was required in order that the existing pitch could be repaired. Clerk to look at grants from Sport England and possibly write to Oxford United to see if funding can be found to resurface the pitch. See minute 140/16. At the February meeting it was also noted that the toilet door had been left unlocked on a Monday evening after a training session and that the toilet light had been left on on several occasions. The Clerk has written asking the teams to close up properly when they finish for the evening and to ensure that all lights are switched off. No further problems have been reported. A booking system is required for the summer months to avoid conflicts on the pitch in the future. To be discussed at a later date. The meeting agreed that there is a need to decide on the 'vision' for the sports area. Tennis Court: It was reported that the tennis court had been swept. The nets will be put up when the weather permits. Allotments: Cllr Terry reported that more allotments need to be made available as she has a waiting list.	C/F DW In progress C/F: Clerk C/F: DW Clerk CLOSED C/F ST
142/16	PAVILION: At a previous meeting it was agreed that a working party will be set up to clean out the pavilion at the end of the football season. At a previous meeting it was reported that some concrete was missing on the manhole cover behind the pavilion, between the pavilion and the play area and the manhole by the septic tank. Cllr Terry reported that Mr Terry had carried out all the manhole cover repairs.	C/F to May VAB/FW
143/16	RECREATION GROUND CAR PARK: It was reported at the February meeting that Mr Wise had recommended installing some reflectors on the recently installed posts in the recreation ground car park as they are difficult to see in the dark. Mr Terry to look into this. At the March meeting it was reported that the car park surface had been damaged. It was suggested that hard core should be used, however councillors felt this was not a satisfactory solution. In view of his involvement with the recent surfacing of the village hall	Mr Terry PK

	overflow car park Mr Knight was asked to have a look and suggest what action should be taken.	
144/16	HEAVY TRAFFIC ON LETCOMBE HILL It was reported that the Clerk had written to OCC School Transport department asking that the buses be re-routed. A copy of the request has been sent to Cllr Constance.	
145/16	REVIEW OF EMERGENCY PLAN Clerk had previously emailed the amended document with paper copies to Cllr Bosley and Cllr Webb. To be reviewed and updated. This matter was carried forward.	C/F: All Councillors/Clerk
146/16	GROUNDS MAINTENANCE Tree Inspections: Cllr Bosley reported that this should be completed as part of the annual inspection of assets. The date for this will be decided at the AGM. Top Cemetery: At the February meeting it was reported that as a result of a recent burial a headstone had been taken down and left on an adjacent grave. Mr Wise has now moved the headstone. Clerk to contact the Funeral Directors to ask for it to be properly reinstated. At the February meeting Cllr Bosley reported that an inappropriate floral memorial had been placed on a grave. Clerk to write to the funeral directors and ask them to contact the family. At the March meeting it was reported that the last ashes plot has now been sold. Two additional quotes are required for the landscaping work in the north west corner of the cemetery. Cllr Bosley to invite Paul (3, The Park) and Nick Holt to submit quotes. New Cemetery: Mr Craddock has cut back the beech hedge to the right of the gate. Clerk has reminded Mr Craddock to send his invoice. He still has an ivy clad cherry tree to cut down in the top cemetery. Clerk has reminded him that the work is outstanding. New Grounds Maintenance Contract: The Clerk reported that the new Grounds Maintenance contract needed to be signed. This has now been signed. Weed Control: Clerk has written to Mr Wise about weed clearance at the side of the Meadow and Cornhill Lane, asking what chemicals he proposes to use and requesting a quote for the work. Awaiting a response.	Clerk Clerk C/F VAB CLOSED
147/16	ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS New Litter Bin: The Clerk has asked Mr Wise for a quote for the installation of the bin. Awaiting a response.	
148/16	FOOTPATHS AND PAVEMENTS DMMO Request: Clerk to write to GLASS requesting a Voluntary Restraint scheme. . Clerk has written to Arther McEwan-James to ask him if he has a contact for the signs. Awaiting a reply. It is necessary to keep a log of all complaints about the state of the lane. A note has been put in the Challow News asking people to report problems to the Clerk. No reports received to date. An email has been received from Jeanne Lapsley, Chair of Letcombe Regis Parish Council, suggesting that they would like to be involved in the reclassification of the lane. Cllr Webb to review and report back. Other Footpaths: At a previous meeting the possibility of using Community Payback to clear Childrey Lane of leaves and rubbish and to cut back the vegetation at the sides was discussed. Cllr Webb provided a contact number. Clerk to chase this. It was reported that Mark Sumner had agreed to look into the state of the footpath behind the house called The Old Apple Yard near the Nalder Fields Estate. This has been reported to Cllr Constance who has agreed to look into it (see minute reference 270/15). Clerk has emailed the new Countryside Officer about this. No response has been received.	FW Clerk
149/16	RECRUITMENT OF NEW COUNCILLORS Notices have been placed on the Village noticeboards, the website and in Challow	

	News.	
150/16	<p>2016 VILLAGE FETE</p> <p>It was reported that Emma Freebairn has agreed to chair the group. Mrs Freebairn is to send an item to be included in the Parish Council's Challow News article. It was reported that a small grant is available to Parish Councils Cllr Bosley to pass the form to Mrs Freebairn for completion.</p>	VAB
151/16	<p>CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>Need not Greed email. This had previously been circulated to all councillors. No feedback had been received. The matter is now closed.</p> <p>Annual Emergency Survey. Cllr Bosley to review the form and return to the clerk.</p>	<p>CLOSED</p> <p>VAB</p>
152/16	<p>ITEMS FOR CHALLOW NEWS</p> <p>Items to be included in the next Challow News article:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notice urging people to report issues with Cornhill Lane 2. Advertisement for Parish Councillors 3. Date of Annual Parish Meeting 4. Vehicles on Childrey Bridleway 5. Note from Emma Freebairn about the fete 	Clerk
153/16	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>Odd Job Man – Cllr Terry declared an interest. Cllr Terry reported that Mr Terry had accepted the position of Village Odd Job Man. It was agreed that the rate would be the same as the litter picker. Mr Terry to report hours worked every month. Clerk to send a timesheet template.</p> <p>Community Speedwatch – The Clerk has contacted East Hanney to ask whether East Challow can join forces with them in the use of their speedwatch equipment. They had agreed to pass the request on to the speedwatch team.</p>	Clerk
154/16	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>The next meeting will be Wednesday 11th May 2016 at 7.30pm. This will also be the AGM.</p>	

The meeting closed at 10.50pm