

**Minutes of the Meeting of East Challow Parish Council
Wednesday 8 November 2017 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall**

Present: Cllr Vanessa Bosley (Chair), Cllr Frances Webb (Vice Chair), Cllr Iris Game (arrived @7.39pm) Cllr Sarah Parker
Cllr Yvonne Constance (County & District Councillor) Sheryl Sanders (Clerk), Julia Evans (RFO)
PC Darren James (Thames Valley Police)
Two members of the Public: Nick Holt (Holts Landscapes) & Les Cannings (Calber Facilities)

		Action
289/17	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies received from Cllr Ruth Vigor–Hedderly & PCSO Howard Pack	
290/17	MINUTES OF MEETING HELD Wednesday 6 September 2017. Cllr Webb proposed accepting the minutes. Cllr Game seconded. RESOLVED.	
291/17	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cllr Bosley declared an interest in all village hall matters.	
292/17	PUBLIC DISCUSSION TIME: Mr Colin Moss, a representative of the Village Hall Management Committee was present to talk about the refurbishment of the village hall toilets to enable disabled access and baby changing facilities. Mr Moss would like a copy of the deeds of the village hall, which are held by East Challow Parish Council, showing that the land belongs to East Challow Parish Council. Cllr Bosley will provide this. The RFO advised Mr Moss to consider allowing procurement of the project by East Challow Parish Council to enable VAT to be reclaimed. She advised Mr Moss that the Village Hall Committee would be required to manage the project and would be responsible for obtaining quotes from 3 contractors. The completion of the grant application forms would then be submitted by the ECPC Clerk. Mr Moss told the Parish Council that he has estimated the amount of money required in total to be c.£18,000. The Village Hall Committee will provide £5000. They are asking the Parish Council to contribute £2000 and will apply to VWHDC for a grant. The RFO advised that there is currently nothing in the budget. She will advise how much the Parish Council can offer once she has looked at the budget for 2018. Mr Moss was thanked for coming to the meeting. The Parish Council hoped to respond to his request within one week.	Cllr Bosley Cllr Bosley/RFO
293/17	COUNTY COUNCIL AND DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS: Cllr Constance congratulated Cllr Webb and Cllr Game on the Community Award they received in early November. She was pleased to see recognition for their work. Cllr Constance would like to see Dandara make a presentation to the village. She would like to attend the next Neighbourhood Planning meeting to discuss Dandara’s plans. Cllr Constance discussed the proposal from the Park Farm developers to no longer provide a roundabout. Concerns were	

	<p>raised that he A417 would possibly need to be closed for a roundabout to be constructed.</p> <p>Cllr Bosley asked Cllr Constance for advice regarding a property in Hedge Hill Road which has a gate that opens outwards onto parish land and a parish footpath. The clerk has already written to the owners asking them to re-hang the gate and remove the steps. They have failed to address the gate opening, but have removed the steps.</p> <p>Cllr Constance advised the clerk to write to the resident again informing them they would be liable for any injury caused to a pedestrian or cyclist.</p>	Clerk
294/17	<p>POLICING REPORT: Cllr Vigor-Hedderly had requested the attendance of Sgt Kevin Hickman to talk about speeding and HGVs using the A417 through East Challow. Unfortunately, he was unable to attend but asked his colleague PC Darren James to attend on his behalf. Cllr Bosley expressed her thanks regarding the presence of PCSO Pack in the village. Cllr Parker would like to see him in the Nalder Fields area. PC James advised the Council that PCSO Pack had been in the area, knocking on doors asking residents to sign up to the Thames Valley alerts.</p> <p>Speeding: PC James asked the Council if they had seen a speed monitoring/enforcement vehicle in the village recently. He explained that the vehicle covers 3 counties. Cllr Bosley said that we hadn't seen one for a few years. PC James talked about the SID Community Speed watch and that it would be a good idea to contact Wantage and Grove about joining their group.</p> <p>VOSA (Vehicle and operator Services Agency): PC James advised the Council that VOSA was not an area he was familiar with. He understood that the Earthline lorries, carrying aggregates, were weighed at the quarry in Stanford in the Vale. PC James advised that Thames Valley Police were re-structuring and as a result there will be fewer police. Cllr Constance said that police should not be used for parking problems and consideration could be given to the parish contributing to a PCSO who could deal specifically with parking issues in the locality. Cllr Bosley thanked PC James for attending and he left.</p>	Clerk
	MATTERS ARISING	
295/17	<p>ASSET REGISTER A draft format of the register will be finalised and given to the clerk for typing.</p>	c/f Cllr Bosley
296/17	VILLAGE NOTICE BOARD MAINTENANCE	C/F
297/17	<p>DONATION REQUEST FOR CHURCH TOILET AREA/CATERING FACILITIES The RFO advised the council that although they have no powers to support the church, they could give money under S137 which allows councils to spend a limited amount of money for purposes which they have no other specific statutory expenditure. The RFO will allocate an amount in the proposed budget.</p>	RFO

298/17	BURIAL REGISTER/REGISTER FOR NEW CEMETERY	C/F
	AGENDA ITEMS	
299/17	<p>GROUND MAINTENANCE Renewal of Contracts:</p> <p>Comments from a resident had been received to say that the new parish cemetery was not cut regularly enough and the cutting height needs to be lowered. It was also commented that the area around a grave had not been cut.</p> <p>Mr Holt (Holts Landscapes) informed the Council that he cuts the grass twice per month but only charges for one cut. Mr Holt said the land was rough and not prepared well enough to ensure a good cut. Mr Holt had not cut around the grave out of respect because he could see that it is tended and cared for. Mr Holt advised the Council on how to go forward to improve the cemetery grass. The hedge along the south and east of the Vicarage Hill Cemetery has grown wide and needs cutting back to keep it tidy. The north side also requires tidying up. The beech tree in the Village Hall carpark needs work doing to remove ivy. Mr Holt will quote for the work that needs carrying out.</p> <p>Mr Holt was also asked to clear out the drain outside Longs Cottages, Main Street. It was decided to leave the hawthorn tree on the lower village green.</p> <p>Mr Holt & Cllr Bosley signed a copy of the contact and gave a copy to the clerk.</p> <p>Mr Cannings was present on behalf of Calber. The Council asked for the following to be added to the contact: A winter clear-up of the overflow carpark, Canal Way and spraying with weed killer (overflow carpark). A new contract will be emailed to Mr Cannings for acceptance and signature.</p>	RFO
300/17	<p>PLANNING MATTERS :</p> <p>LP 2031 Part 2 – it was noted that East Challow was not mentioned in LP part 2.</p> <p>P17/V2870/DIS – Land of Downsview Road. Parish Council are not expected to comment on this as it is outside of East Challow Parish.</p>	
301/17	<p>ACCOUNTS Approval of November Payments:</p> <p>The full list of payments is attached to the minutes. Total for approval for November 2017 is £1964.21. Cllr Webb proposed and Cllr Game seconded</p> <p>A cheque for SSE (electricity) has not been signed as the bill was an estimate. Cllr Bosley will read the meter in the pavilion to get an actual reading. She will inform the RFO when it has been read.</p>	Cllr Bosley
302/17	<p>NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN</p> <p>The plan is now at policy writing stage. A meeting with the Vale will take place at the Vale offices on Friday 10 November with the Planning Policy Officer.</p>	

303/17	<p>DEFIBRILLATOR AWARENESS COURSE: The clerk discussed the need for an awareness course. It was decided to hold the course on Wednesday 7 February 2018. The clerk will check with Community Heartbeat that the date is convenient.</p>	Clerk
304/17	<p>RECREATION AREA</p> <p>Play Area/inspection: Repairs to the wooden edges around the safety matting needs to be addressed. No inspection had been carried out this month.</p> <p>Pavilion: The clerk has asked Mr Holt of Holts Landscapes to quote for the removal of the debris caused by the ceiling damage.</p> <p>Tennis Courts: The tennis nets have been taken down. Cllr Bosley asked the clerk to send a letter to Mr & Mrs Terry thanking them for their continued support with various parish jobs,</p> <p>Football Pitch: The clerk will check if the goal nets have been secured with cable ties.</p> <p>Allotments: The clerk has sent letters inviting allotment holders to renew and Cllr Webb has received some payments. The clerk will provide Cllr Webb with a list of allotment holders and rents due. Mrs Sue Webb has agreed to be spokesperson for the allotment holders. Cllr Webb will contact her and ask what the allotment holders would like the existing grant money spent on. Mr Julian Butler will deliver manure to the allotments and has asked if he can have access to the allotments. Two plots will need strimming and weed killed during the period. A quote will be sought from Calber Facilities.</p> <p>Parish Carpark: Adjacent to the school. Mr Holt of Holts Landscapes will commence the installation of a new fence before Christmas.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Webb</p> <p>Clerk</p>
305/17	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS – LITTER WARDEN VACANCY</p> <p>The councillors have looked through the applications for the vacancy and have selected a candidate to interview. The clerk will liaise with Cllr Parker and Cllr Bosley to find a suitable date to conduct an interview.</p>	Clerk
306/17	<p>PURCHASE OF A DICTAPHONE</p>	C/F
307/17	<p>CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be Free Young Carers request for grant aid – A cheque will be raised • Mr Hayes requested copies of photos used on the village website. The clerk will contact the owner of the photos. 	<p>C/F</p> <p>C/F</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canal Towpath complaints. The clerk will contact the environmental planning officer regarding the waterlogged path. • Letter received from resident regarding trees along Childrey Lane from Sarajac Ave to Letcombe Hill. Branches need trimming and trees need possible attention - Cllr Bosley will look at the trees and assess the problem. 	Cllr Bosley
308/17	<p>ITEMS FOR CHALLOW NEWS</p> <p>The prompt removal of waste bins from the roadside</p> <p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Compliments of the season</p> <p>Christmas/New Year bin collections</p>	Clerk
309/17	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The meeting will be changed from Wednesday 13 December to Wednesday 6 December. This is due to availability of councillors.</p> <p>The clerk will change the date on the village website and inform the village hall booking secretary of the change of date.</p>	Clerk

.The meeting closed at 11.15pm

Signed by Cllr Vanessa Bosley (Chair)
