

CHURCHDOWN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, 13TH October 2020 AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT:

Cllr Jane Attwood	Cllr Mary Jordan
Cllr Lt Col BJ Barton-Ancliffe (Chairman)	Cllr Haydn Pearl
Cllr Gill Blackwell	Cllr Alan Porter (Vice chairman)
Cllr Graham Bocking	Cllr Richard Smith
Cllr Nick Dring	Cllr Stephen Wall
Cllr Julie Evans	Cllr Ian Yates
Cllr Leo Fletcher	Cllr Mrs. Loraine Yates

Also, present: Miss Geraldine Connor, Clerk taking Minutes.
Mrs. Denise Bullock, Assistant Clerk
County Councillor Ben Evans
3 Residents

641 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

641.1 Cllrs Noushien Khazeni-Rad, Karan Khazeni – Rad and Roy Nutting.

642 TO STATE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

642.1 Cllrs Gill Blackwell, Mary Jordan & Richard Smith (Planning) - **Minute 644.1 + 645.1**

643 TO RECEIVE ANY QUESTIONS FROM PARISHIONERS

643.1 A Resident spoke in support of Motion 5 (on behalf of group of Residents).

644 PLANNING

644.1 CORRESPONDENCE

Enforcement - Alleged unauthorised walling adjacent to highway.
21 The Avenue Churchdown Gloucester Gloucestershire GL3 2HB

Permit - Erection of single storey front extension
7 Pelham Crescent

645 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MOTION RELATING TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDRE 404

“This council supports the retention of Tree Preservation Order 404 because Developers can and have felled trees and can destroy the rest of the Hedgerow should the TPO be removed. As in the Churchdown and Innsworth Neighbourhood Development Plan, this Council supports an integrated landscape assessment for the development of Dunstan Lodge in tandem with Dunstan Glen.”

645. 1 It was proposed, seconded and
RESOLVED that the above motion be amended as follows:

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED (10 votes in favour, with 4 abstentions) that Churchdown Parish Council oppose the removal of the TPO 404 or any action to remove hedging: -

Grounds

Churchdown Parish Council refer to the Churchdown and Innsworth Neighbourhood Development Plan which explicit provides in 4 of its' policies for the retention, protection and enhancement of green spaces and biodiversity habitats within the designated area.

POLICY CHIN2:

LAYOUT AND APPEARANCE OF RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

C. New development should use existing natural features to define the boundaries between properties and on the edge of the site.

POLICY CHIN3:

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS IN THE DESIGN OF RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

A. New residential development proposals should demonstrate how they retain and, where possible enhance, the environmental setting of Churchdown and Innsworth. Proposals should include a range of green features appropriate to the size and scale of the development - in particular, the provision of green spaces, verges, trees and hedgerows and orchard planting such as fruity streets, espaliers, forage trails, pocket orchards and community orchards.

C. Boundary treatments are particularly important to the setting of development. Residential proposals should include details of boundary treatments and other means of enclosure and demonstrate how the boundaries between properties and public space will enhance the environmental setting. Boundary treatments must be appropriate to ensure they are long lasting

POLICY CHIN9:

PROVISION FOR WILDLIFE IN NEW DEVELOPMENT

Development proposals (particularly residential developments), that incorporate into their design features which encourage local wildlife to thrive will be strongly supported.

POLICY CHIN10: ORCHARDS, HEDGEROWS AND VETERAN TREES

Development should ensure that it does not have a significant detrimental impact on existing orchards, including those identified in Appendix C. In particular, development proposals will be expected, where possible, to retain hedgerows and veteran trees, including veteran perry pear trees. This is particularly important where the loss of any such features would result in harm to or loss of irreplaceable habitats.

The removal of mature trees and hedging defined within TPO 404 , other than for reasons of access to the development site, will have a detrimental effect not only on the established wildlife in the immediate area and will negatively impact the visual amenity enjoyed by local Residents.

Further removal or variance of the TPO issue should be considered with the principle development application.

646 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 8th September 2020

646.1 The Minutes of the virtual meeting of Full Council held on 8th September 2020 were confirmed as a true record and will be signed by the Chairman.

647 TO RECEIVE REPORTS OF COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

- 647.1** County Councillor – Cllr Ben Evans tabled a written report (**Appendix A**) Cllr Ben Evans apologised for missing the last couple of meetings due to other commitments.

A Member asked if contracted work is checked on completion? Cllr Evans agreed that the methodology for assessing the quality of work is counter-intuitive and leads to numerous repairs of the same road surface after the initial project is completed. Unfortunately, work is checked but not to an acceptable standard.

Cllr Evans explained that problems arise from unsatisfactory remedial work by utility companies (e.g. Winston Road) are carried out – such repairs then fall to GCC Highways to make good.

On Cheltenham Road East by the Hare & Hounds, repeated repairs have been carried out to the same site.

Cllr Evans asked Members to send examples to him. He confirmed that the resurfacing of Parton Road is a permanent repair.

A Member commented that the new TRO appears to be effective. However, problems still occur at school drop off and pick up times. Cllr Evans reported that schools are doing their best to encourage responsible parking.

- 647.2** Borough Cllr Richard Smith reported that he has attended a virtual meeting on 'Overview and Scrutiny': TBC officers are working hard to overcome the negative impact of COVID-19 on the delivery of services.

- 647.3** Borough Cllr Mary Jordan reported she has attended a portfolio meeting yesterday on 'Community & Health & Wellbeing' (this looked at effective measures to address the impact of COVID-19) – it is likely that Parish Councils will be asked to play a part in future plans.

Grants are available but funding is less than it was previously, and the criteria is much stricter.

A seminar is taking place on 'juntcion10' on the M5 tomorrow.

648 TO RECEIVE REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES & REPORTS OF TRAINING/ATTENDANCE AT OTHER MEETINGS

648.1 CCA Executive

Cllr Smith tabled a written report (**Appendix B**)

The Exec has had to react and adjust to the COVID situation – formal meetings have been dispensed with and management has fallen to a small group of people: the future is very uncertain.

- 648.2 GAPTC Executive** – the Chairman reported that there has been no meeting of the Exec. Training is still available. GAPTC are still liaising with local councils and NALC on important issues. (e.g. enforcement of restrictions to prevent parking on pavements). The membership fees will be determined at the AGM virtual meeting which will be held in December.

- 648.3 Glos Airport Consultative Committee** – Cllr Stephen Wall tabled a copy of the GAAC minutes 20th August (**Appendix C**)

Few complaints were received during lockdown. A query was raised over the anti-social times of take offs and some helicopter flights.

The next meeting will be held in November.

The Clerk tabled correspondence from Badgeworth PC regarding the sudden and dramatic increase in helicopter movements reported by a Member of Badgeworth Council.

A Member reported that commercial slots for landing and take offs can be requested outside normal operating hours.

A Member reported that Mr Head (Airport MD) explained that the airport is responsible for renewing licenses for the emergency services – due to COVID-19, there has been an increase in flights due to the back log of licenses.

A Member asked about the potential impact of the current planning application for development, and in particular the closure of one runway?
Cllr Wall agreed to raise this at the next meeting.

A Member reported that she has written to the Airport regarding 16 landings between 12 midnight and 6 am on one night. She was informed that this was for refueling purposes.

648.4 GL3 Hub – Cllr Jordan reported that there has been no recent meeting.

649 TO ANSWER ANY WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

649.1 None

650 TO NOTE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS; TO RECEIVE AND RESOLVE ANY RECOMMENDATIONS THEREIN

650.1 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE 6th October 2020

Cllr Alan Porter, Chairman of Finance and Administration presented the Minutes. There was 1 recommendation

650.1.1 Payment of Accounts including additional in the sum of **£ 13,852.03 [Appendix D]**

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED that the payments for **October** in the sum of **£13,852.03** be approved.

The Clerk reported that the 8 x COVID signs were received from TBC (this entry was duplicated in error)

650.2 COMMUNITY COMMITTEE 15TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Gill Blackwell, Chairman of the Community Committee presented the Minutes. There were no recommendations.

651 TO CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILLOR LEO FLETCHER TO THE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

651.1 It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED that Cllr Leo Fletcher be appointed to the Finance and Administration Committee.

652 CLERK'S REPORT

652.1 Building Repairs Update –

The interior walls have been plastered and painted and the carpet fitted. We are still waiting for the refit of the solar panels, repairs to Clerks office, repairs to annex and the refitting of all doors.

652.2 Online Training report (SLCC Virtual Conference 12th – 16th October 2020)

Sessions booked:

- Understanding Risk and Insurance during COVID-19
- Model Code of Conduct for Local Government Members
- Neighbourhood Planning – Where to Now?
- Devolution, Localism, and the Future of Local Councils – Q&A Panel
- Neighbourhood Planning: Policy and Funding
- Budgeting in Uncertain Times
- Website Accessibility (WCAG) – What Is It, What Do You Need to Do
- Empowering local communities: engaging citizens in the design of public services
- Diversity in the Community

The Clerk intends to view the recorded sessions in due course – she will forward a copy of slides and/or a topic note in due course.

652.3 Advice on the resumption of face to face meetings –

The Clerk tabled an advice note from NALC (**Appendix E**)

The Clerk has offered the opportunity of attendance at a hybrid meeting to a Member who cannot currently access virtual meetings.

652.4 GAPTC have published a list of training events- the Clerk will send on to Members.

652.5 The second half of the precept for 2020-2021 has been paid on 30th April 2020 in the sum of £117.015.

653 TO CONVENE A MEETING OF THE GRANT POLICY WORKING GROUP IN ORDER TO REVIEW THE CHURCHDOWN PARISH COUNCIL GRANT POLICY): [TO AGREE AND INCLUDE THE PROVISION, INCLUDING TIMESCALES AND CRITERIA, FOR EMERGENCY FUNDING]

653.2 A discussion ensued:

A Member reported that there is already a provision in the policy to award sums over the policy limit (£2500) in exceptional circumstances. Any change to the policy, at this time, would be unfair to those applicants who have applied / are in the process of applying before the grant submission deadline 31st October 2020.

A Member expressed concern about providing financial assistance to organisations who have lost income due to the COVID-19 crisis - this will be difficult to manage and budget for when drafting the annual budget.

A Member expressed her view that the Parish Council should support organisations who are struggling financially and that is the Parish Council's moral responsibility to consider such requests.

A Members asked if profit making as well as charitable organisations should be considered as eligible to apply.

A Member proposed that such applications should be considered on a case by case basis.

A Member reported that the Parish Council has previously used a significant amount of the annual budget to support the library and youth services during times of economic crisis.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED (11 votes in favour) to convene a meeting of the working group in due course – the working group to report to F and A for a recommendation to Full Council.

654 TO CONSIDER ORGANISATION OF AND PARTICIPATION IN CHRISTMAS EVENTS FOR CHURCHDOWN RESIDENTS

654.1 The Clerk reported that a Christmas tree will be placed outside the Parish Council Office for children to decorate (in groups from schools)

The office staff will also be taking part in the Advent Calendar event and will be decorating one or two of the parish offices windows for this.

Sadly, the opportunity to hold a celebration and thank you lunch for volunteers seems highly unlikely.

The Chairman proposed sending a Christmas & thank you card to all our volunteers this year.

A Member suggested asking the primary schools to design a card for the Parish Council to use. Cllr Mary Jordan offered to progress this.

655 TO CONSIDER RESPONSE TO NALC CONSULTATIONS

- ▶ **'PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE: WHITE PAPER' –**
- ▶ **'TRANSPARENCY AND COMPETITION: A CALL FOR EVIDENCE ON DATA ON LAND CONTROL'**

655.1 Both consultation papers were noted.

656 TO APPROVE TENDER FOR WEED CONTROL CONTRACTS (Appendix F)

656.1 It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** to remove the Ash path from the schedule.

The Clerk reported that some Borough and District Councils have now ceased weed spraying due to environmental concerns about Glyphosate.

A Member suggested that this may be due to financial reasons.

A Member suggested that TBC may have taken this course of action due to the recent Declaration of Climate Emergency.

A Member observed that the weeding programme is undertaken at the requests and on behalf of Residents.

The Clerk was asked to liaise with TBC and GCC regarding this issue.

657 CORRESPONDENCE

657.1 Correspondence regarding complaints about airport noise – Badgeworth PC
* Dealt with under Minute **648.3**

657.2 Correspondence regarding Local Councils Young Peoples Award – Chime Management. This correspondence was noted.

657.3 Correspondence regarding land on Station Road

The Parish Council was asked to comment on possible works to private land (not currently subject to a planning application) and write to the landowner particularly in relation to relevant policies in the Neighbourhood Plan.

TBC will not be applying for a TPO in relation to the trees/shrub on this land.

However, the land is green belt, and this can be referenced in any potential planning application (as can the Neighbourhood Plan)

It was proposed, seconded and
RESOLVED to defer this to the Community Committee on 20th October 2020

658 QUESTIONS AND INFORMATION

658.1 A Member reported that the second wave of the 2018 flu pandemic was very severe.

659 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS - PURSUANT TO S1 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS ACT) 1960

At 8.58.pm the Chairman proposed, and it was agreed to move into Confidential Business pursuant to s1 Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

Meeting closed at 9.22 pm

CHAIRMAN