

Churcham Parish Council

Clerk
Mrs Marilyn King
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Minutes of the meeting Birdwood.villafarm@virgin.net
CHURCHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Held at Churcham Primary School
On the 21st April 2015

1. Attendance and Apologies

Those Present: - Councillors Reeves, Price, Baber, Freeman, Newbery and Brookes along with the Clerk Marilyn King, District Councillor Jones, Village Agent Hilary Lyon and 8 members of the public.

2 Declarations of Interest by members in items to be discussed. There were no declarations.

3. Minutes of previous Meeting. Councillor Price proposed that they be approved as a true record, this was seconded by councillor Brookes and unanimously approved.

4. Matters arising. There were no matters arising

5. Planning Applications: -

5.1 Choice Care, Sunnyside House, main Road, Birdwood: - Construction of a 10 bed residential care facility and associated annex building, activity building and external works.

Councillors and residents discussed this application at length. Concerns were raised over road safety regarding the new entrance being so close to nearby businesses and a very busy cross roads which lead to a busy garden centre and the proposed very large pig unit that is being built at present, which in its self will create more traffic using the junction with the A40.

Councillors support local concerns regarding extra noise from such a large building, and that the application for this care home in the wrong place. Care homes of this size should be in the city as there are a lot better facilities for the residents and the workers, where there are more busses running and some workers may be able to cycle to work.

There is nothing for the potential residents to be involved in around the local parishes with the exception of the local pub and garage, whereas the possibilities are endless in the city.

An extra care home, on top of the four that are already situated in the parish will alter the diversity of the residents already living here.

Councillors unanimously recommend that this application be refused.

5.2 Two Rivers Housing: - Proposed creation of 4 parking spaces and associated hardstanding. Revised plans. Councillors were not happy with the revised plans because they are different to the original plans. No detail of drainage was submitted on the plans.

6. To confirm planning decisions by Forest of Dean District Council/Gloucestershire County Council.

Mr P Brown, Breken House Bulley Lane Birdwood: - Permission was granted for the erection of a single storey dwelling with some matters reserved.

7. Councillor's Reports.

The condition of the old Methodist chapel is still causing concern, with no progress noted to make it into a house. The building just seems to be deteriorating.

Visibility at the bus shelter at Stone End is causing concern. The clerk was asked to contact the highways to ask them to cut back the grass verge.

8. Clerk's Report.

The clerk reported that progress is being made at the proposed affordable housing site in Chapel Lane, with the land owner and Two Rivers Housing signing a conditional land contract, conditional of Two Rivers getting planning permission on the site.

Work can now start in earnest to start carrying out ecological and topographical surveys, as well as carrying out land clearance.

Work can start on drawings and once Two Rivers have drawn up some options, they will arrange a public consultation.

Progress is being made with the defibrillator appeal. So far £1380.00 has been pledged towards the purchase of two defibrillators at a cost of £4000.00. Any resident who would like to make a donation should contact the clerk. All cheques should be made to Churcham Parish Council.

A raffle is being organised, so tickets should be available within the next couple of weeks.

If any resident or business would like to donate a raffle prize please contact the clerk on 01452 750451.

The draw for the raffle will take place at the parish council meeting on the 15th September at Churcham School.

9 Financial Matters.

9.1 A cheque for £45.00 payable to Mrs Fowler was signed by two councillors for the completion of the internal audit.

9.2 Councillors unanimously approved the Annual Governance Statement.

9.3 Councillors unanimously approved the Annual Return for 2014/2015.

10. Public Opinions. No members of the public took up this option.

11 Correspondence received: -

11.1 FODDC declared the results of the uncontested parish election with Martin Baber, Barry Brookes, John Francis, Mike Freeman, Bob Newbery, Sally Price and Do Reeves to be elected as parish councillors on the 7th May 2015.

11.2 Mark Harper MP and Michael Hogg from Royal Mail report that a replacement post box will be installed in Bulley Lane as quickly as possible. Councillors thanked Mr Bellwood for his support in getting Royal Mail to change their minds and agree to the replacement.

11.3 GAPTC report that the transparency code for smaller councils must apply by law to all parish councils.

11.4 Skanska Highways reported that resurfacing and associated works on the A40 in Huntley are scheduled to start on the 27th April and finish by the middle of May, the work will be carried out overnight using traffic signals between 8pm and 6am. There will be no traffic management in operation during the day.

12. Any other business. There was no other business to discuss.

**The chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.55pm
The date of the next meeting is the 19th May.**

The clerk's working hours are: -

Monday 10am – 12pm, 2pm – 4pm

Wednesday 10am – 12pm, 2pm to 4pm

Thursday 10am – 12pm, 2pm – 3pm

If any urgent item needs to be discussed by councillors or residents in between these times I can be contacted by telephone only on 01452 750451