

Churcham Parish Council

Clerk
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**Minutes of the meeting of the
CHURCHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Held at Churcham Primary School
On the 21st July 2015 at 7.30pm**

1. Councillor Baber apologised unreservedly to Ms Clare Shepherd.

After councillors attended a site visit at her property at the rear of Beauchamp House in Churcham Ms Shepherd made a formal complaint about Councillor Baber.

2. Attendance and Apologies

Those Present: - Councillors Reeves, Baber, Newbery, Brookes and Francis along with the clerk Marilyn King. Also attending were district councillor Jones and 8 members of the public.

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Freeman, Price and District Councillor Robinson.

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

4. Minutes of previous Meeting. After being circulated they were unanimously approved and signed by the chairman as a true record.

5 Matters arising. The large pot hole in Bulley Lane by the junction with Lake Lane has now been filled by Amey Gloucester.

A councillor did discuss an untidy area in the village with the owner of the property and they have started to tidy it up.

There has been no response from the owners of George Young's Coaches after the clerk wrote to them voicing councillors and resident's concerns that a coach is trying to turn around in the road on the A40 by Churcham Garage after dropping off children from school. The coach, after not being able to complete the turn in one go reverses out of the garage entrance onto the A40, which could cause a potential accident. There has been no report from County Councillor Robinson regarding a cycle path that a resident would like on the A40 from Highnam Roundabout to Beauchamp House. He was going to contact Highnam Parish Council for support.

The clerk discussed the installation of a cycle path from Highnam roundabout to the Forest of Dean with a highways manager from Amey Gloucester but was told that there was not the money in the budget for such a project, although he would put the idea to a senior manager on behalf of the parish council.

6. Planning Applications: -

The chairman publicly apologised to Ms Clare Shepherd on behalf of the parish council for any distress caused to her at a recent site visit to her Beauchamp site.

6.1 Mr P Brown, Land adjacent to Breken House Birdwood: - Approval of reserved matters for outline permission P0005/15/FUL. {Erection of a single storey dwelling} Councillor unanimously approved of this application.

6.2 Mrs C Shepherd, Beauchamp House Main Road Churcham: - Change of use {D1} to C3}. Alterations and extension to former dairy/schoolrooms to residential dwelling. Temporary permission for the stationing of a mobile home. Councillors unanimously approved this application.

6.3 Mr Ellis, The Lodge Church Lane Churcham: - Erection of a conservatory on the front elevation. Councillors unanimously approved this application.

6.4 Choice Care, Sunnyside House Main Road Birdwood: - Construction of a 10 bed residential care facility and associated annex building and external works. {Revised plans}. Councillors unanimously disapproved of this application stating that it was an inappropriate building in the countryside. The entrance to it would be in close proximity to 3 businesses and a cross roads which causes a large amount of traffic already to this area. With the revised entrance it was even closer to the three established businesses.

There is not a proven local need for an extra care home.

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

7.1 Mr Syla, Birdwood Valeting Centre: - Erection of a replacement fence to the north boundary. Full permission was granted for this application.

7.2 Mr M Wheeler, Bulley Farm Barns Bulley: - Discharge of conditions {04} – Bio diversity enhancement, {05} – scheme for low carbon energy and {06} – hard and soft landscaping relating to planning permission P1338/14/FUL. Full approval was granted.

7.3 Mr S Hall, Yew Tree Cottage Bulley Lane Churcham: - Proposed change of use from agricultural store to a dwelling house. Full permission was granted.

8. Clerks Report.

The clerk reported that she had called the Highways Agency to replace a stolen drainage grating on the A40 at Churcham which left a large dangerous hole in the road. This was replaced very quickly.

British Telecom were called out to replace a large concrete manhole cover on the grass verge at Churcham that was damaged by a lorry, which was replaced quickly.

The resurfacing of Bulley Lane has been completed by Gloucestershire Highways to a very high standard.

9. Councillors Reports.

Councillor Newbery has offered to repaint the noticeboard sited at the school with the materials supplied by the parish council.

A councillor reported that the grass verges around the lanes needs cutting to improve visibility.

The chairman reported that even though Amey Gloucester had done an excellent job on resurfacing Bulley Lane, it was Oakle Street that needs to be done next.

District Councillor Jones reported that there are grants available from £100 to £3000 available for faster broadband for small local businesses. The website to apply for them is www.fdean.gov.uk/go/broadband

10 Financial Matters.

The balance of the two bank accounts held by the council is £13,227.18

The balance for donations and raffle ticket sales for the defibrillator appeal is £2789.87 and is included in the total balance of the bank accounts.

11. Public Opinions.

Mr Nigel Steele has offered to put parish council information free of charge onto a website for Churcham. A resident reported that the damaged post box that was removed in Bulley Lane has still not been replaced.

He also asked the parish council for their support for a cycle path from Highnam to Beauchamp House. Councillors did support the idea but had no money to put towards the implementation.

12 Correspondence received: -

12.1 GRCC: - In Touch Personal Safety Events. If any councillors are available they may attend.

12.2 Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner: - Councillors are invited to join Martin Surl at Police HQ on 9th September. If any councillors are available they may attend.

12.3 Dept. for Communities and Local Government. Transparency code for smaller authorities, was discussed. The clerk will need to spend time reading the detail.

12.4 Gloucestershire County Council: - Donation of £500.00 requested. Councillors decided that they did not have the money available to help build a storage area for archives.

12.5 Gloucestershire Healthwatch offered a speaker to visit the parish council. Councillors decided that should they need this service they will contact Healthwatch.

12.6 Kate McDonald: - Local electrician advertised. The clerk was asked to get a quote for the installation of the two defibrillators that the parish council are proposing to install if they can raise the funds from the sale of raffle tickets and local donations.

12.7 Karina Snell offered a caravan for sale. No one took up the option.

12.8 Mr Peter Manson, Clerk to the trustees of Churcham and Bulley National School: - Proposed siting of a Public Access Defibrillator at Churcham School.

Trustees have decided that it may be acceptable to site a defibrillator on a post by the noticeboard but they would need to be reimbursed for the electricity it used.

Councillors have already decided to purchase the disused telephone box near Bulley Lane to site the defibrillator as BT will pay for the electricity it uses for 7 years.

12.9 Gloucestershire County Council have made a grant of £1200 to Huntley and Churcham Youth Club through their Children's Activity Grant.

12.10 Gloucestershire Police: - Changing Police Service was noted.

12.11 Coleford Area Partnership: - Donation request. No money was available to make the donation requested.

12.12 Ms Clare Shepherd: - Misconduct Claim was discussed by councillors.

13. Any other business: - There was no other business to discuss.

**The chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.49pm
The date of the next meeting is to be held on the 15th September 2015 unless any urgent business needs decisions beforehand.**

**The clerk's working hours are Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10am – 12pm, 2pm – 4pm
If any urgent business needs to be discussed by residents in between these times I can be contacted by telephone only on 01452 750451**

