

Churcham Parish Council

Clerk
Mrs Marilyn King
Birdwood Villa Farm
Birdwood
Gloucestershire
GL19 3EQ
Tel: 01452 750 451
Email:
Birdwood.villafarm@virgin.net

**The Minutes of the meeting of the
CHURCHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Held at Churcham Primary School
On the 17th May 2016 at 7.30pm**

Those Present: - Councillors Francis, Newbery, Baber, Freeman, Reeves and Price along with the clerk Marilyn King, County Councillor Robinson, District Councillor Jones and two members of the public.

Apologies: - Were received and accepted from Councillor Brookes.

- 1. The Parish Council to appoint a Chairman.** Councillor Newbery proposed that Councillor Francis be appointed as Chairman, this was seconded by Councillor Baber and unanimously agreed.
- 2. The Parish Council to appoint a Vice Chairman.** Councillor Baber proposed Councillor Newbery to stand as Vice Chairman, this was seconded by Councillor Price and unanimously agreed.
- 3. To receive apologies for absence.** Councillor Brookes sent his apologies.
- 4. Declarations of Interest by members in items to be discussed.** There were no declarations.
- 5. Minutes of previous Meetings.** Annual Parish Council Meeting Minutes were not approved as councillors wanted a list of those councillors present added to the minutes. They will be put forward for approval at the June meeting.
- 6. Matters arising from minutes of Annual Parish Council Meeting.** Councillor Newbery proposed that a list of those councillors present should be recorded on the minutes of this meeting, this was seconded by Councillor Baber and unanimously approved.
Matters arising from the minutes of the April Meeting. Councillor Price proposed that they be signed as a true record of events, this was seconded by Councillor Reeves and unanimously approved.

Page 1 of 4

Planning Applications:-

7.1 Ms A. Paul, Meadow Walk, Solomon's Tump Huntley: - P0512/16/FUL Two storey extension and alterations to dwelling. Councillor Baber proposed that permission be granted for this application, this was seconded by Councillor Newbery and unanimously approved.

7.2 Ms C Shepherd, School of the Lion, Main Road, Churcham: - P0904/16/DISCON Discharge of Conditions {04} drainage, {06} hard and soft landscaping, {07} mobile home details and {08} floodlighting and external illuminations relating to planning permission P0904/15/FUL. Councillor Price proposed that all the conditions be approved, this was seconded by Councillor Reeves and unanimously agreed.

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

8.1 Mr Fisher Huntsman's Meadow Oakle Street Churcham. P1273/15/FUL Retrospective application for the siting of a mobile home. Erection of a porch to mobile home and the change of use of agricultural land to residential curtilage. Permission was refused for this application.

8.2 Mr Mills, Daian Lake Lane Churcham: - P0215/16/FUL Alterations and extension to dwelling including raising roof {renewal of consent}. Full permission was granted.

8.3 Mr Jones, Solomon's Tump Farm, Solomon's Tump Lane Huntley: - P 0417/16/FUL Erection of a garage/store. Full permission was granted.

9. Clerk's Report. The clerk reported that she had organised with highways England the replacement of part of the footpath alongside the A40 between Halfway Bridge and the School, which was damaged by a tanker.

She had discussions with a Highways Manager regarding the damaged road surface by New Cottages in Bulley Lane, and was told it is in the programme of work to be sorted out, and also the marker posts in Oakle Street which have been damaged.

The clerk discussed the planning application for the affordable housing site in Chapel Lane with the Forest of Dean Planner Mrs Emma Hughes, she is awaiting a reply from the Highways Department regarding issues she had brought up.

Mrs Hughes hopes that the application will be decided on the 14th June, but will confirm this nearer the time.

The damaged road surface in Bulley Lane near the Chapel of Rest was discussed with a Gloucestershire Highways Manager. It was decided to clarify with the manager where the exact curtilage of the road is.

10. Councillor's Reports.

10.1 Councillor Newbery asked the clerk to contact Gloucestershire Highways regarding the road surface in Bulley Lane leading up to Pigeon House Farm.

The clerk was asked to contact the Police regarding the parking of vehicles on the grass verge and footpath in Bulley Lane by staff working at the Car Wash. They are causing an obstruction and blocking visibility and access in and out of Bulley Lane.

Councillor Price and Councillor Freeman discussed the pot holes in Oakle Street. The clerk was asked to contact a Gloucestershire Highways Manager to report them.

Councillor Reeves discussed the lack of visibility when exiting Church Lane. The Clerk was asked to contact Gloucestershire Highways/Highways England to discuss getting the grass verge cut.

District Councillor Jones gave his annual report stating that he had been heavily involved with the proposed affordable Housing Site in Chapel Lane, and will continue to push this site to get planning approval.

He stated that he has had discussions with the Enforcement Officer at the Forest of Dean District Council regarding the height and new position of the panel fence erected at the old Methodist Chapel in Chapel Lane.

Councillor Jones said he had also offered ongoing advice to the owner of a site in the parish that had applied for, and gained planning permission for the change of use of some of the buildings.

The ongoing litter problems in the layby near Church Lane was discussed once again. Councillor Jones suggested that Highways England should be contacted and asked what they can offer in help to keep the layby cleaner, he said a letter received by the Parish Council from a local resident complaining about the litter in the layby should be copied to them.

District Councillor Robinson told the meeting that the Length man's Scheme is up and running and that a list of minor repairs required in this parish such as road sign cleaning and replacements should be passed on to him. He stated that small jobs would be completed in the week of the 20th June.

He also discussed the parking of vehicles outside the school with a concerned resident, and told them to take photographs of the offending vehicles and let him have them.

Broadband speed is still causing concern to some residents and businesses, Councillor Robinson stated that he will send the clerk a website link so that residents can check their broadband speeds.

11. Financial Matters. The Clerk reported that the precept of £9000.00 had been banked, and also the LTCS Grant of £310.00 had been banked.

The balance of the two bank accounts stands at £13721.69 on the 16th May 2016.

12. Correspondence received.

12.1 Mr Bellwood: - Cycle Path and School safety.

Mr Bellwood discussed the idea of a shared space cycle path/footpath from Highnam Roundabout to Churcham Garage. The main danger spot being Beauchamp Pitch where the A40 narrows.

Councillor Robinson suggested that the Parish Council contact Highnam Parish Council to ask them if they would support the idea, as the greatest length would be in their parish.

Mr Bellwood voiced his concerns regarding the parking of vehicles in Bulley Lane and outside the school on the zigzag lines. He suggested that the head teacher be asked to discuss the problems with parents.

Parish Councillors told Mr Bellwood that this problem had existed for many years and it was not for the want of trying to improve safety of school children arriving and leaving the school. The Police have been contacted on numerous occasions regarding the problems.

12.2 Gloucestershire Rural Community Council invitation to a road safety event on the 25th May was discussed.

12.3 GAPTC Training Events in June and July was discussed. It was decided that Councillor Francis would wait until later on in the year to attend a Chairman's Training Course.

12.4 GAPTC Dementia Champion Training Session on 29th September was discussed. The clerk and Councillor Reeves have already attended one of these courses.

12.5 Mr Roger Blowey informed that Minsterworth Parish Council had sent out a questionnaire to all its residents asking them to check their broadband speeds, the results of which will be used as evidence to show the extent of need. They will then write to the government, challenging them to do something to improve the speed.

Councillor Newbery proposed that a Broadband Survey be printed and delivered to every property in the parish with the evidence collated and sent to MP Mark Harper, this was seconded by Councillor Freeman and unanimously agreed.

12.6 Clive Reynolds: - Informs that the Sites Inspection Panel of the Planning Committee will now visit sites on the first Tuesday of the month instead of the third Tuesday.

12.7 Kate Baugh FODDC Community Adviser: - Informs that M&S Energy Fund Grants are available for renewable energy projects. The deadline is the 31st May 2016. Full details can be found on the M&S Energy Website.

13. Public Question Time.

No other questions were put to the Parish Council.

14. Any other business.

Councillor Francis signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office for the Chairmanship

**The chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.15pm
The date of the next meeting is to be held on the 21st June 2016**

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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