

# Churcham Parish Council

**Clerk**  
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**The Minutes of the meeting of the  
CHURCHAM PARISH COUNCIL  
Held at Churcham Primary School  
On the 18<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm**

**Those Present:** - Councillors Francis, Newbery, Baber, Freeman, Reeves, Brookes and Price along with their clerk Marilyn King, District Councillor Jones, County Councillor Robinson and 7 members of the public.

**1. To receive apologies for absence.**

There were no apologies.

**2. To record any Declarations of Interest by members in items to be discussed.**

There were no declarations.

**3. To approve the minutes of previous Meetings.**

Councillor Reeves proposed the minutes be approved as a true record of events, this was seconded by Councillor Newbery and unanimously approved.

**4. To consider matters arising from those minutes.**

Councillor Baber held a meeting with a highways manager and it was agreed to fill in a large pot hole near New Cottages in Bulley Lane, and also to repair the edges of the road in Bulley Lane below Pigeon House Farm.

Many residents are filling in daily logs to send to Environmental Regulatory Services at the Forest of Dean District Council regarding the pig odour coming from the pig unit at Pigeon House Farm in Chapel Lane.

Councillor Reeves and the clerk attended a meeting with Highways England Managers to look at the proposed plans to improve traffic flow at Over Roundabout.

**5. To consider planning applications notified by the Forest of Dean District Council:-**

5.1 Trustees of Churcham and Bulley National School: - New vehicular access to School House.

Councillor Baber proposed that approval be granted for this application, this was seconded by Councillor Newbery and unanimously agreed.

5.2 Mrs S Owens, Meadowsweet, Solomons Tump Road Huntley: - Proposed ground floor extension to rear.

Councillor Newbery proposed that approval be granted for this application, this was seconded by Councillor Baber and unanimously approved.

5.3 FODDC: - Lake Close Tree Preservation Order on an Oak Tree located between number 3 and number 4 Lake Close.

Councillors noted the order placed on the oak tree between number 3 and number 4 Lake Close.

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

6.1 Smart Farms, Stone End Farm Churcham: - P1166/16/FUL Change of use of part of existing agricultural barn to B1 light industrial use and associated works. Full permission was granted for this application.

6.2 Smart Farms Stone End Farm Churcham: - P1168/16/LD1 Application under section 191 to establish whether lawful commencement of planning permission P1188/14/FUL for the proposed dwelling at the Former Army Camp Church Lane Churcham has occurred. A Certificate of Lawfulness of Existing Use or Development has been issued.

## **7. Clerk's Report.**

The Clerk was contacted by Andrew Bronwyn a Woodland Manager for Highnam Woods asked the clerk to make residents aware of young people illegally racing through Highnam Woods on Quad bikes. They appear to come from the Whitehall Lane access footpath. Rangers have been alerted and are trying to stop the practice.

## **8. To receive Councillor's Reports.**

District Councillor Jones reported that a planning enforcement officer will attend a meeting at Pigeon House Farm Chapel Lane to discuss complaints received from residents regarding the pig odour and try to find a solution to the problem. The chairman asked if a parish councillor could attend, Councillor Jones will let him know.

Councillors Francis and Newbery reported that they had attended a meeting with a member of staff from Gloucester Association of Town and Parish Councils to discuss starting a parish plan.

More local residents are still required to form an independent group to start a Parish Plan. If any resident would like to join this group they are asked to contact Councillor Francis on 01452 750040.

It is proposed that as many residents as possible attend the annual parish meeting to be held on the 18<sup>th</sup> April 2017 to ask residents what their requirements are for this parish and what is missing, be it clubs, sports facilities, bus services, housing etc.

Councillor Francis asked the clerk to find out how many children are now attending Churcham School, and report back to the next meeting.

County Councillor Robinson discussed the Educational Task Group. He stated that many schools in the forest area have or still are in special measures with the exception of Dean Magna School at Mitcheldean, which is at the pinnacle of educational needs.

Most schools are not at maximum capacity.

A report will be produced and should be available in February 2017.

## **9. Financial Matters.**

9.1 Parish Council to approve their asset register.

Councillor Newbery proposed approval of the asset register this was seconded by Councillor Reeves seconded this and it was unanimously approved.

9.2 Cheques to be approved: -

Grant Thornton: - External audit £120.00.

Councillor Freeman proposed that this cheque be approved, this was seconded by Councillor Reeves and unanimously approved.

GAPTC: - Chairmanship training £50.00.

Councillor Price proposed that this cheque be approved, this was seconded by councillor Newbery and unanimously approved.

## **To record the balance of the two bank accounts.**

The balance of the two bank accounts after the above cheques are processed will be £9256.36

## **10. Correspondence received.**

10.1 Local Council Support. The Forest of Dean District Council will withdraw the payment of the Local Council Tax support from 2017/2018, this will mean that the whole of the money required to run the Parish Council will be applied for by precept as it was before Local Council Tax Support started a few years ago.

10.2 Kate Bough a Community Adviser for Gloucestershire rural community Council advised the latest funding opportunities for community groups fitting certain criteria. She can be contacted on 01452 528491. A copy of this letter will be posted on the 3 notice boards in the parish and on the Parish Council Website.

10.3 Keith Chaplin a Housing Enabler for the FODDC reported that the new Home seeker Plus is now operational and can be found using the following link

<https://www.homeseekerplus.co.uk/choice/content.aspx?pageid=101>

This is for residents to register for affordable housing in the Forest of Dean District Council area.

If residents do not have access to a computer or has difficulty completing the online form they can contact the Housing Options Team on 01594 810000 and someone will arrange to go through the online form with them. The clerk was asked to find out how many Churcham people are on the register for the affordable housing.

10.4 FODDC: - The District Council reminded residents and businesses that littering is an offence and if you are witnessed discarding waste in public the Council will issue a Fixed Penalty Notice.

## **11. Public Question Time.**

A resident has offered to look at the Parish Council Standing Orders to make sure that they are including all the legal requirements and put them to the Parish Council for their approval within a few months.

It was suggested that perhaps a Business Directory could be drawn up advertising all of the businesses in the parish.

## **12. Any other business.**

County Councillor Robinson discussed faster broadband and told the meeting that the County Council has contacted companies to provide this service, and a decision is due to be made which company will supply this service by the middle of next year.

**The chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.45pm  
The date of the next meeting is to be held on the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016**

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