

# Churcham Parish Council

**Clerk**  
Mrs Marilyn King  
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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> July 2017 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 four 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 that they be signed as a true record, this was seconded by Councillor Price and was unanimously agreed.

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

Talks are continuing regarding faster broadband, GAPTC, the Parish Council as well as Councillor Robinson are in talks to try to get a faster speed in the parish. Two Parish Councillors have attended a meeting and talks are still ongoing. Councillor Robinson will get an update and report his findings at the next meeting.

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

5.1 Mr Hopkins, Bulley Barns, Bulley Lane Churcham: - P1032/17/PQ3PA. Prior approval for the conversion of existing steel frame agricultural building to one residential dwelling {class 3}.

Councillor Freeman proposed that the application be approved, this was seconded by Councillor Price and approved after a vote, six Councillors approved the application and one was against it.

5.2 Mr R Fisher, Huntsmans Meadow Oakle Street Churcham. P0791/17/FUL. Positioning of mobile home within curtilage of garden to be used as ancillary accommodation. Councillor Freeman proposed approval, Councillor Price seconded that decision, which was unanimously approved.

5.3 Smart Farms, Stone End Farm Main Road Churcham: - P1075/17/FUL. Change of use building back to agricultural storage with no associated building works.

Councillor Brookes proposed approval, this was seconded by Councillor Newbery and unanimously approved.

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

6.1 Trustees of Churcham & Bulley National School, School House Main Road Churcham: - P0038/17/DISCON. Discharge of conditions {05} sustainable disposal of surface water, and {06} driveway surface finish of planning permission P1357/17/FUL. Permission was granted.

6.2 Mr D Andrews Tolcarne Main Road Churcham: - P0764/17/FUL. Proposed single storey extension to rear of property. Full permission was granted.

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

The clerk reported that a new septic tank system and soakaways were in the process of being installed at Brooklands in Bulley Lane after many complaints over odour and pollution of a nearby stream had been reported to the Parish Council.

Work is continuing at Henry Hook Close in Chapel Lane. Four of the building now have their roofs completed and roof trusses are being installed on the last Three.

One pair of semi-detached properties has been painted on the outside, with work over two weeks ahead of schedule. Completion is forecast for December, with residents moving in before Christmas.

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

It was reported that Gloucestershire Highways are having to visit Oakle Street every day as motorists keep moving the barriers that have been installed to close the lane where the bridge has become dangerous. Concern was raised that unless the repair is completed very soon it will cause problems when the A48 is closed overnight for re-surfacing between the 4<sup>th</sup> and the 13<sup>th</sup> September.

It was reported by Councillor Jones that Enforcement officers will make a decision next Tuesday regarding the siting of a caravan in a field at Bulley. Councillor Jones will update the parish council at the next meeting on the progress made.

Councillor Robinson discussed the Ofsted report that children's services are inadequate in the county, with 14 new social workers have been employed to improve the situation.

Councillor Robinson also discussed the pot of money available for re-surfacing some of the lanes in the county and asked councillors and residents to report to him any that are in need of re-surfacing.

Councillor Francis stated that quieter tarmac needs to be extended past houses and not just in front of them.

Councillor Reeves reported that verge cutting need to be completed urgently in the lanes as well as alongside the slip road by Over roundabout to improve visibility.

## **9. Financial Matters.**

Councillor Reeves proposed that cheques for £50.00 each be signed as grants to the Forest of Dean Road Safety Scheme and for the Forest of Dean Citizens Advice Bureau this was seconded by Councillor Baber and unanimously agreed.

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

The balance of the two bank accounts will be £12138.96p after the above cheque is processed.

## **10. Correspondence received.**

10.1 Gloucestershire County Council/Amey. Surface dressing of Bulley Lane from A40 to Birdsend Farm will now take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> August.

10.2 Mr & Mrs Philpstead asked the Parish Council if they would like a mobile fish & chip van to visit the parish once a week to offer a service to the local community. Councillors suggested a trial run to see if residents required this service.

10.3 Amey. Parish Resilience – Winter Maintenance and Adverse Weather. A request for bagged salt to be stored locally, and to appoint a Parish Snow Warden and Snow Plough Operator.

Councillor Price offered to be the parish snow warden and Robert King will continue to be the snow plough operator. Councillor Reeves offered to store a supply bagged salt at Lawn Farm Church Lane Churcham.

Suzanne Hopes a public rights of way officer wrote that she will be replacing the “No vehicles” sign on the bridleway at Bulley with a “No unauthorised vehicles” sign. People owning land with a legitimate right of access can use the bridleway. Vehicles that don’t have a lawful private of access along the bridleway can’t use it.

10.5 Gloucestershire County Council report that the A48 at Minsterworth will be closed overnight for surface dressing. Between the 4<sup>th</sup> September and the 13<sup>th</sup> Sept.

10.6 FODDC. District Councillor Tim Gwillam has been elected the new leader of the District Council.

10.7 Mrs M King tendered her resignation as clerk to the Parish Council, and will leave on the 18<sup>th</sup> September. She has been clerk to the Parish Council for over 10 years.

Councillors thanked her for all the help and support that she has given to the parish residents and councillors over the years, it will be difficult to find a replacement for her.

Should any resident wish to apply for the position of Clerk/ Responsible Financial Officer please contact the Chairman John Francis on 01452 750040.

Applicants, male or female must be computer literate and qualified in accountancy and with good communication skills. 35 hours a month will be paid for and the applicant must be available to attend at least 12-13 meetings a year.

10.8 Forest of Dean Citizens Advice Bureau asked the Parish Council for a grant, they are a registered charity and receive no government support.

Councillor Francis proposed that a cheque of £50.00 be granted to them, this was seconded by Councillor Baber and unanimously agreed.

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

Residents raised their concerns regarding the caravan sited at a field in Bulley, and councillors assured them that everything possible is being done to rectify this.

### **12. Matters raised for discussion at next meeting.**

Roads that require resurfacing apart from the A40.

Finding parish residents to form a Parish Plan who are not on the Parish Council.

**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 19<sup>th</sup> September unless any planning applications are received that need a decision before that date.**

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