Churcham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

15th January 2019 at 7.30pm in Churcham Primary School

In attendance:

Parish Councillors: Cllr. Francis, Cllr. Reeves, Cllr. Brookes, Cllr. Price, Cllr. King, Cllr. Freeman

County Councillor: Cllr. Brian Robinson

Clerk: Christian Horton

There were four members of the public present.

1. To receive apologies for absence

   1.1. Cllr. Newberry sent his apologies.

2. To receive and consider declarations of interest & written requests for dispensation

   2.1. There were none.

3. To consider the minutes of the last meeting and resolve to sign them

   3.1. It was RESOLVED to approve and sign the minutes of the last meeting.

4. Planning

   4.1. To consider the following planning application:

      4.1.1. P1816/18/FUL- Colliers Elm Farm, Bulley, Churcham, Gloucester.
      Conversion of agricultural building into holiday let with associated works

         4.1.1.1. It was RESOLVED to support this application.

   4.2. To consider the following planning appeal:

      4.2.1. Planning Inspectorate ref: APP/P1615/W/18/3215003 - The School of The Lion, Main Road, Churcham, Gloucestershire.
      Development: Outline application for the construction of a single family dwelling and construction of detached garage to replace and demolish existing outbuildings and barns. (Superseding permission P0904/15/FUL)

         4.2.1.1. The Council discussed this matter and concluded that no action was necessary as it had previously submitted its consultation response.

   4.3. To receive a report of planning decisions notified by the Forest of Dean District Council

      4.3.1. P1671/18/FUL - Land Adjacent to Lobstock House, Main Road, Churcham, Gloucester

4.3.1.1. This application has been approved.

4.3.2. P1648/18/FUL - Churcham Garage, Main Road, Churcham, Gloucester

4.3.2.1. This application is still pending consideration. The Council received an update from the Clerk and members of the public.

5. To consider and resolve to adopt Employee Disciplinary and Grievance Arrangements

5.1. The Clerk was asked to seek advice from GAPTC with regards to the implications of adding wording to the model arrangements that would seek to explicitly prevent an employee having a person accompanying them in a legal capacity at a disciplinary or grievance meeting. The Clerk was also asked to seek advice on whether the policies within the document could be separated into two separate documents.

6. To consider and resolve to form a Staffing Committee, adopt Terms of Reference and to appoint members

6.1. It was RESOLVED that the matter would be removed from the agenda.

7. To consider and resolve to adopt a Grants, Honours & Donations Policy

7.1. It was RESOLVED to adopt the Grants, Honours & Donations Policy and this was signed.

8. Finance

8.1. To consider the following for payment:

8.1.1. Clerk's salary and expenses - £401.90

8.1.1.1. It was RESOLVED to pay the Clerks salary and expenses totalling £401.90.

8.1.2. Donation to Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution (Section 137 Local Government Act 1972) - £150

8.1.2.1. It was RESOLVED to make a donation to the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution for £150 using the Council's spending powers under Section 137 Local Government Act 1972.

8.2. To receive a report of quarter 3 of this financial year's cashbook and bank reconciliations and to consider whether financial procedures are being appropriately adhered to.

8.2.1. It was RESOLVED that the reports, after being checked by a Councillor, demonstrated that financial procedures are being appropriately adhered to.

9. To receive a verbal report from the Clerk

9.1. The Clerk asked Councillors for their ideas on agenda items for the Annual Parish meeting.

10. To receive verbal reports from Councillors

10.1. Cllr. Frances reported that:

10.1.1. He now had good internet connection following installation of a 4G service in his home.

10.1.2. Drones had been seen over his property.

10.2. Cllr. Price reported that there was a moped parked at Oakle Street and the owner was unknown.

10.3. Cllr. Reeves noted that the bollard outside the school was still not functioning and County Cllr. Robinson stated that he would discuss this with Highways England.

10.4. Cllr. King again raised the issue of submitting information to Forest Edge magazine and was informed by the Clerk that this had been done the previous month.

10.5. County Cllr. Robinson reported:

10.5.1. Issues caused by roadworks between Gloucester and Newent were being addressed.

10.5.2. There was a planned increase in Council Tax that would result in a Band D property paying approximately £65 more per annum.

10.5.3. Children's Services in the county have been assessed as inadequate and the County Council were taking steps to address this.

10.5.4. There was money available to support broadband improvements to Churcham Business Park and that he would advise people to continue their efforts to bring improvements to the wider community.

10.5.5. There is up to 50% funding available for highway related projects.

11. Public Open Forum

11.1. Members of the public stated that they will be attending the next meeting to further discuss the issues surrounding broadband.

A resolution was passed to exclude the press and public from the following confidential item.

12. To consider the Clerk's probationary period

12.1. It was RESOLVED to end the Clerk's probationary period.

The next meeting of Churcham Parish Council will be on 19 February 2019 at 7.30pm in Churcham Primary School.

Signed:

Date: