

Minutes of the meeting of Chedzoy Parish Council held on Monday 16th May 2022 in the village hall following the Annual Parish meeting.

Present: - Cllrs. Mary Clothier, Marion Dethier (Chair), Brian Gale, Simon Howes, Karen Medland and Rodney Young.

Also present: - Cllr. Andy Dingwall.

In attendance: - The Clerk (Chris Fry).

1. Apologies: - Cllr. Russell Harmes. Cllr. Diogo Rodrigues.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting of 25th April 2022 were taken as read, agreed and signed.

3. Matters arising from the minutes.

a. Footpath Officers' activity.

Although there is no formal report this month, the matter of Ian needing additional help in clearing the footpath network of vegetation, particularly during the growing season, was discussed.

The Clerk was asked to appeal for volunteers via the village Facebook page.

b. Climate Change project update.

Marion Dethier reported that the replanting of the wild flowers in Front Street would be carried out. Most of the trees have survived, save for a couple of chestnut trees which have been eaten by cattle. With Steph Bryan's role in launching and establishing the project to date now coming to its conclusion, Marion suggested a sub-committee be set up to oversee the future maintenance of the scheme and Mary Clothier, Karen Medland and Marion kindly agreed to take this matter forward.

A motion was proposed by Simon Howes and seconded by Marion Dethier to regularise retrospectively a payment made by the Clerk on behalf of the Parish Council at the end of March 2022. All in favour.

c. Earthworks at King Sedgemoor Drain.

At the last meeting the Clerk was asked to send an email to the Environment Agency about the serious concerns the Parish Council has regarding heavy vehicles passing through the village en route to the KSD when the anticipated earthworks to raise the banks and increase the volume of the river starts. He duly drew up an email, referred it to the Chairman (copying in other councillors as well), and sent it on 27th April. An email acknowledging receipt has been received and we are told the email has been passed to the local customer team. A response must be sent within 20 working days, namely 26th May.

Following a discussion the Clerk was asked to send a further email requesting an official of the EA attend a meeting so that concerns and questions can be put to the organisation.

4. County Councillor's report.

Andy Dingwall introduced himself as one of the newly elected councillors covering Chedzoy, saying both he and Diogo Rodrigues intended to attend future PC meetings. He has lived in Westonzoyland for some eight years. He said the first meeting of the council after the local elections will be held on 25th May 2022. The County Council continues until 31st March 2023 when the new Somerset Unitary Council comes into being. The new councillors' term of office lasts for the coming five years.

5. District Councillor's report: - none.

6. Planning - no new applications.

Up-date on pending applications.

The Clerk reported that there are no pending applications.

He was asked to bring details of the approval conditions of application reference 18/21/00005 to the next meeting for consideration by the Parish Council.

7. Correspondence.

a. Local elections 2022 changes.

There have been significant changes following the recent local elections.

8. Matters arising from the correspondence - none.

9. Finance.

Balances after due allowance of outstanding items: -

Lloyds bank current account: - £12732.21 (PC £9942.16 FS £2790.05).

" " deposit " :- £2.48.

Cambridge BS account : - £12401.82 (earmarked funds).

One cheque to issue: -

No 791 £216.40 payee CN Fry (May net salary).

A second CIL payment has been received relating to the Glebe House development, amounting to £2240.25.

The SDC Jubilee grant of (up to) £200 is still awaited and when it is received, it has already been agreed that it will be passed to the village hall committee, who are bearing of the cost of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

10. Any other business.

a. Somerset Waste Partnership May briefing.

This has been received and it includes information about the new "Fixy" van that is being introduced in the county to promote the repair and re-use of electrical and electronic items.

For further details go to: -

www.somersetwaste.gov.uk/Fixy and www.somersetwaste.gov.uk

b. Mobile library service

The Clerk confirmed this service stopped visiting Chedzoy a few years ago, due to the fact that the village lies within three miles (as the crow flies) of a library (Bridgwater).

c. National Grid Hinkley Connection Project Jubilee hamper.

The Clerk reported that the hamper has not yet been received. Just how it is dealt with will soon need to be decided.

d. Speed Indicator Device maintenance.

Simon Howes confirmed that, for the time being, he is kindly attending to the maintenance of the SID (charging the batteries etc).

e. Formating of documents.

Simon brought up the problem of some documents sent out by the Clerk being difficult to open on some devices.

The Clerk was asked to ensure that either "PDF" or "Word" is used in future.

Date of the next meeting Monday 20th June 2022.

There being no other business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.58 pm.