

Chirton & Conock Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Chirton & Conock Parish Council Held Online, on Tuesday 13th October 2020 at 7.15pm

Susannah Lampard, Clerk to the Council: clerk@chirtonandconock-pc.org .uk

The public and press were invited to attend this meeting via noticeboards and on Chirton PC Website <https://www.chirtonandconock-pc.org.uk>

Present: Cllrs. David Harmes, Chair (**DH**), Paul Mills, Vice Chair (**PM**), Gerald Lanfear (**GL**), Lynn Organ (**LO**), Phillippa Radford-Howes (**PRH**), Neil Warburton (**NW**), Kay Claire (**KC**).

Attending: Susannah Lampard (**Clerk**)
Sharon Prance (**RFO**)
Cllr. Paul Oatway (**PO**)
4 Members of the Parish

101 The meeting was held using the Zoom PRO software. The Chair opened the meeting by thanking all Councillors and Attendees were also welcomed; the 4 Members of the Parish joining online.

Adopted Meeting Format and C-19 Governance

- *The Chair re-iterated the following statement:*
'As a result of the introduction of The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels Regulations 2020 (LO1-20), Parish Council's are now permitted to conduct their meetings electronically. This legislation has been introduced until May 2021. Rather than cancel our meetings during this time, the PC has decided to hold it's meetings following the normal schedule.
The agenda for each meeting will be posted, in advance, on the Parish Council website (<https://www.chirtonandconock-pc.org.uk>) and in physical form, on our noticeboards. Notification of the meeting will also be posted on the Parish Council Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/ChirtonandConock>) and shared on Chirton Community Life (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/chirton/>).
The meetings will be held using the 'Zoom PRO' application. Apps for Zoom are available for both Apple and Android/PC products, free of charge. The meeting ID number and password will be available from the Parish Clerk in advance – 01380 840073 or clerk@chirtonandconock-pc.org.uk
As is normal, parishioners and press are welcome to attend. Please note: there is a specific agenda point for representations/questions from Members of the Public and visitor mics will only be unmuted at this time. Meeting visitors are required to raise their hand (either visually or utilising the Zoom option) to request to speak. Mics are to be kept on mute on at all times unless visitors are asking a question or making a representation.
As per the 'Standing Orders' of the Council, the time designated for public participation shall not exceed 10 minutes and a member of the public shall not speak for more than 3 minutes. Any questions raised shall not necessarily be answered at the meeting and the Chairman can direct a subsequent written or oral response at his discretion.
If there are any confidential matters to be discussed, parishioners and press will not be granted access.

102 Apologies for absence – None

103 Receive declarations of Interest or requests for dispensation – None

104 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 9th September 2020

Resolved: Clerk had circulated minutes to Councillors and they were confirmed as received and approved, to be physically signed at a later date and are **available to view on the PC Website**.

105 The Clerk Reported on the status of previous Agenda Items and representations as follows. A course attended by SL on 6th October hosted by Katie Fielding of WALC was of relevance and value post lockdown and our continued communications and shared goals in our community.

Previous representations Enforcement 20/00725/ENF. Clerk wrote to WC after last meetings representation by a Tenant and concerns raised over replacement windows by Landlord Aster, along the terrace 43-53 The Street, within Chirton's Conservation Area in order to establish if there was any breach of planning control and request the opinion of Wiltshire Council and a reply on 17.9.20 stated that the windows were deemed permitted development...no action was to be taken by the department for economic development and planning.

Update on CHIR1 Footpath north of SN10 3QX. Stephen Leonard of WC, Countryside Access Officer was informed. He reported that CATG has the ability to facilitate the possible replacement of the missing Finger post there.

Local level clearance of undergrowth and weeds, to keep paths and footbridges clear is encouraged by Wiltshire Council, with the consent of the landowner as stiles and footbridges are their responsibility.

A suspected hornets nest, at the Village Hall building was exterminated after a member of the parish identified and reported it on 16.9.

A parishioner contacted the Clerk to report grips and gullies along the length of Small Street and at the junction of The Hollow, that are in need of clearance. PRH was able to respond before the meeting and has added this to Stewards and WC Gulley Clearance lists of jobs, in preparation for Winter. Full Stewards Report, Item 110.

Clerk received representations by email from 4 parents of Chirton School pupils with concerns for safety walking and with Children to school, along the Hollow and the Street, details of the dangers were highlighted along the route and photographs and emails were shared with Councillors before the meeting - see Agenda point 107.

Also requests were received, to join the meeting and discuss the A342 reinstatement of Footway on A342 in front of 'The Laurels'. Item 107

Ongoing Item – Footpath CHIR17. A letter to the Landowner sent on 28.9.20 requested the re-opening of a mid section of this footpath - no response received to date. Clerk to chase if no response received in next 2-3 weeks. .

106 Cllr. Paul Oatway was welcomed to the meeting and reported a summary of his involvement and actions that he has taken on PC issues, as follows:

Wiltshire Council Highways - A342 works carried out were extended and completed on 12th October (1 day later than planned) . We were informed of the detailed schedule of works carried out as requested. PO had looked at the work as it progressed and will review to ensure that the work completed is satisfactory and represents value for money.

He also plans to follow up on research into a WWII War Memorial in Chirton, in order to help move this forward, along with Cllr. PM.

PO informed us that he is due to be briefed re changes regarding Planning directions from the Central Government. He will report back in due course.

PCC & Unitary elections due next year are planned to go ahead. Not confirmed yet but PO hopes to be reselected as candidate.

The access to the full length of Footpath CHIR17 was also discussed and will again, be on next month's agenda.

107 Representations from Members of the Public

a. Footpath in front of 'The Laurels' on the A342

The owners of 'The Laurels' (previously Old Yeoman Pub) since October 2019, informed the PC that they were not made aware by their solicitors of the existence of plans for a Footpath in front of their property along the A342. The Chair commented that although the house owners also own the land bordering the A342, Wiltshire Council Highways have a right over the first 2.4 meters from the carriageway. PM spoke of the PC's original Support of the Application to Develop the Old Yeoman Pub, with a proviso at that time, that the footpath was to remain along the A342 and into the Hollow. This was not considered by WC Planning in the first instance. The PC additionally discussed with the property developer who was not receptive. The PC then took it up with Cllr PO and CATG, it was confirmed as a planning oversight, and CATG applied to WC for a Footpath to be put back. A large proportion of the cost is to be funded by the Council to re-instate, with contributions from CATG & the PC. Although a road closure notice had been issued, CATG confirmed that as yet, contractors have not been allocated to this project, hence no confirmation of works had been sent to affected residents. A further road closure notice will not be required as each one remains active for 18 months however dates for the work will need to be confirmed. Councillors are happy to act as conduits for information of a timeline between notification and start of work by contractors. The visual of the plan drawing for the path was shared with the meeting it shows that the planned pavement will stretch along the A342 and going into the Hollow by just a couple of feet - to extend it further is considered too complex and costly. A second representation for this item was raised by a parishioner concerning the use of funds and the usefulness of the footpath on that side. PO reported in further detail on the financial input from PC and the cost of footpaths. Speed of traffic in the village was discussed and average speed assessment tests. The PC support looking to the council to extend the enforceable 20mph that we have outside the School and take this to CATG. PO is happy to support this up The Street and along The Hollow to the A342 if the PC wish to pursue this and apply.

b. Footpath provision to the left side of The Hollow

Representation regarding pedestrian access issues from and to Andover road (North side) going into and from The Hollow to school were detailed prior to the meeting by email and described as dangerous, especially as there can be tractors and buses with narrow road vehicle-passing width and notwithstanding this, pedestrians walking on the road have nowhere else to walk due to the high banks and vehicles turning in, which cannot immediately see pedestrians. The PC recognise the danger of this.

PM confirmed that due to another WC planning oversight, the property developer didn't complete the path along the A342 or the steps down into the Hollow. They then went out of business. Following pressure from the PC, WC completed the path along the A342 but would not look at the steps into the Hollow. Cllrs discussed an alternative that the PC hope to be able to explore given that footpath works are prohibitively expensive. Significant concerns by parishioners are supported by the PC. Cllr. PO suggested an application for 'Special Projects' This year's funding is allocated however maybe a Grant can be applied for via CATG for next years funding. Discussions with Councillors and CATG in the long term. And short term signage can be discussed as

immediate and cost effective to slow down those turning in. It was agreed to schedule a zoom meeting to further discuss this with residents PM & DH also noted that there was another solution currently being considered - see 108.

c. Footpath provision from Small Street to School

A number of parents, not present at this meeting had raised concerns by email, over pedestrian use of 'The Street' and that they were being forced to walk onto the busy road if

they wanted to use pushchairs or their children wanted to ride scooters due to the lack of pavements. Although it is accepted that the dangers raised were indeed present, the Chair noted a number of things: 1. The cost of pavement provision is prohibitively high (estimated to be around 5 years of PC precept to provide between Small Street & the School) 2. There would still be safety concerns as any pavement would cross many driveway accesses 3. This change would significantly change the look of Chirton and as such would require the buy-in of the parishioners (eg referendum would need to be sought).

108 Ongoing – Footpath CHIR17

The Clerk has already contacted the owner of the 'mid' section of this footpath with a view to re-establishing full access. This will be followed up.

The Clerk will also contact the owner of the final part of CHIR17 - Future Farms.

It was also noted that with some work & agreements between the PC and one of the landowners, this Footpath could potentially provide a solution to 107b,

Action: Clerk to send letter re CHIR17 to Future Farms

Action: Clerk to chase answer to previous correspondence

109 FINANCE

Resolved items include:

PC Cash Books and Bank reconciliations to 30th September 2020. Closing Balances

agreed and approved for each account are as follows:

Parish Council (normal Treasurer's account) - £7,592.96

PC Savings account - £14,000.65

Village hall account: £1,200.37

Invoices were received and approved and RFO reported as received the second payment for the precept - £6,300.

1. Councillors Fundamentals Course Fee - 21st Oct - (KC) £36
2. RFO - Budgeting & Finance for Councillors - 15th & 20th Oct (£72)
3. Apest -(re. wasps nest at Village Hall) - (£60)
4. WALC Website Accessibility online course (DH) - 2nd Oct - £18
5. Church - increased donation – **donation for maintenance of Village Asset £500 Proposed by PRH seconded by PM All agreed.**
6. **Budget Analysis - Proposed changes received and Approved**
7. **Standing orders - Proposed changes received and Approved**

110 Parish Steward. Report by PRH

Ongoing: PRH has been out with the Steward to see which ditches he can clear including the ditches in Small Street to the track near to the Marden boundary. AH has dug out the ditch at Conock.

111 PM reported on Wiltshire Community Networking Event Online was a good event and another he is due to attend, the main points noteworthy would be to continue building relationships made within the community

112 Preparations for Winter, any trees touching wires, residents need to report direct to sse.

113 **PCAP Meeting 29th October 7pm – GL will dial in**
Action: GL to summarise PCAP meeting at November meeting

114 **Late Planning Applications** None

- 115 **Phone Box** Quote for Light repair & exterior Re-paint (get paint ordered). **Action: Clerk**
- 116 **WWII Memorial Stone** – Land and suitable sites and ownership to be identified and explored. It was agreed in a previous meeting that concerns raised will be addressed. PO to speak to Highways about land ownership
Action: PM
- 117 **The next online Parish Council Meetings**, will take place on **10th November and 8th December 2020. Watch the noticeboards for further information.**

The meeting closed at 21:30

Susannah Lampard, Clerk to the Parish Council

Agreed and Signed: Dated:
David Harmes, Chair

SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS

Action Point Summary	PC Member(s)	Ongoing/ Resolved
Footpath CHIR17 Clerk to Chase MB & take photos	Clerk	ongoing
Footpath CHIR17 draft of Letter for FF	Clerk	ongoing
WWII Memorial Ongoing: suitable sites including landownership/registry searches, concerns raised will be addressed. (funds of £389.06 have been donated by the WI for this project) Action: PM PO	PM/PO/Clerk	ongoing
Action: GL to summarise PCAP meeting at November meeting		
Oak Trees, Ongoing: A parishioner contacted the PC to raise the question, that as the trees grow, they may need further protection from grazing cattle. The matter was discussed and PM observed that any action to be taken would be through Conock Manor Estate, who provided the posts, protective fencing and labour and who own the land. The PC will monitor the tree growth and if there is a need for this to be done will add to the end of Year Agenda for future potential action from next Spring onwards. Parishioner Updated	Clerk	ongoing until April/May
Phone Box – Lighting. Consider repainting. Arrange quotes for works Action: Clerk	Clerk	ongoing