

CHEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2nd MAY 2018 AT 7.45pm IN THE VILLAGE HALL SIDE ROOM

Attendance: Cllr C Poll (Chairman) & Mrs M Smith (Clerk)

PCSO Natalie Hall, Thames Valley Police

District Councillors S. Jenkins & D. Town

County Cllr A. Wight

Cllr C Fee, Cllr D Bevan, Cllr M Everton, Cllr D Finch, Cllr K Graham, Cllr K Oastler

1 member of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr T Richards.

2. Minutes of Previous Parish Assembly

The minutes of the last year's Parish Assembly held on the 3rd May 2017 were accepted as a true record and duly signed.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the 3rd May 2017

There were no matters arising.

4. Annual Police Report

PCSO Natalie Hall arrived at 8.05pm and gave a report, which covered the following:-

- Crime Figures for Cheddington from 2nd May last

12 Theft from Motor Vehicles

7 Dwelling

1 Burglary Attempt

3 Non-dwelling

3 Other Thefts

1 for drugs

1 drink driving

1 unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle

She indicated that this was an increase from last year.

In response to the question was there a dedicated team she advised that Thames Valley were now working closely with Bedfordshire Police and undertaking joint operations.

- **Recreation Ground** – The PCSO had been informed about problems at the recreation ground with large groups of young people hanging around the pavilion. The Clerk had received an e-mail from the Tennis Club advising that trespassers were playing basketball on the tennis courts and had been asked to leave. It is thought that the lock may have been forced and the pavilion door tampered with. Brian Small had to repair some of the glazing. The Parish Council requested that the pavilion be added to any rounds that the Neighbourhood Team make in the village.
- **School Parking** – PCSO Hall would be arranging a meeting with Cheddington Combined School's head teacher, Mrs Tamlyn and would suggest that parents should park at the Village Hall or Recreation Ground. She advised that when she is present in the mornings/afternoons everyone parks where and how they should. It was clear that a more permanent solution to the parking problem was needed. The Clerk had also received complaints about cars being parked near to the war memorial during school collection time, causing a potential hazard. PCSO Hall was asked to report back to the Parish Council after her discussion with the head teacher. It was also suggested that she put notes on the offending cars.

Cllr Poll thanked the Neighbourhood team and stated that the Parish Council does appreciate all the work the police are doing.

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5. Annual Reports from District Councillors S Jenkins and D Town, and County Councillor Anne Wight

County Councillor Anne Wight presented her annual report to the Parish Council.

The issues covered included:-

- Integrate Services on an ever-dwindling budget
- Working on Scams – one integrated number
- Trustee of National Paralympic Trust
- Mental Health Week
- Work on TFB Freight Strategy
- Fund for small community project
- Sajid Javid now James Brokenshire waiting for a new e-mail address james.brokenshire@communities.gsi.gov.uk
- £6000 for jet patching / one road
- Once published strategy there will be possible enforcement
- Anaerobic digester at Westcott
- Fix my street – fixed potholes have not been removed
- Concentrate on Drains

Cllr Poll thanked the County Councillor for attending all the Parish Council meetings.

District Councillor S Jenkins presented the annual report to the Parish Council.

The issues covered included:-

- Scrutiny Committee for VALP. 29,000 houses to be built to meet other areas needs and this figure is due to be reviewed again in two years
- Living & Environment Scrutiny Committee – Crime figures generally falling, still cutting police budgets and numbers
- Not a great problem with cladding re. Grenfell
- Health Committee – meeting of Healthwatch Committee on 9th May 2.00pm-4.30pm
- Bucks Playing Fields Association – Looking for local projects to fund

District Councillor D Town presented the annual report to the Parish Council.

The issues covered included:-

- Audit Committee
- Development Planning & Strategic Planning
- Social Housing
- Bins
- Balanced budgets
- Culture Change & Use of Technology
- Vale Lottery in second year and quite successful
- New Homes Bonus - Footpath Marsworth & Pitstone and fence around Ivinghoe. AVDC one of a handful of Authorities who pass money down to parishes. There is to be a new funding source to be called Thriving Communities
- East-West Rail and East-West Expressway. AVDC & Bucks favour the southern route. This option proposes a city could be built around Cheddington Station, although Cllr Town mentioned that Cheddington is not a station but a halt
- Empty homes & houses to be refurbished and rented out

Cllr Poll thanked the Councillors on behalf of the Parish Council and what they do for the community.

6. Audited Accounts of the Parish Council for the Financial Year ending 31st March 2017

It was RESOLVED to approve the audited accounts of the Parish Council for the financial year ending 31st March 2017.

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7. Draft Accounts of the Parish Council for the Financial Year ending 31st March 2018

Copies of the draft accounts for the financial year ending 31st March 2018 were available at the meeting.

8. Annual Report 2017/18 from the Chairman of the Parish Council

The Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr C Poll gave his report for the year May 2017 to April 2018 which included the following:-

- The continuance of the day to day functions of administering the services for which the Parish Council has responsibilities, whilst keeping taxes as low as possible. Cllr Poll raised the issue of the services that Bucks County Council where unable to deliver to an acceptable standard and in particular, made reference to the insufficient and unacceptable standard of grass cuts and hedge maintenance. In the last 12 months the Parish Council had topped up the County Council rebate and going forward Cllr Poll stated that the Parish Council would be in a much better position to manage this.
- Discussion IRO of outline planning permission being granted for 100 houses at West End Road/Cheddington Lane. Cllr Poll highlighted the fact that when the parish council comment on applications within the parish, decisions are taking longer and that the Parish Council does not object to applications unless there is a very good reason.
- There has been a slight increase in the Parish Council's reserve funds which are specified for projects or future requirements. Funds are available to defend speculative housing applications, legal fees and towards the new pavilion facility at the recreation ground.
- Going forward the Parish Council will continue to spend residents' money wisely, maintain grounds and continue to help with the community facilities and functions as normal. The budget will be set before the end of the year to leave the new council in good shape and to carry out its duties as required.
- The Parish Council will be prepared for changes to local government, which may be announced by the end of the summer.

Cllr Poll thanked the members of the Parish Council for the effort they put into their roles and in particular the Clerk, Mrs Margret Smith who does an extraordinary amount of work.

9. Open Forum

Query over whether the grass cuttings could be collected.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8 p.m.

Signed:
(Chairman)

Date: