

## CHURTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Council held at  
**CHURTON VILLAGE HALL, on TUESDAY 21 May 2024 AT 7.30 PM.**

**Present:** Cllr D Rudd, Cllr P Thacker, Cllr K Cundill, Cllr L Green, Cllr C Shaw, Cllr N Holland.

**In Attendance:** Cllr A Waddelove, S Bateman CWAC Highways, A Farbon and S Dawson representing Grosvenor Estate, E Barnston, J Gallagher, PCSO R McKevitt and C Taylor (Clerk).

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**1. Apologies for Absence:** None.

**2. Election of Chairman:** Cllr D Rudd – Nominated by Cllr C Shaw, Seconded by Cllr P Thacker.

**3. Acceptance of Office:** The elected Chairman signed the Acceptance of Office form.

**4. Election of Vice Chairman:** Cllr P Thacker – Nominated by Cllr K Cundill, Seconded by Cllr C Shaw.

**5. Co-Option.** Three applications had been received for one vacancy. A vote was taken and Steven Davies returned a majority.

**Resolved:** Steven Davies be co-opted to the vacancy for Councillor for Churton Parish Council.

Thanks were extended to the unsuccessful candidates for their interest with all applicants having been of a high calibre.

The Clerk to arrange for Declarations of Acceptance of Office and Register of Interest forms to be completed and signed by the successful candidate.

**6. Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Cundill declared an interest in planning applications at Marsh Lane, Kingsmarsh.

**7. Traffic monitoring through Churton.**

A CWAC Highways Officer attended to progress the discussion regarding Speed Indicator Device (SID) installation options in the village in line with CWAC policy guidelines. Continued non compliance with speed restrictions through the village were confirmed as meeting the criteria for additional devices. CWAC recommendation was for a mobile

device which would require rotating every 8 weeks to comply with policy. Not possible to have two SIDs, one either side of the village, would have to be one that was rotated and CWACs view was that cost versus benefit was not there. Relocation of the existing signs would incur a cost. Funding for dragons teeth road markings was already allocated.

**Resolved:** CWAC Highways will progress funding/installation of dragons teeth and the Parish Council will reassess at a later date with post implementation checks. Clerk to ask Highways for an implementation date.

**8. Public Participation:** Resident expressed concern that the lowered 50mph speed limit on Sibbersfield Lane / part of Chester Road that CWAC had liaised over in August 2022 was still not in force. Cllr Waddelove advised that Highways were about to progress and advertise the scheme as part of the formal consultation. **Resolved:** Noted.

**9. Police Update:** PCSO McKevitt in attendance. Report circulated before meeting.

No further updates, crime in the area was low with speeding being the main issue.

## **10. Borough Councillors report.**

- i) Flattened bollard at Sibbersfield Lane/A534 junction had now been reinstated.
- ii) A new Police and Crime Commissioner (Dan Price) had now been elected.
- iii) The gully on Churton Road had been reported and assessed.
- iv) Education, Health, and Care Plans (EHCP) for children and young people aged up to 25 who need more support than is available through special educational needs support, deliverable within a 20-week target, were currently only being delivered within that timescale by CWAC in 9% of cases, against a 49% national average.

**11. Minutes of last meeting (12 March 2024).** **Resolved** as agreed.

Proposed: Cllr L Green    Seconded: Cllr C Shaw

## **12. Matters Arising**

- i) Ultrafast Broadband update. **Reported:** Cllr Rudd had asked Edward Timpson to raise the voucher scheme issue but his response had not been very helpful. Cllrs Rudd, Green and Shaw were to meet with Mike Dugine, CWAC Digital Specialist, the following week to discuss whether to continue through Mr Timpson or another route. Mass letter writing (from residents/local business) to Mr Timpson was favoured.
- ii) CWAC Community Resilience Plan. **Noted:** Work in progress.
- iii) Commemorative tree plaques/ornamental stone plate. **Noted:** Cllr Cundill had got a quote (£75 for 3) and would now go ahead and replace.
- iv) 24/00100/CAT Threave Cottage. Any update on T3. **Noted:** Some tree work had been undertaken but Cllrs felt not to the extent that was requested. T3 did not appear to have been reduced at all and a tree officer had not been out to assess. **Resolved:** Clerk to request an officer attend and assess.
- v) Request to move defibrillator to White Horse. **Resolved:** Cllr Thacker to raise with White Horse again and if no progress made Clerk to write to management.
- vi) Government portrait of HM King Charles III. **Noted:** Received and now hung on wall in hall.
- vii) Dog fouling issues. **Resolved:** Clerk to forward contact details for Cllrs Shaw and Holland to appropriate CWAC Officer to arrange an onsite (Churton village) meeting to discuss/address issues and possible solutions.

### **13. Approval of Statutory Documents:**

- i) Code of Conduct
- ii) Standing Orders
- iii) Financial Regulations / Signatories (Cllrs Rudd and Thacker)
- iv) Risk Assessment

**Noted:** Approved unchanged.      **Proposed:** Cllr D Rudd    **Seconded:** Cllr P Thacker

### **14. Accounts**

**Resolved:** That the payment of salaries and expenses, the payment of invoices for goods received and services rendered be approved and the receipts and balances be noted.

Proposed: Cllr Cundill    Seconded: Cllr Thacker

## **15. Annual Audit/Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2023/2024**

- i) **Noted:** Internal Audit concluded by Hacker Young.
- ii) **Resolved:** To approve Annual Statement of Accounts Part 1. Signed by Chairman.  
and then
- iii) **Resolved:** To approve Annual Statement of Accounts Part 2. Signed by Chairman.
- iv) Resolved: To declare Smaller Authorities Exemption from external audit. Signed by Chairman.
- v) **Resolved:** Appointment of Hacker Young as Internal Auditor for 2024/2025.

Proposed: Cllr D Rudd    Seconded: Cllr P Thacker    Agreed by all.

## **16. Annual Insurance**

**Noted:** Due and renewed March 2024.

## **17. Planning Matters**

Planning applications/decisions received by the Parish Council since/outstanding from the last meeting:

Cllr Rudd declared an interest in planning applications 24/00985/FUL and 24/00143/LBC.

### **To note: Existing applications where decision still awaited:**

**22/01578/FUL** Edgerley Farm Edgerley Lane Churton New livestock shed for calf housing, extension to an existing livestock shed and extension to existing yard area and boundary fencing.

**22/04650/FUL** Outbuildings at Monument Place Stannage Lane Churton Demolish ancillary building and build a new smaller outbuilding comprising garaging and storage to service the C1 use.

**23/02583/FUL** Churton Hall Farm Pump Lane Churton CH3 6LR  
Subdivision of existing dwelling to form one additional dwelling with associated internal and external works.

**23/02584/LBC** Churton Hall Farm Pump Lane Churton CH3 6LR  
Subdivision of existing dwelling to form one additional dwelling with associated internal and external works.

**24/00143/LBC** Church House Pump Lane Churton CH3 6LR Internal accessibility works to install platform lift and ramps.

**New applications:**

**24/00985/FUL** Church House Pump Lane Churton by Aldford Solar Panels Installation on Outbuilding roof.

**24/01237/CAT** Ivy Cottage Pump Lane Churton by Aldford Eucalyptus tree in rear garden - Reduction of the crown by 3-4 m to suitable pruning points.

**24/00898/FUL** Dairy Barns Chester Road Churton by Aldford Erection of detached rear garage and rear/side boundary wall (amendment to application 23/02111/FUL).

**Decisions:** None.

**Applications in neighbouring Parish of note to Churton Parish Council:**

**22/00097/FUL APP/AO665/W/23/3336058 24/00045/REF** Notification of a Planning Appeal: Land at Marsh Lane Kings Marsh Chester Erection of a stable building and a storage building and construction of an outdoor area. **Noted:** Clerk had commented on this application reiterating previous Churton Parish Council comments.

**24/00954/FUL** The Barnyard Marsh Lane Kings Marsh Chester Retrospective planning application for conversion of existing building to a dwelling and construction of stable and manege (retrospective). **Resolved:** Clerk to comment (object) on this application on behalf of Churton Parish Council.

**18. Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)**

- i) CWAC Local Plan Evidence Base Consultation 2024: **Noted** that Cllr Green had responded on behalf of the Parish Council. An invitation to attend CWAC hosted drop-in sessions had been extended to Parish Councils and details had been circulated to all members.
- ii) Parish boundaries: Marsh Lane: **Resolved**: Cllr Rudd to write via the Clerk to the Boundary Commission expressing concern (and detailing reasons for that concern) that the most relevant part of Marsh Lane lies within the Parish of Farndon and not Churton and requesting at the next appropriate occasion the inclusion of CH3 6NG Marsh Lane properties within the Farndon Parish boundary be reviewed and altered to include them instead within the boundary of Churton Parish.
- iii) Cllr Rudd advised no progress with the NDP as still awaiting funding round to restart. With a lead in time of 9 months for the various reports that would need to be commissioned and this years grant scheme still not open the scheme was a non-starter as grant monies had to be spent by the end of the financial year. Cllr Rudd had written to Edward Timpson MP asking him to take the matter up.

## **19. Village Hall Update**

- i) Play area: Paul Kitchin had forwarded an update of where he was up to with progressing the initiative prior to stepping down from the Parish Council. **Resolved**: Cllr Cundill to liaise with Paul to take forward.
- ii) Cllr Cundill reported: Number of parties booked. The Hall had not got recycling bins and they had previously been advised that as a commercial organisation they needed to make their own arrangements but this had now been resolved. A new caretaker/cleaner had been appointed. It was necessary to appoint another Trustee from the Parish Council to go on the hall lease to replace Paul Kitchin. To be appointed at the next meeting.

**Resolved**: Noted.

## **20. Correspondence.**

- i) TTRO Deva Triathlon 2024 2 June 2024: Noted.
- ii) Womens Tour of Britain 7 June 2024: Noted.

Concern expressed at CWACs authorisation of the closure of roads in conjunction with Severn Trent Resilience works.

iii) Severn Trent Chester Resilience Work update: Traffic lights at Sainsburys roundabout need adjusting. **Resolved:** Cllr Waddelove to ask CWAC to review timing.

iv) Farndon United Charities: **Noted:** Alyson Thacker had agreed to continue to represent Churton Parish Council. Thanks were expressed.

## **21. Standing Consideration of Highway Matters**

i) Footpath between barns behind Stannage Lane: request for timeline. **Noted:** Ed Barnston had a meeting scheduled with the PROW Officer to discuss.

ii) Edgerley Lane works. **Update:** Some potholes repaired but not all. Concern expressed that tarmac had been deposited in the layby.

iii) Tractors: Road and verge damage and speed. **Noted:** The damage had not been caused by tractors diverting due to the planning application for the Grosvenor bio digester.

iv) Pump Lane: Concern re mess made of lane outside Minshull Cottage. This was reported to Grosvenor Estate representatives present.

v) Pump Lane streetlight. **Resolved:** Cllr Waddelove would deal with.

vi) Church Mead Street lighting. Mock Victorian lanterns had been replaced with flat bar LEDs. **Resolved:** Noted that they had been taken away for refurbishment and would be brought back when appropriate bulbs had been sourced.

vii) Gullies Wayside Farm/Home Farm. **Noted:** Raised with CWAC.

## **22. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 9 July 2024.**