



Cheswick Green Parish Council

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## CHESWICK GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022 7pm Cheswick Green Village Hall

**Present:** Cheswick Green Parish Councillors: Simon Coles, Margaret Gosling, Aimee Moloney and Michelle Smith.

Clerk: Marie Zizzi

2 members of the public

### 40. Apologies for Absence and to approve, if thought fit, the reasons if any given, for absence from the meeting.

40.1 An apology had been received from Cllr. Mick Swain; this was accepted.

### 41. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations.

41. Cllr. Smith declared a personal interest in agenda item 15. *To consider and resolve any action(s) in relation to items of correspondence received;* in relation to the Christmas tree lights (see 54.3).

### 42. Public Participation (15 Minutes).

42.1 The members of the public raised an issue in relation to restrictions in the village, on 7½ tonne lorries/trucks; they said these types of vehicles were going through the village, they had seen them on Glenwood Drive and Foxland Close; a truck that was taller than the branches had clattered all along these.

42.1.1 It was suggested they kept an eye on this and to see what time this happened and what the trucks were.

42.2 There were comments about the lack of cutting back of overgrowth by SMBC.

### 43. To resolve to accept the Minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022 (circulated to Parish Cllrs. with the agenda).

43.1 Cllr. Swain had queried whether the word 'sensors' was correct at 29.1; Cllr. Coles suggested it was altered to surveying equipment.

**Resolved;** proposed Cllr. Coles, seconded Cllr. Moloney – the minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

### 44. To receive a report on the finances of the Council and to approve any payments made since last meeting and any payments to be made (circulated to Parish Cllrs. with the agenda).

Payee	Reason	Total
Simon Coles	Petty cash for Queens Platinum Jubilee event	£ 100.00
Mrs. Julie A Vanes	Face painting at Queens Platinum Jubilee event	£ 225.00
Blue Jay Electrical	Outside socket for VH	£1105.28
WALC	Charles Arnold Baker edition 13	£ 136.99
Michelle Smith	Reimbursement for plants and flowers for Village Green	£ 256.64
ABC Leisure	Items hired for Queens Platinum Jubilee event	£1384.00
Margaret Gosling	Reimbursement for lock	£ 66.56
Marie Zizzi	Reimbursement for instant ink	£ 16.49
Marie Zizzi	Petty cash top up	£ 40.00
Countrywide GM	Grounds maintenance work May 2022	£ 786.89
Vision ICT	Email hosting	£ 86.40
Simon Coles	Reimbursement for Queens Platinum Jubilee event	£ 688.34

(breakdown on separate sheet)

P. Radford	Payment for all the work he did in the VH over the Jubilee weekend	£ 60.00
DB Wholesale Meats	Beef burgers/sausages etc. for Queens Jubilee event	£ 156.00
Mick Swain	Reimbursement for keys	£ 110.00
More in confidential section.		
Petty cash £56.71		

**Resolved;** proposed Cllr. Moloney, seconded Cllr. Coles; that all payments were approved.

**45. To receive any reports or recommendations from the Recreation Committee and to resolve any action to be taken.**

45.1 It was stated no meeting had taken place since the last full council meeting. It was noted that only Cllr. Gosling and Cllr. Smith could attend the meeting scheduled for Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022; it was agreed to defer setting another date until Cllr. Swain was back.

45.2 It was pointed out that the concrete bases for the new benches were not the right size; the people doing these had been given a piece of paper with instructions stating the bases needed to be 196cm but the bases had been made 180cm; it was now necessary for them to make the bases bigger; there were concerns that this would create a defect and this would result in the bases cracking.

45.3 In relation to the children's play area; it was noted the RA had applied for funding from Severn Trent.

45.4 The Parish Council had recently received a report on trees, which were on land the PC owned. It was noted that the bench around a tree on the Village Green, was causing damage to the tree, it was recommended this bench was removed. It was agreed to get this bench removed.

45.5 In relation to a resident who had contacted the PC about some trees they wanted cutting; members discussed this, it was stated there was nothing overhanging the resident's property; members did not feel it needed cutting back now; it was noted this area was reviewed via a monthly site audit, to keep an eye on this and possibly cut it back in 6 months' time.

**46. To discuss having an Electric Charging Point.**

46.1 Cllr. Smith said she had sent an email to the contact at SMBC about this, she was waiting for a reply. She referred to setting up a meeting with this person and members of the VHMC and members of the PC.

46.2 There was a discussion about electric cars; infrastructure; no more engines after 2027 and hybrid vehicles.

**47. To consider planning applications (sent separately by email) and local development including Cheswick Place and Blythe Valley.**

**PL/2022/01005/MINFHO** - 575A Tanworth Lane Cheswick Green Solihull B90 4JE; Erect a new front wall with sliding electric gates to replace current wall.

47.1 There were no comments to be submitted.

**PL/2022/01066/PPFL** - 66 Salter Street Earlswood Solihull B94 6DE; Erect new ablutions unit & medical block.

47.1.1 There were various comments about this; members to look at this and feedback via email.

**PL/2022/01125/MINFHO** - 81 Coppice Walk Cheswick Green Solihull B90 4HZ; Single storey front extension, single and two storey rear extensions, First storey side extension and Internal changes.

47.1.2 Cllr. Smith said there were no measurements for this. It was stated this was a fairly standard extension. Cllr. Moloney said lots of houses had been extended in Coppice Walk, she did not see how it would impact on neighbours. It was noted the deadline to comment on this was 29<sup>th</sup> June.

47.2 In relation the Cheswick Place; It was stated Bloor Homes had done absolutely nothing. Cllr. Moloney referred to the area behind 73 Coppice Walk, she said this should not be forgotten.

47.3 In relation to Blythe Valley (BV); Cllr. Smith said Mr. Vernon, Chair of Illshaw Heath RA, had been in contact with SMBC regarding the speed sign; they would need to liaise to decide when Illshaw Heath would be added to the schedule.

**48. To receive any reports from Councillors and/or the Clerk.**

48.1 It was noted the Crochet Fairy (CF) had contacted the Clerk, with an idea/suggestion for a poppy waterfall to be located on the Boer War Memorial. Everyone agreed this was a great idea and that it would cost about £100, which was very reasonable. It was agreed to have a mix of red, purple and white poppies.

**49. To receive a report on the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations**

49.1 It was stated it had been a really good event; £3053.96 had been made so far.

49.2 It was agreed the Bingo evening had gone down really well; at 3 minutes past 5 every seat in the Village Hall was taken, the halls had been full and people were even standing.

49.3 It had worked out well having the band in the Village Hall. It was pointed out there had been lots of great feedback, people wanted more Bingo events.

49.4 It was noted that Cllr. Coles had purchased Bingo which only went up to 79 instead of 99.

49.5 It was stated Saturday had gone well too; the Mayor had arrived early; the inflatables had been set up and then the heavens had opened; the Mayor had been a good sport; he had been observed the rides and the football game. People were able to purchase wrist bands for unlimited access to the rides all day. There had been a minor accident on the 'wipe-out' course, which required First Aid. The look-a-like Queen had been present all day.

49.6 Cllr. Gosling said all the cakes and scones had gone. She thanked those that had done a huge amount of work, including the planning and the volunteers on the day.

49.7 It was stated the BBQ had gone on until 7pm, they had run out of drinks and had to purchase more. It was agreed it had been a good family event.

49.8 Cllr. Smith said she had noted the police had been down twice and they appeared to be coming to the village more often now. It was pointed out police had attended both the RA meeting and a Brownies session. They had got involved with the event by speaking with children and letting them in their van.

49.9 There were comments about an uninvited ice cream van, that had set up on the Recreation Ground. A resident had suggested they needed permission to be on the Recreation Ground from the Parish Council. When a member of the Parish Council had spoken to them, it was suggested they make a donation to the event, which they did - £32.

49.10 It was noted the skip was still on the car park; there had been a good turn out for the litter pick on Sunday.

**50. Update/report from Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC).**

50.1 Due to the absence of Cllr. Swain, item deferred.

**51. To receive a report/update from Cheswick RA.**

51.1 Cllr. Coles said the last meeting had mainly focused on the Jubilee. There was going to be a new website. Their Secretary had stepped down. They would be picking up on Street Watch in July; it was suggested to contact the people that had previously been involved, to see if they were interested.

**52. To discuss fireworks.**

52.1 Cllr. Moloney said they had received an email from a professional fireworks company; there was a lot of land at Blythe Valley; it was possible the Parish Council could get some fireworks at a discounted rate and to involve the residents of Blythe Valley (BV), they could put something together for the future.

52.2 It was agreed there could be a conversation about this. It was stated no-one had looked at the prices etc. yet; that it was possible it could cost £1000 for 10-15 minutes. It was also pointed out the area had stables/horses behind it; that it would be very difficult to make an event cost effective.

52.3 It was stated it was a lovely idea to make BV inclusive and there needed to be a wider conversation. The Clerk said Chelmsley Wood Town Council usually held an annual fireworks display, there was no charge to attend this.

52.4 It was stated the Parish Council paid for the Christmas event and it had paid for the Jubilee celebrations events. It was suggested a fireworks display would be over in 15 minutes; it was stated there could be two displays over the evening. There were comments

about problems with parking. It was suggested to hold an event like the Jubilee event at BV next summer. It was agreed there were pros and cons in relation to having fireworks; some people loved them and some people hated them.

52.5 It was pointed out that the Parish Council had no land ownership at BV; therefore, permission would be required; it was suggested to play football/cricket with teams from Cheswick Green and BV. Someone mentioned a 'Ches Fest' involving residents from BV, using the Recreation Ground and to think about what to do for Christmas.

**53. To discuss issues raised with SMBC.**

53.1 It was stated this was ongoing. An email from a resident of The Dingle, regarding grass banks not being cut there or on Knoll Croft was noted; this had been forwarded to SMBC, the reply had stated; *'due to a Health and Safety Inspection carried out by Idverde, it had been deemed the banks were too steep to cut with the normal machine, therefore a different piece of equipment would now be used and the frequency will be monthly'*. However, the resident had lived there for 34 years, and it had been done during that time; it was queried why it was now considered too steep, after all those years.

**54. To consider and resolve any action(s) in relation to items of correspondence received (circulated to Parish Cllrs. with the agenda).**

54.1 An email from the Managing Agents for the shop regarding the car park, suggesting they have a Plan B was noted; It was agreed to leave this matter for now.

54.2 An email with a quote from SMBC for 2022 Christmas tree lights had been circulated; members had felt the price increase was too much; it was suggested to ask SMBC for permission to have another contractor to put the lights on the tree; a contractor that was accredited with all the appropriate qualifications etc. It was stated SMBC had the Parish Councils Christmas lights, it was queried how many lights there were on the set.

54.3 Cllr. Smith said if the tree was more than 32 feet high, a special hoist was needed; she referred to the number of lights, if there was 200 it could cost about £600, if it was 500 it could cost £1200; Cllr. Smith declared a personal interest, she said her father had been a lighting engineer in charge of Christmas lighting, he had used the same company for 18 years; she said she could obtain a quote; it would take about 2½ hours to do the tree. There were no objections. It was noted Cllr. Swain was also looking into this.

54.4 Emails circulated by Cllr. Coles/Swain in relation to the withdrawal of bus passes were noted; it was stated this was terrible; members queried if there was any feedback; it was felt this was bad and queried how it could be justified that the route was safe, as this would depend on the child and the time. It was suggested to get the community police officers involved, to walk the route.

54.5 Emails regarding the Commonwealth Games, with the Baton Bearers coming through Cheswick Green were noted; it was stated they would be coming through for about 10 minutes; the bunting would be put up by the Village Green; the pub would set up a bar; it was queried whether the Ukulele Band had been asked to play; it was stated the event would take place on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July at about 16:26; it was agreed it could be promoted on social media to invite residents to come and watch; the Clerk said her local PC was encouraging people to have a picnic in the Garden of Memory; it was agreed to suggest residents brought their own picnic on the Village Green between 4-5pm. Cllr. Coles said they had the BBQ/fryers.

54.6 It was noted Earlswood Cricket Club was funding raising; Cllr. Smith had queried whether the PC could support this; it was stated if the PC did this, it could find itself getting demands from elsewhere; there were comments about the club benefitting all ages; that since the developments at Cheswick Place and BV there was a lot more traffic; that this fund raising had suddenly appeared on TOWIC; they need to reach a specific target which could enable the club to obtain support from Sport England; that more than half of the residents of Cheswick Green were at the club on a Friday night.

54.6.1 It was stated the target was to raise £15k; they were £9k short, they had made 46%; there would be some funding from Gift Aid.

54.6.2 Cllr. Coles said he had been going there for months, he had not known anything about this; he said he would speak with the clubs Chairman; it was noted that the fund raising was for a new net structure; which if this was a permanent fixture, the PC could use CIL money for this; it was suggested the PC could possibly get involved with the club and even involve the club with fireworks.

54.7 An email from SMBC regarding Parish/Town Councils Emergency Preparedness had only been received today was noted. Members had not had time to digest this yet. However, it was pointed out at the Annual Statutory Parish meeting, a resident referred to no longer having a 3-minute warning, he said in 2018 the air raid sirens had been turned off. 3 minutes was not enough, but they had nothing now. It was stated the air raid sirens used to be regularly tested.

**55. To discuss and resolve any actions in relation to the ongoing CGPC action list**  
*(circulated to Parish Cllrs. with the agenda).*

55.1 Noted.

**56. Agenda items for next meeting.**

56.1 Christmas.

**57. To resolve that due to the special nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.**

**Resolved:** Cllr. Gosling requested members of the public to withdraw at 20:50.

**58. To discuss and resolve any actions regarding any items of correspondence or matters considered confidential.**

**59. PAYE, payroll and Pension Scheme.**

**Meeting closed 20:55**

Signed .....

Dated .....