



Cheswick Green Parish Council

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CHESWICK GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
Thursday 16th March 2023 7pm Cheswick Green Village Hall

Present: Cheswick Green Parish Councillors: Simon Coles, Margaret Gosling (Vice Chairman), Aimee Moloney, Michelle Smith and Mick Swain (Chair).

3 members of the public

Marie Zizzi, Clerk

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

217.1 Not applicable all Parish Councillors present.

218. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations.

218.1 Cllr. Coles declared an interest in planning application PL/2023/00444/PNCUDW for Barn Illshaw Heath Road; as he believed he knew the developer, as the developer's daughter is in his son's class (see minute 222.1.3.6).

219. Public Participation (15 Minutes).

219.1 No matters were raised.

220. To resolve to accept the Minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 9th February 2023 (circulated to Parish Cllrs. with the agenda).

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

221. 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
SLCC	Clerks annual membership/subscription	£187.00
M. Zizzi	Reimbursement of Microsoft 365 subscription due 15/3	£59.99
Countrywide GM	3 x pyracanth plants	£187.98
Vision ICT	Biennial fee for.gov.uk Domain May 2023-April 2025	£78.00
Countrywide GM	Grounds maintenance February	£786.89
M. Zizzi	Reimbursement for Instant ink 25/01-25/02	£16.49
S. Coles	Reimbursement for pack of 50 magnets for noticeboards	£15.98

More in confidential section.

Petty cash £86.98

Resolved; proposed Cllr. Coles, seconded Cllr. Swain; all payments approved.

222. To consider planning applications and local development including Cheswick Place and Blythe Valley (BV).

PL/2023/00374/MINFHO - 24 Knoll Croft Cheswick Green Solihull B90 4JL; Single storey rear extension and single storey front porch extension (Resubmission of PL/2022/00534/MINFHO).

222.1 It was agreed to object to this application because the proposed extension exceeds the 45 degree sight line rule, it impacts on the neighbouring property, will cast a shadow and cause loss of light.

PL/2023/00332/PNSVP - Prologis House Blythe Gate Shirley Solihull; Prior notification for the installation of solar PV array on the roof of Prologis House.

222.1.1 There were no comments to be submitted.

PL/2023/00420/MINFHO - 260 Creynolds Lane Cheswick Green Solihull B90 4ET; Part ground floor extension to existing garage and first floor extension above.

222.1.2 There were no comments to be submitted.

PL/2023/00444/PNCUDW - Barn Illshaw Heath Road Hockley Heath Solihull; Prior notification for a change of use of agricultural building to 1 No. dwelling.

222.1.3 Cllr. Swain said back in 2015 the then Parish Council (PC), said it would not object to the school being extended; he said they could not approve development in the greenbelt for some and not others. He added that the people on the PC were not the same people now, as in 2015 but this matter was still referred to.

222.1.3.1 It was stated this barn was in the middle of a field and it was covered in graffiti.

222.1.3.2 It was pointed out that the proposal was for a 2-bedroom property with 4 car parking spaces.

222.1.3.3 There were comments about a similar proposal in Balsall Common and one in Meriden, over 20 years ago; about a £800,000 house and a traveller's site being set up.

222.1.3.4 Cllr. Moloney commented about the site possibly becoming a housing site; she referred to 1200 houses being built and that she favoured people building luxury homes; however she understood the concerns and was in agreement to object overall.

222.1.3.5 Cllr. Swain said if the PC had Neighbourhood Plan, it could have included agreement to accommodating small plots of land being developed.

222.1.3.6 Cllr. Coles queried whether they should look at writing a Neighbourhood Plan again. He declared an interest, as he knew the developer of this application.

222.1.3.7 It was noted the change of use was from an agricultural building; it was stated it could be suspected there could be more than one building.

222.1.3.8 There were comments about only having to leave in one of the original wall; it was stated planning officers could not stop anyone making an application; it was pointed out SMBC had already taken greenbelt land for the Dog Kennel Lane development; it was stated this may open the floodgates on greenbelt land.

222.1.3.9 It was agreed the Parish Council would object to this application, as the change of use from agriculture to a residential dwelling is a clear breach of construction on green belt land. Indeed, if this proposal were to be approved, further applications for construction in this area would ensue.

PL/2023/00384/PPFL - Connexion II 3 Blythe Gate Shirley Solihull; External changes to building and alterations to the arrangement of external parking and service areas.

222.1.4 There were no comments to be submitted.

PL/2023/00452/PPFL - Solotech 1 Blythe Valley Business Park Cheswick Green; Erection of 20m long x 10m wide x 4m high freestanding storage marquee.

222.1.5 There were no comments to be submitted.

PL/2023/00428/ADV - 1 Solotech Blythe Valley Shirley Solihull; Erect company name/logo and operational signage mounted on the building and 1 No freestanding sign.

222.1.6 There were no comments to be submitted.

222.1.7 A resident asked if the PC had received anything in relation to the old TSB training site; the PC had not; it was stated the sign had gone now and that there was a lot on the site, including a swimming pool. It was stated it could become a development site.

222.1.8 There was nothing on Cheswick Place and it was stated there were lots of complaints on Facebook about Blythe Valley.

223. To discuss progress with Cheswick Green School expansion.

223.1 Cllr. Coles said the children had got the playground back; the development was progressing at quite a rate now. It was stated they were working from the school to away from the school.

223.2 It was noted the planning application had been amended and that they had waited until half term, to carry out some works.

223.3 Cllr. Gosling read from a newsletter, which included information about Traffic Regulations Orders to be introduced.

223.4 Residents were concerned about parking, particularly on corners; an email had been sent to the Clerk.

Action item: Clerk to forward email to Mr. Rob Wyatt (SMBCs School Crossing Patrol Manager).

223.5 It was stated vehicles were churning up the grass verges.

223.6 Cllr. Gosling referred to a child not wanting to go to school, because of the noise disruption. It was stated people had fallen over at the back area, which was literally just mud. There were comments about making complaints to SMBC; it was felt this would be a waste of time; a resident spoke about someone contacting them in relation to Longleat Drive and construction noise on Saturdays, with beep, beep, beep sounds, resulting in a resident crying.

223.7 There were comments about issues with drivers and a barricade on a public highway.

223.8 It was pointed out that people had been given an opportunity to object; only 90 objections had been made; there were lots more comments about parking in relation to the school, blocking roads, parking on corners, blocking pavements; it was stated this was only going to get worse when the number of pupils at the school increased.

234. To resolved to accept Kompan quote for new play equipment for the Recreation Ground. (circulated to Councillors via email on 27th January 2023)

Resolved; proposed Cllr. Coles, seconded Cllr. Gosling – the Kompan quote was accepted.

234.1 It was noted Cllrs. Coles, Gosling and Moloney had met on site with representatives from Kompan to clarify things; the start date was 22nd May with 3-4 weeks for the works to take place, an email was due to be sent with the proposed timescales.

234.2 It was stated the lock would be changed to a combination lock and they had asked if they could have access to the Village Hall, to use the toilets etc; otherwise, they would need a port-a-loo in the park.

Action item: Cllr. Swain to ask VHMC.

234.3 The company would also need 4 parking spaces; Cllr. Coles would arrange this.

232.4 It was stated there were a few changes; the wet pour would go to the end of the gate now, this was not shown on the plan. It was noted the biggest set of swings would go altogether and the PC needed to decide on a swing for people with disabilities; there were comments about a swing with a harness, if the harness was not in place people would not use it, but if it was left in place, it could be stolen.

232.5 It was noted Kompan had recommended the PC arrange for a post installation inspection. It was agreed to notify RoSPA/Play Safety about the changes to the Recreation Ground prior to the annual inspection; it was suggested RoSPA could carry out the post installation inspection or to go with the company Kompan recommended.

225. To discuss what to do for the Coronation – May 2023.

225.1 Cllr. Moloney said a deposit had been paid for the inflatables, she would chase the First Aid people for an invoice, there would be games in the Village Hall.

225.2 There were comments about the Duck Race; it was noted this had been really popular last year. Cllr. Coles said they had 175 ducks; people could pick a number and when all the ducks were sponsored, the race would begin.

225.3 Cllr. Coles said the Open Mic people were on board to provide music; if necessary, they had a PA system to play music. It was noted there was a BBQ, 3 friers and a gas bottle. Cllr. Coles said he would arrange to get the burgers etc.

225.4 Cllr. Moloney said she would complete the form to request to use the Recreation Ground. Cllr. Coles would submit a copy of his Food Hygiene certificate to the clerk.

225.5 It was felt the offer from the Crochet Fairy had been sorted out. It was stated the wrist bands needed to be obtained. Now all that was needed were some volunteers. There were comments about the pub being open. Cllr. Moloney said as it was the Coronation, they could serve alcohol, however next year the event would be purely a picnic in the park.

225.6 It was queried whether the U3A had been asked to make and serve teas/coffees. This lead on to a discussion about the Warm Hub, which had been held in the Village Hall on Wednesday mornings; it was stated it had been suggested it moved to Tuesday and became a Community Café, a few people were interested.

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225.6.1 There were comments about the difficulty in finding volunteers; about the admin involved, as well as insurance and health and safety issues etc. It was felt there was lots to put in place; it was queried whether the room was being offered for free and stated the members of the VHMC would need to vote on this.

225.6.2 There were comments about people attending paying £2 for tea/coffee; shelving this between May and September and restarting it in the Autumn. It was stated continuity could not be given, if people wanted to use the Village Hall and pay to use it.

225.6.3 It was stated the Warm Hub may not attract the people it was intended for; there were concerns about how to inform people, to get the right people. It was noted about 13 single people had been attending, they came and they enjoyed the company, it was not just about it being a warm place, people came for a chat, this helped people's mental health and sanity. It was ending as a Warm Hub next week, but they were still trying to get people to step up and run a group.

225.7 Cllr. Coles said he has been asked by a member of the Schools Parents Association (PTA), for a donation towards purchasing book markers, as a memento of the Coronation. He had told the person the Parish Council was willing to donate £100, taken at the Christmas event to the PTA, but they had not been able to find out who was involved with the PTA, to do this. He said the PC was looking for volunteers to help at the Coronation event, if members of the PTA would do this, there was already £100 waiting to be donated. He had not heard anything back since this conversation.

226. To receive any reports from Chair, Councillors and/or the Clerk.

226.1 Cllr. Gosling referred to a meeting that had taken place today via Teams, she had attended with Cllr. Smith and Cllr. Swain, with Mr. David Keaney (SMBCs Traffic Manager); she said they had discussed traffic and parking, raised the issues of various roads including Coppice Walk; problems with potholes and Creynolds Lane and about recent accidents, which the police had attended. They had spoken about problems on Foxland Close, Badger Close, Beechwood Close and Saxon Wood Road. They had been informed it was possible some of the parking lines would be extended, to stop parking some of the time. It was stated matters had not been helped by the developer not doing the parking for staff last summer. It was felt things would get much worse, when new pupils started at the school.

226.1.1 Cllr. Smith spoke about changes to the junction on the Stratford Road; three lanes would go to two lanes, the third lane would disappear; the overgrown weeds/bushes which blocked drivers sight lines were going to be tarmacked.

226.1.2 Cllr. Smith said SMBC was looking into having a mobile speed camera on Creynolds Lane.

226.1.3 It was stated in relation to parking by the school, 8 Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) had been issued, there had been 67 Enforcement Officers visits by the school.

226.1.4 Members of the PC had been informed resurfacing some of the Stratford Road, towards McDonalds would be carried out in the summer; SMBC had money for a cycling route on the pavement by McDonalds. There was a trial in relation to changing Gate Lane off the island, closing this for pedestrians/cyclists.

226.1.5 There were closures on the M42 over the next 6 months, north bound for the new junction.

226.1.6 Cllr. Smith had asked SMBC if they could fill in the holes in Vicarage Road etc. SMBC had a 3-year resurfacing plan and would look into this and let the Parish Council know.

226.1.7 Cllr. Swain said the most important thing was the school parking places not being in place last September, they should be there for this September. He referred to the option to do things now or later and opting for now; it was stated things could not be treated in isolation.

226.1.8 There were further comments about parking and the school; SMBC would look at what to do for the future – in 8 years' time; it was stated the school would be full, what was happening now was nothing, compared to what it would be. There were comments about hard and fast data. It was pointed out Highways had objected to the school expansion.

226.2 It was stated a stolen car had been left on the car park outside the Village Hall; it had been seen on the CCTV footage, entering the car park by the surgery on Tuesday 14th March at 04:03, as it parked up a van, with a sliding door, entered the car park, the driver

from the car jumped in the van and off it went. It was not possible to read all of the number plate on the van, which appear to be blacked out.

226.2.1 There were various comments about cars that had been stolen or attempted robberies of vehicles in Cheswick Green and Dickens Heath.

226.2.2 It was thought the stolen BMW had a tracker on it; it had been taken from Hall Green at about 11-12 at night; it was queried where the car had been for 4 hours; there were comments about possibly taking it to a road near Wedges Bakery for the thieves to look to see if it had a tracker and to possibly rip it out. It was stated stolen cars were parked, left for a week and if they were still there, they were then taken abroad.

226.2.3 It was agreed to pass the CCTV footage to the police and after this, to inform the person concerned what the PC had done.

226.3 Cllr. Swain said a resident had contacted him, Cllr. Gosling and the Clerk about 5 houses being build at the back of Coppice Walk. Cllr. Moloney said Crossroads Garage was trimming trees, they always did this at this time of year.

226.3.1 Cllr. Swain said he had been to the location; it was a fostering facility at 595 Tanworth Lane, about 2 doors down from the Crossroads Garage. He had been shown, they had cleared the whole length of the ground to the boundary, about 300 metres and they were going to turf it.

226.4 There were comments about 11 Saxon Wood Roads hedge impinging on the pavement, at the side of the Dingle and nothing being done about this. It was pointed out the occupiers had not long moved in, someone had complained about this hedge on Facebook, the resident had said they had only moved in 6 months ago, it was on their list of things to do and to give them a chance.

226.4.1 It was stated if it was encroaching on the footpath, SMBC could be asked to contact the owners. It was felt this was a bit trivial and to give the resident time to do this, to leave this matter for 6-9 months.

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

227.1 Cllr. Swain spoke about the valuation people and business rates increasing from 1st April 2023.

228. To receive a report/update from Cheswick RA.

228.1 Cllr. Coles said technically the RA had been disbanded, a February meeting had been attempted three times and when it had taken place there had only been himself, with Cllr. Moloney, Mr. Greg Allport, two of the residents present tonight and Cllr. Gosling; it appeared everyone understood the situation, the only thing left was the money in the bank, it had been agreed this would go towards the Coronation event, as this money came from and belonged to the residents.

229. To discuss SMBC litter bins.

229.1 Cllr. Swain said over the last couple of years, the bins by the shops were meant to be emptied on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, but they were not. It was stated the situation had been exasperated now, as a shop now received parcels for people, packaging was filling up the bins.

229.2 Cllr. Swain said he proposed that he wrote to Tammy Rowley (SMBCs Streetcare Manager), offering to keep a log of how often it was emptied and the area was swept/cleaned.

229.3 Cllr. Smith asked if he could also mention all the other bins, which were flapping open. It was stated the bin inside the bin by the red telephone box was too big.

230. To discuss issues raised with SMBC.

230.1 There was nothing currently outstanding.

231. To discuss CGPCs Action Plan.

231.1 Noted.

232. To consider and resolve any action(s) in relation to items of correspondence received (issued to Parish Councillors with the agenda).

232.1 An email regarding a meeting about the car park, due to take place tomorrow was discussed. The brewery had informed the PC it could not afford to contribute towards resurfacing, it only intended to fix the potholes on the part it owned. It was felt the meeting should still go ahead.

232.2 A WALC Newsletter which contained information about signing up to The Civility & Respect Pledge was noted; it was agreed CGPC should sign up to this.

232.3 Emails about the Great British Clean-up were noted; it was agreed to arrange a litter pick on Sunday 2nd April 2023 and that a skip should be ordered.

233. To discuss and resolve any actions in relation to the ongoing CGPC action list *(issued to Parish Councillors with the agenda).*

233.1 Noted.

234. Agenda items for next meeting.

234.1 None were given.

235. 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.

235.1 There was nothing further to discuss, the meeting was closed.

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

236.1 There was nothing to discuss.

237. PAYE, payroll and Pension Scheme.

237.1 Details in confidential section.

Meeting closed 9:05pm

Signed

Dated