



Mrs. Marie Zizzi
Clerk to the Council
Cheswick Green Village Hall
Cheswick Way, Cheswick Green
Solihull B90 4JA

Tel: 01564 700168
clerk@cheswickgreen-pc.gov.uk
www.cheswickgreen-pc.gov.uk

**CHESWICK GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

Wednesday 13th June 2018 7:30pm Cheswick Green Village Hall

Present:

Cheswick Green Parish Councillors: Ian Bruce, Margaret Gosling and Sam Sedgley.

Clerk: Marie Zizzi

1 member of the public

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

50.1 An apology was received from Cllr. Brown. There were some comments about this and it was stated that this should be discussed later.

50.2 An apology was received from Cllr. Swain and this was accepted.

51. Declarations of Interest.

51.1 None.

52. Dispensations.

52.1 None.

53. Public Participation (15 Minutes).

53.1 Borough Cllr. Ken Hawkins referred to the recent flooding, he said he had attended DHPC meeting, Nick Page (CEO SMBC), Ed Bradford (SMBC Flood Officer), Alan Brown (SMBC Assistant Director Highways & Environment) and members of the press had been present.

53.1.1 It was noted that Chairmen and Clerks from CGPC, DHPC and TGPC had been invited to a flood debriefing with Nick Page on Thursday 14th June.

53.1.2 Cllr. Hawkins said SMBC had promised there would be a full enquiry, he said the new developments had been blamed, as well as the amount of rain in a short time.

53.1.3 Cllr. Hawkins said the Local Development Plan could be held up again.

53.1.4 It was stated that serious consideration needed to be given regarding where future development went.

53.1.5 Cllr. Hawkins said SMBC was still reviewing the Spring Bank holiday flooding. It was pointed out that the gauge in the river had given up, therefore it was known how high the water had reached.

53.1.6 There were comments about the amount of water in DH. Cllr. Hawkins said there were photographs of Griffin Lane. It was stated that the balancing lakes were full and that there were safety issues.

53.1.7 It was stated that one of the Bloor Homes ponds did not fill, by Archer Drive.

53.1.8 It was stated that there were lot of reasons for the flooding, in the different areas and it was pointed out that SMBC needed to think cross-boundary, as some had come from the Warwickshire area.

53.1.9 It was noted that one resident had received more input from Warwickshire County Council, the resident had seen one person digging out the overflow from Earlswood Lakes, the resident had walked with WCC reps to the Solihull boundary, they had seen junk and rubbish including a fridge freeze, a washing machine, turf, logs, trees and dead fish in the river, as well.

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As well as an illegal bridge. It was stated that WCC would clean its part of the river and therefore SMBC needed to do its part.

53.1.10 Cllr. Gosling said the Parish Council had arranged to have a barrel removed from the stream, it was possible this had come from the Bloor Homes development.

53.1.11 It was noted that in relation to the Bloor Homes development, gully guards had been in place.

53.2 Cllr. Hawkins referred to the local bus service and what he had posted on Facebook. He said he had spoken to someone at Travel WM, they were on the case in relation to Diamond. He said there was not a lot they could do, people were reporting things which was good.

53.2.1 There were comments about whether no service was better than a poor service.

53.2.2 It was noted that something had been posted on Facebook, in relation to a young male that was apparently being followed, due to a missing bus. Cllr. Hawkins said he had told the people concerned to report this to 101.

53.2.3 Cllr. Hawkins said the contract was due for renewal in October, the company would send out representatives, to see what service was required.

53.2.4 There were comments about the new development people and elderly people that did not drive needing a bus service. It was stated that people were not using the buses, because they were so unreliable.

53.2.5 Cllr. Hawkins said there would be a consultation towards the end of June beginning of July with service users. He added that he had asked the company to engage with the three local Parish Councils.

53.3 Cllr. Hawkins referred to Creynolds Lane, he said the vast majority wanted the speed restriction reduced to 30 mph. It was stated that work had been due to start this week, but it was not happening now.

53.3.1 There were comments about a temporary traffic order for Vicarage Road, for next week and whether this was for the works or for pot holes, which were extremely bad.

53.3.2 Cllr. Hawkins said he would arrange for a formal application for a reduction in speed, he said about 100 people wanted it kept at 40 mph, but the first 30 names of these people were not even on the Electoral Register, it was possible they didn't live here.

53.3.3 It was pointed out that the results from the Neighbourhood Plan survey supported this idea.

53.3.4 It was noted that the road works in Illshaw Heath were way behind and that this could be having an effect on the work that was to be carried out.

53.4 There were comments about the derelict bungalows on Creynolds Lane and the Local Development Plan.

53.5 Cllr. Hawkins said he had spoken to the Site Manager on the Bloor Homes site regarding conditions of work. It was stated that on Sunday afternoon, the gate had been wide open and there was no-one on the site, it was stated that this needed to be reported as it was dangerous.

53.6 Cllr. Hawkins referred to Snowhill Drive, he said there was not a lot he could do.

53.6.1 It was stated that residents needed to use their garages.

53.6.2 Cllr. Hawkins said he would see if the Fire Brigade would come and do some checks.

53.6.3 It was stated that Snowhill Drive had been bad for over 30 years.

53.7 Cllr. Hawkins congratulated Cllr. Sedgley for getting are Chief Superintendent Baz Javid to attend a Neighbourhood Watch meeting, he said he hoped people would turn up.

53.8 Cllr. Hawkins said he would monitor work on Creynolds Lane and make a request for it to be 30 mph.

53.9 There were comments about needing to sort out Speed Watch for Creynolds Lane. At 7:50pm Cllr. Hawkins left the meeting.

54. To approve the Minutes from the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 6th June 2018.

Resolved; proposed Cllr. Sedgley, seconded Cllr. Bruce – that these should be signed as a true and accurate record.

55. 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 (issued to Parish Cllrs with the agenda).

Payments to be agreed from Co-op acc Exercise Class June 2018 PC meeting

Chq No.	Payee	Total	VAT	Net
100136	Class instructor May 2018	£27.00		

Chgs/Electronic payment transactions to be approved June 2018 PC meeting

Payee	Reason	Total	VAT	Net
Bill Robinson	Internal Audit	£144.00		
Vision ICT	Email host	£108.00	£18.00	£90.00
Marie Zizzi	Petty cash top-up	£ 50.00		

More in confidential section

55.1 It was noted that petty cash had been £91.89 when the agenda had been issued on 6th June, however it was now £49.39, it was agreed to top this up with £50.00.

55.2 It was noted that Cllr. Bruce and Cllr. Sedgley needed to sort out their access to the Unity Trust bank account, as soon as possible.

55.3 It was noted that a VAT refund had now been received.

Resolved; proposed Cllr. Sedgley, seconded Cllr. Bruce – that all payments as listed were approved.

56. To review the Planning Committee/NP Steering Group, Recreation Committee and Staffing Panels terms of reference.

56.1 Cllr. Bruce said he could not see any problems with the terms of reference for the Planning Committee.

56.1.1 Cllr Bruce said he had drafted terms of reference for a Steering Group, that would be an off-shoot from the Planning Committee. These would be circulated by email. He read from the draft.

57. To discuss any issues that relate to the Recreation Committee; land owned by the Parish Council, grounds maintenance or other related issues.

57.1 Cllr. Gosling said she had spoken to Mr. Steve Walker, regarding a tree at the back of Snowhill Drive and she was waiting for him to get back to her.

58. To discuss the War Memorial.

58.1 The Clerk suggested that this was discussed when members met with Kath Hemmings (SMBCs Neighbourhood Manager), to see what the Parish Councils responsibility would be, as once this was in place it would belong to the Parish Council.

58.2 Cllr. Sedgley referred to an email received from WALC, regarding silhouettes to represent those lost in the First World War, she queried if anyone knew of anybody that had lost someone in the First World War.

59. To resolve clause put forward by Cllr. Swain in relation to making payments in the absence of the clerk and where this will be held.

59.1 It was stated that this could be deferred and that Cllr. Bruce and Cllr. Sedgley needed to sort out their access to the Unity Trust bank account first.

60. To receive the Minutes from the Planning Committee meeting held on 25th April 2018 and any reports or recommendations from the Planning Committee and any update in relation to the Neighbourhood Plan and other planning matters/issues (Minutes available on CGPC website).

60.1. The Minutes were received.

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60.2 Cllr. Bruce referred to an email Mr. Cockroft had circulated, in relation to asking SMBC for factual information. It was noted the Cllr. Swain had suggested to approach SMBCs Observatory for facts and figures.

60.3 Cllr. Gosling said anyone of them could do this, it did not need to be the Clerk.

60.4 Cllr. Bruce said the Working Party for the Neighbourhood Plan had met and the plan was gradually being developed.

61. To consider planning applications and local development including progress regarding Mount Dairy Farm/Cheswick Place and Blythe Valley Park/IM.

PL/2018/00745/TPO - 11 Chartwell Drive Cheswick Green Solihull B90 4JZ; Fell 1 No. sycamore tree.

61.1 There were comments about the application form and the drawing for this.

61.1.1 It was stated that there appeared to be nothing wrong with the tree and no reason for it to be cut down had been provided, that if there was a reason for it to be trimmed that would be fair enough, but not to cut it down.

61.1.2 It was pointed out that it took a very long time to grow a tree.

61.2.3 Members were not in favour of this going ahead.

61.2 It was noted that an email had been received from Bloor Homes, further to liaison with a Planning Officer from SMBC, which stated that planning permission was not required for a notice board to be installed within the Cheswick Place development.

61.2.1 It was noted that Bloor Homes had asked the Parish Council where it would like its notice board to be located. It was stated that it should be near the sub-station, where there was a space to the left, it should not be by a road/trees/hedge and that it should be north facing.

61.2.2 It was stated that in relation to the Cheswick Place development, it was no longer possible to see what was happening, due to sheeting that had been put in place.

61.2.3 Cllr. Gosling said she had spoken to a resident, who had been pleased with what the Parish Council had done to assist them during the flooding, this person had said that it was possible some fencing from the development had fallen again.

61.3 Cllr. Bruce said that apparently SMBC Planners had raised objections regarding the proposed layout for developments put forward for Blythe Valley.

61.3.1 Cllr. Bruce said there was a delay with the Kineton Road access of about 3 months, he said the road works were substantially delayed. He referred to problems with getting the right gravel for the table top and this needing to be yellow.

61.3.2 Cllr. Bruce said what he had thought was a footpath, was actually a cycle path.

61.3.3 Cllr. Bruce said the roads were chaotic.

62. To discuss the situation with the car park in relation to part ownership and update regarding height restriction barriers etc.

62.1 It was felt that due to the absence of Cllr. Swain, this item should be deferred.

62.2 It was noted that a letter had been received from the Village Surgery, stating that it had no responsibility for the car park.

62.2.1 There were comments about the Deeds and various maps showing that the Village Surgery had part ownership/responsibility for some small areas of the car park.

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

63.1 Cllr. Gosling said she had attended a briefing at SMBC, regarding travellers and unauthorised/illegal encampments, she said the information issued had been circulated to everyone by email, she had a hard copy and this could be kept in the office.

63.1.1 Cllr. Gosling said SMBC had said that there was a change to the pattern, travellers were coming all year round now, she said they mainly occupied hardstanding areas in the winter.

63.1.2 It was stated that some travellers could be quite aggressive.

63.1.3 Cllr. Gosling said Parish Council owned land could be treated as private land. She said that SMBC would work with Parish Councils and the police to assist.

63.1.4 Cllr. Gosling spoke about transit sites and it had been stated that these didn't really work and different groups did not always get on with each other.

63.1.5 There were comments about the mess that was left when travellers moved on. It was stated that SMBC would provide support where possible.

63.1.6 It was noted that Caroline Spelman had sent the Parish Council a copy of a Government consultation '*Powers for dealing with unauthorised encampments and developments*'. Members did not feel that they were in a position to complete the questions, as Cheswick Green had not had to deal with the challenge of any unauthorised or illegal encampments to date.

63.1.7 It was pointed out that this could potentially happen on parts of land the Parish Council owned and that currently investigations were being made, about the possibility of installing either height restriction barriers or removal bollards to prevent this from happening.

Action: It was agreed that Clerk on behalf of the Parish Council, should confirm that it is in support of the consultation to strengthen the laws on unauthorised and illegal encampments.

63.2 Cllr. Sedgley said she had been successful in securing £250 funding from CGRA for the Neighbourhood Watch scheme, for signs for the village. She said she would also be approaching Illshaw Heath RA.

64. To discuss raising the Parish Councils profile and promoting the work it does.

64.1 It was felt that the Parish Council was doing a good job with this now. It was stated that setting up a Facebook page had been a good move, and this appeared to be working well.

64.2 It was stated that a number of residents appeared to be appreciating what the Parish Council was doing or trying to do.

64.3 It was stated that the Parish Councils profile in Illshaw Heath was quite good. It was pointed out that the survey appeared to have been very well received.

64.4 Cllr. Sedgley spoke about the number of people that 'liked' and 'followed' the Parish Councils Facebook page, as well as the number that had looked at a particular post, she gave numbers for these.

65. Update/report from Village Hall Management Committee.

65.1 It was noted that a report had been received and circulated to all members from the Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee.

65.1.1 It was stated that this was an excellent and very informative document and that the Chairman of the VHMC should be thanked for this.

65.2 It was noted that year end figures for the Village Hall Management Committee had been given to the Clerk and that she would circulate these to members.

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

66.1 An email request to add a link to the 'Post Office Near Me' website was noted. There were no objections to doing this and Cllr Gosling said she would do this and add a couple of others, when she had an opportunity to do so. It was however pointed out that most people would already know where their local post office was in Cheswick Green.

66.2 Cllr. Gosling referred to an email from CSW Broadband, she said it did not look like this was coming their way. She referred to the number of Open Reach vans that had been in the village recently, due to the problems with telephones etc, as a result of the flooding.

66.2.1 Cllr. Gosling enquired whether she should make enquires about the cost for fibre for Broadband. She said there was some down Creynolds Lane and at the school from a top cabinet. There was also some on Cheswick Place.

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Action item: It was agreed that Cllr. Gosling should find out if Open Reach had any plans to put fibre in the village and the possible costs involved for doing this.

66.3 An email from the Air Ambulance requesting to install a recycling bin was noted. It was stated that while this was a really good idea, it was not really appropriate for Cheswick Green.

66.4 An email from WALC regarding a consultation about CIL was noted, it was agreed to defer this to the Planning Committee meeting on 27th June. It was noted that there were 10 questions to complete and this needed to be submitted by 29th June.

66.5 It was noted that BT had sent information about the Parish Councils minimum period ending 23rd May 2020, with information about thinking about a different plan. It was agreed that this needed to be considered at some point.

66.6 It was noted that information had been received from Seafarers UK regarding supporting the Maritime community. The Clerk said in previous years it had been pointed out that there was no flagpole and no civic building, therefore the Parish Council was unable to progress this request.

66.7 It was noted that a risk assessment and copies of insurance had now been received from CGRA for the party in the park, therefore this could now go ahead.

66.8 An email from Mr. Dean Standley regarding proposals he was going to put forward for a planning application for 3 bungalows was noted.

66.8.1 It was stated that it appeared work had already commenced, as the area referred to had already been fenced off and noted that a number of trees had already been planted.

66.8.2 It was stated that at this time all the Parish Council could do was to thank him for his email, which had been circulated to all members and that they would await the formal application.

66.9 An email from Coventry County Council regarding Parish Emergency Plan Templates was noted.

66.10 An email from Jayne Brown was noted. Members did not feel it would be appropriate to hold a cinema in the park on the Recreation Ground for several reasons cited. It was stated that it would be much better to do this inside the Village Hall.

66.10.1 It was noted that the situation regarding the Youth Shelter had still not been resolved, despite it being agreed that this would be sorted out before the end of June.

66.10.2 Members pointed out that they had received further complaints.

Action item: The Clerk was instructed to respond to the email and to ask for the items in the Youth Shelter to be removed as soon as possible. To also inform Jayne that the Parish Council was not in favour of the event she had suggested.

66.11 It was noted that the Clerk had received a request for a co-option form. This had not been returned yet. It was stated that the Parish Council needed some younger people.

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

67.1 In relation to the flood barriers; Cllr. Gosling said there had been some criticism about the sand bins not being opened during the flooding. She queried who should be doing this and who held keys. She referred to the flood barriers in Cllr Swain's absence. It was agreed that the situation with the keys needed to be sorted out.

68. Agenda items for next meeting.

68.1 There were none at this time.

69. 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.

69.1 There were no members of the public present.

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

71. PAYE, payroll and Pension Scheme.

Meeting closed 21:05