



Cheswick Green Parish Council

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CHESWICK GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Wednesday 11th September 2019 7:30pm Cheswick Green Village Hall

Present: Cheswick Green Parish Councillors: Len Cresswell, Margaret Gosling, Sam Sedgley, Michelle Smith, Mick Swain and Peter Townsend.

Clerk: Marie Zizzi

3 members of the Public

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

98.1 Not applicable.

99. Declarations of Interest.

99.1 There were none.

100. Dispensations.

100.1 There were none.

101. Public Participation (15 Minutes).

101.1 An apology had been sent from Borough Cllr. Ken Hawkins.

101.2 Jayne Brown spoke about the Parish Councils projector and screen, it was stated that it was assumed it was the lens that was damaged. Jayne said they were planning to purchase a projector and screen for the Youth Club and it was possible the two groups could share these.

101.3 Jayne said the goal nets were looking a bit shabby, they had funding to replace these possibly towards the end of March 2020. Cllr. Gosling said the Parish Council could purchase the nets.

101.4 Jayne said she was happy to help and find contacts for the 50 years of Cheswick Green celebrations. It was suggested a Working Party was established to deal with this and the 75th year of VE Day celebrations.

101.5 Jayne said the Youth Café was due to re-open; they had a Youth worker from SMBC coming to visit and talk to the members, to see if they could offer any help.

101.5.1 Jayne said the Youth Café would be taking part in the 'Make your mark' initiative via SMBC, it was Government research/survey to ask youths what they wanted in their communities, she said the paperwork was due in soon.

102. To resolve to accept the Minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 10th July 2019 (circulated to Parish Cllrs. with the agenda).

102.1 Cllr. Gosling queried what Cllr. Cresswell had meant when he had said there was a lot more CIL money to come in from two sites. Cllr. Cresswell said it was extra CIL from the Bloor Homes development.

Resolved; proposed Cllr. Sedgley, seconded Cllr. Townsend, that the minutes were accepted.

103. 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)

Payments to be agreed from Co-op acc Exercise Class Sept 2019 PC meeting

100156	Exercise class instructor for July 2019	£135.00
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100157 Exercise class instructor for August 2019 £ 81.00

Chgs/Electronic payment transactions to be approved Sept 2019 PC meeting

Payee	Reason	Total
Midlands Forestry	Work on trees	£4092.00
PKLittle John	2019 audit	£ 480.00
WM Fire & Security	Additional CCTV	£2245.00
Meadowfields	To empty bin SWood Road July, re-cement goal post sockets and lay new slabs in play area	£ 222.00
DM Payroll Services	PAYE April – Sep 2019	£ 72.00
Marie Zizzi	Reimbursement for new battery and pads for Defibrillator	£ 73.80
Marie Zizzi	3 x black 2 x yellow ink for printer in office	£ 120.66

More in confidential section.

Petty cash £77.48 as at 5th September 2019

Resolved; proposed Cllr. Swain, seconded Cllr. Sedgley; that all payments were approved.

104. To resolve to accept the external auditors review for year ended 31 March 2019 (forwarded to CGPC members by email 8/7/19) and to publish the 'notice of conclusion of audit' and AGAR as required.

Resolved; proposed Cllr. Sedgley, seconded Cllr. Townsend; that the review was accepted.

104.1 It was pointed out that the notices needed to be displayed on notice boards and put on the website tomorrow.

105. To discuss the CIL money and consider what this should/could be spent on.

105.1 Cllr. Swain proposed a separate Working Party was created to discuss this with input from anyone that wanted to be involved.

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

106.1 Cllr. Swain referred to a request from 72 Cheswick Way, regarding trees at the end of the garden being cut back. He said in the 2019 tree report it was recommended work on these trees was carried out within 3 years.

106.1.1 Cllr. Cresswell commented about not cutting the whole bow down, if these trees were to be cut at all.

106.1.2 Cllr. Swain referred to there being 4 bungalows where trees may need cutting, he said they should write to the people affected prior to any work commencing.

106.2 Cllr. Swain said as a result of submitting a complaint to the Borough Council regarding the state of the verges with photographs, the Recreation Committee had met with Tammy Rowley, SMBCs Operations Team Leader, Environmental Services, as he had not been happy with the reply received.

106.2.1 It was noted this was in relation to Tanworth Lane, Vicarage Road, Watery Lane and Creynolds Lane. Cllr. Swain said Tammy was not familiar with Cheswick Green, they had talked about what SMBC did and what it did not do and who was responsible for what.

106.2.2 Cllr. Swain said they were only cutting back a metre now due to hedgehogs, this was for the whole of the Borough. It was stated there was no excuse for the strimming not to be carried out or for debris not to be removed, there was meant to be a follow up by a road sweeper.

106.2.3 Cllr. Smith commented about a ditch on Creynolds Lane and all the debris being put there.

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106.2.4 Cllr. Swain said the weeds in the road and kerbs were done every 3 years. He said that due to making the formal complaint, they may get somethings done.

106.2.5 Cllr. Swain spoke about Rights of Way, such as the hammer head on Saxon Wood Road not being cut back.

106.2.6 It was stated that the cut through from Tanworth Lane to the new development had not been done and SMBC was looking into this.

106.2.7 Cllr. Swain said they had been told about a new dog fouling initiative with kits of stencils and paint.

106.3 Cllr. Swain said with Cllr. Cresswell he had met with the Parish Councils grounds maintenance contractor. He referred to work that had not been done at the Mount, he said it would be done.

106.3.1 Cllr. Swain said work would get done as per the specification, but possibly not in the order requested. He referred to certain work needing to be done at certain times.

106.3.2 There were comments about not cutting the grass when it was wet and not carrying out certain work when birds were nesting.

106.3.3 Cllr. Swain said he was in favour of the Parish Council extending the contract for 2 more years.

Resolved: proposed Cllr. Swain, seconded Cllr. Cresswell; that the grounds maintenance agreement with Meadowfields GM should continue for a further 2 years to the end of March 2022.

106.4 Cllr. Swain referred to Dog Wood on the Recreation Ground, it was agreed to leave this for now.

106.5 Cllr. Swain referred to trees by the fence on the Recreation Ground, he said they had crept back about 12 feet. It was suggested that this could be considered as part of the project to make improvements to the Recreation Ground via the European Regional Development Funding the Parish Council would be receiving.

106.6 Cllr. Swain explained that in relation to the Himalayan Balsam growing on the Recreation Ground, it had to be taken out and burnt on site.

106.7 It was stated Dog Wood on the Mount extended from the wall to the school; Cllr. Cresswell said it was as big as this room. He said the area had been neglected and he thought it needed taking out.

106.7.1 There were comments about part of a tree that had been cut down and this needing to be removed. Cllr. Swain commented on the rudimental path and the network of wood, he said it was not very good, it could be worth spending some of the CIL on this area.

106.7.2 There were comments about there being a lot of history at the Mount and a need to celebrate this next year with the 50 years of Cheswick Green celebrations.

106.7.3 Cllr. Cresswell said the branches across the back were there to stop cyclists, these needed to be kept intact. There were comments about the meadow area dropping down and it being a steep ramp.

106.7.4 It was stated bark dressing and the step needed to be done at the Mount.

106.8 Regarding the broken ranch fencing outside the Village Hall, Cllr. Swain said the grounds maintenance contractor had the timber, it had been sent for dipping, it would be done and there would be a 15-year guarantee on it.

106.9 Cllr. Swain said he would be getting a quote to repair the notice boards.

107. To discuss and resolve monthly grounds maintenance work completed schedule forms.

107.1 It was agreed not to go ahead with these.

107.2 Cllr. Swain said there were some anomalies in the grounds maintenance specification and some things did not make sense. Cllr. Cresswell said some of the information relating to the maps was not very good. It was noted they would look at the specification.

108. To review form to be completed to use the Recreation Ground.

108.1 Deferred.

109. To resolve to accept Meadowfields GM cost to continue with monthly grounds maintenance for two more years until 31st March 2022.

109.1 Dealt with 106.3.3

110. To discuss replacing the notice boards on Saxon Wood Road and at Illshaw Heath. To agree who is responsible for posting notices on the 5 CGPC notice boards.

110.1 Dealt with 106.9

110.2 Cllr. Sedgley to deal with the notice board at Illshaw Heath as she has the key. Cllr. Gosling to deal with the notice boards on Saxon Wood Road and Cheswick Place (*also inside the Village Hall when the Clerk was not in*) and Cllr. Swain to do the notice boards outside the Post Office and Village Hall.

111. To receive any reports or recommendations from the Planning Committee and any update in relation to the Neighbourhood Plan and other planning matters.

111.1 There had been no Planning Committee meeting and there was no update on the Neighbourhood Plan.

112. To consider planning applications received and local development including progress regarding Cheswick Place/Mount Dairy Farm and Blythe Valley Business Park/IM (*separate list issued with the agenda*).

112.1 The following applications had been submitted between the July Parish Council meeting and this meeting, therefore the deadlines to respond were before this meeting. They had been circulated to all Councillors and a majority decision had been made that there were no comments or observations to be submitted for any.

PL/2019/01763/MINFHO - 20 Willow Drive B90 4HN; Single storey front and rear extension and a garage conversion.

PL/2019/01711/MINFHO - 11 Waterdale B90 4JP; Ground floor porch and garage extension.

PL/2019/01878/MINFHO - 49 Illshaw Heath Road Hockley Heath Solihull B94 6RT; Single storey front kitchen extension.

PL/2019/01890/MINFHO - 41 Illshaw Heath Road B94 6RT; Replacement conservatory with orangery together with remodelled first floor to increase size of master bedroom.

PL/2019/01970/PPFL - 970 Stratford Road B90 4ED; Two storey side extension, car parking and associated works.

PL/2019/01763/MINFHO - 20 Willow Drive B90 4HN; Single storey front and rear extension, garage conversion, new roof/canopy above existing garage and hallway and new front gable.

112.2 Cllr. Gosling said Cheswick Place was towards being completed, once the development had been finished the roads would be handed over to SMBC, except for the War Memorial.

112.3 Cllr. Gosling said the houses at Blythe Valley were progressing and it was possible people were moving in now.

112.4 It was noted that the Parish Council had received an email from someone that was considering buying 14 The Dingle, enquiring if the Parish Council would consider selling a piece of land at the back of this property that it owned.

112.4.1 Members agreed that they needed to keep the open spaces. Therefore, it was unanimously decided that the answer to selling this land was no.

113. To discuss the Cheswick Green Summer Fete.

113.1 It was stated that a good sum of money had been raised, without what had been collected in the tins.

113.2 Cllr. Gosling said they had been very good at cleaning up afterwards, they had offered to clean the Village Hall and the toilets. They had cleared the whole park area before it was dark.

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113.3 It was suggested the event possibly started too soon and went on too long. It was noted that there had been a lot of positive comments on Facebook.

113.4 There were comments about finding out how much had been raised in total and who the money – which charities it went to.

113.4.1 Cllr. Sedgley said the charities were MIND, Cancer Research and Diabetes UK.

114. To discuss Cheswick Green being 50 years old in 2020 and 75th anniversary of VE Day, if/how the village should/could celebrate these events.

114.1 It was stated that CGRA had discussed the 50-year celebrations and some RA members volunteered to be on the Working Party to discuss this with members of the Parish Council.

114.2 It was suggested a meeting was arranged and besides discussing these events, to also discuss the CIL and what to spend this on.

114.3 It was noted that Cllr. Swain had booked the Village Hall for the weekend commencing on Bank Holiday Friday 8th May 2020.

114.4 It was agreed that Cllr. Sedgley would co-ordinate the meetings.

114.5 There were comments about possible road closures and the need to apply for these well in advance. Cllr. Sedgley said if the money from the event went to charity, there was no charge to close the roads.

114.6 It was stated the 3 members of the public present, with people from the Saxon and representatives from the Parish Council could be on the Working Party, it was suggested to get some people from Cheswick Place involved. It was agreed to try and meet at the end of September due to people’s availability and suggested Wednesday 25th or Thursday 26th September at 8pm in the Village Hall; Cllr. Swain to check/book hall and Cllr. Sedgley to co-ordinate.

115. To discuss speeding motorists in Cheswick Green.

115.1 There were comments about possibly installing signs indicating what speed drivers were going at, it was stated there were problems on Coppice Walk.

115.2 There were comments about establishing a Speed Watch group, as this had worked in other areas and that only 3-4 people/volunteers were needed to work alongside a PCSO.

115.2.1 A member of the public suggested asking for volunteers via the school.

115.2.2 There were comments about Peter Davidson dealing with this and about people voting on Facebook to some possible solutions for Creynolds Lane, such as installing traffic lights, an island, a tabletop or speed humps. It was stated traffic lights had been the most popular, but they would not be appropriate.

115.2.3 It was suggested to ask for a 30mph limit.

115.3 Cllr. Gosling said members of the Parish Council had met with representatives from SMBC about this, she said the Highways department and the Planning department did not appear to communicate with each other. She said there could not be a tabletop if the speed was more than 30mph.

115.4 There were further comments about the bottom of Creynolds Lane and traffic needing to slow down. It was stated there had already been a couple of accidents.

115.5 Cllr. Gosling said a tabletop on Watery Lane would work.

115.6 Cllr. Sedgley referred to a survey Borough Cllr. James Butler had carried out. There were comments about there being lots of parked cars and cars coming from Redditch; it was queried whether this was due to work being carried out on the roundabout and that it was due to the Stratford Road and the motorway etc.

115.6.1 It was noted that cars were being test driven in the area and that this added to the issues.

115.7 There was a lengthy discussion and lots of comments about traffic, queuing, speeding, the right turn out of Creynolds Lane, the timing of the traffic lights at this location and people jumping the lights.

115.7.1 It was suggested, by a member of the public, that the white line could possibly be moved back so drivers were not confused by the second set of lights.

115.8 It was pointed out that remedial work was needed on the road.

115.9 It was noted that members of CGRA were trying to communicate with Ashley Prior, Head of Highways at SMBC and David Kearny at SMBC about speed signs.

116. To discuss parking in Cheswick Green.

116.1 Covered item 115.

117. To discuss Creynolds Lane junction.

117.1 Covered item 115.

118. To discuss bus services.

118.1 It was stated the Parish Council had send a letter to Travel for West Midlands, Landflight, with copies to SMBC including the Borough Councillors, Cllr. Alan Rebeiro and Dame Caroline Spelman. A reply had been received and a further letter had since been sent to the same people and Andy Street.

118.2 It was stated that Travel for the West Midlands (Network West Midlands) was sending the same reply the Parish Council had received to everyone.

118.3 Cllr. Gosling said there had been a bus going past the school for the last 40 years.

118.4 There were comments about buses going too fast. It was stated a lot of people were not happy with what was going on and that people were not getting to college/work on time.

118.5 It was stated that Cllr. James Butler had started an online petition and that a group had been established to look at what could be done. It was noted that Mr. Andrew Gosling had been nominated to be on this group for Cheswick Green, to try and help out, as he was a regular bus user.

118.5.1 It was suggested to possibly have another representative from Cheswick Green on this group, that was a bus user. Cllr. Gosling said she had discussed this with other members of the Parish Council and they had decided it should be Mr. Richard Sedgley.

118.6 Cllr. Smith said there were issues with the bus service all over the place it was not just here.

118.7 It was stated that people had not complained initially because the maps showed the bus as going through Cheswick Way.

118.8 There were lots of comments and examples given of various residents' issues, including that there was an elderly population and they could not walk to Creynolds Lane and that the road people were expected to cross, was very dangerous with fast cars.

118.9 It was stated the company did not come out and look at areas, they just used Google Maps and looked at what the speed limits were on paper.

118.10 There was then a conversation about the problems with the school buses; including that the school was closing early at 14:05 but there was no bus until 15:00; the service was open to Tudor Grange pupils, which would result in fights; that they were not buses but coaches etc.

118.10.1 Cllr. Smith said she had made a telephone call and been told there were 164 seats available for Cheswick Green, Monkspath and Dickens Heath. She said there had used to be a double decker and a single decker and they had just added up the number of seats on these.

118.10.2 There were comments about the passes SMBC issued and the need to count these; it was stated some people paid for these and others did not. It was stated that routes were measured from the bus stop and not where someone lived and that free passes could only be used on the school buses.

118.10.3 One resident said she paid £320 per year, per child, for a bus pass.

118.10.4 Cllr. Cresswell commented about his children having free passes, because they went to Alderbrook school. He suggested people walked the route, which is what he had done to prove how long it was.

118.10.5 There were comments about passes depending on the distance. There were comments about children not having to walk through Monkspath Park because it was dangerous, it was pointed out the Cllr. Ken Hawkins had said it was safe to walk through this park, members of the public present did not agree it was safe.

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118.10.6 It was stated that people were not getting the service they were paying for, the situation was that children could not get home. It was okay to get to the school, as the bus came to Cheswick Green first, it was getting back that was the issue.

118.10.7 Cllr. Swain asked if the school had any autonomy. It was stated it was the Local Education Authorities (LEAs) responsibility.

118.10.8 It was stated the service had been changed from Grosvenor to Hollywood travel.

118.10.9 There were lots more comments about the school bus service and it was pointed out that there was still the development at the Blythe Valley to come as well.

118.10.10 A member of the public read out the route the bus took.

119. To discuss the website.

119.1 Due to a recent incident involving a planning application and Hockley Heath Parish Council, the Clerk had suggested CGPC added something to its website to inform people that the Parish Council was a statutory consultee on planning applications in the parish and if people had any concerns, to let the Parish Council know asap.

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

120.1 The Clerk said their Financial Regulations needed to be updated.

120.2 Cllr. Cresswell referred to the bus shelter on the A34; he said a lot of parishioners used it; it had been 6 months since it should have been replaced. Money had been agreed with IMP via the Section 106 Agreement, SMBC had paid for it to be done. There were comments about the temporary bus stop being in the road and in the bush. It was stated this was another example of statutory services failing to talk to each other. Cllr. Gosling said it could be due to a lot of work taking place there.

121. Update/report from Village Hall Management Committee.

121.1 Cllr. Swain said radiators had been fitted in the large hall and new windows; however, the aluminium windows had cleats about 3 inches long, when they had been removed the plaster had come away and this needed repairing.

121.2 Cllr. Swain said the unused vents will be removed. He said it was hoped the work on the toilets would commence towards the end of the month, the colour scheme had been agreed, it now depended on access and the materials.

121.3 Cllr. Swain said they were to obtain quotes to replace the internal double doors which were not very user friendly, as they were too heavy.

121.3.1 Cllr. Cresswell asked if the new doors would stay open, it was suggested wedges could be used and felt it would be helpful to have doors that stayed open.

121.3.2 It was pointed out that the existing doors were heavy to operate the mechanism underneath and that they were not fire doors.

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

122.1 It was noted SMBCs consultation on the 'Draft Statement of Community Involvement' and 'Draft Local Validation Criteria' could be completed by individuals and the deadline was 27/9/19.

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

123.1 It was noted that the defibrillator battery and pads had been replaced today.

123.2 It was noted a date for the turning on of the Christmas tree lights was in the process of being agreed.

123.3 Cllr. Gosling said Mr. John Pettinger was making progress with his book. She said the Parish Council would contribute towards the cost of it being published. She said it was a history of before Cheswick Green was built, it was very interesting and fascinating. It was suggested to tie this in with the 50-year event.

124. Agenda items for next meeting.

124.1 There were none. However, Cllr. Townsend asked for speeding motorists to remain on the agenda. The Clerk suggested meeting with David Kearny from SMBC, to look at locations, types and cost for signs, could be a better way to progress this.

125. 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.

125.1 It was noted that there was nothing further to discuss and the meeting was closed.

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

127. PAYE, payroll and pension scheme.

Meeting closed 21:05pm