



Cheswick Green Parish Council

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CHESWICK GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Wednesday 11th March 2020 7:30pm Cheswick Green Village Hall

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

Clerk: Marie Zizzi

1 member of the public

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

262.1 Not applicable all Councillors present.

263. Declarations of Interest.

263.1 There were none.

264. Dispensations.

264.1 There were none.

265. Public Participation (15 Minutes).

265.1 No matters were raised.

266. To resolve to accept the Minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 12th February 2020 (issued with the agenda).

Resolved: proposed Cllr. Sedgley; seconded Cllr. Swain – the Minutes were accepted.

267. To receive a report on the finances of the Council and to approve any payments made since the last meeting and any payments to be made (issued with the agenda).

Payment to be agreed from Co-op acc Exercise Class March 2020 PC meeting

| | | |
|--------|--|--------|
| 100165 | Exercise class instructor for Feb 2020 | £81.00 |
|--------|--|--------|

Chqs/Electronic payment transactions to be approved March 2020 PC meeting

| Payee | Reason | Total |
|--------------|--|--------------|
| M. Zizzi | Reimbursement for Microsoft Office 365 | £59.99 |
| Vision ICT | Writing and adding Accessibility Statement Report to website | £102.00 |
| SLCC | Annual membership | £161.00 |

More in confidential section.

Meadowfields GM to increase current bank Standing Order amount from £926.40 per month to £1000.00 per month from 1st April 2020 as agreed to extend grounds maintenance works for a further 2 years and to include additional works added over the last 3 years

Petty cash £97.91 as at 4th March 2020

Resolved; proposed Cllr. Townsend, seconded Cllr. Sedgley – all payments were approved.

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 11th March 2020

Signed

Date.....

268. To consider transferring funds from Unity Trust Bank account into CCLA account, prior to receiving first instalment of 2020-21 precept (April 2020) to prevent funds reaching the amount that will incur additional charges.

268.1 It was agreed to reduce the funds in the CCLA account to below £85,000, to keep the funds in the UTB account below £85,000 and as a temporary measure, due to what was going on in relation to the Coronavirus, to transferred funds into the only other account available to the Parish Council, the Co-operative account used for the exercise class.

Action item: Clerk to carry out some calculations and advise via email how to progress this.

269. To discuss the CIL money and agree the items this has been spent on, ready for publication at the end of the financial year (issued with the agenda).

Resolved; proposed Cllr. Sedgley, seconded Cllr. Smith – that the list as circulated was approved.

270. To receive any reports or recommendations from the Recreation Committee and to resolve any action to be taken, including quote for repairing notice boards.

270.1 The quote Cllr. Swain had circulated to have the notice boards (public side), repaired with cork was discussed. It was noted that there was uncertainty about whether it would last and stated that the existing surface was difficult to pin to.

270.1.1 Cllr. Cresswell said the Parish Council sides were not so good, they needed painting. It was suggested to possibly get this side corked as well.

270.1.2 Cllr. Swain to progress this, for both sides, with the cork to be coated and edged.

270.2 Cllr. Sedgley said it had been discovered that Dickens Heath football club were using the Recreation Ground and had been kicking Cheswick Green youths off, as well as charging.

270.2.1 It was stated they were ruining the pitch and that there were lots of pitches in Dickens Heath, which they would have to pay to use. Cllr. Sedgley said she would come and speak to them on Saturday about this.

270.3 In relation to the Mount, a monthly risk assessment had been received which pointed out there were logs and debris, it was suggested these were removed. Cllr. Cresswell said these were useful for animal life. It was agreed Cllr. Gosling and Cllr. Sedgley would visit the site.

271. To discuss and decide how CGPC should deal with the situation of a parishioner reducing the height of three trees on the Mount near to his boundary fence.

271.1 Cllr. Gosling said Cllr. Cresswell had requested for this to be an item on the agenda.

271.1.1 Cllr. Cresswell asked what they were going to do about the person vandalising Parish Council tress. It was stated there was nothing the Parish Council could do.

271.1.2 Cllr. Cresswell suggested writing to the resident and pointing out what had been done was un-necessary. It was stated the trunks had been removed but the twigs were still there. He said it was a criminal offence, however they needed evidence.

271.1.3 Cllr. Gosling said the resident had been told they could trim back what was overhanging their garden, what was on their land. It was noted the fence panel had been replaced now. The height of the trees had not been reduced evidence shown in a recent photograph, only cut back.

271.1.4 It was noted that this was a month ago and it would be ineffective to do anything now.

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

272. The latest version had been circulated. Cllr. Sedgley was updating it, she said it needed further input from others involved.

273. To consider any planning applications received (*circulated by email*) and local development including progress regarding Cheswick Place/Mount Dairy Farm and Blythe Valley Park (BVP)/IM.

PL/2020/00294/MINFHO - 68 Saxon Wood Road Cheswick Green Solihull B90 4JN; Single storey side extension.

PL/2020/00282/MINFHO - 68 Creynolds Lane Cheswick Green Solihull B90 4FB; Single storey rear/side extension to kitchen and dining area.

PL/2020/00189/MINFHO - 278 Creynolds Lane Cheswick Green Solihull B90 4ET; Conversion of garage and front extension to form en-suite wet room/bedroom for disabled access.

PL/2020/00498/VAR - Parcel L Blythe Valley Parke Blythe Gate Solihull; Amendments to planning permission dated 08.08.2019 (PL/2019/01093/PPFL). Erection of an 80-bed care home (use class C2) and associated works. Namely: minor material amendments to elevation, floor, roof, section and layout plans.

273.1 There were no comments to be submitted for any of the above.

PL/2020/00385/PPFL - 970 Stratford Road Shirley Solihull B90 4ED; Two storey side extension, car parking and change of use from office (B1(a) use Class) to children's day nursery (D1 Use Class).

273.2 It was agreed to object to this application for a number of reasons;

- it encroaches on Green Belt which is already under threat
- it is considered this is a totally unsuitable area for a children's nursery, as it is too close to a very busy main road, meaning pollution levels would be high and this could have a detrimental impact on the children's health, especially if the children are playing outside
- it is near to a busy junction, making drop off and pick up during rush hours likely to create further traffic issues on a road that is already stretched to its capacity, which would highly likely result in accidents
- there are only 23 parking spaces, however there could be up to 90 children, plus staff, this could result in people parking on the Stratford Road which is extremely dangerous and could lead to serious accidents.

273.2.1 It was noted Borough Cllr. Ken Hawkins had sent an email regarding this application, stating he thought this was a curious one and one he had sought a briefing on. He stated that calls that the stretch of the A34 is unsafe were not really realistic and once the sales of homes on the BVP and sign off of new commercial development reach a certain point, the roundabout on Monkspath Hall Road would be controlled by traffic signals. He added that the construction going onsite at present is an extension previously permitted.

273.2.2 It was pointed out that Cllr. Hawkins thought the ponds from the Bloor Homes development were working perfectly well with water flowing from the brook into the ponds and he stated it was not correct to say the ponds failed. Members of the Parish Council did not agree with this.

273.3 In relation the Cheswick Place; it was stated this was more or less finished. There were still concerns about a couple of paths that members felt were not satisfactory; for the path through the flood defences, it was stated the gradient was not good, it was very steep. It was pointed out that the gravel on these paths sticks to shoes and there was no way a wheelchair/pram/pushchair could be pushed through Archer Drive, because it was too steep.

273.3.1 There were comments about the link bridge by Saxon Wood Road being rotten.

Action item: Clerk to contact SMBCs CEO Nick Page, with a copy to the Borough Councillors regarding these paths, as they are not safe and stating the Parish Council would recommend they are improved before they are adopted or SMBC will inherit a problem.

273.4 It was noted the Blythe Valley development was going ahead.

274. Update on celebrating Cheswick Green being 50 years old in 2020 and 75th anniversary of VE Day.

274.1 Cllr. Sedgley said the school had stated it could not get involved, due to the event taking place on a Bank Holiday. Cllr. Smith suggested asking the school to do something, for example make the bunting. Cllr. Cresswell said they could ask members of the PTA to come with children.

274.2 Cllr. Sedgley confirmed the Mayor was booked and the road closure form had been submitted.

Action item: Clerk was asked to invite Dame Caroline Spelman, Andy Street, Saqib Bhatti and the Borough Councillors to the event.

274.3 Cllr. Sedgley said they needed to arrange another meeting. She had been to a nursery to enquire about planters, she had seen some hefty ones that could be placed underneath road signs which cost £15-19.99.

274.3.1 Cllr. Smith had a brochure and had spoken to someone regarding 3-tier planters, which she showed to everyone. It was noted these were £350-450 and they were self-watering, it was queried whether there was enough money for these.

274.3.2 There were comments about possibly having a few on lampposts, these cost about £100 plus the cost for a bracket.

274.3.3 It was pointed out that depending on where the planters were to be placed and also in relation to using lampposts, permission would be required from SMBC.

274.3.4 Cllr. Smith said if they wanted to get the planters, currently they took 3 weeks to be delivered, however further into the Spring it could be 4-5 weeks.

274.3.5 It was felt that it was better to visually see the planters and suggested to put some where the road was to be closed off. It was noted that there were already some big round ones, it was suggested to have a red, white and blue colour theme. Cllr. Sedgley and Cllr. Smith offered to fill/plant the planters.

274.4 Cllr. Sedgley was checking the Parish Councils insurance was sufficient to cover the event.

274.5 Cllr. Sedgley said CGRA had offered to sort out a raffle.

275. Update on Broadband.

275.1 Cllr. Gosling said there was nothing to report, they had been asked to provide some information in relation to the school and the doctors, this had now been sent.

276. To discuss speeding motorists, parking, any other road related matters in Cheswick Green and vehicular activated speed signs.

276.1 Cllr. Sedgley said there had been another accident on Tuesday 10th March, involving a lady travelling down Illshaw Heath Road who was hit by someone coming out of Creynolds Lane, apparently they did not see the 'stop' signs.

276.2 It was noted that SMBC had commissioned an independent road safety consultant, to carry out a study at 4 locations in the Borough, 2 were in the Blythe Ward and one was Creynolds Lane/Illshaw Heath Road.

276.3 It was noted that SMBC had asked if the vehicular activated speed sign could be sorted out in the next financial year.

277. To discuss the car park.

277.1 It was noted the Clerk had contacted both Enterprise Inns (EI) and KWB regarding the state of the car park.

277.2 Cllr. Townsend said EI did not exist anymore, EI had been brought out by Stonegate, it was a done deal. He added that the CEO had appeared at the Saxon because it was the first one they had taken over, he would be getting their design team

there and getting work done. It was noted they had already spruced up the fence and fixed the wall.

277.2.1 Cllr. Cresswell asked if they could move the fence to the edge.

277.3 Cllr. Townsend said the format of having an Area Manager etc. would carry on. They had agreed that the car park was a disgrace and admitted it was partly due to the Veolia trucks. There were comments about the Friday 8th May celebrations and the area looking a mess.

277.1.4 It was suggested the colour map of the car park was sent to both EI/Stonegate and KWB and a meeting was arranged.

278. To discuss the area in front of the shops and the passage between the Village Hall and chemist.

278. 1 It was felt this could be discussed when the meeting was arranged.

278.1.1 It was agreed to offer Wednesday 1st April 2020 at 10:30 – when the Recreation Committee meeting was due to take place; the Committee meeting could commence at 11:30 instead.

278.2 There were comments about the Parish Council arranging for the tidying up the area in front of the shops before the celebration events. It was pointed out that permission would be required from the owners.

279. To discuss bus services.

279.1 Cllr. Sedgley said with Cllr. Smith she was meeting Borough Cllr. James Butler to discuss the bus services. She said Andy Street was in favour of what they wanted, buses to come through the village, however Landflight and TfWM were not, they needed to take this to the next level now.

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

280.1 It was noted that due to work being carried out on the floor in the Village Hall week commencing Monday 6th April, it was necessary to move the Parish Council meeting to Wednesday 15th April.

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

291.1 Cllr. Swain said there was a new booking clerk for the Village Hall.

291.2 Cllr. Swain spoke about the downpipe by the Village Hall, he said they thought it was blocked and had tried to clear it, to discover it didn't connect to anything.

291.3 Cllr. Swain said the Committee was obtaining quotes for internal decorating.

291.4 Cllr. Cresswell said the Parish Council did not own the Village Hall, but the Parish Council had ended up paying to use a room, he queried this and what role the Parish Council had in relation to the Village Hall, how they could get involved.

291.4.1 Cllr. Gosling said it had to be run by a separate committee, they received reports from the VHMC. It was stated no Parish Councillors had a role on the VHMC.

291.4.2 Cllr. Cresswell asked if they could have any influence over what the VHMC did.

291.4.3 Cllr. Swain said the VHMC was set up to run the Village Hall on behalf of the Parish Council.

291.4.4 There were comments about Cllr. Townsend asking Cllr. Gosling about why alcohol couldn't be sold from the Village Hall, that this was in relation to the Covenant when the hall was built. Cllr. Cresswell said alcohol could be sold with a license and this could be provided by the Saxon. There were comments about who had said what to whom at the Saxon.

291.4.5 Cllr. Swain said it was on the VHMC website that no alcohol was to be sold from the hall.

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

282.1 Noted.

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

283.1 Broadband/Open Reach and the paths on the Bloor Homes development – both ongoing.

284. Agenda items for next meeting.

284.1 There were none.

285. 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.

285. At 9pm the meeting was closed as there were no further matters to discuss.

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

286.1 There were none.

287. PAYE, payroll and pension scheme.

Meeting closed at 9pm