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CHESWICK GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Thursday 13th February 2025 7pm Cheswick Green Village Hall

Present: Cheswick Green Parish Councillors: Simon Coles, Linda Heslington, Margaret Gosling, Amiee Moloney and Mick Swain (Chairman).

Clerk: Marie Zizzi

4/3 members of the public

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

198.1 Not applicable all Councillors present.

199. Declarations of Interest/Dispensations.

199.1 There were none.

200. To discuss co-option.

200.1 Aimee Moloney, a former Parish Councillor was present as a member of the public. Aimee had completed forms to be co-opted. It was unanimously agreed to co-opt Aimee and she joined the other Councillors.

201. Public Participation (15 Minutes).

Note: Borough Cllrs. Green and Hawkins had sent their apologies.

201.1 There were comments about Solihull MBC looking to save costs on street lighting, different bulbs were being trialled in a street or streets, to see people's reactions.

201.2 A resident from Blythe Valley (BV), spoke about complaints about some lights on certain streets in BV; It was stated Crest Nicholson had financial troubles, it was thought Bellway could be buying Crest Nicholson. There were comments about developers having problems, due to the costs involved with building.

201.3 The resident from BV said they had not been to a Parish Council (PC) meeting since September; they had seen all the emails about various issues including the defibrillator, they thanked the Parish Council for its efforts with this.

201.4 The BV resident referred to previous discussions about the barrier at BV; they said this seemed to have died a death; residents would like this sorted out to try and reduce traffic; they added it was the Borough Cllrs. who were meant to be looking into this.

201.5 The BV resident said the speed sign had been up and working within BV, but it had only been there for 4 weeks. They added people were still driving too fast, there had been two accidents on Stroudley, they needed the sign there.

201.5.1 It was stated the PC only had one speed sign, which was rotated every 4 weeks; it was stated the data could be looked at, to see what speeds people were driving at. It was pointed out that some people felt the speed sign made a difference, others didn't.

201.6 There were comments about issues at a farm; it was stated there had been a stakeholder meeting in January, involving a group of different people including the police. It was thought the father had died years ago, the mother had died recently, twins had inherited the farm; due to threats to lives, they were in prison; the fires were still going on and stuff was still being dumped; in terms of enforcement this was ongoing; people were trying to establish who the owner was, who was responsible; there were comments about the connection to BV, in relation to reinstating the path to how it was, once the contaminated land had been dealt with. It was stated there was new rubbish all the time; there were two mattresses there now; it was felt there were money issues and this could go on for some

time, due to investigating the ownership of the property and possibly probate. It was stated someone using a caravan was causing the fires. This was as much as was known.

201.7 There were comments about someone leaving rubbish by the bus stop and also by the pub yesterday. It was stated this rubbish was taken away, but it was replaced; there had been 5 bags last week and 4 on Monday; there was also a microwave that had been dumped.

202. To resolve to accept the Minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 9th January 2025 (*circulated to Parish Cllrs. with the agenda*).

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

203. To discuss Annual Statutory Parish meeting/assembly due to take place on Thursday 3rd April 2025.

203.1 It was agreed to alter the date and to hold this meeting on Thursday 10th April 2025 at 7pm; prior to the usual monthly Parish Council meeting.

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

Payee	Total
Countrywide Grounds Maintenance January 2025	£786.89
M. Zizzi (instant ink)	£11.99
Marie Zizzi (ink for the printer in the PC office)	£39.04
Countrywide Grounds Maintenance dismantle and remove shelter	£1344.00
Countrywide GM - replace shelf in BT red phone kiosk/book swap	£36.00
Countrywide GM – fill potholes on car park	£499.61

More in confidential section.

Petty cash £85.78

Transfer £3500 from the UTB savings account into the current account.

204.1 It was noted it had been agreed to leave the branches that had been cut from trees at the Mount where they were, as they had created a habitat; the company had been asked if it would reduce the cost, now it did not need to shred and remove these branches; this had been agreed and the company had been asked to submit an amended invoice, this had not yet been received.

204.2 Two quotes had been received from KSV Solutions Ltd. for CCTV for the Village Hall for £3067.88 and for cabling £551.00; everyone felt these were very reasonable and both quotes were accepted.

Resolved; proposed Cllr. Swain, seconded Cllr. Coles – all payments and the two quotes were approved.

204.3 It was noted Cllr. Coles had circulated costs for Survey Monkey, to set up a consultation for residents in relation to a new shelter. It was agreed to take the more expensive option and for Cllr. Coles to progress with this, as well as hard copies for residents to collect from the Village Hall/shops.

205. To consider planning applications (*sent separately by email*) **and local development Blythe Valley, including defibrillator, and Cheswick Place, including adoption by SMBC.**

PL/2025/00251/MINFHO - 224 Creynolds Lane Cheswick Green Solihull B90 4ET; Single storey side extension to bedroom.

205.1.1 There were no comments to be submitted.

PL/2025/00109/MINFHO - 2 Cheswick Way Cheswick Green Solihull B90 4EX; Addition of railings and gate to front of property. Replacement of tile hanging to front and side (South East) elevations with vertical timber cladding.

205.1.2 It was felt this would spoil the look of the road and agreed to object, as it was not in keeping with the street scene.

PL/2024/02926/PPOL - Land South Of Dog Kennel Lane Shirley Solihull; Outline planning application (with all matters reserved except access) for phased residential development including affordable housing and selfbuild homes (Class C3); a care or retirement home (Class C2); a primary school (Class F1); retail and commercial uses (Classes F2 and E); vehicular access from Dog Kennel Lane and Tanworth Lane; public open space; and associated infrastructure.

205.1.3 It was agreed to submit what had previously been sent to SMBC, with the correct date and planning application number, it was noted it was the same officer as before.

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205.2 In relation to Blythe Valley; in relation to the defibrillator, it was agreed to go with the Zoll type option.

205.3 In relation to Cheswick Place; it was stated it was still as usual a mess, nothing had been done.

205.4 Cllr. Gosling referred to a previous planning application for work on a tree; she said this had been done yesterday and it looked ok.

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

206.1 Cllr. Coles and Cllr. Heslington had attended the Solihull Area Meeting (SAM), on Thursday 16th January; it was stated it had been really well attended; a Councillor from Tidbury Green had spoken about the dreadful antisocial behaviour taking place; they were trying to sort out the process, to get to the right person/people to report this, for it to be dealt with.

206.1.1 The resident from BV said the antisocial behaviour at BV had calmed down a little, possibly due to the weather. They added Bromford Housing Association had produced a document, it had only recently been created, on how residents could complain about antisocial behaviour, this had been published throughout BV.

206.1.2 It was stated at the SAM there had been discussions about SMBC housing and its new Plan; it was thought the number of houses had increased from 886 to 13-1400; the call for sites had gone well. It was stated there had been comments about Coventry and Warwickshire building on the borders of Solihull. It was queried whether Solihull MBC was still expected to provide housing numbers for Birmingham.

206.1.3 At the SAM there had also been comments about the Council Plan, retrofit for housing and what the best routes were for this, in relation to houses being too hot/cold and funding. It was queried why builders were allowed to build without having to address these issues, by including things like solar panels etc. It was stated building regulations were changing in April 2025.

206.1.4 It was pointed out people, especially old people were worried about who they were talking to, due to scams.

206.1.5 There were comments about the proposal for land off Dog Kennel Lane; it was stated this development included things like solar panels, it would be a better development than recent ones.

206.1.6 At the SAM, Barston PC had asked if other councils would financially support it, to employ a KC, in relation to matters involving the airport and what some Section 106 money was spent on.

206.1.7 At the SAM, it had been noted Balsall PC had established a service to take people to/from hospital appointments, this service had expanded and they wanted to try and introduce it into other parishes.

206.2 Cllr. Swain and the Clerk, further to a complaint being made to SMBC about lack of communication, had entered a Stage 1 complaint, which had resulted in agreeing to quarterly meetings, with representatives from SMBC. At the recent meeting, it had been agreed a schedule of issues would be put together, to keep a record of issues and where things were.

206.2.1 Lady Lane was on SMBCs plan for resurfacing in the next financial year.

206.2.2 There had been a discussion about the house past the Crossroads Garage, which had been hit by a vehicle, where water was running off, which froze and became dangerous, SMBC would look into this.

206.2.3 The other matters discussed included Tanworth Lane/Salter Street/Shutt Lane; trees on Watery Lane; new tarmac which weeds were growing through; the Taylor Wimpey planning application (it was stated the land next to this site was still owned by a motor company; a developer wanted an entrance/exit on to the Stratford Road); it was stated one developer needed to find an alternative for playing fields.

206.2.4 Cllr. Swain referred to an email asking if members of the PC would like to meet on site with the contractors, this had not been progressed yet.

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

207.1 Cllr. Heslington said there would be a new yoga class from May, a ballet class took place on Wednesdays now, the hall was very busy.

208. To discuss issues with monthly site audits of Parish Council owned land, including The Mount and trees.

208.1 The only matter raised were the branches on the Mount.

209. To discuss the red phone box/book swap.

209.1 It was noted Cllr. Swains’ wife and her friend regularly tidied up the kiosk, books left on the floor became wet/damp and had to be thrown away. A notice had been put there now and on social media, asking people not to do this and not to leave things if the kiosk was full.

209.2 It was noted someone else also cleared the kiosk, two residents present said it was them; they were thanked for doing this.

209.3 It was noted the rotten/broken bottom shelf had been replaced.

210. To discuss CGPC mobile phone/broadband/landline and new Virgin contract.

210.1 Cllr. Coles said Virgin had been useless, no-one came back to him. He referred to the costs for cable being £3k. It was noted someone had been out to survey the Village Hall, they had been told Virgin was not going to continue with this, then there had been an email stating Virgin was waiting for wire to be put in and it would provide the PC with an installation date. The landline was working, it was diverted to the mobile.

211. To discuss the car park.

211.1 The potholes on the parts the PC owned had been filled. It was noted previously it had been suggested a barrier was installed, a reply had been sent from SMBC, it looked like a lot of documents were required. It was stated the main throughway was owned by the PC. Cllr. Coles agreed to contact someone at the brewery about the car park.

212. To discuss issues raised with SMBC, including trees planted by SMBC and the speed sign.

212.1 Cllr. Swain said a resident had come to his house, about some trees SMBC had planted, this resident had looked at their insurance policy, they felt these trees should not have been planted.

212.1.1 There were comments about an Oak at the end of Cheswick Way; Elms that had been planted, enquiring whether SMBC should contact residents before planting trees. It was stated SMBC had half a million trees to plant. Cllr. Swain said he would make enquiries.

212.1.2 It was noted the Clerk had received an email from another resident, who was concerned about some large conifer trees; SMBC had said its Forestry Officer would be visiting the area, to assess/confirm if SMBC owns where the trees have been planted. They would let the Clerk know the outcome.

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

213.1 A survey to be completed by the PC for SMBC, in relation to the Council Plan was noted; it was agreed members would look at this after the meeting.

213.2 An email from Bickenhill and Marston Green PC, regarding training was noted; Cllr. Coles had agreed to attend this if possible, when the date/time were known.

213.3 An email from WALC in relation to the Kings Garden parties was noted.

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

214. It was noted the PC needed to arrange for a tree inspection to be carried out this year. It was agreed the Clerk should ask the PC Grounds maintenance contractor to organise this for the PC.

215. Agenda items for next meeting.

215.1 Car park and auditors.

216. 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.

216.1 There was nothing further to discuss.

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

217.1 There was nothing to discuss.

218. PAYE, payroll and Pension Scheme.

218.1 In confidential section of the minutes.

Meeting closed 20:30pm

Signed

Dated