BROAD CHALKE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

held at the Village Hall on

Wednesday 11th May 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Mr T Hitchings (Chairman)

Mr M Pickford (Vice-chairman)

Mr E Fry

Mr S Carter

Mr S Dawes

Mrs E Richter

Mr H Flint, Mr D Richter, Mrs H Luft, Mr A Truluck, Mr T Jolly and Mr M Altham were present to represent their organisations.

Nine members of the public were also present.

The Clerk, Mr C Rothwell was in attendance.

1. Apologies for Absence. Apologies were received from Councillor Mr N Najjar, Councillor Mr T Cave-Gibbs, Councillor Mr C Sylvan, Mrs M Johns, Mrs J Pearce, Mr D Brown, PC M Douglas and Mrs S Fry.
2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting in 2021 had been made available prior to the Meeting and were approved.

1. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

1. Finance Report

The Clerk had prepared and circulated the accounts for 2021-2022 with the agenda. These had been audited by Clifford Fry.

The Clerk presented the accounts to the meeting. These will be published on the Council’s website and will be available for public inspection during the statutory Public Rights Period, 13 June 2022 to 22 July 2022.

1. Chairman's report
   1. The Chairman opened by stating that it is now one year since the new Council formed following elections in 2021. He thanked Justin Alison who had recently stepped down from the Council due to personal reasons and that, consequently, there is a vacancy on the Council.
   2. The Chairman spoke about some of the highlights of the last 12 months.

* The completion of the Neighbourhood Plan and its adoption following the Village Referendum in July last year.
* The huge efforts by the Community Land Trust Team in developing the affordable Housing Scheme.
* The work with Cranborne Chase AONB and the Dark Skies Reserve and the Crystal Clear Ebble Project.
* The success of the Community Hub.
* The progress at the Queens Head pub and it being runner up in the Best Pub in Wiltshire awards.
* Even the Council’s Team effort in the installation of the replacement finger post at Church Corner.
  1. The Chairman stated that it had been a privilege to serve as the Council Chairman for the last12 months and summed up Broad Chalke by its strength as a community.
  2. The Chairman then welcomed representatives of village organisations, thanked them for their work and invited them to address the Meeting.

1. Chalke Valley Sports Centre

Mrs Johns had submitted written report and Mr E Fry delivered a summary to the meeting. A copy of the report is included as an appendix.

1. Chalke Valley Community Hub

Mr Brownhad submitted written report that The Clerk read out to the meeting. A copy is included as an appendix.

1. Neighbourhood Plan.

Mr Truluck briefed the meeting on the progress with the Plan and how it safeguards the village in terms of development pressures. However, it is a Plan to 2026 only and, in view of the time taken to bring it together, the village needs to start considering the next Plan period, especially in light of Government announcements and pressure for house building. The Plan enables the village to inform development without which the scale and nature of house building would be imposed on Broad Chalke.

Mr Truluck also gave a short briefing on the Queens Jubilee activities in the village.

1. Broad Chalke Primary School

The Chairman introduced Mrs Heather Luft, the new Headteacher for Broad Chalke Primary School. Heather gave a short presentation having only been in post since the start of the summer term, previously being employed for 17 years at a school in Salisbury. Heather mentioned how positive everyone had been and how good it was to be getting the school back to normal operational arrangements post Covid.

1. Broad Chalke Community Fund

Mrs Sue Fryhad submitted written report on the Fund and on Broad Chalke WI that the Clerk read to the meeting:

* Community Fund: Apart from our usual Christmas distribution we have been helping Playgroup fees for one child who is benefitting enormously. In view of the current cost of living crisis an article was placed in the Broadsheet to encourage anyone experiencing real difficulties with their bills to apply to the Fund for help.
* WI: Despite Covid restrictions over the past couple of years members have continued to meet up when possible and hold meetings in the Village Hall, albeit somewhat chillily with the side doors open. A new committee has been formed, plans are in hand for a plant sale at the end of May, and a programme for 2022/23 is being arranged. We hope to recruit a few new members to maintain our numbers.

1. The Community Land trust

Mr Dan Richter provided a summary of the work of the CLT there having been a great deal of work behind the scenes on detailed design though nothing obvious on the ground, as yet. It is envisaged the scheme will be out for full planning later this summer and must be submitted in conjunction with the landowner’s application. It would then be of the order of an 18 months build programme. This would take it to c 10 years since the outset of the process.

1. Broad Chalke Village Hall

Mr Henry Flint spoke to the meeting about activities at the village hall, it having been a particularly difficult time as income is based very much on hires. However, some notable achievements in the year including the village donating some £5,000 for the replacement boiler and a Covid Support grant from Wiltshire Council.

The Charlie Walker fundraiser had been very well attended and raised £800, and regular hirers such as Teddy Bears, WI, CV Ladies Choir etc.. had now restarted. The popular Forest Forge Panto will return this Christmas and two wedding receptions are booked in for 2023.

Henry advised the meeting that hall hire costs are to be increased but are still very reasonable with a significant discount for Broad Chalke based groups.

1. Chalke Valley Playschool

Mrs Juliet Pearce had submitted a brief report that the Clerk read out to the meeting:

* The Playschool is very happy to report that both the nursery and afterschool club are thriving, and we now provide care to 68 children each week. We are also running a summer holiday club again this year and are establishing a forest school programme to promote emotional wellbeing and resilience for young people in the community.

1. Chalke Valley Link Scheme

Mr Terry Jolly gave a brief history of the scheme it having been founded in 1996, becoming a registered charity in 1999. Broad Chalke is in the western area that serves Berwick St John to Stoke Farthing. All driversare volunteers and are DBS checked. There is no charge for use of the scheme but clients can make a donation and drivers can claim mileage.

In the year to December 2021 the following services were provided:

* 71 hospital journeys
* 15 trips to surgeries
* 17 other health agency journeys
* 38 prescription pick-ups
* 40 non health related journeys

1. Support to Ukrainian families

Martin Altham kindly attended the meeting to speak on behalf of the support group that had recently formed in the Chalke Valley and who were hosting or about to host families displaced by the war in Ukraine.

There are currently 9 sponsors (4 in Broad Chalke) supporting 21 Ukrainian nationals (11 adults, 9 school age children). Martin was able to report how positive the community has been with so many resources offered.

Martin told the meeting about the family he and Michelle are hosting and that the youngest child, Marco has already started at Broad Chalke Primary school and Heather was able to add that he was doing very well indeed.

Michael Powis was in attendance and is also hosting.

Ashley Truluck offered the use of their swimming pool.

The Queens Head Pub have offered employment opportunities to the adults.

1. Any other business

The following questions were raised:

* Mrs J Truluck asked what the Council’s plans for the Playground are? The Chairman told the meeting that at the moment it is looking into costs for replacement and at this stage estimate c £35,000 for which funding would need to be raised. The equipment is inspected regularly and repaired when required, but it has been agreed by the Council that it is a priority. Councillor Tim Cave Gibbs is the lead for the Council. Ashley Truluck mentioned possible funding through WCF and invited Mr Cave Gibbs to contact him.
* Ashley Truluck raised the matter of the branches that have been left in the verge down High Lane following Wiltshire Council’s tree works. The Chairman agreed that it did look unsightly and agreed the Council would follow this up with Wiltshire Council.
* Michael Powis raised concerns about speeding in the village. The Chairman advised that this had already been identified as an issue by the Council. More use was being made of the SID to provide the evidence base to Wiltshire Council and a Chalke Valley Working group had already been established through Councillor Najjar at Wiltshire.
* Phil Jones raised the issue of littering in and around the village and that he and Ali often collect large quantities of litter when they are around the village. Also dog waste bins raised. The Chairman advised that the PC only provide a litter bin in the playground. Wiltshire Council provide a bn just down from the village hall and there is a bin at the bus stop near the water cress beds. There are no dog waste bins.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the Annual Parish Meeting at 8.05pm but invited anyone that would like to stay on for the Annual Council Meeting that this would follow directly.

**Signed as a true record by the Chairman of the Council**

**Signature:**

**Name:**

**Date:**

**Appendix**

Chalke Valley Stores and Coffee Shop 2021-22

The Stores and Coffee Shop has happily recovered well from the difficulties posed by Covid and associated restrictions over the last two years

The Shop and Post Office have continued trading throughout his period, and while the Coffee Shop was closed for some of the time, take away food and drinks continued to be offered as an additional service.

The improvements to the range of goods for sale have continued and helped us to reduce the trading deficit of the business caused by the loss of income from the Coffee Shop in the latter part of 2021. Since the beginning of this year the Coffee Shop has been open continuously and thus the additional income has helped improved the financial position further.

Negotiations are on-going with the Landlord to secure a new lease on the premises to ensure our future.

The Hub has been the recipient of Awards for the quality of the service given and recently was runner-up in the Wiltshire Life awards in a hotly contested sector for Best Community Shop.

The Manager, Staff and Volunteers have given exceptional service and attention to our many customers throughout the year. The Hub however does rely on Volunteers to ensure its successful operation . The Management Committee are most grateful to them all and would welcome any who wish to join the team; and thanks the whole Valley Community for the support they have shown during this period.

**CVSC annual report to Broad Chalke Parish Council 11 May 2022**

This year our accounts to 31 March 2022 show a surplus of nearly £12K, as you know, in normal years we usually just about breakeven**.**

1. This was mainly because we had received Grants £8K from

* Wiltshire & Swindon WASP £1K
* Wiltshire Community Foundation £2021 – Made by Sports – clubs in crisis fund
* Wiltshire Council £2000 – GOGA Funding
* South West Wiltshire £2950 - getting our community active again £20
* and £8K COVID support grants from (from Wiltshire Council).
* We also received £200 from Broad Chalke Community Fund and £500 from the cricket club who raised money for the new nets.
* Still to pay for £2745 for cricket nets and for basketball and tennis posts - done in April 2022. Still need to arrange for outdoor table tennis

1. All Parish Councils continued the support to the centre at different rates and differing ways. Broad Chalke continue to cover the buildings insurance at a cost of about £400 per year and this year they also contributed to VAT costs on repairs and assets we purchased. Thank you for this support.
2. External hires, as expected, due the closure were less than pre COVID levels in 2020 but we believe we will get back to these levels. We now take and hold deposits and keep this separate on the balance sheet to be returned to the hirer.
3. Clubs – 2 new ones in the year Pickleball and Petanque – as a sports centre committee we started the sport and then as we hoped a committee came forward to run it.
4. Some essential works had to continue so costs of repairs has risen as has sundry costs as we had to pay for our alcohol licence again the year £180 and waste disposal of £214.
5. Reserves cover 5 years assuming no major repairs or to be done – however we know the roof needs work. Quote approx. £5K. And the kitchen will need refurbishment soon estimate £3K and we are saving up for the resurfacing of the MUGA in the future.
6. Bank balances were; Deposit UTB £36K and Lloyds current account bank balance £8K.
7. Thanks to Robert Stallard for independently examining these accounts – this is outstanding.
8. This current year 2023 we are helping clubs get their members back to sport and helping them upgrade facilities. We have applied for various capital grants and will make good use of the money to encourage exercise and sport in the local communities we live in. Next big project is the replacement of the Floodlights.
9. We are still struggling for executive committee members so if anyone can spare anytime then please do come forward – the more people we have the more we can achieve. Simon joined us in the year – many thanks for sharing the workload.
10. Take a look at our website and see if you want to join any clubs / events – [www.chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk](http://www.chalkevalleysportscentre.co.uk)

We try to advertise the centre in the local village magazines so people know what is happening and on Chalke Valley Families Facebook page.

Our AGM is on 18 May 2022 7.00pm – if anyone would like to attend then please do join us.