BROAD CHALKE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of** **1035th Meeting of Broad Chalke Parish Council**

held on Wednesday 14th April 2021 at 6.30pm via Zoom

**ATTENDANCE**

Mr T Hitchings

Mr M Pickford

Mr E Fry

Mr T Cave-Gibbs

Mrs E Richter

Mrs H Newman

Mrs J Green

Mr R Butler, Mr E Gairdner, Mrs M Johns, Mr D Johns, Mr A Truluck, Mr A Jeans, Mr T Moss, Mr S Dawes, Mr H Flint, Mr C Sylvan, Mr S Carter, Mrs L Rawlinson were in attendance. The Clerk, Mr C Rothwell was in attendance.

*NOTE: A number of items from the Agenda had to be deferred due to the time taken in considering in detail the Queens Head planning application and receiving representations from members of the public, and to hear a response from Mr R Butler.*

1. **To receive apologies for absence.** Received from David Gilbert, John Dutson and Justin Allison.
2. **To record declarations of interest from Members regarding items on the Agenda.**

There were none.

1. **Chairman’s Announcements**

The Chairman opened the meeting with a welcome to members of the public setting out that this was the last meeting of the current Council with elections on the 6 May 2021.

The Chairman also mentioned that it is Wiltshire councillor Jose Green’s last meeting as she is not standing again. The Council wholeheartedly thanked Jose for her support over the years and wished her well in her ‘retirement’.

The Chairman also advised the meeting that Mr D Gilbert, Mr J Dutson and Mrs H Newman were not standing for election so thanked them for their services on the Council. Mr T Moss had not stood for election and the Chairman thanked him for his support over recent months and hoped that he may wish to continue supportto the Council.

The Chairman also marked the passing last week of the Duke of Edinburgh and encouraged people to sign the online Book of Remembrance that Wiltshire Council has set up.

1. **To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 March 2021 as a true and accurate record**. Approved.
2. **To receive Planning Applications**

**21/02324/FUL: Queens Head beer garden**

The Chairman informed the Meeting as to the voting arrangements with six Councillors present eligible to vote. Members of the public that wished to speak on the application were invited to do so.

Lisa Rawlinson and Michaela Johns raised some issue with the Council including:

* Road safety and additional traffic concerns including the lack of compliance with the 20mph speed limit with concerns about a serious incident with increased traffic and pedestrian movement with this proposal.
* Parking.
* Potential litter.
* The visual impact on the village character and the Conservation Area.
* Potential late-night noise with the beer garden operating until 2130 hours and how this will be managed.
* Additional natural screening through planting.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Rawlinson and Mrs Johns and recognised these as the concerns that he had heard when discussing with residents in the village and that had been raised with the Council.

Mr A Truluck spoke to the Meeting on the relationship of the proposals to the Neighbourhood Plan highlighting particularly:

* The survival of the pub and the village shop being central to the vitality of the community, and that for a country pub to be economically viable, outside space is essential.
* Conservation Area: Mr Truluck commented that the screening and planting proposals will assist in ‘softening’ the impact, but that any development of this nature will have some negative consequences.
* Car parking. This does need to be resolved but with provision at the rear of the pub, the church, the doctors surgery and the hub, discussions to coordinate and manage arrangements should be possible.

Mr H Flint stated that he had had discussions with Mr Butler and was happy with the measures proposed. Mr Flint mentioned that the church car park could probably be enlarged reasonably easily.

The Chairman then invited Mr Butler to update the meeting on proposals and to respond to the concerns raised.

Mr Butler thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the meeting and for the support and constructive reservations that had been received.

Mr Butler advised the Meeting that the proposal is for six months of the year not all year around and went on to comment on the four key areas of concern that have come up in consultation:

* Traffic and people management: Mr Butler commented that there is a broader question on highways safety irrespective of this proposal in that there is a general disregard to the 20mph limit. Mr Butler advised that he would welcome the opportunity to discuss with the Council a permanent speed indicator device at an appropriate location and increased enforcement/monitoring that he would be willing to put some funding into. Mr Butler was also happy to look into installation of CCTV at the front of the pub.
* Parking: Mr Butler advise the Meeting that he had been in discussions with Catherine Blundell about use of the church car park and this had been favourably received. Three additional spaces had also been created to the rear of the pub giving a total there of 22/23. Initial discussion had also taken place with Dr M Morgan at the surgery, but Mr Butler did not think this would come to anything formalised. Additional signage could be installed once a parking arrangement is decided on. Mr Butler did not think it would lead to people parking in The Causeway.
* Visual impact: Mr Butler had undertaken discussions with suppliers about reinforcing hedge screening but recognised that it will take time for hedgerows to thicken. The hedgerow on the approach from the east has been cut low so this could be managed to grow taller and, in time, provide screening from this aspect. However, Mr Butler recognised that the proposal would have some negative impact.
* Litter and Noise: Mr Butler advised that there will be no service in the beer garden. Customers would be required to collect food and drink from the pub. Staff would however be clearing tables and checking on customers on a regular basis. Mr Butler advised that anti-social behaviour would not be tolerated and CCTV could assist in identifying any culprits.

The Chairman thanked Mr Butler for the update and then asked Councillors for their views, prefacing the discussion by a reminder that the Council’s role as a statutory consultee is to consider ‘material planning issues’ and views as to whether the proposal is generally in accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Clerk advised the meeting that he had received eleven emails broadly supporting the proposal and five emails objecting to the proposal.

Mr Fry raised concerns as to use of the Church Car Park and what the position would be when there are weddings, funerals and village hall events?

Mr Pickford stated that, if approved, the success or otherwise will be how well it is managed and controlled. CCTV might assist.

Mrs Richter and Mrs Newman broadly recognised the benefits of the proposal but would like to see commitments on solutions to the issues raised.

The Chairman commented that with the pub now in the ownership of village residents it is incumbent on Mr and Mrs Butler to make it work. He also reminded the Council that the Lease sets out a range of requirements that if not met Mr Jeans has the right to terminate.

Mr Dawes had raised his concerns around traffic and parking at the March meeting.

The Council then debated conditions that might be sought to be applied to any permission recognising these could only be on ‘material considerations’.

It was resolved that the Council state in its planning consultation response that a condition requiring written agreement on parking at the church car park should be secured from the Parochial Church Council.

With this Condition, the Chairman invited those councillors with voting rights to vote on approving the application and it was unanimously approved.

**PL/2021/03533:** Proposed works to trees in conservation area at Bow Meadow, North Street. No Objections

**PL/2021/03512;** 40 Stoke Farthing. Single storey front entrance. It was noted that plans and elevations are missing some information but the Council had no objections in principle.

1. **To receive briefing on Ch4lke Mobile Project from Mr Edward Gairdner.**

The Chairman thanked Mr Gairdner for waiting through the first hours debate and invited him to brief the Council on Ch4lke Mobile Project.

Mr Gairdner advised the Meeting that the Ch4lke Mobile Project and Telet Research has been set up by James Bodin and is in effect the 5th licensed mobile phone operator in the UK.

The proposed coverage area stretches from from Odstock near Salisbury in the North East to Shaftesbury in the South West. The Chalke Valley has historically suffered poor communications infrastructure, with most of the area possessing very poor or no mobile coverage. The situation is made worse by patchy broadband coverage, with many users experiencing slow speeds and reliability issues.  
  
Ch4lke Mobile aims to address these issues by delivering ultra-fast fibre connectivity to selected locations, and from these will provide both mobile coverage and fixed wireless broadband via high speed 4G.  
  
Ch4lke Mobile is owned by residents within the area and is funded both by grants and local investment.

The mobile service will comprise Voice, Data and SMS services. To deliver the planned service CH4LKE will operate as a full Mobile Network Operator (MNO) delivering service to local CH4LKE customers, and mobile coverage for users of other UK mobile networks. A central core network comprising 4g (LTE) small cells (eNodeB) with local embedded Evolved Packet Core (EPC), and cloud based central elements (such as HSS, SMSC, GMLC, EIR and SDPs) will be deployed within the Valley, inter working with cloud-based core infrastructure and interconnects, provided by Telet Research.

Telet Research network elements will be identified by Global Title assigned from within the MSISDN range assigned by Ofcom Numbering team. CH4LKE users will use SIM cards with an International Mobile Subscriber Identity (IMSI) assigned based on a UK Mobile Network Code assigned by Ofcom. CH4LKE Mobile Fixed Wireless Broadband users will have the option of running fixed landline telephone services, using local geographic (01722) numbering. Depending on which Terminal Equipment is selected, either one or two numbers can be set up. It is also possible for customers to port their existing fixed line (geographic) telephone numbers or mobile numbers to the Telet Research Network. In a later phase Telet Research intend to offer Internet services in addition to the 4G mobile/LTE and fixed wireless broadband; this will support devices such as power meters, fuel monitors and agricultural sensors.

Mr Gairdner explained to the Meeting that the service will be free to use and in effect will provide the last bit of connectivity not provided by the other four licensed mobile operators.

Householders are being contacted to see if they are interested in ‘hosting’ one of the power cells. It is estimated that the running costs of these are c £50/year.

There were questions from the Meeting but anyone interested should contact Ch4lke Mobile for further information.

The Chairman thanked Mr Gairdner for attending and explaining what sounded to be a very interesting and beneficial project. The Council would welcome updates on progress.

1. **To receive update on Neighbourhood Plan from Mr A Truluck.**

Mr Truluck provided the Meeting with a brief overview of the current position with the Inspectors queries currently being responded to. There are no material changes proposed by the Inspector but one recommendation that the properties of architectural interest that are not Grade 1 or Grade 2 listed should be identified in the Plan.

Final report will be submitted to Wiltshire Council who will then decide if it is ready to go to a Referendum. Timetable is publication on 14 May and 24 June 2021 Referendum. The costs of the Referendum are picked up by Wiltshire Council.

1. **Matters Arising from the March 2021 Minutes. *Item deferred.***

**For note**

**-** Longbridge field willow trees now pollarded.

- Website development still on hold pending ability for F2F meeting.

- Councillor responsibilities deferred to post election.

- Queens Platinum Jubilee. Check progress at future meeting.

1. **To receive report from Wiltshire Councillor Mrs J Green**

Cllr Green gave a brief report and highlighted:

* Continuing lack of progress on Bull’s Lane with site clearance
* Wiltshire Councils priorities for Climate Change
* The new Planning Portal
* Provision of more affordable housing
* Addressing mental health issues.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Green again for her unstinting service and support in the Chalke Valley over the past 12 years. The Council will very much miss her.

1. **To discuss the date, approach and format for May Annual Council meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting.**

The Clerk set out the current Legal position in that the legislation allowing remote meetings has not been renewed so, from 7 May the Annual Council Meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting have to be in person.

The Govt Road Map doesn’t allow indoor gatherings until 17 May so it was provisionally agreed to hold the meetings on Wednesday 19 May starting at 7.00pm the Chairman and the Clerk to discuss format.

1. **To receive an update on Teams. *Item deferred***

For note: Final decision required about moving to Teams as our Council communications framework and to enable other remote meetings to be conducted.

1. **To agree the Social Media Policy discussed at the March meeting.**

The Meeting approved the Social Media Policy Version 1.3. Mr Dawes to now move forward with setting up official Parish Council Facebook page and Twitter.

1. **To receive update on War Memorial Lime trees. *Item deferred***

For Note: Quotes for work have been received. Decision at March Meeting was to monitor. The Clerk has also met with landowner to consider access should work be undertaken.

1. **To receive report on War Memorial grounds maintenance. *Item deferred***

For Note: Mr Allison has raised issue of moss growth in the grass and suggested treating.

If the Council are going to do anything with lime trees in next 12-18 months there is going to be considerable disruption to the grass that will likely require significant remedial works even returfing/seeding. This needs to be taken into account when considering any expenditure on the grass ahead of any tree works.

1. **To receive update on SID prices from Mr J Allison. *Item deferred.***

**For Note:** Mr Allison has secured some costings for new device ranging from c £1500 to over £4,000. The cost of the repair work is estimated at c £1000. Update from Bishopstone awaited and may now be a discussion to be had with the Queens Head.

1. **To receive update from the Clerk on the 2021 elections.**

Notice of Uncontested Election now published. The Chairman welcomed Mr S Dawes, Mr C Sylvan and Mr S Carter. The Clerk advised that the new Council is formed on 10 May.

1. **To receive report on Crystal Clear Ebble Project as part of the Cranborne AONB. *Item deferred.***

**For Note**: The Clerk has had On-line meeting with Project Manager of the Crystal Clear Ebble project. They are a new Team and desperate for local buy in. The Council will consider this when it allocates Councillor responsibilities at the May meeting.

1. **To receive Finance Report from Clerk. *Item deferred.***

Draft Annual Accounts for 2020/21- Papers have been circulated, including summary of receipts and payments.

* Total Receipts £16,214.05
* Total Payments £14,665.96.
* These are significantly above our precept and budget due to grants received and expenditure incurred against these e.g. Neighbourhood Plan and Petanque facility.

1. **To receive report on highways and drainage matters from Councillor Fry. Item deferred.**
2. **Date of Next Meeting.** 19 May at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, subject to the Government Road map and any change to legislation.

**Provisional dates for Parish Council Meetings in 2021**

19 May (provisional Annual Meeting of the Council subject to ability to hold a public meeting); 9 June; 14 July; 11 August; 8 September; 13 October; 10 November;

8 December.

**NOTE:** Thursday 6 May 2021 Local Council elections