BROAD CHALKE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the 1049th Meeting of the

Broad Chalke Parish Council

held at the Village Hall, Broad Chalke on

Wednesday 10 August 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Mr T Hitchings (Chairman)

Mr M Pickford (Vice Chairman)

Mr E Fry

Mrs E Richter

Mr S Carter

The Clerk, Mr C Rothwell, was in attendance. Mr Truluck attended for the item on Low Lane.

1. To receive apologies for absence. Cllr Dawes
2. To record Declarations of Interest. Mr Altham declared interest in planning application PL/2022/05619.
3. Chairman’s announcements. None
4. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Minutes of the June 2022 Annual Council meeting were accepted as a true record. There had been no Meeting in July due to holidays and illness.

1. Matters arising. There were none.
2. Report from Wiltshire Councillor Najjar. There was no update this month.
3. To receive report on access issues in the village.

The Clerk reported on an initial survey that had been carried out by Phil and Ali Jones at the request of the Clerk and following Cllr Najjar’s briefing about grant availability at the June meeting and timing of submissions. The survey identified through photographs difficult access areas on pavements and where drop kerbs might be considered on existing infrastructure.

There was debate as to the approach the Council might take. It is clearly not withing the Councils financial gift to provide pavements along all roads, indeed this would change the rural nature of Broad Chalke, but the Council has acted where issues have been identified (The Causeway Project and the intended improvement’s to Low Lane). The maintenance of overhanging shrubs and the installation of lowered kerbs in key locations is something that the Council can seek support for from Wiltshire council. It was agreed that Phi and Ali be invited to the next meeting and the survey be reviewed in more detail with a view to submitting a bid to the LHFIG if proposals are practicable.

1. To receive update on Low Lane Project

Ashley Truluck and the Chairman reported on outcome from the meeting of Wiltshire Council’s Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Group (LHFIG) which was positive on the grant application and just requires sign off by Alex Howson (ROW).

A clarification meeting had also been held with the Preferred Contractor and fixed price is now awaited based on the site discussions.

The Clerk and Ashley Trulock to liaise on outstanding finance requirements with a view to finance being in place by the end of July.

The Clerk to contact Wiltshire Council to follow up on grant payment timetable/process and on sign off by ROW officer.

The landowner has also been briefed and an approach made on possible permissive route as a short-term alternative whist footpath works are taking place, planned for late summer/early autumn.

1. To consider Council Priorities for the coming year

The Clerk summarised position on priorities brought forward and new areas to be considered. Full schedule attached to these Minutes.

1. To receive update on Playground discussions

The Clerk updated on meeting with Wicksteed Leisure, and priced schemes awaited that can then be compared with other quotations. The change in Area Board funding to parish Councils that Cllr Najjar spoke of earlier will require a different approach if a new play area is to be considered, and the Clerk suggested the Council look to establish a Friends of Broad Chalke Playground group.

1. To consider War Memorial ground works

Cllr Carter outlined the quotation for works to the lawn that he had received from local contractor. It was agreed that the approach should be tried but that the groundsman should be consulted to get his views. In light of the contractor having access to the controlled chemicals and commercial machinery, it was felt this would be the most effective way of tacking the mater in order then to make the groundsman’s regular maintenance of the area easier.

1. To consider Planning applications

- PL/2022/04097. Old Coach House, Bulls Lane. No objection

- PL/2022/03086. Goldens, High Lane. This is an amended application further to the Council’s comments last month. The Council support the attempts the applicants have made to meet the requirements of the Neighbourhood Plan; and the Council can see that parking is being addressed. The Council support this application.

- PL/2022/01196. 1 Knighton Bridge Cottages. The Council noted this is the second application related to this property and the third for the location (the applications relating to semi-detached building). There was considerable discussion on the application, and it was noted that the scale and position of the proposed garage and guest accommodation have significant impact on this plot. The Council expressed significant concern that the site is being over developed; the separation of the proposed building from the existing house; the sized of building being proposed; and the amount of site clearance and loss of trees and shrubs on the site that has already taken place. The Council felt this was leading to development creep and is contrary to the Neighbourhood Plan policies. The Council unanimously agreed to object to the application.

1. To receive Finance update

The Clerk reported on balance in the bank at £13,799.91. The second tranche of precept payment would be due in October. Cllr Carter requested a budget review with the Clerk.

The Clerk also reported on the Professional Services hours committed to date at April- 27.5 hours. May 18.75 hours. The budget is currently set at an average monthly service level of 20 hours.

1. To consider village hall support

The village hall is looking into replacement presentation equipment. This forms a critical part of effective operation of Parish Council meetings. Council agreed to support a replacement project should the village hall decide to proceed.

1. To agree Councillor co-option

Martin Altham has expressed interest of coming on to the Council but as he is currently away this was deferred to the next meeting.

There was discussion on councillor attendance and the Clerk to follow up.

1. To receive update on Mill Mead and Causeway flooding

Cllr Carter reported on the work that Mr Jowett has undertaken, and that the under-road pipe outfall is clear. Wiltshire Council would need to keep the pipe clear.

1. To receive update on Queens Platinum Jubilee Valley Fete and Show

The working party established by the Council has established plans for the event on 6 August. Council members are assisting in various elements of the event. Cllr Richter also volunteered.

1. To receive update on support to Ukrainian guests.

Martin Altham had provided an update in his absence.

1. To receive a proposal on creating a register of volunteering opportunities.

Dan Richter has approached the Council following the APM and suggested establishing such a register. It was agreed to add this to the Priority list and Cllr E Richter to take a lead.

There being no further business the Meeting ended at 8.50pm

**Overview of the Parish Steward Scheme**

1. The Parish Steward is a skilled highway operative, in a branded vehicle, who visits parishes and towns to a schedule.
2. The Parish Steward only undertakes work on the highway.
3. The Parish Steward scheme delivers the work without mechanical assistance.
4. The parish or town council has a nominated highway representative who decides the local priorities for the Parish Steward.
5. The identifying and issuing of works is undertaken by the parish or town council

representative.  Preferably through the Priority Sheets issued. However this is not essential and contact can be made direct with the Parish Steward by the parish/ town representative.

1. The works identified by the highway representative are given priority for when the parish steward visits.  Hence requests for other identified works by the Parish Steward are only undertaken if resources allow.
2. All the Local Highway discretionary services are delivered by the Parish Steward Scheme.
3. The Parish Steward will feedback to the parish or town council as requested.  If the parish or town council wish the Parish Steward to phone before or after their visit (or at both times) they will need to state this on the Priority Sheet to commence the arrangements.
4. The Parish Steward Scheme is only for discretionary works.  Any statutory work (pot holes, damaged statutory signs, etc.) should be entered on to the MyWiltshire System for Wiltshire Council to inspect and assess the appropriate response.  As leaving statutory or safety work to the next Parish Steward visit will slow the response and could put the safety of highway users at risk.

10. The schedule of the Parish Steward visits is based upon the geographical size of the parish.