BROAD CHALKE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the 984th Meeting of the

Broad Chalke Parish Council

held at the Stoke Farm Shooting Lodge on

Tuesday 13th December 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

The following Councillors were present:

Mr T Hitchings (Chairman)

Mr R Hitchings

Mr D Gilbert

Mr E Fry

Mr M Pickford

Mr J Allison

The Clerk, Mr S Whitmore, and the Deputy Clerk, Mr M Holland, were in attendance.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minor factual amendments were made but otherwise the minutes were approved.

1. Matters arising
   1. *Bus shelter*

Mr Gilbert had obtained a quote of £1,180 including VAT for replacement of the bus shelter and it was agreed to proceed on that basis. It would be necessary to remove the existing bus shelter before the work could be carried out. It was agreed to see if any grant funding was available to assist with the purchase price.

* 1. *Bench outside the Queen's Head*

It was agreed to proceed with the purchase of the bench and place it outside the Hub until it became clear whether any sort of village green would be created on the land opposite the Queen's Head.

* 1. *Teddybears funding*

It was agreed to proceed with £100 funding to Teddybears.

* 1. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr and Mrs Bundy-Row re. washing of chickens causing debris to reach North Street from their property.

1. Chalke Valley History Festival

The meeting was attended by 17 members of the public, including Rachel Holland and Peter Bell from the Chalke Valley History Festival (the "Festival").

The Chairman provided some background to the matter. He explained that Rachel Holland had contacted him some five weeks ago and offered to attend the previous Parish Council meeting but that this had not been possible. The date of the current meeting had been moved by one day to ensure attendance by certain individuals who had a commitment on 14th December 2016, for which reason the meeting had had to be moved to the Stoke Farm Shooting Lodge. He explained that there was no planning application involved as this was a temporary event licence matter. He explained that the Parish Council was not voting on the plans and the purpose of the meeting was to allow everyone to understand how the Festival would be conducted at the Church Bottom site. He said as far as he was concerned the key matters were the six "Ts"; traffic, toilets, tents, tanks, trash and tranquillity.

Rachel Holland explained that the need to move sites had arisen at short notice and that the Festival had left Ebbesbourne Wake on good terms. The Chairman confirmed that in discussing the matter with the Clerk of the Ebbesbourne Wake Parish Council, she had confirmed that she had received no complaints of any nature during the period when the Festival was held at Ebbesbourne Wake.

Rachel Holland explained that when it had become clear that the Festival needed to move the natural parties to discuss it with were Richard and Katie Jowett, as there had been brief discussions some two years ago about the possibility of the Festival moving to Broad Chalke, but these discussions had come to nothing. Rachel Holland felt it was unlikely that any other site could be found in the necessary time period and explained that Wiltshire Council had previously indicated in preliminary discussions that the site might be suitable for the Festival.

Peter Bell continued, emphasising that the Festival is owned by the Chalke Valley History Trust, a charitable trust which exists for educational purposes and which supports both the CV Schools History Festival and history students carrying out postgraduate research. This is where any surplus generated by the Festival goes. Thus the Festival is not truly a commercial venture, but more of a community venture. Peter Bell emphasise that no consultation with Wiltshire Council or other authorities has yet taken place about the precise arrangements for the Festival at Church Bottom but these will start to happen shortly. Once the results of that consultation had taken place the results will be circulated for consideration.

The floor was then thrown open for questions. Chris Littlemore stated that he was a great fan of the Festival but the two negative aspects of this matter were that this was now being presented to the villagers as a fait accompli and he indicated that he was surprised that the Parish Council knew about the possible move some three years ago. The Chairman corrected Mr Littlemore on this and said that he did not know about it and that the matter had not been discussed by the Parish Council at that time.

David Foster said that he felt that there was a sense of arrogance about the move and a concern that the Festival might become bigger and turn into something akin to the Dorset Steam Fair. Peter Bell said that if an impression or arrogance had been given then this was not intended and he apologised for it. There was absolutely no wish or intention for the Festival to turn into anything like the Dorset Steam Fair. Any substantial increase in the size of the Festival would destroy its feeling. David Foster asked why the meeting was being held at the Shooting Lodge, describing the Festival as "the biggest thing to hit the village", before this matter had gone onto the agenda. The Chairman said that if the outcome of the meeting was that there needed to be a further public meeting on this matter then the Parish Council would see to it that such a meeting took place. He said that any implication of any collusion between the Festival and the Parish Council was simply not fair.

Ashley Truluck said that he regarded the matter as a community issue and not as a Parish Council issue. Having spent three or four years on the Neighbourhood Plan and involving everyone in the Plan within the community, he was surprised that no one had thought to mention it to the community if discussions had been going on for three years. Peter Bell made it clear that this was not what had happened. There had been brief discussions for approximately one week three years ago and no further discussion. There had not been any intention to move and this was evidenced by the fact that last year the Festival had spent £15,000 digging a World War I trench at the Ebbesbourne Wake site, which would not have been contemplated if any move had been intended at that stage. As for the accusation of a lack of transparency, this was rejected. As soon as the deal was agreed in principle it was disclosed generally and announcements appeared in the Daily Mail, the Broadsheet and Facebook at same time. However it was accepted that the matter had appeared in the press before the people in Broad Chalke knew about it and was accepted that this was unfortunate and not good timing.

Mr Nockles said he was not questioning the merit of the idea but simply suggested that it was "back-to-front" to have a meeting with the Parish Council before the village had been consulted. After discussion it was thought appropriate that the views of the village should be obtained, meetings with the authorities should take place and the matter should then come back to the village for further views. The matter could then go back to the Parish Council for final approval before the details were disseminated to the village.

Peter Bell emphasised the potential benefits to the arrangement for those in the village including employment and additional business for the Community Hub and the Queen's Head, as well as the Village Hall which could be used as a venue. The Festival generates £800,000 of income a year. Other relevant facts; approximately 6,000 people will be on site on the Saturday, 4,000 people on the Sunday and 1,000 people on the other days. On the Saturday (its busiest day) approximately 2,500 – 3,000 vehicles will be at the site.

The new site is roughly the same acreage as the previous site.

Mr Roe pointed out that Broad Chalke would not be the "guinea pigs" on this project after five years of successful operation of the Festival at Ebbesbourne Wake and he was confident that the Festival organisers would do a good job. Ashley Truluck confirmed that in his view most people were in favour of the Festival being in Broad Chalke but were saying that they wanted the Festival to work with the vibrant and active local community.

The Chairman ended the discussion by committing to the arrangement of a further meeting when it was hoped that further details of the proposals would be available. He thanked everyone for attending.

1. Planning consents/applications/refusals/withdrawals
   1. **Consents**
      1. 16/10047/FUL Brook House South Street Broad Chalke Salisbury Wiltshire SP5 5DN Demolish utility room and construct conservatory FINAL DECISION 28-10-2016 Approve with Conditions
      2. 16/10460/TCA The Beeches Bulls Lane Broad Chalke Salisbury Wiltshire SP5 5DJ T1 - Beech - Fell T2 - Sycamore- Fell FINAL DECISION 26-10-2016 No Objection
      3. 16/09319/FUL Tank Cottage Tank Lane Broad Chalke Wiltshire SP5 5EP
   2. Applications
      1. 16/11646/TCA Bowmarsh , North Street , Broad Chalke, Salisbury Wilts , SP5 5EN T1 - Ash - Dismantle T2 /T3 - Birch - Dismantle REGISTERED 29-11-2016

There was no objection to this application.

* 1. **Refusals**
     1. 16/10207/FUL Knighton Mill Knighton Road Broad Chalke SP5 5DX Change of Use of area from Agriculture to Sui Generis. Construction of an outbuilding, a green house, a chicken coop and raised plant beds in the highlighted area. Enclosing of an existing store and the construction of a new wood store. FINAL DECISION 07-11-2016 Refuse

1. Precept

After discussion it was unanimously resolved that the Precept inclusive of grant for 2017-2018 should be £6,800.

1. Mobile phone mast consultation

After consideration of plans for a Vodafone/02 mobile telephone mast to the North of Bishopstone, which from the coverage plans appeared to offer improved signal in Broad Chalke, it was agreed to support the application for its erection.

1. Defibrillator and Payphone consultation

The Clerk reported that BT had commenced consultation on decommissioning of the phone box by the Hub. At the same time he had received information about a scheme to use redundant phone boxes a defibrillator kiosks. It was agreed to proceed on this basis subject to costing being finalised.

1. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 11th January 2017

1. Any other business
   1. 20 mph scheme: it was noted that the scheme was not completed but that significant work had been carried out. The Clerk would ask Mr and Mrs Jowett to reduce the hedge which was reducing visibility of one 20 mph sign.
2. Cheques
   1. Ron Chalke invoice £280.50
   2. Broad Chalke Village Hall £100 (donation)

There being no further business the meeting ended.