**Your Parish Council Update – August 2023**

**The holiday and harvest season upon us in August, Parish Council was light of a few of its councillors, nevertheless, there were important village issues to be discussed.**

**Michael Roe attended on behalf of the Trustees of the Broad Chalke Community Trust to seek the Council’s views on the position with the remaining Poor Patch along Church Bottom. This is an area of land that has previously been leased out and generated a return to the Trust to benefit resident of Broad Chalke. Discussion concluded that the original purpose of the Poor Patch had long since become irrelevant and the Council’s position should be to secure the best return from sale of the land. Advice would need to be sought and discussions held with adjoining landowners to inform them of the Council’s position. Mr Roe was directed to do this on behalf of the Council.**

**The Clerk updated on the investigations concluded by Wiltshire Council on the highway’s drainage and pipe down the access cut to Low Lane. They had cleaned the gullies but had not undertaken any work to the pipe as they concluded that it had not been broken but terminated at the point exposed. Since then, the heavy rainfall has led to accumulation of water which it transpires does mainly come as run off from the highway. A meeting had taken place with Boswell Bros and a two staged approach determined to try and overcome the ‘pooling’ of the water. Date for the works to be agreed.**

**The meeting discussed the application made jointly with Bishopstone Council for the speed assessments on the C12. This will be presented by the Clerk of Bishopstone at the LHFIG on 6 September and, if successful will be subject to Area Board consideration on 20 September.**

**The discussion on the approach to the rewrite of the Neighbourhood Plan was deferred due to councillor absence. However, the Clerk had reviewed the available funding through the Neighbourhood Planning Support Programme and had concluded that the Council was unlikely to be able to secure further funding on the basis of the funds received for the first Plan.**

**Councillor Altham updated the meeting on the ongoing work of the Friends of Broad Chalke Playground and the discussions with potential contractors. The Clerk to discuss further with Cllr Altham the tendering and procurement requirements to meet Standing Orders.**

**The Clerk reported that the External Auditors have now signed off the Council’s Annual Governance and Accounting return with no issues identified. He also gave a brief financial update and confirmed balance in bank of £16,927.77. There had been a discussion on opening a deposit account now interest rates have moved up but, with the rates available to Business maintained at a relatively low level, it was not considered the extra administrative costs would make such investment worth the effort.**

**The Council approved a Section 137 grant to Broad Chalke Cricket Club of £200 towards replacement of the artificial grass wicket. This was subject to grant from Wiltshire Council.**

**Date of Next Meeting. 13 September 2023.**

**Contact Details:**

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Useful links:

Parish Council: <https://www.broadchalkeparishcouncil.com>

**Twitter: @BroadChalkePC**

Wiltshire County Council: <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk>

**If you have any issues or priorities that you would like the Council to consider, please raise with the Chairman or the Clerk.
A full copy of the minutes can be viewed on the Parish Council website - https://www.broadchalkeparishcouncil.com**