**Your Parish Council Update - November 2022**

**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**

**Councillor Mathew Pickford chaired the meeting.**

1. To consider planning applications.

PL/2022/08054-Land adjacent to Knapp Farmhouse.

Following presentations by Ashley Truluck (who set the context of the application against the Neighbourhood Plan), Mrs Liz Wiltshire, Mr C Littlemore & Wiltshire Councillor Najjar the Council members voted with 6 voting to object to the application and 0 in support.

PL2022/01196 1 Knighton Bridge Cottages.

The Council had objected to the previous application for a two-storey development on this site. This is a new application for a single storey garage/workshop and guest accommodation. However, the previous application for a two-storey building, stated that there would be no habitable accommodation at ground floor level to avoid any risk of future flooding. There is now a bedroom situated at GFl level. Councillors voted with 4 objecting to the application, principally around over development of the site and concerns that this becomes a second house on the plot. There was 1 abstention.

**P/2022/08592 The Willows, Knapp Hill**: No objections.

1. Report from Wiltshire Councillor Najjar. Wiltshire Council are working around cost of living; Warm Places initiative, Area Board funding; the highways maintenance contract and the speeding issue in the Chalke Valley.
2. Update on Low Lane Project.

The AONB have confirmed they will fund the shortfall, which is excellent news. There has also been a commitment to a contribution from the landowner. In the current weather and ground conditions it is likely the Project will be delayed until the early spring.

1. Update on Councillor Priorities

It was agreed that the volunteer database that is being championed by Cllr Richter be hosted on the Council’s website.

Cllr Dawes to resurrect work on Neighbourhood Watch and to liaise with Inspector Sparrow.

Cllr Fry to pick up with the Parish Steward the reports of flooding at Slate Farm, Howgare Road.

1. Playground Replacement

This has been a standing item on the agenda for some months pending progress with raising funds. There is a desire to establish a Friends of Broad Chalke Playground to work with the Council to take this forward. The Clerk is meeting with parents that attend Teddy Bears at the village hall for initial discussion.

1. Insurance cover for the Chalke Valley Sports Centre

Cllr Fry commented that he felt that the rebuild costs were high and this could be reduced. however following discussions, it was agreed to use this value and accept the additional premium of £217.68/an for an insurance level at £450,000.

1. 2023/24 Budget and setting a Special Precept

The Clerk had updated and circulated a revised budget. Amendments took account of an increase in the insurance premium and an update to Clerks professional services costs to follow the National Pay award arrangements recently agreed.

The Chairman asked for a vote on two points:

1. Support for a Special Precept: 5 against; 1 in favour.
2. To agree the budget as set out in the November 2022 Draft circulated, not including the Special Precept: 5 for; 1 abstention.

It was therefore RESOLVED not to levy a Special Precept for 2023/24 and to set the Broad Chalke Precept at £11,937.

1. Queens Head pub and patrons parking- raised by a Councillor.

Cllr Dawes raised concern about parking in the general vicinity of the Queens Head and the Hub; that it was sometimes difficult to see around the ‘T’ junction from the Causeway due to cars parked; and it was often dangerous with cars parked on the sharp bend either side of the road around to Chalk Pyt from Doves Meadow.

There was significant discussion on this, noting that it is not illegal to park where most of the cars do, although it is illegal to park on a junction; that the number of cars parked can help to slow vehicles down; that it is difficult for large vehicles to swing around the bend; and that cars still come into the village above the 20mph speed limit into this bottle neck. It was also recognised that both the hub and the pub contribute to the volume of parked cars.

It was agreed that the Clerk would write to both organisations to enquire if they had any ideas to improve the situation; and to discuss with the police.

1. Update from the Clerk

Parish Council vacancy - The formal Notice has been published and runs to 17 November. The Clerk has received one firm approach and one tentative approach, and he will talk to both.

Bank Balance: £16,355.54

1. Remembrance Sunday

Cllrs Pickford, Carter and Richter volunteered to assist the Clerk in traffic management. The Chairman will be reading the Roll Call and the service will be led by Kate Woolvern.

Ed Gairdner will undertake the Last Post.

**Date of Next Meeting.** 14th December 2022

**Contact Details:**

Tom Hitchings (Council Chairman): [Tomhitchingsbroadchalke@gmail.com](mailto:Tomhitchingsbroadchalke@gmail.com)

Chris Rothwell (Parish Clerk): [Clerkbroadchalke@gmail.com](mailto:Clerkbroadchalke@gmail.com)

Simon Dawes (Social Media & Publicity): [sdawesbroadchalke@gmail.com](mailto:sdawesbroadchalke@gmail.com)

Useful links:

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

**Twitter: @BroadChalkePC**

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