

CHIEVELEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of Chieveley Parish Council held at the
Curridge W I Hall, Winterbourne Road, Curridge, Berkshire RG18 9DZ
on Tuesday 14 October 2008 at 7.30pm

Present

Cllr R Crispin	Cllr M Taylor	Cllr E Friend
Cllr D Cowan	Cllr S Spence	Cllr Ramsay
Cllr N Hamlin	Cllr P Fidler	

In Attendance Mrs T Snook (Clerk) 1 member of the public

1.10.08 **Apologies and Acceptance of Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Cole. This was unanimously accepted.

2.10.08 **Declaration of Interest by Councillors on the agenda items listed**

None

3.10.08 **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9 September 2008 to be agreed and signed as a true record**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2008 were unanimously agreed as a correct record of the meeting and the Parish Council resolved to sign them.

4.10.08 **Planning Schedule and Planning Issues (Appendix I)**

4.10.1 **Land at 1 Home Farm Barns, Snelsmore Common 08/01739/FUL
Demolition of existing stables and construction of new stables,
tack room, feed store and hay loft**

The Parish Council confirmed no objection but commented that:-
The footprint of the stables appear too large for the site
Elevation plans appear inaccurate.

The Parish Council confirmed there were no objections or observations for the remaining planning applications listed on the schedule. The Parish Council approved the planning schedule.

5.10.08 **West Berkshire Council Planning Strategy – Consultation on Site
Selection Framework**

Cllr Crispin confirmed that the West Berkshire Planning Strategy is the lead document, the Core Strategy, of the Local Development Framework (LDF). It sets out the planning strategy for the area. The Parish Council have been involved in previous consultations and work undertaken on the production of the Core Strategy. The general consensus is for locating most new development in and around the larger urban areas of the district. All potential allocated sites must be assessed through a Sustainability Appraisal which is required to be conducted on all development plan documents to assess site suitability. The site selection framework for assessing potential development sites has been drawn up and views are being sought on its effectiveness and suitability. The Parish Council asked Cllr Cowan to look at the document and provide observations on behalf of the Parish Council. **Action: Cllr Cowan**

6.10.08 **Oare Pond. To receive an update from Cllr Crispin**

Cllr Crispin reported that the costs for a licence to be drawn up had been established. NALC (National Association of Local Clerks) have confirmed that the Parish Council have powers to grant a licence and advises that the Council has a duty to make an annual charge for the licence.

Solicitors Gardner & Leader confirm that £250 for this type of arrangement would be appropriate or the Parish Council could consider a formal valuation for legal purposes to establish the fee to be charged.

The solicitors have confirmed that the conditions the Parish Council wish to attach to a licence could be included.

A discussion took place. It was agreed that the Licence charge per annum should be linked with the cost of maintaining Oare Pond and agreed £250 per annum; to be reviewed every 5 years.

It was agreed that Cllr Crispin and the Clerk could meet with the residents of West Barn to discuss the conditions, solicitor fees and licence fees to establish whether all parties are in agreement. All fees to be met by the residents, Mr & Mrs Craig. Clerk to check mechanism for termination. **Action: Cllr Crispin, Clerk**

7.10.08 **School Bus. To receive written information**

Cllr Crispin reported that as a result of Cllr Ramsay and Cllr Fidler raising concerns about the suitability of a double decker bus going down Arlington Hill and along Curridge Road, West Berkshire Council have carried out a risk assessment. The School bus has now been rerouted and avoiding using the Curridge Road. A copy of the letter and risk assessment is held at the office.

8.10.08 **South East Plan Proposed Amendments. To receive a report from Cllr Cowan**

Cllr Crispin reported that Cllr Cowan had provided and circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting observations and comments for consideration. The South East Plan has been drafted by the Regional Assembly and subject to an Examination in Public and a Panel Report. The Secretary of State's proposed changes are her response to the Panel's report and near to the last step in the process of this plan being finalised. Subject to consultation on the proposed changes (which closes on 24 October 2008) the Government can publish the Plan and Local Authorities will then have to produce Local Development Frameworks (LDF) which is to replace Local Plans. The South East Plan is correctly known in terms of its status in planning law as a Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS).

A discussion took place. The Parish Council confirmed that it remains of the opinion that the majority of new development required in the Plan period will have to be provided in and around larger settlements; it also accepts that limited development in rural areas may be needed to support the needs of rural communities.

CPC therefore welcomes many of the policies in the Plan and the Proposed Changes. However, some wording with respect to the aims and requirements for new development in rural areas seems to place too much emphasis on the purpose of housing in rural areas meeting regional needs outside of the rural areas and the circumstances in which development should take place in rural areas is too broad.

Specifically, for example, proposed change to text at Paragraph 4.22 (as it is numbered appears in the Companion Document): Development in smaller settlements should serve the needs of their locality but it is not appropriate for smaller settlements to serve the needs 'the wider region'. Reference to the wider region in this sentence should be deleted.

The clerk was asked to provide the comments to Government Office for the South East (GOSE) by 24 October 2008. **Action: Clerk**

9.10.08 Denison Barracks. To receive information from Cllr Crispin

Cllr Crispin reported that representatives from Chieveley, Hermitage and Cold Ash Parish Council's met on 10 September 2008 to establish if there are core concerns or matters for consideration. Representatives at the meeting agreed a core policy and standard questions to take back to their Parish Councils for consideration and formal approval. Cold Ash Parish Council has confirmed that they support the core policy matters, together with the proposed questions to be put to Richard Benyon MP. Hermitage Parish Council has agreed to have the questions put to the MP and consider the other matters when the response has been received.

Councillors had received a copy of the notes taken at the meeting held on 10 September and unanimously confirmed they supported the core policy and questions to be put to Richard Benyon MP.

10.10.08 Parish Plan. To report the printing costs for the questionnaire.

Cllr Crispin reported that at the last meeting the clerk, as proper officer, had been given authority and requested to place an order for no more than the budgeted amount of £2,000 for printing costs associated with the questionnaire. The clerk had obtained a new competitive quote from Yellow Box of £666 plus £79 for an overrun and reported this to the Chairman before placing the order for the work. Councillors unanimously accepted the quotation.

11.10.08 Chieveley Village Benches including a Commemorative Bench

It was reported that Chieveley village will be having four old benches replaced by West Berkshire Council using some S106 money from the new village housing. All with cast iron sides and legs with wooden slatted seats. Two at the School Road junction to replace the existing. One new bench to replace the broken one outside Lime Garden Cottage and one at the top end of the High Street by the Tennis Club Courts on the main road.

A large planter is also being provided to replace the small area of planting at the School Road junction. West Berkshire Council has asked the Parish Council if they would like to have CHIEVELEY printed in gold lettering on the cast iron planter. No cost to the Parish Council. The Parish Council confirmed they would like the lettering to be provided on the planter. **Action: Clerk**

The Parish Council were informed that two new black round bins with gold colour 'Litter' lettering will be provided at School Road junction and by the crossroads in Chieveley village centre.

The clerk confirmed it had been established that West Berkshire council would insure and maintain the seats, bins and planter structure.

The Parish Council noted that the planting up of the container will be the communities/Parish Council's responsibility and will consider their options. To be a future agenda item.

The Chairman asked the clerk to note the items on the bottom of the Asset Register for future reference of ownership and responsibility.

Cllr Crispin reported that the Parish Council have been approached by Bill Pearce's family to have a commemorative bench put under the old Chestnut Tree in the Triangle at Downend. The clerk confirmed that the formal process involves the Parish Council applying to West Berkshire Council to have the bench location assessed and approved. The Parish Council will also have to accept responsibility for the bench and add it to the insurance schedule if permission is given.

A discussion took place. The Parish Council confirmed no objection to a bench being placed under the old Chestnut Tree but noted that it was on West Berkshire Council Highway Land and subject to it meeting the appropriate requirements. The Parish Council agreed to write to West Berkshire Council to ask for the location to be assessed and approved.

The Parish Council confirmed that should the bench be installed it is to be maintained by the family and reserves the right to remove it if it is not maintained. The bench, if provided, will need to be included on the Parish Council's insurance policy.

12.10.08 Post Office. To receive an update from Post Offices Ltd

In response to the clerk asking for an update Post Office Ltd have confirmed there was no further progress with the hosted outreach at the surgery. It had been confirmed that an interested party in the shop was due to take it over and Post Office Ltd will explore the possibility of setting up a partner service.

13.10.08 Gidley Farm S106 contribution. To acknowledge receipt and agree action

Cllr Crispin reported that Chieveley Parish Council received £8,880 S106 money towards the provision of improvements to Chieveley Recreation Ground.

The clerk had notified West Berkshire Council that the farm was outside the Parish. West Berkshire Council has confirmed that Chieveley Recreational Grounds has been identified as the nearest public open space to the site. The Parish Council resolved to accept the S106 monies. This was unanimously agreed and the clerk was instructed to sign the documentation and return it to West Berkshire Council. **Action: Clerk**

14.10.08 BT Payphone. To discuss the community initiative offer by BT and the options to retain the red kiosk at Bardown

Cllr Crispin reported that the red kiosk at Bardown has been identified by BT for removal due to reduced level of demand. BT have offered two schemes for consideration as it understands the significant role the red telephone kiosks play in the nation heritage. Two initiatives have been offered to Parish Councils. Adopt a Kiosk and Sponsoring a Kiosk. A discussion took place. The Parish Council agreed that the kiosk was in poor condition, at high vandalising risk and not viable. It was agreed that the kiosk should be removed and the site reinstated.

15.10.08 Clerk's Report (including correspondence)

15.10.1 Publication of the Joint Minerals and Waste Core Strategy

The clerk reported that Joint Strategic Planning Unit has invited representations on the soundness of the plan prior to submitting the plan to the Secretary of State. Deadline 27 October 2008.

15.10.2 The Making and Enforcement of Byelaws. A consultation

The clerk reported that the Communities and Local Government are consulting on the making and enforcement of byelaws. Comments are invited by 20 November 2008.

15.10.3 District Parish Conference 21 October 2008

The clerk tabled a letter from West Berkshire Council inviting Councillors to attend the conference. Cllr Taylor and Cllr Crispin will be attending.

15.10.4 Amendments to Permitted Development Regime for Households

The clerk tabled a letter from West Berkshire Council confirmed that from 1 October 2008 new permitted development rules and conditions came into force. Councillors have been copied the letter and information on the www.planningportal.gov.uk information.

15.10.5 Partial Review of the South East Plan: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs

The clerk tabled a letter from the South East England Regional Assembly seeking views on providing places to live for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Show people in the South East. The Parish Councils' comments provided on 8 September 2007 still apply.

16.10.08 Report of the Responsible Financial Officer, Cheque Signing and other financial matters

A copy of the year to date financial statement 2008/2009 with financial budget figures and a Receipts and Payments summary were provided for Councillors information.

It was proposed by Cllr Spence and Seconded by Cllr Friend and the Parish Council resolved to pay the accounts for October 2008.

Payments

Cheque No	Payee	Description	Amount
589	CPRE	Subscription	£28.00
590	Design II	Artwork	£176.25
591	D Carter	Bus Shelter Cleaning June/July/Aug/Sept	£160.00
592	Curridge Residents Association	S137 grant	£150.00
593	Chieveley Recreational Centre	Grant	£2,950.00
594	Chieveley Toddler Group	Grant	£209.00
595	Chieveley School PTA	Grant	£153.00
596	Chieveley Pre School	Grant	£500.00
597	1st Hermitage Scout Group	Grant	£300.00
598	T Snook	Clerk fees (5 weeks) Expenses & Allowance	£766.31 £25.89
599	CPCC	Grant	£250.00
Total Payments for October			<u>£ 5,668.45</u>

Receipts

BACS	West Berkshire Council	S106 Money Gidley Farm	£8,880.00
BACS	West Berkshire Council	Precept 2nd Instalment	£12,500.00
BACS	RBS	Treasurers Account Interest	£76.87
BACS	RBS	Business High Interest	£144.55
Total Receipts for October			<u>£21,601.42</u>

Financial Position as at 14 October 2008

Receipts for year to date including April precept received	£ 25,472.53
Less payments for year to date	<u>£ 20,254.61</u>
Sub Total	£ 5,217.92
Add balance carried forward 31/03/08	£ 21,172.53
S106 Contribution 07/08 carried forward 31/03/08	£ 18,905.44
S106 Contribution 08/09	<u>£ 8,880.00</u>
	<u>£ 54,175.89</u>

16.10.1 Parish Council Cash Deposits

Due to the financial climate the clerk had made enquiries regarding the safety of the Parish Council's cash deposits. NALC have confirmed that a Parish Council is like a local authority and does not have the safety net which personal account holders have. NALC Chief Executive, John Findlay, has spoken with top DCLG officials on the need for protection for local government to include town and parish councils; and on the need for urgent consideration to be given to the extension of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. The instability of the whole sector offers no guarantees that any bank you move to will be any safer than the parish Council's existing one, the Royal Bank of Scotland.

To allay any residents fears West Berkshire Council has confirmed that they have no funds invested with any Icelandic Bank.

17.10.08 District Councillor's Report

None

18.10.08 **Councillors' Reports (Information Only)**

18.10.1 **Curridge W I Car Park**

Cllr Friend reported that new bollards have been installed into the Curridge car park entrance.

18.10.2 **Leaves on Pavements**

Cllr Friend reported that West Berkshire Council operatives had been along the Curridge Road blowing leaves off the road onto the pavement. The matter will be reported to Streetcare.

18.10.3 **Curridge Road Footway**

Cllr Friend reported that the school will be sending out a request to parents not to park on the footway in the next school communication

18.10.4 **Ragwort**

Cllr Spence raised concerns about the amount of ragwort at Woodside Farm and neighbouring fields with livestock. The matter has been reported to the RSPCA and asked for DEFRA to be contacted for advice. Cllr Crispin suggested Englefield Estates may have some information to assist in this matter.

19.10.08 **Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent (Information Only)**

None

20.10.08 **Date of the next meetings**

Tuesday 11 November 2008 at Chieveley Recreational Centre

Tuesday 9 December 2008 at Chieveley Recreational Centre

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.27pm.

Signed _____

Dated _____

Planning Applications For the Parish Council Meeting on 14 October 2008

Planning applications for consideration

Planning applications can be viewed on the West Berkshire Council website www.westberks.gov.uk under planning applications

Planning No	Type	Location	Description	Observation
08/01739	FUL	Land adjacent to 1 Home Farm Barns, Snelmore Common	Demolition of existing stables and construction of new stables, tack room, feed store and hay loft	No obj/comment
08/01838	HOUSE	2 Pond Cottage, Curridge	2 storey extension and alterations, removal of lean-to porch, conservatory and outbuilding	No objection
08/01860	HOUSE	3 Heathfields, Chieveley	Conservatory	No objection
08/01850	HOUSE	44 Bardown, Chieveley	Renovation and erection of a single garage/hobbies room and conservatory	No objection
08/01889	HOUSE	Yew Tree House, Chapel Lane	Conservatory	No objection
08/01665	HOUSE	1 Layleys Green, Curridge	Single storey extension with balcony	No objection

Planning Application Decisions and Appeal Decisions Notification

Planning application decisions can be viewed on the West Berkshire Council website www.westberks.gov.uk under planning app

Planning No	Type	Location	Description	Decision
08/01216	HOUSE	Glebe House, High Street, Chieveley	Install electronic gates to existing opening	Approval
08/01346	HOUSE	The White House, High Street, Chieveley	Replacement shed	Approval
07/02770	OUTD	Middle Farm Farmhouse, Downend, Chieveley	Demolition of house, construction fo four semi-detached houses and one detached, with parking and new access Appeal APP/W0340/A/08/2069880	Dismissed
08/01505	HOUSE	1 The Old Nursery, Hermitage	Extension to existing garage	Approval
08/01450	HOUSE	Ingle House, Green Lane, Chieveley	Convert and extend double garage to provide annex	Approval
08/01615	HOUSE	Hyde Bank, Green Lane, Chieveley	New domestic vehicular access from Green Lane	Approval

For Information

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