

CHOLSEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Cholsey Parish Council duly convened and held on Wednesday 23rd August 2023 at 7.30pm at The Pavilion, Station Road, Cholsey

Present were Cllr D. Bamford, Cllr J. Finch, Cllr Hope Smith, Cllr P. Jenkins, Cllr L. Nixon (Chair), Cllr K. Pomlett. Cllr C. Worley, Cllr J. Collins (from 8pm), Cllr G. Herbert (from 8pm)

Also present C. Bird (Clerk), one member of the public

Start time: 7.30pm

End time: 9.45pm

65. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr V. Bolt, Cllr M. Smith, SODC Cllr A. Simpson, SODC Cllr B. Manning and OCC Cllr. F. Bloomfield.

66. To receive Declarations of Personal and Pecuniary Interest for any agenda items

Cllr Collins has an interest in planning application P23/S2553/LB.

67. To hear questions or comments from members of the public (max 15 mins)

There were none.

68. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2023

It was **resolved** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12th July and they were signed by Cllr Nixon.

69. To receive any reports from County and/or District Councillors

The District Councillor's report received by email was noted.

It was agreed to defer the update from the Annual Community meeting subgroup until Cllrs Collins and Herbert had joined the meeting.

70. To note the Clerk's Report (verbal), in particular:

a. To agree whether to engage Mulberry and Co to provide bespoke Councillor training for all Councillors at a cost of £450 +VAT (plus mileage).

It was resolved to engage Mulberry and Co to provide bespoke Councillor group training for all Councillors at a total cost of £450 +VAT (plus mileage). The Clerk will arrange a convenient date.

b. To agree how to respond to the Wallingford Bathing Water Project Consultation (request received from Thames21)

It was agreed that Cllr Hope Smith would put together a response on behalf of Council for review and approval.

c. To agree whether to express support for the Agatha Christie 'Timelines' project (request received from Darren Evans, CEO of After Cloud)

It was agreed to express support for this initiative.

d. To discuss any items arising from the OALC July Update newsletter and SODC July Parish newsletter

The monthly newsletters have been circulated and noted.

71. To receive an update on community engagement activities and agree next steps in the strategic plan process (Annual Community meeting subgroup)

Cllr Collins reported on recent community engagement activities at the community larder,

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Cholsey Village show, WI meeting, and at Cholsey Meadows. Upcoming events include a 'Getting to know us' event with residents at Cholsey Meadows on 21st September. Cllrs Collins, Pomlett, and Worley, and the Clerk plan to attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

Cllr Pomlett and the Clerk will work on a template strategic plan to bring to the Parish Council meeting scheduled for 4th October, with the aim of having a working draft of the plan by the end of November.

72. To note the Estate Manager's Report

The Estate Manager's report was noted.

The Council agreed that Cholsey's Tomorrow Group should be given a formal Allotment Tenancy Agreement for the St George's Close site.

The Clerk will follow up with the footpaths group on their future activities.

Cllr Worley asked for an update on the skatepark bunds restoration work. The Clerk will follow up on this.

It was noted that the Estate Manager is currently covering Maintenance Person essential tasks until the role is filled and Council expressed their appreciation for this.

73. To receive an update on Cholsey Community Support Services and agree to the formation of a Community Interest Company to manage this (Cllr Bamford)

Cllr Bamford recapped that due to the Council no longer having General Power of Competence [due to not having a CiLCA-qualified Clerk] it no longer has the powers to run Cholsey Community Support Services (CCSS) including the Happy Hub Children's Centre.

It was unanimously **resolved** to agree to the formation of a Community Interest Company to manage the CCSS independently of the Parish Council. It is hoped that the Parish Council will be able to continue contributing towards costs of the services through S137 funding.

74. To receive an update from the Transport Working Group, in particular:

- a. To agree street parking proposals for the subsequent public consultation to be conducted by Oxfordshire County Council (Cllr Worley)**

It was unanimously **resolved** to support the street parking proposals prepared by Oxfordshire County Council in liaison with the Transport Working Group. Oxfordshire County Council will next undertake a public consultation on the proposals.

Cllr Worley, Transport Lead, also reported that the current Oxfordshire County Council consultation on a 20mph speed limit for the East End development is separate to a broader 20mph speed limit for Cholsey under discussion.

Cllr Worley and Cllr Collins had discussed the Oxfordshire County Council's Community EV Microhubs Scheme – they felt that chargers in the Pavilion car park would not necessarily benefit Cholsey residents and should not be a priority at this time. Councillors suggested that the Clerk forward details to the Cholsey Meadows Management Company.

75. Finance

- a. To agree whether to enter into a 3-year agreement with Mulberry and Co for the provision of internal audit services at a fixed rate**

It was unanimously **resolved** to enter into a 3-year agreement with Mulberry & Co for the provision of internal audit services at a fixed rate.

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b. To approve payments made and note payments received

The payments were approved.

76. To agree responses to planning applications as at 16th August 2023

P23/S2553/LB	Installation of air source heat pump Kentwood House 81 Station Road It was resolved to support the application on the grounds of environmental impact. (Cllr Collins abstained from voting)
P23/S2272/HH	Dropped kerb access to property 25 Crescent Way It was resolved to make no comment.

77. To note planning decisions as at 16th August 2023

P23/S1663/HH	Single storey rear extension 85 Ilges Lane Granted by SODC
P23/S4164/FUL	Change of use of land to informal private leisure use Land east of Reading Road Refused by SODC
P23/S0717/HH	Single storey side extension 20 Honey Lane Granted by SODC
P23/S0718/LB	Single storey side extension, listed building 20 Honey Lane Granted by SODC
P23/S1460/A	Two advertising displays New Barn Farm Quarry Granted by SODC
P23/S1889/HH	Single storey side extension 1A Ferry Way Granted by SODC
P23/S1338/HH	New frontage hardstanding and vehicular crossover (drop kerb) 75 Honey Lane Refused by SODC
P23/S1961/HH	Two storey rear extension and adjoining single storey extension 30 Papist Way Granted by SODC
P23/S1937/FUL	Alterations to rear roof and wall The Red Lion, 39 Wallingford Road, Granted by SODC
P23/S2115/HH	Demolition of conservatory and rebuild Riverside, Reading Road Granted by SODC

78. Items for information or inclusion on future agenda

Cllr Finch updated the Councillors on a recent catch-up meeting with the local PCSOs
Tennis Club – withdrawal of youth training
Gym equipment – recreation ground
All weather footpaths – recreation ground
Telephone box renovation
Village parish signs
Recreation ground litter
Draughtbusters
New staff handbook and contract templates
Hedge management plan
Recreation ground management plan
Allotment bonfire policy
Youth and Community allotment

Next meeting of full Council: 7.30pm, 13th September 2023, The Pavilion