

CHART SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 11TH JULY 2022
AT CHART SUTTON VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: - Cllr Forknall in the Chair, together with Cllrs S Waring, V Underdown, M FitzGerald MBE, C Webb and Miss T Jenkins, Clerk.

IN ATTENDANCE: - Borough Councillor S Munford was present until item 16.2.

PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Sagrott & Ward and County Cllr Parfitt-Reid.

2. FILMING OF MEETINGS

There were no requests for notification of whether anyone intends to film, photograph or record any items.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no requests for dispensation.

5. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13TH JUNE 2022

Cllrs proposed, seconded and resolved “**that the draft Minutes be approved as a correct record**”. This was **Agreed** and the Chairman was authorised to sign off the official copy.

6. POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Gardner was unable to be present, but provided the following report up to 23rd June:- 2 crimes - Chart Hill Road (container broken into) & Norton Road (gate padlock damaged). Community Warden Liz Lovat was also unable to be present but provided a report on Appetito/Wiltshire Farm Foods; welfare visits, support for those struggling to pay their bills & latest scams. Cllr Waring reported that a kid’s electric bike had been found dumped at the playing field (possibly stolen). He removed it & tried to report it to the police via 101, however, there was no answer, he will therefore report it online.

7. CLIMATE CHANGE & BIODIVERSITY

Cllrs Underdown and Sagrott will be attending a meeting on 18th July.

8. THREE YEAR STRATEGY

The following updates were **Noted**:-

Speed Limits – ongoing. Meeting to be arranged with County Cllr Parfitt-Reid.

Electrical Charging Points – ongoing – see item 11.

Car Park at Memorial Playing Field – it was agreed to set up a working party with three Parish Councillors and to arrange an initial meeting with the landowner.

TPO’s – complete.

Queen’s Platinum Jubilee – Party - complete. Trees – talk to new SVPS Head when he arrives/arrange a meeting?

Bus (59) – MF watched a video of the Environment & Transport Committee meeting held on 6th July. KCC have taken forward their cuts to 38 supported bus services including the 59 and the Saturday 13 journeys. MF was very unhappy at the decision in the light of the lack of costings and the refusal to consider individual routes despite giving 2 extra months for consideration.

Village Hall Freehold – complete.

Purchase of Garage Site – see item 10.

Footpaths – ongoing (CW/RS).

Communications with Resident – currently on hold.

9. GOLDING HOMES

Members **Noted** that the Clerk and Cllr FitzGerald met with Golding Homes (GH) on 15th June. GH supplied maps showing responsibility etc. Some areas of responsibility on Orchard Bank and Cobfields are still unclear - ongoing. GH to find out who owns the parking space in Laxton Drive. GH are due to have a meeting re wildflower planting & will put forward the area in front of the Memorial Playing Field. GH have paid £190 toward the costs of planting. GH will look at the two overgrown hedges at either end of Orchard Bank. GH agreed to provide dates for cutting back the hedge on Laxton Drive. The next meeting is scheduled for 17th August. Further items to be discussed are: Electrical Vehicle Charging Points to serve GH residents/responsibility for grass cutting on the bank on Amber Lane.

10. PURCHASE OF GARAGE SITE (ALLCARS)

Members **Noted** the information on the Public Works Loan Board funding provided by the Clerk. Further funding opportunities to be looked into by Cllr Sagrott. It was agreed that before putting this out for views from the residents, a meeting should be held with a small working party from the Parish Council and the owners of the garage.

11. ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING POINTS

In response to the letter received from Helen Whately MP, encouraging Parish Councils/Village Halls to apply to the Government's On-Street Residential Chargepoint scheme, MF to request further information/arrange a meeting.

12. REPAINTING/REPAIR OF GOALPOSTS

Cllrs proposed, seconded and resolved "**that the goalposts be shot blasted and repainted at a cost in the region of £300**". This was **Agreed**.

13. FOOTBALL PITCH LICENCES 2022/23

Cllrs proposed, seconded and resolved "**that a licence be offered to an extra Bearsted team (U18s & U15s to play alternate weeks)**". This was **Agreed**.

14. VILLAGE CLEAN UP

Members **Agreed** the next Village Clean Up would be on Saturday 8th October, meeting at 10am at the Village Hall.

15. ROADWORKS/ROAD CLOSURES

Members discussed the issues caused by recent roadworks/diversions/lack of urgency to re-open the A274. A meeting with Cllr Parfitt-Reid would be arranged to discuss further. The damage to Norton Road (following the inappropriate diversion route) had been reported to Highways, who are arranging a meeting with SGN/possibly claiming the cost of repairs from them.

16. MATTERS OF REPORT

16.1 County and Borough Councillors Report

Borough Cllr Munford reported that the 2nd Local Government Boundary Commission consultation is open until 28th September. The LGBC have proposed that Boughton Monchelsea & Chart Sutton remain as a single member ward with the addition of Joy Wood estate (from park Wood ward). If approved the ward will be represented by one councillor and have an electoral variance of 9% by 2027. If this draft goes forward unchanged after consultation the changes will take effect in May 2024. The LGBC listened to BMPC/CSPC and residents and responded quite well. The Clerk was asked to respond to the new consultation.

MBC will be undertaking a review of parish boundaries – Cllr Munford suggested that Chart Sutton review its boundaries, with any suggested amendments to be included in the forthcoming consultation. Cllrs felt that the affected residents should be consulted in the first instance & suggested Cllr Sagrott contact the residents concerned.

16.2 Chairman's Report

Cllr Forknall advised of tipping of rubbish from the back of a lorry along Hermitage Lane/Lucks Lane/Boughton Hill last Friday night. He has also reported three lots of flytipping – mostly electricals. Last month he received a call from the father of a resident of Chart Road, complaining that they could not access their drive whilst the road was being resurfaced. SW was concerned the top covering/grit had come off already.

16.3 Individual Councillors Reports

Cllr Underdown advised that the new planters were being dug up by an animal & some of the plants had died. Cllr Waring made some suggestions to deter the culprit. A resident had left some hedge cuttings on the Village Green, after cutting back a hedge as he said it affected the sight lines & was dangerous. SW agreed to remove the cuttings. Cllr Webb spoke with someone who collects flytipping, who bemoaned that nobody follows up clear evidence obtained of the perpetrators. SW reported that the play equipment and 2 x metal benches have now been repainted.

16.4 Clerk's Report

17. FINANCE

17.1 Budget Monitoring

The Budget Monitoring Report to 30th June 2022 was **Noted**.

17.2 To note Income received since last meeting

Members **Noted** payments received during the period as follows:

HSBC Interest June 22	£2.15
Tfr fm BMM to C/A 13/06/22	£2000.00
VAT Refund 310322 – 310522	£665.14
Raffle Money re Queen's Jubilee (for Village Embellishment Fund)	£451.00

17.3 To approve payments already made

Cllrs proposed, seconded and resolved “**that the following payments should be ratified**”. This was **Agreed**.

D/D – NEST – employer/employee pension payment for June	£177.31
SO – T Jenkins – Net Salary & Office Allowance – June	£737.86
Bank Charges to 30/05/22	£11.40

17.4 To resolve to make payments as presented for signature

Cllrs proposed, seconded and resolved “**that the Council approve the following payments**”. This was **Agreed**.

101822 – Miss T Jenkins – expenses June	£12.60
101823 – HMRC (National Insurance – period ending 05/08/22 & 05/09/22)	£32.96
101824 – Samuel Whitehead – Litterpick	£24.00
101825 – Mr P Ward - reimbursement of plants etc for planters	£181.80
101826 – Maidstone Borough Council – street sweep/litterpick	£84.02
101827 – Mr AG Short – preparation/painting of play equipment	£2100.00

17.5 Risk Management – Self Insurance

Members considered whether or not to continue with self-insuring the ‘Residents Only’ parking signs on Amber Way. It was proposed, seconded and resolved “**that the Council continue to self-insure the ‘Residents Only’ parking signs on Amber Way**”. This was **Agreed**.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members **Noted** the next Meeting will be held on Monday 12th September 2022 at Chart Sutton Village Hall.

There being no further matters to be discussed, the meeting closed at 9.13pm.