

Chieveley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on 14 January 2025 in Chieveley Village Hall, Chieveley RG20 8TE

Members present: Cllr Sandie Allan
Cllr Maurice Beard
Cllr Rob Crispin
Cllr David Cowan
Cllr Lesley Derry (Chair)
Cllr Lesley Dick (Deputy Chair)
Cllr Eric Friend
Cllr Matthew Gilman
Cllr Sarah Hutchison

In attendance: 0 members of the public

2501.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from District Cllr Heather Codling and District Cllr Paul Dick

2501.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations.

2501.3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no questions, comments or representations.

2501.4 MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10 December 2024 were a true record of the meeting.

2501.5 ACTION FROM THE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE

- (i) Curridge new Dual Bin [ref: 24.12.5]: Tactical Facilities Management had purchased and installed the bin in Kiln Drive near the junction with Chapel Lane. TFM confirmed that the cost would be as per the original quote. Although the bin had been opposite the Bunk Inn and not at the junction of Kiln Drive/Chapel Lane, it was agreed to monitor its usage. The additional cost of emptying the bin was noted.
- (ii) Long Lane bus shelter [ref: 24.12.11]: It was **RESOLVED** to instruct Mr Lawrence, who worked with Hermitage Parish Council, to clear the vegetation and debris from the bus shelter and to remove debris as needed. Payment of £50 for the initial clearance and £15 per month thereafter was **AGREED**.

2501.6 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- (i) The following new planning applications were considered:

[24/02692/FUL](#) | Quackers Day Nursery, High Street, Chieveley | Erection of a single storey detached classroom, and re-location of fence between the side of the day nursery and north

side boundary of the site. It was **RESOLVED** to submit a response of objection, restating the Parish Council's comments for the associated application 24/01157/FUL, which was refused on 13 September 2024. Also, that the mitigating measures stated in the covering letter to the current application would be unlikely to reduce the risks associated with the proposed application.

[24/02734/HOUSE](#) | 17 The Green Chieveley | Loft conversion including installation of flat roof dormer to the rear elevation and roof-lights to the front elevation, to form additional habitable space. It was **RESOLVED** to submit a comment that the adopted Village Design Statement supported a more sensitive approach to extension designs and favoured dormer windows over flat-roof extensions.

(ii) The following recent planning decisions taken by WBC were noted:

[24/02254/HOUSE](#) | Dunedin, Long Lane, Cold Ash, Thatcham | Retrospective application for a two-storey extension demolition of existing conservatory. Granted: 19 December 2024.

[21/02645/FUL](#) | Home Farm, Arlington Lane, Snelsmore Common | Building of two traditional timber clad stables with small adjoining tack room and a hay store for sole use by the owners of the house. The proposal includes change of use request from agricultural land to enable horses to graze on the land next to the owner's house. No impact on highway or access as existing driveway for the house will be used. Granted: 20 December 2024.

2501.6 FINANCE

(i) Income and Expenditure

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payments shown in Appendix 1.

It was **NOTED** that (i) the funds held in the RBS Savings Account had not been transferred to the Unity Trust Bank Savings Account to allow the RBS Account to be closed, and that (ii) an application for a Unity Corporate Multipay Card could not be submitted until February, when the UTB Account would have been held for one year.

(ii) Small Grant Awards

Grant applications and the draft budget (for precept purposes) would be discussed at the February meeting.

(iii) Members Community Bids (MCBs)

It was **NOTED** that MCBs had been submitted for (i) the Village Gates for Chieveley and (ii) the purchase and deployment of SIDs within Chieveley Parish.

2501.7 CLERK RECRUITMENT

It was **RESOLVED** to readvertise the vacancy and to increase the available hours from 12 to 16 hours per week with a salary based on LC3 SCP 33-36 (£22.14-£23.70) for a clerk holding a CiLCA qualification.

2501.8 LOCAL PLAN REVIEW

The consultation on the proposed main modifications to the LPR 2022-2039 was noted. It was **AGREED** that a Parish Council response was not required.

2501.9 COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

The Senior Road Safety Officer at WBC had added a note of support to CPC's application for a Members' Community Bid (MCB) and emphasised that ownership of the equipment and responsibility for its ongoing maintenance would rest with the Parish Council. A licence agreement provided by WBC would be required.

Cllr Gilman added that the Parish Council would need public liability insurance of at least £5m to cover those involved with installation, repair or maintenance of the equipment or moving it from one location to another. He anticipated that the only other equipment needed would be a ladder. Traffic data could be downloaded via the Android SID-Pro App.

It was anticipated that the purchase and deployment of two Speed Indicator Devices would cost between £10,000 and £11,000. If successful, the MCB would provide a significant contribution towards the required funding but, even with the amount reserved by the Parish Council (£3000), there would be a considerable shortfall. It was **AGREED** to explore the availability of funding from the Greenham Trust

ACTION: Cllr. Cowan would investigate the possibility of funding from the Greenham Trust

2501.10 FOR INFORMATION ITEMS

The following information had been received by Councillors:

- i Police and Crime Bulletin: December 2024
- ii Newbury and Thatcham Repair Cafes: 26 Jan and 23 Feb
- iii HALC training course for new Clerks and Officers (Feb 2025)
- iv Connecting Communities in Berkshire – January News
- v West Berkshire Town and Parish Climate Forum (15 Jan @12.30)
- vi Adverse weather health plan

2501.11 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

The following reports from Councillors were received:

CURRIDGE: There had been Facebook reports of caravans and portacabins on the land beyond the ‘new’ gate at Rookery Farm. Traffic exiting from the site directly onto the B4009 was dangerous. District Cllr Paul Dick would be asked for an update.

CHIEVELEY: (i) Cllr Hutchison reported that, after 35 years, Dr Cave would retire from the Downland Practice in March and asked if the Parish Council should mark the occasion or contribute towards any event being organised by the Practice. No further information was available at present, but the general feeling was that this would not be an appropriate use of CPC funds.

(ii) Cllr Cowan reported that the CRC Liaison Group had met in October to discuss simplifying the CRC’s approach to grant applications. A combined grant application for playground maintenance, the MUGA and grounds maintenance had been received at the end of December. The level of financial support requested was in line with previous years. A further meeting was needed to agree CPC’s contribution to the playground capital replacement fund.

2501.12 NEXT MEETING: 11 February 2025 @ 7.30pm – Chieveley Village Hall

Note: Minutes prepared by Cllr Derry, Chair of the Parish Council

APPENDIX 1

Jan-25				
FEE	31-Dec-24	Unity Trust Bank	UTB service charge	6.00
BACS	17-Dec-24	Tactical Facilities Management	SI-2755 Dog waste collections	122.40
January Total				128.40

