

CHIEVELEY PARISH COUNCIL

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DRAFT Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting 9th July 2024 Curridge WI Hall, Curridge Road, RG18 9DZ

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

Parish Clerk: Kim Lloyd

District Councillor: Cllr. Heather Codling

In attendance: 5 members of the public

24.7.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr Dick. Cllr Allen and District Cllr. Paul Dick

24.7.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS

Cllr. Beard declared an interest in planning application 24/02257/FUL Quakers Day Nursery as he lived adjacent to the property.

24.7.3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

One member of the public raised an objection to 24/02257/FUL Quakers Day Nursery. The objection concerned road safety and privacy Issues. Three other members of the public also raised objections.

24.7.4 MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11 June 2024 were a true record of the meeting

24.7.5 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(i) The following new planning applications were considered.

[24/01157/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 on the following grounds:

- An orange sign had not been posted to notify residents of the planning application
- The proposal might lead to an increase children and staff at the nursery, and increased congestion at drop off and collection times.
- Parking spaces at the Nursery did not meet current need. Parking capacity could not be increased, and cars were already forced to park on the road. Accessing vehicles from the road presented a danger from cars travelling along the road, which often travel at speed.

- Drop off and collection times were not staggered, which added to congestion and made the road difficult for pedestrians who were required to cross the road at this point to continue on the footpath.
- The Primary School 'Walking Bus' from the Village Hall to the School building before and after school hours required many children to cross the road outside Quakers. Safety of these users would be a major concern.
- The proposed classroom would create privacy issues with the adjoining neighbours. As proposed, the classroom is too close to the neighbour's boundary at the rear of the property.
- The proposed classroom would be higher than the neighbour's fence and a proposed window would overlook adjacent gardens.
- Increased noise levels would affect adjoining neighbours.

[24/01191/FUL](#) Ye Olde Red Lion, Green Lane, Chieveley. New stretch tent and covered seating shelters. It was **RESOLVED** to support this application.

[24/01211/HOUSE](#) Tudor Lodge, Oxford Road, Chieveley. Construction of single storey rear extension and first floor side extension. It was **RESOLVED** to submit a response of no objection.

[24/01148/HOUSE](#) Arlington Cottage, Snelsmore Common. Part single, part two-storey extension, new timber cladding, demolition of carport and replacement with extension to the side of the garage for ancillary room, and erection of fence along western boundary. It was **RESOLVED** to submit a response of no objection.

(ii) The following recent planning decisions had been taken by WBC:

[24/00461/FUL](#) 8 Priors Court Cottages, Priors Court, Hermitage. Retrospective: Use of existing garage building for commercial purposes - use Class E(g)(iii). Retrospective permission granted: 27 June 2024

[24/00545/HOUSE](#) New Bungalow, Oare. Proposed single storey extension following demolition of existing conservatory. Approved: 1 July 2024

[24/00713/HOUSE](#) 3 Oaklands, Curridge. Shed type structures to garden incidental to dwelling (C3). Approved: 2 July 2024

[23/02617/FUL](#) The Grange, Snelsmore. Alterations to barn and change of use to B8 use with ancillary office. Granted: 2 July 2024.

24.7.6 FINANCE

(i) Income and Expenditure

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payments shown in Appendix 1, the Bank Reconciliation to 1 July 2024, and the Budget vs Expenditure Q1 of 2024/25.

The Clerk reported difficulty in changing her address on the Royal Bank of Scotland's records so had not received the latest bank statement on the savings account.

ACTION: The Clerk to contact RBS again.

(ii) Small Grant Awards

The following funding requests were considered:

Chieveley Primary School PTA – request for £586 to supplement its fundraising activities for KR2 reading resources bringing the required total of £2,000. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the request but to ask that it be submitted using the SGA application form for formal ratification by the Parish Council. The form was being reviewed and would be forwarded to the PTA for completion at the earliest opportunity.

ACTION: The Clerk to inform Chieveley Primary School PTA of the decision
The Finance Committee to review and update the SGA application form.

Chieveley Recreational Centre – request for £1,286 to purchase a noticeboard to publicise its events and facilities. Following discussion, it was agreed that the CRC could use the Parish Council noticeboard as it was used only once per month to publish the meeting agenda.

ACTION: The Clerk to recommend this proposal to the CRC Chairman.

24.7.7 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The new Financial Regulations 2024 were considered. It was agreed that 5.6 be amended to require formal tenders from three suppliers for contracts estimated to exceed £25,000 and not £60,000 as proposed by the new regulations. With this amendment, it was **RESOLVED** to adopt and publish the new Financial Regulations.

24.7.8 COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH (CSW)

Cllrs. Derry and Gilman and Colin Lovell (CSW) had attended a meeting with Cheryl Evans, the Traffic and Safety Officer, on 11 June at WBC offices. Data showed that speedwatch campaigns along the Curridge stretch of the B4009 have had little impact on speeding and that the percentage of traffic exceeding the speed limit required Thames Valley Police to deploy solutions. However, TVP could not give a timescale for intervention, so engagement with West Berkshire Police and Crime Commissioner was encouraged. A report of the meeting would be published on the mychieveley website.

24.7.9 CLAIMED PUBLIC BRIDLEWAY OVER PUBLIC FOOTPATH CHIEVELEY 46

WBC had received an application for a Definitive Map Modification Order to record a public bridleway over the existing public footpath [Chieveley 46](#) near Snelsmore Farm. The Parish Council had no comments on the application.

ACTION: The Clerk to inform WBC that the Parish Council had no objections to the application.

24.7.10 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported the following updates:

- (i) Curridge Dog Waste Bin (24.5.6 refers). Highways confirmed that if the waste bin could be sited 1.5m from the roadside it would not object to its installation. Tactical Management would assess the site.
- (ii) Village entrance gates (24.5.16 refers). Photographs of each gate and its exact location were needed to progress the work needed; WBC did not hold information on entrance gate locations. Several contractors had been approached, but none had yet agreed to undertake the repair or replacement work.

ACTION: The Clerk to take photographs and record locations to discuss the work needed with known contractors.

- (iii) Stable View (24.6.13 refers). Following the lack of enforcement action in relation to unlawful development at Stable View, District Cllr. Codling had advised that WBC was recruiting much-needed enforcement staff.
- (iv) Closure and re-routing of local byways and footpaths in Curridge (24.6.13 refers). Cllr. Friend agreed to meet with the PROW officer to discuss further.

ACTION: The Clerk to arrange a meeting between Mr Higgins, WBC PROW officer, and Cllr. Friend.

24.7.11 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

- (i) June Parish Report from District Cllr. Paul Dick was received
- (ii) CHIEVELEY: Radnalls Farm had been a source of concern to local residents since 2020 and, to date, no enforcement action had been taken by WBC. The matter had recently worsened – animal and poultry buildings had been built too close to neighbouring properties, resulting in more noise and smell. When

first reported to WBC, the Parish Council was informed that nothing could be done until the planning application submitted in 2021 had been determined. Despite several complaints by residents and enquiries by the Parish Council, WBC had assessed that activities were not causing harm to the environment. Recent changes suggested that the situation had worsened.

ACTION: The Clerk to report the current situation to WBC Enforcement and provide a timeline of events since 2021.

(iii) CURRIDGE: Following a fallen tree branch in the Curridge Playground, a tree survey had been requested.

ACTION: The Clerk to obtain a quote for a tree survey for consideration at the September meeting.

(iv) CURRIDGE: The Primary School Year 6 children had planned and planted a Bee-Kind Garden, which was entered for the Dorothy Morley Conservation award and won first prize of £1,000. The Parish Council recognised this achievement and congratulated Year 6.

(v) CURRIDGE: A venison processing facility (Oakland Park) would soon open with access via the services

ACTION: The Clerk to enquire about planning permission associated with the facility.

(vi) ALL: Residents had expressed concern about potential noise and traffic problems arising from the Summer Festival event at the Showground during the weekend 19-21 July. Someone from the Showground would be on-site all weekend to monitor the event.

(vii) ALL: Cllr Derry asked if there was an appetite for developing a standalone website for Chieveley Parish Council. [Parish Online](#) was used by about 200 Parish Council including (locally) Thatcham, Compton and South Morton and could be a useful starting point.

The Clerk reported that she would be attending a training session on 'moving over to a GOV.UK domain', which might affect how a Parish Council website would be developed.

ACTION: Cllr. Derry to develop a proposal for a standalone website for consideration at the next meeting.
The Clerk to identify possible options following her training course.

24.7.11 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Topics identified for discussion at a future meeting

- (i) Warm Spaces (for discussion in September)
- (ii) Parish website, including a GOV.UK domain

24.7.11 DATES OF FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS (all at 7.30pm)

10 September 2024	Curridge WI Hall	
8 October 2024	Chieveley Village Hall	Main Hall
12 November 2024	Chieveley Village Hall	Rear of Club Room
10 December 2024	Chieveley Village Hall	Rear of Club Room

APPENDIX 1

Payments Approved

Jul-24

Invoice No /Ref	Details	Name of Payee	Amount
1821	Dog Waste Collection	Tactical Management	£ 97.92
2185	Payroll, July 2024	SME Accounting Services	£ 12.00
31.07.2024	Clerk Payroll	Kim Lloyd	
31.07.2024	Clerk Pension	Berkshire Pension	£ 416.05
31.07.2024	Employer/ee Tax/Ni Contributions	HMRC	£ 236.28