



CHURCHILL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Churchill Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14 October 2019 at 7.30 pm
Community Club, Churchill.

COUNCILLORS PRESENT

Councillors: Jackie Bush, Tim Jessiman, Dev Clutterbuck,
Georgie Collett, Bill Wilkinson, Simon Glanfield,
Bill Carruthers, James Hoddell, Rick Brafield.

Also Present:

Clerk of the Council - Ann Boote
Patrick Keating. North Somerset Councillor
4 members of the public were also present.

1920/C/066 Apologies - to receive apologies from Councillors for non-attendance.
Sarah Shaw - Parish Liaison Officer (NSC)

1920/C/067 Declarations of interest: To receive alteration/amendments to the register of interests and to consider any written requests for dispensations. To receive declarations of interest on agenda items.
None

1920/C/068 To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2019.
The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 9 September 2019 had been previously circulated to all members and were agreed as an accurate record.

RESOLVED:-

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2019 were confirmed by those present as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

1920/C/069 Public Participation

A member of the public informed the meeting that as an allotment holder, many tenants were surprised & upset to hear about the rent increases due to excessive water bills. The meeting was informed that after checks, no water leaks could be found. Several allotment holders came forward to admit they had witnessed an allotment holder connecting a water hose to a generator and pumping water for hours onto their plots. The allotment holders did not feel able to approach the Parish Council regarding this issue.

Councillor Jackie Bush explained that the Parish Council installed the water supply at the request of allotment holders and had a duty to all parishioners to recoup this expense, whilst also covering the water supply costs. At present this was not happening.

A member of the Allotment Committee requested to see the Parish Accounts relating to the allotments, in particular the costs and repayment figures.

RESOLUTION

It was agreed that any allotment holder who witnessed the excessive water use should contact Jackie Bush with information. The Council stands by its decision to increase the allotment rent to cover the costs of the water supply to the allotments.

It was agreed to look at this situation and review again next year to see if any savings could be made on water bills and whether any savings could possibly be passed on to tenants.

It was agreed to provide a copy of the Accounts relating to Allotments to the Allotment Committee.

A member of the public informed the meeting that the pond located on the Crest Nicholson, Langford Fields site had overflowed causing flooding to both Jubilee Lane and Stock Lane. The problem has been caused by the lack of 2 water pumps, which have yet to be installed on this habited residential site.

The flooded pond itself poses a health & safety risk for residents and children, who are naturally drawn to ponds and water. There are insufficient safety fences around the area or life- saving floatation devices.

RESOLUTION

It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the Responsible Enforcement Authority (North Somerset Council) and the Local Councillor for a response to this issue, as it was felt that this dangerous situation was a health & safety issue, which requires urgent resolution.

A member of the public spoke to the meeting regarding a planning application at the Blagdon Water Garden site. They had recently attended a consultation. They felt that this development was more acceptable than previous plans. However, had reservations regarding hydrology and the lack of footpath access.

A member of the public informed the meeting that there had been no further updates on the JSP.

A member of the public wished to complain regarding the proposed double yellow lines outside the School in Church Lane. It was felt that this would force car owners to park further along the lane. This could damage the drainage ditch and possibly damage the wall of the listed building of Churchill Court. It was suggested that cars be able to park in the Sports Centre Car Park. However, it was pointed out that sometimes this car park is full and customers have difficulty parking there.

A suggestion was made that the Parish Council request emails addresses from local residents to create a database. This would be a positive way to distribute local information. A suggestion was made that this be included in the next issue of the Tower Newsletter.

Councillor Tim Jessiman informed the meeting that the church's newsletter 'The Signpost' could also be a useful tool for local news, articles & information.

1920/C/70 North Somerset Council Matters

Councillor Patrick Keating addressed the meeting. He suggested that any emails addressed to NSC which were not receiving a response, could be forwarded to him to investigate.

No further information was yet forthcoming regarding the JSP. North Somerset Council Officers are currently discussing possibilities for the future. There was a suggestion that North Somerset Council join the West of England Combined Plan, which includes S Gloucestershire, Bath and North East Somerset. This could be a useful way of sharing ideas and information.

An update was given on the Airport expansion plans.

The meeting was informed of the decision to close over night the A&E Department of Weston General Hospital. A request to the Secretary of State to oppose this closure would be forwarded.

The meeting felt that this closure would have a detrimental effect on an expanding town the size of Weston Super Mare and its surrounding areas and its aging population.

Councillor Keating informed the meeting that he had been contacted by a local resident who had no objection to the proposed housing development at the Blagdon Water Garden Site. However, was concerned about flooding control.

Councillor Keating had received a complaint regarding the local sports Centre in Churchill, regarding the lack of facilities and condition of the building. It was suggested that Councillor Keating visit the 'Kings of Wessex' sports complex, to see how this facility is operated.

Councillor Keating spoke to the meeting regarding a local resident who had been in contact with him and requested that Says Lane, be closed and to reduce the current speed limit. The meeting was informed that an Officer from NSC, David Bailey had provided survey information which confirmed that this suggestion was not viable or an economically feasible option.

RESOLUTION

It was agreed that Councillor Bill Carruthers, local resident and Councillor Patrick Keating would liaise to discuss the matter further.

1920/C/071: Planning Matters:-

(1) NSC Decision Notices

The following Planning decision notices had been issued by NSC in the past month:-

- a) **19/P/1768/FUL- Langford Post Office Langford Road Langford Bristol BS40 5HU**
Proposed replacement roof covering & two storey rear extension to provide an office, store room, staff area and meeting room for the existing retail unit
Decision: Approved.

- b) **19/P/1184/FUL - Churchill School Churchill Green Churchill BS25 5QL**
Two storey extension to the existing Science and Technology block
Decision: Approved

(2) Planning Applications for consultee comment by Parish Council:-

- a) **19/P/1963/FUL & 19/P/1964/LBC - Land At Blagdon Water Garden Centre Bath Road Langford**
Demolition of buildings (Use Class A1 - retail). Conversion of existing two-storey building to 1no. four bedroom dwelling (Use Class C3); replacement of existing bungalow (Use Class C3) with 1no. two-storey five-bedroom dwelling; and erection of 8no. dwellings. Redevelopment of Walled Garden comprising restoration and extension of the existing derelict cottage and heated wall to provide 1no. five-bedroom dwelling and erection of 1no. single-storey five-bedroom dwelling. Improvements to existing vehicular access, hard/soft landscape works, and drainage.

RESOLUTION

Members considered this application by viewing the application detail and plans. After discussion members decided by vote.

The Council has **no objection** to application **19/P/1963/FUL & 19/P/1964/LBC** as there is no perceived effect on the environment or neighbourhood. However, a caveat is requested to ensure there are suitable flood risk procedures in place. On the A368 where the road narrows, a suitable footpath be made available, as this poses a pedestrian safety issue.

A request to be made to request that the 'affordable housing contribution' be used within the parish.

- b) **19/P/2208/FUH- Orway Barn, Stock Lane, Langford, Bristol. BS40 5ER**
The proposed erection of a single storey side extension to form Annexed accommodation for a dependent relative.

RESOLUTION

Members considered this application by viewing the application detail and plans. After discussion members decided by vote.

The Council has **no objection** to application **19/P/2208/FUH** as there is no perceived effect on the environment or neighbourhood

(3) Other Planning Matters

Request from North Somerset Council.

NSC are looking for 3 new road names for 40 dwellings, off Bristol Road, Churchill. Their preference would be for names to be in keeping with the use of the land.

For information:-

'The field historically (based on the 1840s tithe map) was known as Six Acres. However, there is the old turnpike road (now the A38) and the site of the former tollhouse opposite the development, so any of these suggestions would allow for connections with the historic use of the area.'

If you were to look at the wider landscape, there is a key landmark in the form of Dolebury Warren Iron Age hillfort, so perhaps 'Dolebury View' would be a possibility.'

In view of the above, can Six Acres, Turnpike and Dolebury be considered in your discussions.

A discussion took place regarding the planning application 19/P/2004/FUL for a layby to be installed at the end of Says Lane for maintenance vehicles accessing the pond area on the Bellway, Blagdon Gardens housing development on Bristol Road in Langford. It was felt that any maintenance vehicles should be able to access the pond area from within the housing development itself.

The meeting was informed that an open hole containing dangerous electric cables had been causing issues on the Bristol Road. Councillor Simon Glanfield spoke to the Bellway Site Manager of Blagdon Gardens and the issue was eventually resolved. It was noted that the 30mph speed signs and lights would not be installed until December due to delay.

RESOLUTION

The meeting discussed possible road names and agree the suggestion of the following:-

Warren View, Six Acres, Mendip View and Tollgate Road.

1920/C/072: To note the resignation of Councillor Mrs Ruth Bruton as a Parish Councillor

Noted.

1920/C/073 To consider the co-option of a resident, Sue List, as a Parish Councillor

Following consideration and vote by the council it was unanimously agreed that Mrs Sue List be co-opted to the Parish Council as a councillor.

RESOLVED

Mrs Sue List co-opted as a councillor member of Churchill Parish Council

1920/C/074 Parish Property Development Plans

Councillor James Hoddell showed the meeting a number of architects drawings relating to the proposed Parish Property Development. The plans showed possible improvements in all areas including sports changing and shower facilities, improvements to the current Community Club to provide office space, possible youth club facilities, meeting & conference rooms and rooms for social gatherings.

Plans were shown for possible use of the land adjacent to Turnpike Close to build retail units or a variety of affordable housing solutions for local people. Councillor JH informed the meeting that he had applied for a grant of £50,000 from the Community Housing Fund. A discussion took place regarding loans for building costs and possible coalition with building developer or housing associations.

RESOLUTION

The council agreed that the general proposal had merit and that a public consultation should follow to obtain the views and ideas of local residents.

1920/C/075: Neighbourhood Plan

A discussion took place that whilst waiting for North Somerset Council's response regarding the JSP, that the Parish should be proactive in creating the parishes own neighbourhood plan, in line with other local Parishes such as Congresbury.

RESOLUTION

The meeting agreed to proceed with a Neighbourhood Plan.

1920/C/076 Accounts.- To receive and confirm the payments for October 2019.

The detail of payments for authorization at the meeting had been listed on the agenda and circulated to all members and displayed on the Council's website and noticeboards.

RESOLVED

The payments were agreed as per the agenda. Total expenditure of £4794.28

1920/C/077 Clerk's Report

Members had been circulated with the full report of the Clerk.

RESOLVED:-

The report of the Clerk is noted.

To receive matters for information and future Agenda items

Councillor Tim Jessiman

Invited Councillor to afternoon Tea and Cake at St. Mary's at 3.00pm on the 19th October view (and comment on) the plans for the proposed works to the grounds at the rear of St. Mary's. Plans include an exercise machine type trim trail to compliment the exercise equipment around the Parish.

Councillor Dev Clutterbuck

A request that the home owner of the property known as 'Four Winds' on Dinghurst Road be asked to cut their hedges back to the level of the roads white line.

RESOLUTION

Parish Clerk to compose and post a letter to each resident to request this be done as soon as possible. .

Councillor Simon Glanfield

Informed the meeting that the street lights were not working on the Broad Oak Estate, numbers 3, 4, 14, 17 and 20.

RESOLUTION

Parish Clerk to contact NSC to report faulty street lighting.

The meeting was informed that one of our two local Beat Police Officers has been seconded for six months. It was felt that this was too long and only have one officer to cover a large area such as ours was one of high priority, particularly in view of the number of reported house break ins and door step scams.

It was also noted that if any residents are visited at home by anyone trying to sell them anything and acting suspiciously to call the police. The Police welcome this type of intelligence as it helps to enable them to build a picture of what is happening locally and to stop any escalation.

RESOLUTION

Parish Clerk to contact Avon & Somerset Constabulary and Councillor Patrick Keating to request the return of our local police officer.

The Council were informed that the Under 13 football team were enjoying using the pitch on Saturday mornings. They are maintaining the pitch and marking the lines with their own equipment, which they would like to be able to store at the club.

Councillor Richard Brafield

It was mentioned that several houses along Front Street need to cut their hedges right back to their property boundary. The hedges are making a narrow road quite dangerous for pedestrians. This includes the property known as 'The Old Vicarage' in Dinghurst Road.

RESOLUTION

Parish Clerk to compose and post a letter to each resident to request this be done as soon as possible.

Councillor Jackie Bush

JB informed the Council that she had met the new owner of the land located in between the two allotments in Ladymead Lane. He's planning to build a house for his family and a small residence for his mother and mother-in-law. He wanted to discuss cutting back the hedge on either side of the lane, which joins the allotment hedge plus the road side hedge and grass verge.

JB informed him that the (roadside) hedges adjoining the allotments were due to be cut back at the end of September and this was in hand. She felt that cutting back the hedges in between the allotments would be a positive move.

JB informed the meeting that she had spoken personally to the local residents of the 'Old GP Surgery' regarding using the Parish Car Park for airport parking. This has now been resolved and should no longer be an issue.

Parish Clerk

Ann Boote informed the meeting that she had spoken to the contractor regarding the hedge cutting, which should have taken place at the end of September. He explained that the delay was due to inclement weather and has assured us that the matter will now be resolved.

She has also arranged for the less accessible inner hedges, which cannot be cut by tractor to be trimmed by an alternative contractor.

The meeting was shown various menu & venue options for the 2019 Christmas Meal. Preferences to be emailed to Parish Clerk as soon as possible to ensure availability.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.50 pm

CHAIR.....

DATE.....