

## Minutes of the Meeting of Cherhill Parish Council held at Cherhill Village Hall on Thursday 29 June 2023, 7.00pm

Present:

Nick White – CPC Chairman  
Andy Sadler-Smith - CPC Councillor  
David Grafton – CPC Councillor

Jane Page – CPC Councillor  
Jackie Day – CPC Councillor  
Richard Carter - CPC Councillor  
Peter Johnson – CPC Parish Clerk

### 4205 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr Purslow and Wilts Cllr. O'Neill

### 4206 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

### 4207 Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 30 May 2023

Cllr Day proposed approval of the Minutes as a correct record, seconded by Cllr Sadler-Smith.  
Cllr White signed off the Minutes.

### 4208 Review of Actions

**Dialogue with the residents of Lower Compton, Calstone and Blacklands (4139)** – Cllr Day had previously spoken with residents of Lower Compton and Cllr Page similarly with residents of Blacklands and Calstone. Both aspects were ongoing. Agreed that dialogue should also take place with the Calne Without PC. The Clerk would contact the Councillor for East Ward, Doug Price.

**Action : Clerk**

**The right of way from Red Barn to the Open Access land at Cherhill (4165).** Cllr Grafton had tidied up the route with a small mower and it is now wide enough for walkers.

**The Defibrillator cabinet at Cherhill School (4174)** - This still needs its power supply to be checked but the defibrillator itself is working.

**Reinstating the sign post on Footpath to Stert Pond (4185)** – Cllr Purslow was not present to report but it is understood that the Parish Steward is not likely to be able to assist.

### 4209 Public Participation

No members of the public were present but a number of enquiries had been received:

- a) The Clerk had received a message from a lady from **Yatesbury Organic Farm** about hedgerows being grubbed up along Jugglers Lane on the way to Cherhill. He had requested

further information from the caller but without response. Nobody had any knowledge of such activity.

- b) The Clerk had been contacted by Mrs Diane Adams re a proposed internment of a relative's **ashes at St James's churchyard**. She has been referred to the Oldbury Benefice, the group which looks after a number of local churches including St James's.
- c) Cllr White updated regarding complaints concerning **he overgrown hedges at Cherhill** along the A4 footpath. A letter would be drafted to all residents of properties there requesting that they keep their hedges safely trimmed. **Action:** The Clerk to draft a letter.

#### 4210 Yatesbury Airfield

Cllr Page reported on the continuing deterioration of the historic buildings and the continuing concerns and complaints from residents about the Airsoft events taking place every weekend. There is concern for the whole Conservation Area and for wildlife with damage to the fragile buildings and pollution of the area by the plastic pellets being used. Community members are also concerned about the 'Non determination' of planning applications PL/2022/02255 and PL/2022/02601 which remain outstanding after 2 years with no outcome. The airfield has been designated a Conservation Area since 1998 but no progress has been made at all with conserving the buildings and area and there has been serious deterioration over the years with 2 failed attempts at enabling restoration. Agreed that a detailed dossier with photo/video footage needs to be assembled before further action is taken or requested. **Action:** Cllr Page.

#### 4211 Overgrown Trees at Yatesbury

Cllr Grafton suggested that the trees adjacent to The Lymers belong to Yatesbury House Farm. He will meet and discuss with Richard Gantlett possible reduction/pollarding to reduce the shading to the Bungalows and, if acceptable, will obtain a quote for the necessary work. **Action:** Cllr Grafton

#### 4212 Bridleway and Footpath Maintenance (Standing Item)

**Re the handrails and foot bridges near Stert Pond**, Cllr White had spoken to Mr Simpson the owner who was willing to allow repair work. This could be done by a working party. **Action:** Cllrs White and Grafton.

#### 4213 Further Defibrillators

Agreed that a defibrillator should be positioned in the **layby west of Cherhill and to the south of the A4**. Costings will need to be identified and then discussed during the budgeting period. **Action:** Cllr Carter.

A defibrillator was also needed at **Lower Compton**. This was still part of Calne Without PC until 2015 and Cllr Doug Price the member for East Ward would be contacted to establish whether any plans for a defibrillator were being made prior to the transfer of the area to Cherhill PC. **Action:** Clerk

#### 4214 Cherhill Telephone Box

Agreed that this was now very unsightly but remained a local landmark should be repainted. This had been done successfully with the telephone box at Yatesbury and the resident who carried out the work there would be contacted for guidance/assistance. **Action:** Cllr Page.

#### 4215 Tommy Croker Maintenance

Cllr White outlined the the various tasks necessary for the continued maintenance of the play equipment. Following the last ROSPA inspection a number of issues had been highlighted:

- a) A large horizontal timber needs to be replaced. Cllr White has obtained a quote.

- b) A resistograph test had been carried out to test for wood decay. These are meant to be every 3 years and the last test had been in 2021. The equipment was now 11 years old and attention was required now in order to slow down deterioration and reduce costs later.

#### 4216 Accounts

**Clerk's Home/Office expenses for May 2023** at £30.49. Proposed to be approved by Cllr Day, seconded by Cllr Sadler-Smith. **APPROVED**

**Cllr. Grafton's expenses** re purchase of items and materials for Cherhill Memorial Bench and Garden at £1,451.68. Proposed to be approved by Cllr.Sadler-Smithh, seconded by Cllr Page. **APPROVED**

**Chairman's expenses**, re purchase of archive storage boxes, at £37.97. Proposed to be approved by Cllr. Carter, seconded by Cllr. Page. **APPROVED.**

**The Garden Route**, grass-cutting at Tommy Croker, March-June 2023 at £385.00. Proposed to be approved by Cllr.Carter, seconded by Cllr. Grafton. **APPROVED**

#### 4217 Annual Governance Statement (AGAR) Return 2022-23

The Annual Governance Statement had previously been circulated to Council members and proposed to be approved by Cllr White, seconded by Cllr. Grafton. **APPROVED.**

**Action:** Parish Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer to return all the signed off forms to the external auditors and to ensure publication of the dates for the 'Period for the Exercise of Public Rights', to run from **3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023 to 11<sup>th</sup> August 2023.**

**Action :** Cllrs Purslow and Page would post the paper copies of that Notice on the Cherhill and Yatesbury noticeboards on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

**Action:** Cllr White: The AGAR annual return and other relevant documents to be published on the Cherhill Parish Council website throughout the statutory period, from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

#### 4218 Newsletter (Standing Item)

Cllr. Day confirmed the list of articles for the July/August edition.

#### 4219 Councillor Responsibilities

**Area Board** – Cllr Grafton had attended the last meeting, on 23<sup>rd</sup> May. There is now a new Chairman, Cllr O'Neill having stepped down.

**Budgeting and Finance** – The Clerk confirmed that at present the funds at Lloyd's totalled £16,732.51. He would during July be meeting again with Cllr Carter to examine and approve the bank reconciliation for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of the current financial year.

#### **Clerk Admin matters –**

The Clerk confirmed that the internal auditor, David Hubbard, had completed the audit for 2022-23 and all was satisfactory. A donation would again be arranged for his services.

The PC's HP Envy printer was now functioning properly but the current agreement with Hewlett Packard for replacement inks was not cost effective given the average monthly usage. Agreed that this agreement should not be continued and instead compatible ink would be purchased as and when required.

**Facebook Page** – Cllr Purslow was not present but this appeared to be up to date.

**Website** – Cllr White reported that this needs to be progressed.

**Countryside Access** – Cllr Grafton had nothing further to report as there had been no meetings recently.

**Hills Waste Solutions Group** – Cllr Grafton had attended the recent online meeting arranged through Microsoft Teams. The waste operation on the whole was running smoothly.

**LHFIG** – Cllr Day reported that the next meeting would be held in July. The Clerk reported on the response, prompted by Cllr. Ashley, from Wiltshire Council's Transport Unit regarding the reinstatement of a bus stop on the A4 for Yatesbury residents. This, they suggest, is feasible but is a matter for the local LHFIG group. **Action; Cllr Day**

**Parish Steward link** – Cllr Grafton reported that the Steward had carried out a lot of work recently, including the re-erection of the damaged road sign on the A4.

**White Horse Restoration Group** – Cllr Grafton confirmed that following the recent work by the local Scouts a re-chalking would not need to take place until 2024.

4220 Confidential Matters

Any confidential matters discussed are not reported in the Minutes.

4221 Date of next meeting

Thursday **27th July 7.00 pm – Cherhill Village Hall.**

The meeting closed at 8.52 pm.