



Chillerton & Gatcombe Parish Council



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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHILLERTON & GATCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 4th JULY 2023 AT ST OLAVES CHURCH, GATCOMBE

Present: Councillors Nigel Phillips (Chairman), John Hobart & Liz Smith

Also Present: Mr Virgil Philpott (Clerk)
1 member of the public

Public Questions:

- It appeared that there had been some weedkiller sprayed along Brook Lane (near the water course). Who did this and was there any prior knowledge provided? The Clerk would contact Island Roads Area Steward (District 6) to seek clarification
- Given that the Council had resolved to trial bi-monthly Meetings from the Autumn, was there a communications plan in place to ensure parishioners were aware of the change? The Clerk would ensure that the newsletter flagged up the change in Meeting frequency.

3006 APOLOGIES - Cllr Suzie Ellis (IWC), and Councillors Julia Newton & Dave Garnish

3007 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST - Cllr Phillips declared non-pecuniary interests in matters relating to the Chillerton and Gatcombe Community Association.

3008 MINUTES - The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted. **RESOLVED: that, the minutes for the meeting held on 6th June 2023 were approved as a true record.**

The following matters arising were noted which were not covered in the Agenda and Reports:

- 3009
- Cllr Phillips reported that the water leak noticed on Chillerton Main Road had proven to be groundwater.
- 3010
- Cllr Phillips had contacted the grass cutting contractor and ascertained that he was unable to transport the clippings / compost. **RESOLVED: that the Clerk should enquire what other Parish Councils did with their grass clippings.**
- 3011
- **Jubilee Hedge** - The signage had been installed. **A letter of thanks should be sent to parishioner who had helped with the posts.** In the meantime, more volunteers were required to help with maintenance. The set aside at the rear of the hedge was also encroaching. **RESOLVED: that Clerk should arrange for brushcutting the rear.**

3012 PLANNING

Gatcombe House- Following discussion, the Council was supportive of the application. The only question raised was whether the skylight was in line with the Dark Skies initiative. **RESOLVED: that, the Clerk would submit comments to the Planning Portal in line with the decision of the Meeting**

3013 REPORTS

Clerk's Report - Virgil Philpott provided a report (attached to these Minutes) in respect of which the following matters arising were discussed / noted:

- 3014
- **GDPR** - Following the recent IWALC Skills Update Meeting, the Clerk had contacted the firm

Satswana regarding data protections policies /services. **RESOLVED: that Clerk should solicit a formal quote from Satswana for the next Meeting.**

- 3015 • **Newsletter** – It was agreed that the newsletter should be circulated in advance of the Horticultural Show. **RESOLVED: that the Clerk should forward the agreed content to Your Parish Matters.**
- 3016 • **Play Area** – Remedial works were underway. The contractor believed that the springer unit was, in fact, sound once the surface rust had been removed. However, he had raised concerns about the state of the planks on the climber unit's platform. **RESOLVED: that the Clerk / Councillors should inspect works and form a view.** It was also noted that the arrangements for emptying the bin had fallen into abeyance. **RESOLVED: That Cllr Phillips would investigate options for volunteers to empty the bin at regular intervals.**
- 3017 • **Posts on the Village Green** - The posts had been pared and were ready for installation. **RESOLVED: that, Clerk should liaise with Cllr Smith over installation.**
- 3018 • **Tree Work on the Village Green** - The Clerk's TPO application had been rejected by the IWC due to technical shortcomings. It was noted that quoting contractors might be better placed to handle the application. **RESOLVED: that, the lowest quote (excluding VAT) should be accepted if the contractor were willing to undertake the TPO application.**

IOWC - Cllr Ellis had been unable to provide a report due to health issues.

CGCA - Cllr Phillips provided a report (attached to these Minutes).

IWALC - Cllr Hobart provided a report (attached to these Minutes). He also highlighted problems with the Coastal Path.

3019 HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

All relevant items dealt with in reports (see above).

ENVIROMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

- 3020 **Dog Fouling / Hedgerow Cutting** – A resident had raised concerns about both issues. The IW Council's Environmental Officer had inspected the bridleways and found less fouling than reported - but the issue was a problem, nonetheless. Dog walkers had been reminded of their responsibilities and there would be further inspections. In respect of hedgerows, it was noted that it was the height of growing season and the Head of Rights of Way had recently stated to IWALC "...We are behind in our cutting programmes for various reasons (weather, growth rate, unplanned leave in the maintenance team). There are a lot of paths out there very overgrown at the moment but it is hoped that the backlog will be cleared in 2 to 3 weeks time." It was also noted that hedge cutting on Brook Lane was the responsibility of Island Roads. **RESOLVED: That the Clerk should raise this matter with Island Roads.**

TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC

- 3021 **Speeding** – A letter had been received outlining further residents' concern about road safety (particularly in Gatcombe) and the inappropriateness of existing speed limits. Cllr Phillips had been in touch with Island Roads and requested that rubberised monitoring strips be installed to measure speeds. The police's Community Speedwatch scheme was also discussed at length. **RESOLVED: that the Clerk ask Island Roads for a site visit to danger areas (Chillerton Main Road, Chillerton Farm, Highwood Lane & the bottom of Gatcombe Village) and that the Parish Council would purchase a speed gun and hi-vis jackets if sufficient (6) local volunteers could be found to meet the Speedwatch scheme minimum requirements.**

FINANCE

- 3022 **Monthly Figures** –The figures for June were approved, **RESOLVED: that, the June financial statements were accepted**

- 3023 **RESOLVED: to pass the following accounts for payment:**

HMRC - £87.20 (Clerk May PAYE)

David Hayden - £170 (Jun Grass Cutting)

David Trickey - £ 420 (Play Area Works)

V. Philpott - TBC (Jun Wages & Homeworking Allowance)

3024 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
GDPR Policy

NEXT MEETING

3025 The date of the next meeting was confirmed as **Tuesday 5th September at 7pm at The Village Hall, Hollow Lane, Chillerton**. It was reiterated that the Parish Council would be experimenting with bi-monthly Meetings in the Autumn. Special meetings could be convened, as necessary, to consider planning applications. It was also noted that the January Meeting traditionally took place on the *second* Tuesday of the month. **Forthcoming Scheduled Meetings: 5th September, 7th November, 9th January 2024, 5th March 2024.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.42pm

Signed

Date.