

# Minutes of Chedgrave Parish Council Meeting held Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021

(virtual meeting in line with the Coronavirus Act 2020)

**Present:** Cllrs C Gould (chair), J Bircham, J Lurkins, J Sinfield, D Johnson, B Demain, R Seel, G Lyster

**Also Present:** H Goldson (Clerk), CCllr B Stone, DCllrs J Rowe & K Mason-Billig.

1. **Declarations of interest and requests for dispensations by councillors:** DJ – item 15, JS – item 15, CG – item 14 (pre-determined).
2. **To consider apologies and reasons for absence:** Cllr B Demain and DCllr K Mason-Billig had pre-apologised for late arrival.
3. **To approve the minutes of the last council meeting:** JB RESOLVED to approve the minutes. All in agreement.
4. **To discuss matters arising from those minutes:** None.
5. **To co-opt a new councillor: Clerk to consult with NALC and draft an advertisement outlining the requirements of the role.**
6. **To approve the Clerk's continued delegated authority in light of the coronavirus situation:** CG RESOLVED that the delegated authority continue. All in agreement.
7. **To adjourn the meeting to allow public participation:** No MOPs present.
8. **To receive reports from: District and County Cllrs, Police and Parish Cllrs:**

**DCllr J Rowe:** Reported that his main focus remains Chet Chat with 50+ volunteers. No major issues to report. CG requested that J Rowe follow up with SNC regarding George Lane Roundabout. **J Rowe to report back.**

**DCllr K Mason-Billig:** Reported that the Chedgrave phone mast had been approved and is hoping to confirm installation timescales. Reported reduction in South Norfolk COVID-19 infection rates and progress with vaccination programme. Highlighted the new SNC "Additional Restriction Grant" aimed at businesses so far excluded from grant funding. Businesses are advised to check the SNC website. Regarding George Lane Roundabout, KM-B reported a start date of between 26 March to 2 April 2021.

**CCllr B Stone:** Had pre-circulated information from NCC, referred to the GNLP consultation and Census planned for 21 March 2021 stressing that it is a legal requirement for all to participate in the Census. Referred to the NCC budget and advised an approximate increase of £56/pa on Band D Council Tax. Reported that NCC is in the process of setting up a multi-agency strategy group to consider issues relating to flooding. Highlighted the May elections for county councillors and PCC and advised that he will not be a candidate for Chedgrave. DJ queried progress on George Lane roundabout and BS advised that the current start date is March 2021. BD queried proposed changes to the Norwich Rd/A146 junction and BS advised this is to improve safety for cyclists. BS also referred to a planned extension to the A146 Thurton 50mph limit towards Green Pastures.

**Cllr J Sinfield:** Reported that bulbs had been successfully planted in the Pits.

**Cllr B Demain:** Reported that the SAM2 sign is currently located on Hardley Rd. Notified the council that an Internal Scrutineer's report for Q4 2020/21 had been successfully completed.

**Cllr D Johnson:** Referred to GNLP consultation and advised that he thinks the sites for Loddon/Chedgrave have changed. Reported that he attended SNC Town & Parish Forum. DJ queried the status of Saffron plans for Proctor Rd and JB advised that this was unlikely to proceed due to provision of homes at the George Lane development. DJ reminded everyone about the B-Line and advised that he would like to give future consideration to community engagement.

**Cllr C Gould:** Reported that he had attended a NALC Chairman's event. Reported that PFC works to the tennis courts are proceeding, that SNC had removed drug-taking paraphernalia from the vicinity and highlighted the issue of dog fouling on the playing field adding that the PFC Clerk is considering options and the matter will be considered at the PFC meeting on 22 February 2021.

## FINANCIAL MATTERS

9. **To consider whether to adopt internet banking:** Clerk had pre-circulated a report on the matter and there was a general discussion. JB RESOLVED to adopt Unity Trust Bank as the parish council bank, all in agreement. It was noted that provision needed to be made for ensuring funds remain within FSCS limits. **Clerk to progress.**

- 10. To agree a new payroll supplier:** Clerk had pre-circulated a report on the matter and there was a general discussion. CG RESOLVED that the council adopt MW Bookkeeping Services as payroll supplier, all in agreement. **Clerk to progress.**
- 11. To consider garage rental:** CG RESOLVED to cease the garage rental from Saffron Housing Trust, all in agreement. **Clerk and JB to dispose of remaining contents, clerk to notify Saffron.**
- 12. To approve payments as detailed below:**

<b>Community Account</b>	
Clerk Salary & Expenses	£567.38
Saffron Housing Trust (Garage Rental)	£52.00
Loddon Garden & DIY (Christmas light, erection, removal, insurance + sundries)	£395.10
Clare Bulb Company (Pits bulbs, paid by H Goldson)	£64.65
EPS (1) Repairs to Pits play equipment	£1,452.00
EPS(2) Repairs to various MUGA/Grebe items	£306.00
Brunel Engraving (tree plaque)	£203.70
GDC (Grebe Drive turf)	£1,782.90
Ravencroft Tree Services Ltd (WHP method state. Update)	£144.00
<b>Community Account Total</b>	<b>£4,967.73</b>
<b>Brian Clarke Room Account</b>	
Bookings Officer Salary & Exp	£173.34
<b>Brian Clarke Room Account Total</b>	<b>£173.34</b>
<b>Footway Lighting Current Account</b>	
Cozens (UK) Ltd (Dec maintenance)	£42.00
Cozens (UK) Ltd (refurb/repair Pits streetlight)	£510.00
<b>Footway Lighting Current Account Total</b>	<b>£552.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£5,693.07</b>
<b>Receipts - 6 Jan to 27 Jan 2021</b>	
<b>Community Account</b>	
Groundwork Grant (Tesco Bags for Life)	£1,000.00
Allotment Rent	£369.89
Saffron Housing Trust (Grebe Drive Grant)	£10,000.00
Chet Staithe Probus Donation	£60.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£11,429.89</b>

JB RESOLVED to approve the payments. All in agreement.

## PLANNING MATTERS

**13. To consider planning applications:** None.

**14. To consider planning appeals:**

**APP/L2630/W/20/3263886 - 2020/1154: Planning Appeal - Land East Of The Manor Norwich Road Chedgrave Norfolk** - CG re-iterated his pre-determination on this matter and handed the item to JB to chair. There was a general discussion on the matter and JB RESOLVED that no further action be taken in relation to this matter. 4 in favour of the resolution, 3 against the resolution, 1 abstention. Resolution PASSED.

**15. Planning Decisions:**

**2020/0632** Decision: Approval of details – Approved, Delegated Date of decision: 12 January 2021.  
**Clerk to remind NCC re encroachment onto highway by Vale Cottages residents.**

**16. To consider any issues in relation to the Neighbourhood Plan:** No matters arising.

## **OTHER MATTERS**

**17. To discuss any items arising from the Clerk's report and receive updates:**

a. Virtual Meetings – **Clerk to write to MP encouraging continuation of legislation allowing this.**

b. Litter Picking Volunteer- Clerk advised that a local resident (Ros Mitchell) had kindly volunteered to be the parish litter picker. Cllrs approved this on the basis that she would comply with council Health & Safety stipulations, wear hi-vis etc. **Clerk to progress.**

c. Eric Wilkinson Memorial Plaque – this has arrived and cllrs agreed that members of Probus/Loddon & Chedgrave Society were welcome to arrange a suitable event to place it, COVID-19 permitting. **Clerk to advise relevant parties.**

d. Finance Training: Cllrs DJ, RS, JS, CG, BD and Clerk confirmed attendance on the training on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Cllrs JB, JL and GL declined to attend. **Clerk to confirm with NPTS and offer remaining places to Loddon PC.**

**18. To consider initial plans re A146 junction with Norwich Rd – Local Safety Scheme:** There was a general discussion on the matter with cllrs concluding: -

a. The benefit to cyclists of this scheme is peripheral and a proper cycle lane on A146 is needed to be of real benefit.

b. Traffic turning left into Chedgrave would generally slow the flow of traffic in the Beccles direction, potentially causing hold-ups and disruption. It would also reduce the vision splay and traffic gap for traffic turning right towards Norwich.

c. A proper traffic survey is needed, including traffic turning onto Norwich Rd and possibly incorporating a temporary speed reduction to assess the impact of that.

d. This is locally considered to be a difficult and dangerous junction and a proper public consultation on this matter is needed. **Clerk to respond to NCC accordingly.**

**19. To consider possible Community Payback project for 2021:** Deferred to March meeting.

**20. To consider participating in the Loddon PC Working Group for Christmas lights:** There was a general discussion and it was agreed to consider this nearer the time.

**21. To consider whether to hold an Easter Egg Hung or alternative activity:** CG RESOLVED not to hold the Easter Egg Hunt this year. All in agreement.

**22. To consider how to mark the end of “Chet News” and migration to “Chet Contact”:** there was a discussion on how to thank Jack Barwick for his many years as editor. **J Lurkins offered to enquire as to what Mr Barwick may wish to do. Clerk to follow up on grant/contribution to the new Chet Contact.**

**23. To receive an update on the Grebe Drive Play Area project and associated expenditure:** JB reported that the Lottery application had successfully secured £9,997.00 towards this project and that the turf had been laid. Fencing was due to start today but issues had arisen with the condition of the fence which would cost £890.00+VAT to be repaired by Simons Landscaping. Action Play and Leisure is planning to install the play equipment at the end of February / early March and the play area should be open by the Easter holidays.

**24. To receive an update on Wherryman's Way and consider next steps in getting it re-instated:** DJ reported a very good Working Group meeting had been held and that Cllr J Sinfield had joined the group. DJ noted that the path is currently closed from the 2<sup>nd</sup> bridge but that BA has funding to dredge the river along the affected stretch of path during winter 2021/22 and reported that there seems to be confidence that the path would re-open once this is done. DJ queried the issue with the Pits Lane gate and it was confirmed that this gate is needed to confine cattle/ponies. JB raised the need for top dressing of the accessible path. **Clerk to raise a Highways ticket re top dressing and confirm ticket numbers of these matters to DJ. DJ to follow up with Russell Wilson.**

**25. To consider adopting Wherryman's Way signage and future maintenance:** DJ reported that information is being sought in relation to what signage/art sculptures would be included and likely maintenance costs. Cllrs agreed that no decision could be taken on this matter until this is understood. CG RESOLVED to support the BA Interreg funding application for repairs to signage/art sculptures. All in agreement.

- 26. To consider Broads Authority Matters, specifically the Broadland Futures Forum:** DJ had circulated information and drew attention to the virtual “village hall events”. No further update on the Broads Forum.
- 27. To receive an update on the Brian Clarke room:** Currently closed. No update.
- 28. To receive an update on White Horse Plain and agree next steps:** JB had pre-circulated updated plans and explained it would ensure the entire area remains available for parking and would benefit the Jubilee Oak due to the porous surface. JB is awaiting feedback from G Overland at NCC before proceeding with the planning application. DJ queried the introduction of planters to improve the look of the area and it was agreed this was a future possibility. RS queried the possibility of keeping the corner of WHP clear of parking to improve the vision splay onto Norwich Rd and there was some discussion on this matter. **J Sinfield to weed around the base of the Jubilee Oak. Clerk to contact NCC re extending the Parish Partnership funding.**
- 29. To receive items for the next meeting:** GNLP Consultation.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.39pm.

Signed:

Dated: