

Churt Parish Council
Clerk to the Council
Mrs Dawn Barrow

**Minutes of the 'virtual' meeting of Churt Parish Council
held on Wednesday 16 December 2020
at 7.30 p.m.**

Present

Churt Councillors: David Crossley (Chair), Myra Johnson, Dominic Raeside, Eunice Burch, Lisa Martin, Sally Shorthose,

Surrey County Council: Cllr Harmer

Waverley Borough Council: 0

Clerk to the Council: Dawn Barrow

Members of the Public: 0

20/103 Chairman's welcome

Cllr Crossley welcomed all to the meeting and invited David Harmer to speak.

Cllr Harmer confirmed the last few items were being removed from County Hall to the new building in Reigate. Known as Woodhatch it is Canon's old HQ. This is a substantial building with land and will ultimately become a County Services Park. Special Educational Needs will be run from there.

There are still monies available from his Member's Allocation fund plus monies for larger projects costing £10,000 to £250,000 in Your Fund Surrey. Applications for the latter fund need to be in by end Feb and match funding is not required.

Cllr Johnson has alerted St John's School who wish to build a biodome with community involvement. This might be on the school site or possibly on the school playing field.

Western Villages meeting will take place early Feb, level of county budget will be known by then. Active Travel Fund for cycle routes, finding it difficult to work out how to get from Farnham to Churt. Initial thoughts are beside the A287, along Pond Lane into Hants and on to Dockenfield. Sensible idea to liaise with Frensham PC. Their clerk is putting together a map showing R of W in our 2 parishes. MJ mentioned OS maps show bridleways and footpaths.

Plentiful government money for these programmes.

Government has advised SCC should only increase their council tax by 5%, the actual level will be finalised in the next month.

20/104 Apologies for absence

Apologies were given from Cllrs Law, Rowe and Petty.

20/105 Disclosure of Pecuniary and other Interests

None

20/106 Minutes of the virtual meeting of 18 November 2020

The Minutes of the virtual meeting held on 18 November 2020 were **AGREED** by all. **Proposed** by Cllr Raeside, **seconded** by Cllr Johnson. Cllr Johnson wished to add two small amendments to the Minutes, circulated to councillors.

20/107 Report of the Clerk to the Council

- 1) Smartwater applied to memorial piers and column by George Woods
- 2) SCC plaque fixed to rear of noticeboard

- 3) Xmas lights erected Dec 5th
- 4) PWLB of £2038.74 to be paid 21 Dec 2020
- 5) External audit completed w.e.f 23 Nov 2020, with no comment.
- 6) George Woods has replaced village sign outside Deerhurst.
- 7) Luminous paint reapplied to boundary posts and pegs at Pond Lane.
- 8) SCC have cleared vegetation masking road sign on A287 approaching Old Kiln Lane

20/108.1 Community and Environment

20/108.1.1 Report from Environment Working Group (MJ)

The Environmental Charter - Net Zero for Churt has been published in the Christmas parish magazine and on the website. MJ will prepare a series of 5 postcards for the website and Facebook to draw attention to the charter with a set of 40 ideas for New Year resolutions for households to reduce their carbon footprint. CHEWG met on 15/12 and agreed a short term action plan to launch and raise the profile of the programme. MJ will work on design and launch of a website to host the information sheets, guidelines and project information with phased release as the CHEWG members produce them. Several are planned for release in the January and February timeframe. It is hoped to produce a newsletter at least every two months and also to document and release a set of walks in and around Churt. MJ to contact Michael Stenning who wrote the original 'Ten walks around Churt'.

CHEWG plan to meet and inspect the Pond Lane woodland and generate ideas in early January, their next meeting is scheduled for 14th January.

20/108.1.2 Village centre portfolio

Xmas lights were put up on Dec 5th, nothing further to report.

20/108.1.3 Crime and Disorder (DR)

MJ reported someone tried to steal a Landrover from their field.

20/108.1.4 Pond Lane

Clerk and Cllr Crossley have visited Pond Lane to refresh the paint on the pegs bordering the 4/5 acre plot.

Originally 12 acres were gifted to the parish by the Hall family. 5 acres is registered to us, the adjoining 7 acres is unregistered.

A neighbour has given us an old map showing the cricket ground on the adjoining tract of land.

Cllr Crossley and the Clerk will meet with Frensham PC in the New Year to put together a formal document and register the land in Churt PC's name.

We would then ideally apply to SCC for some grant funds to make the site a community resource or look at options to manage it under an environmental land scheme.

Clerk to arrange a meeting on site of all councillors in the New Year.

20/108.2 Roads and Transport

20/108.2.1 Jumps Road Parking

The Sculpture Park have appealed the enforcement notices. The inspector will visit the site. Richard Bourne has arranged a meeting with SCC, WBC, the Police and Jeremy Hunt on 22 Jan 2021.

20/108.2.2 Cycling and pedestrian matters (LM)

Nothing to report. LM to compile a survey.

DR has met with Tm Viveash who owns land which could link through to The Flashes. However he is selling his house so understandably does not wish to take this forward at the current time.

20/108.2.3 Yeomans' Honda and pavement (MJ)

MJ has worked with St John's School Head teacher and Chair of Governors to put together a report to go to the Surrey County Council Sustainable Transport Team requesting a Road Safety Outside Schools review. The objective is to secure a safe pedestrian route between the recommended place for parking at the Recreation Ground and the school. The same route is used frequently by school classes when going to the Forest School site, the school playing field or to the church. Improvement to the pavement in front of Yeomans Honda is considered to be essential to safety.

LM to pass on contact details of SCC's Active Travel Manager to MJ.

DC has written to Yeoman's Churt and to their head office to see if they will give up a few feet of their forecourt. No response to date.

20/109 Financial Matters

20/109.1 Payments for authorisation - Nov 2020

Nov accounts **Proposed** by Cllr Shorthose , **seconded** by Cllr Burch and **AGREED** by all.

Appendix 2 - Payments for Nov 2020 - circulated

20/109.2 Budget Update and Income report - Nov 2020

Noted.

Appendix 3 - Expenditure v Budget - circulated

20/109.3 Authorisation of budget and precept requirement for 2021/22.

Sent to all councillors in advance of meeting.

The figures were discussed at length and pre-agreed by the finance sub-committee. DC gave a resume of the budget including uplifted costs for Clerk's pension, legal fees and insurance excess. Council tax support grant and compensatory grant no longer in existence, internal auditor happy to include this lost amount in the budget and precept requirement.

Proposed by DC, **seconded** by MJ and agreed by all.

20/110.1 -To note and comment on current planning applications (LM)

Report circulated in advance of meeting.

Only one application this month relating to a gazebo at The Clearing on Symondstone Lane, WA/2020/1821. Neither support nor object.

LM mentioned 2 other planning matters. 1) relates to the pool room at Butts Farm which has been refused. 2) Recommendation that equestrian buildings should not be converted into dwellings, as per the application for the fields opposite Old Barn Lane.

Other matters

Jo Corfield has hand delivered Xmas cards to all help requesters from the CCSG. MJ has sent an e-card to all volunteers.

Rota for duty officers runs out in Jan. We had planned to do a review just before Xmas but if the current 5 duty officers can each do 2 weeks in the new year this takes us into March, when we should know about future lockdowns and carry out a review then.

MJ mentioned a complaint she had received about the lack of bins in the village centre. Clerk to contact WBC regarding replacing the bin outside the Spar, removed during their building works.

Cllr Harmer left the meeting.

There being no other business the virtual meeting of the Churt Parish Council closed at 8.50pm. There then followed a virtual meeting of the Churt Recreation Ground Trust (See separate Minutes).

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Signed:
Chairman

Date:

The next 'virtual' meetings of the Churt Parish Council and Churt Recreation Ground Trust will be held on **Wednesday 20 January 2021 at 7.30pm. Agenda and access codes to follow.**