

CHUTE FOREST PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Meeting held on 9 March 2023 at 19:30.

Present:

Cllr Farrell (In the Chair), Cllr Geraghty Cllr Robertson, Cllr Haigh.

1 To Record any Apologies. Apologies received from Cllr Pike.

2 Declarations of Interest. None declared.

3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

Having considered the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2023 Cllrs resolved to approve and sign, as a correct record, which the Chairman then signed as a true record.

4 Matters Arising:

Having discussed from the Minutes of the meeting on 12 January 2023 , no matters arising were noted.

5 General Public – Open Forum and any questions. No-one was present.

6 Wiltshire Council Report.

Cllr Williams, WCC reported that Wiltshire Council's proposed budget has gone through a detailed programme of overview and scrutiny and was finally approved by the Full Council on Tuesday 21 February. Wiltshire Council's budget for 2023/24 stands at £465m - it is legally obliged to set a balanced operating budget and the budget planning is intended to ensure there is a strong financial foundation in place over the coming years during given the economic challenges and high levels of inflation. The most significant spending in 2023/24 will be on: Whole life pathway (mental health, autism spectrum conditions and learning disabilities support services) - £96m, an increase of £11m. Living and ageing well (adult care) - £83m, an increase of £15m. Families and children - £63m, an increase of £2m. Environment (which includes waste and recycling services) - £48m, an increase of £4m. Highways and transport - £41m, an increase of £3m. Education and skills - £29m, an increase of £6m. The council's last reported budget gap for 2023/24 to 2025/26 in November 2022, stood at £45m, but following confirmation of the Government's financial settlement this was reduced to £33m. Delivering on efficiencies means that budget for this three-year period, does not require the council to use reserves to fund ongoing service delivery. The council is also able to release £13 million of reserves to spend on business priorities, particularly in supporting housing provision during the cost-of-living crisis. Therefore, Wiltshire Council is proposing a 2.99% general increase for the council's element of council tax, plus a 2% levy to be spent solely on adult social care. This will mean an increase of £1.57 per week for those in a Band D property. A number of other measures are proposed including an increase in fees and charges for some council services such as leisure and garden waste collection; making better use of the council's own buildings; and a more streamlined Street

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King's Coronation Event and to thank the Chair of Chute PC for making the application. Item closed.

- 10 To receive, consider and comment on Planning Applications as received from Wiltshire Council. Nil.
- 11 **Merging of Chute and Chute Forest Parish Councils.** Cllr Pike had reported by email that this item was ongoing and that he needed to engage with Electoral Offices at elections@wiltshire.gov.uk **Action: Cllr Pike**
- 12 **Formalising right of access to Elm cottage.** Having considered a letter from the owner of Elm Cottage requesting that the Council accepts that a Prescriptive Right for the occupants of Elm Cottage to allow vehicular and pedestrian access along the Lower Chute Village Green Track in both directions now exists **Cllrs RESOLVED to accept that the above Prescriptive Right exists and that the Chair and further RESOLVED that the Chair was to the draft a reply to the owner of Elm Cottage and to circulate it to the other councillors for comment prior to it being sent.**
Action: Cllr Pike
- 13 **Footpaths Report.** Noting to report.
- 14 **Highways Report** Nothing to report.
- 15 **Village Hall Report**
Despite many village hall closures we have remained open and are holding our own at present despite receiving a £2200 electric bill for the last quarter. The hall was used every day last week and we now have two wedding receptions booked for this year.
- 16 **Repairs to council notice board at Chute Forest bus shelter.**
Cllr Robinson reported that the repairs will have to wait until the weather warms up.
- 17 **KGF Report.**
Cllr Geraghty reported that the Southern Ground Care should start work on the field in the next couple of weeks scarifying, moss and weed killing. This has not been done for the last few years so will be worthwhile. The mower does not need servicing until next winter so that will come out of next year's budget. A grant for 50% of the goal posts which are well used. **Cllrs noted the report.**
- 18 **Business to be transacted at next meeting.**
18.1 Repairs to council notice board at Chute Forest bus shelter.
- 19 **Date of Next Meeting.** The date was confirmed Thursday, 11 May 2023

The meeting closed at 20.20.

Signed:
Chairman



Date: 11/05/23

Scene service. However, despite the challenges, the council will continue to invest in the improvement and maintenance of the county's infrastructure, with almost £200m due to be spent on capital projects in 2023/24.

Future meetings:

Mon 20 March Tidworth Area Board, Memorial Hall Ludgershall 7pm. Neighbourhood Police quarterly update – TEAMS meeting Thursday March 16, 6pm

Wilts Cllr Williams then answered questions from Cllrs and the Chairman thanked him for his report.

7 **Wiltshire Police Report.** As Wiltshire Police was not present no report presented.

8 **Correspondence** – None received.

9 **Finance:**

The Clerk having presented the bank statement and cash book **Cllrs RESOLVED To accept and sign bank reconciliation as per the bank statement of £5766.49 as at 09 March 2023**

9.1 To authorise payments

9.1.1 Clerks Salary & Expenses

(1) Jan 23 - £244.98

(2) Feb 23 – 244.98

(3) Mar 23 – 244.98

9.1.2 HMRC

(1) Mar 23 – Clerk's PAYE – 61.20

9.1.3 Other

£4.80. D Pike (IONOS Mail Jan & Feb 23) £4.80

Cllrs RESOLVED To authorise the payments.

9.2 Receipts

9.2.1 Although not a receipt but to note successful appeals submitted by the Clerk against penalties totalling £300 imposed by HMRV for not filling PAYE returns. **Item Closed**

9.3 Contributions.

9.3.1 Having considered an email from St Nicholas Church at Chute PPC regarding future contributions. Cllrs noted that Cllr Pike had already replied to an email from St Nicholas Church at Chute PPC regarding future contributions indicating that the PC does not expect to raise its contribution **Cllrs RESOLVED to support Cllr Pike's response. Item Closed.**

9.3.2 Having considered a request from Chute PC to contribute £300.00 to the cost of graphic design for the Chute Design Guide **Cllrs RESOLVED to authorise a contribution £300.00 to the cost of graphic design for the Chute Design Guide. Action: Clerk**

9.4 Grants. Cllrs noted that the Chair of Chute PC has applied for a grant of £450.00 for the King's Coronation jointly for the two PCs. Cllrs the **RESOLVED to appoint Cllr Haigh as the Council's Representative to the**

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