**Challock Parish Council Meeting Minutes**

Audrey Allen Room, Memorial Hall

Thursday, 5th January 2023 7.30 pm

Members of public present:0

Apologies

None

Present

Michael Fisher (Chairman), Duncan Hardie, Max Thomas, John Ramsden, Tracy Brown, Tony Aitken & Di Sandy (Clerk).

Welcome

Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

Declarations of Interest

Councillors no new changes to the declarations of interest.

Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes of 16th November 2022 meeting were signed by Chairman Fisher as an accurate record.

Proposed by Councillor Thomas and seconded by Councillor Brown.

All agreed.

**PCSO Report**

Police Community Support Officer for our parish is PCSO Megan Macleod. The Police can be contacted by email csu.ashford@kent.police.uk

The notice board in the village hall car park has been vandalised. The grounds man has removed the top section of the notice board.

The Clerk received a report of catapults being used in the village hall car park, where cars are parked by a parishioner. The Clerk also received an email from parishioner reporting crime reference number regarding trespassing on their farm in Pested Lane. Clerk has reported the catapult incident and the vandalised notice board to the police.

Clerk’s Report

**Highways**

The clerk reported blocked drains in Kiln Close.

Reported hanging tree branch over foot path in Buck Street.

ABC Street Cleaning

The clerk has reported street cleaning for Church Lane and Blind Lane.

The grounds man has cleared the leaves from the village hall car park.

The grounds man salted the village hall car park, footpaths leading up to the Primary School and St Cosmas Close.

**Highways Inspector**

New Highways Inspector is Ben Plat. Clerk to arrange a meeting within the next couple of months.

**The Lees**

Grounds man has filled the potholes on the Lees tracks including the entrances.

A fallen tree was blocking the Lees track towards Beech Court Gardens. The clerk arranged with Josh Buggins to remove the tree.

The clerk arranged with Foodari who kindly donated a 9ft Christmas Tree to be placed near to the memorial.

The Primary School children made decorations to go on the tree. The Parish Council would like to thank Foodari for their kind donation of our beautiful Christmas tree besides the war memorial.

The grounds man has planted the spring bulbs (daffodils and tulips) around on the Lees areas and on the strip of grass near the village sign, Challock roundabout. Planted tulips around the memorial.

**Dog/Litter Bins**

ABC are currently changing the dog bins to litter/dog bins. The clerk has completed a survey of actual dog bins in the parish that need changing. The clerk has requested dog/litter bins in the two car parks at Kings Wood.

Correspondence

* Received an email from ABC Aspire confirming delivery of tree saplings (Queens Green Canopy Commemorative) week commencing 12th December. Delivery of tree saplings have now been received will be planted up in Lees Woodland Walk.
* Received an email from a parishioner regarding parking on the Lees opposite Help Hire garage. Parishioner also requested the recent tree works in Woodland Walk to ensure branches are cleared away from the footpath.
* Received an email from a parishioner thanking the trustees of the William Oure Charity for the food voucher having lost all their freezer food due to their electric meter being blown up, through power outage.
* Received a complaint regarding a Volvo parking on the left-hand side of the Lees track near the entrance to Church Lane. The area is badly churned up at present. With the Volvo parking on the left and the cars parking on the right-hand side making it difficult for residents entering and exiting the Lees. Clerk emailed the Headteacher and asked if she would remind parents about parking on the Lees.
* Received an email from Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments confirming our new external auditor will be Mazars LLP.
* Received an email from ABC concerning King Charles 111 Coronation, beacons will NOT be lit for the Coronation of King Charles III’s Coronation in May but instead for the D-Day 80th Anniversary – which is a year later on 6th June 2024. This may assist in future planning.
* Received an email from Kathy Stevens Secretary to the Village Hall Committee thanking the Parish Council for arranging for the grounds man to clear and grit the village hall car park and footpaths.
* Received an email from Susan Mary Challock Primary School requesting help in sourcing 32 logs for the forest school they are creating. Clerk arranged for the school to contact Josh Buggins Tree Surgeon who is currently removing the ash trees in Lees Woodland Walk. He has agreed to help sort some logs out over the Christmas holidays.
* Received an email from Kent Police with an update on Policing here in Ashford. Introducing the new District Commander for Ashford, Sarah Rivett. Chief Inspector Rivett has only recently arrived having been promoted into post from the north of the County and is keen to engage with Parish Councils in the coming months. The Kent Police’s review of neighbourhood policing is progressing. Recently announced that further details of the structure of the new Neighbourhood Policing Model have been outlined, which will include increased Police Officers. This is now in a period of consultation and therefore don’t yet know how this will specifically affect policing in Ashford.
* Received an email from Councillor Hardie notifying the Parish Council Perla Hardie has been elected as a member of Kent Youth County Council. The Parish Council has invited Perla to attend the next Parish Meeting to explain/present the initiative to the Parish Councillors and parishioners. The clerk to do a special mention in February’s forester.

**Matters arising from correspondence**

* Clerk contacted parishioner who lives on the Lees, who has had recent building works carried out. Mr Jones has contacted the Project manager who will inspect the damage to lees on his next sight visit and arrange tidying and seeding of the areas damaged due to recent rain and builder parking on the lees. Temporary no parking signs have now been erected.
* Clerk has received thank you cards from parishioners who have received a Christmas Hamper.

Finances

The current account balance on 31st December 2022 is £22988.87

The NS&I account balance is £15670.71

Funds Ring-fenced

£4190 Faversham Footpath

£6000 Skate Park

£2800 Faversham Footpath legal fees (land transfer/dedication of land)

£2000 High Tree Lodge planning application consultation fees

£679 Bollarding of the Lees

William Oure Charity £3143.26

Received £160 Farm Business Tenancy Rental

Paid Out £196.20 for 11 Parishioner Hampers.

The following cheques were signed by Councillor Thomas & Councillor Brown:

Cheque No 102677.HMRC Clerk’s Tax £359.40

Cheque No 102678.D Sandy Pilgrims Hospices Tree Recycling £30

Cheque No 102679 J Sandy Groundworks, Winter Maintenance & Wildflower Areas £203.55

**Precept Budget 2023/24**

Clerk has drafted precept budget for 2023/24. Due to the recent vandalism of the village hall notice board the Councillors agreed to set the precept for 2023/24 to £24,000.

Planning

The following planning applications were discussed.

**PA/2022/2865 Little Paddock Farm, Canterbury Road, Challock, TN25 4DW**

Erection of a replacement dwelling. Revised scheme to planning permission 21/02041

Support: Challock Parish Council supports this application.

**Ratification of Planning Applications**

There were no planning applications to ratify.

**Faversham Road Footpath**

Clerk has drafted a letter to Damian Green MP regarding the exorbitant increased costs on the Faversham Road footpath. Clerk has emailed parishioner Mr Stuart to assist with an additional letter with parishioner’s signatures to send along the Parish Council’s letter.

Regarding recent correspondence from Catherine Stephens (Invicta Law) concerning the deeds of dedication, only two of the five property owners have responded to Invicta Law’s letter sending the Deed of Dedication for execution: -

. Belle Vue, 3 Faversham Road – This Deed just needs to be returned so Mr Bigwood can sign the Plan.

. High View, Faversham Road – Mr & Mrs Stuart’s Mortgagee’s sent the executed Deed on the “understanding” that Invicta Law were acting for the bank and had checked their security. We immediately wrote to the Bank setting out the position but have never received a response. We will be unable to complete this Deed of Dedication without the Bank’s consent.

Councillors agreed to permit Invicta Law to chase up the deed of dedication with the residents.

Clerk to investigate the planned works for poles upgrade for Faversham Road to UK Power Networks and KCC Darren Hickman.

Items for Information

**William Oure Charity**

1. Rent Review – A rent review has been carried out and it was agreed to increase the rent to £250 per acre, therefore annual rental is now £500 per annum.
2. Business Farm Tenancy Renewal – Due to the lack of interest in allotment and community scheme the business farm tenancy will be renewed January 2024 and will be a 10-year agreement with a 5-year rent review. Tenant to arrange and pay for a new agreement to be drawn up.
3. John Harvey has presented a cheque for £260 for the William Oure fund through the sale of the Jubilee Prints. Clerk to send a thank you letter to John Harvey.

**Ash Trees**

Josh Buggins Clean Cut Trees has commenced felling the Ash trees. Took up the opportunity whilst Canterbury Road was closed week commencing 7th November. It is not advisable to leave the trees on the site for parishioners to go up and cut them up themselves due to public liability. Parishioners wanting to purchase the logs to let the Clerk know who will pass on contact details of the tree surgeon.

**The Kings Coronation 6th May 2023**

The Kings Coronation event on Bank Holiday Monday, 8th May. Clerk to enquire with Hullabaloo band availability. Councillor Brown to check with Councillor Jaques to see if he is able to provide catering. Clerk to book ice cream van.

**A.O.B**

Clerk: Received framed print of the Jubilee celebration and presented the print to Clare Hook to go on display in the church.

Councillor Brown: Request overgrown hedging at the entrance to Green Lane at Westwell Lane junction is reported to Highways.

Councillor Aitken: The Cricket Pavilion extension is looking to knock through in time for the new cricket season to commence.

The Forest School is being set up in the corner of the cricket field on a temporary basis.

Clerk: To arrange disposal of the yellow container in the cricket field.

Parish Forum

None.

**The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.**

Parish Council Meeting Dates for 2023

Thursday, 23rd February 2023

**Future Parish Meeting Dates:**

Thursday, 23rd March

Thursday, 20th April

Tuesday, 16th May 2023 Annual Parish Meeting

Thursday, 18th May

Thursday, 22nd June

Thursday, 20th July

Thursday, 21st September

Thursday, 19th October

Thursday, 23rd November

**Signed as a true record by: ……………………………Michael Fisher Chairman Challock Parish Council**

**Dated……………………………………….**