

CHIEVELEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of Chieveley Parish Council held at the
Chieveley Village Hall & Recreational Centre, High Street,
Chieveley, Newbury, Berkshire RG20 8TF
on Tuesday 10 February 2009 at 7.30pm

Present

Cllr R Crispin	Cllr M Taylor	Cllr E Friend
Cllr D Cowan	Cllr S Spence	Cllr Ramsay
Cllr N Hamlin	Cllr P Fidler	

In Attendance Mrs T Snook (Clerk) 1 member of the public

1.02.09 Apologies and Acceptance of Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Cole. This was unanimously accepted.

2.02.09 Declaration of Interest by Councillors on the agenda items listed

Cllr Crispin	Agenda Item 13
Cllr Fidler	Agenda item 13

3.02.09 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13 January 2009 to be agreed and signed as a true record

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2009 were unanimously agreed as a correct record of the meeting and the Parish Council resolved to sign them.

4.02.09 Planning Schedule and Planning Issues (Appendix I)

The Parish Council confirmed there were no objections or observations for the planning applications listed on the schedule. The Parish Council approved the planning schedule.

5.02.09 Stop the Drop. To receive information from Cllr Taylor

Cllr Taylor reported that the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) had issued a document called Stop the Drop for Parish Councils. The document provides guidance on how to try to change the culture of dropping litter. Cllr Taylor reported that Old Street, Oare had been affected by increased littering. West Berkshire Council do a fortnightly pick from Oare Church to Hermitage but only a yearly pick from Oare Church to Priors Court Road. Cllr Taylor reported that he carried out a litter pick himself along the lane in December and filled a bin bag with various litter items. West Berkshire Council is due to litter pick the lane on 9 March 2009 and the Waste Contract Officer will inspect the road after the scheduled pick. Councillors agreed it would be beneficial for the Waste Contract Officers to inspect the lane before and after the scheduled litter pick and to consider increasing the litter picks per annum. A discussion took place. Councillors expressed concern about littering by the Spar shop, Vellodrome by Denison Barracks, A34/M4 junction, Curridge Road and Chapel Lane. The clerk was asked to contact West Berkshire Council to request a copy of the cleaning schedule for the Parish. Councillors will monitor the contractors and whether the regularity of the picking is appropriate. **Action:**
Clerk

6.02.09 Road Sign at Curridge Road. To receive information from Cllr Friend. To discuss and agree action

Recently a question has been raised about the correct road name in post code areas RG18 9DL and RG18 9DZ. People trying to find the Curridge W I Hall and properties along this stretch of road have difficulty finding them and identifying the road they are on. The clerk confirmed that the West Berkshire Council digital mapping system indicates the road is called Curridge Road for the post code areas RG18 9DL and RG18 9DZ. This has been confirmed by West Berkshire Council. The Post Office uses a rural area locality postcode provided by West Berkshire Council which does not include a road name in the properties correct postal address for this location. A discussion took place. Cllr Fidler, Cllr Ramsay, Cllr Friend and Cllr Crispin agreed to investigate the history of the road name in more detail. West Berkshire Council has confirmed they can provide a street name plate at the junction when required. To be a future agenda item. **Action: Cllr Ramsay, Cllr Crispin, Cllr Fidler, Cllr Friend.**

7.02.09 Parish Assembly. To receive Information from Cllr Crispin

Cllr Crispin reported that the Parish Plan Steering Committee will be presenting the results of the Parish Plan Questionnaire at the Parish Assembly. Keith Richards from Thames Valley Energy is unable to attend. The Assembly will be held on 14 April 2009 at the Curridge W I Hall.

8.02.09 Provision of Mobile Youth Work in West Berkshire. To discuss and agree action

Cllr Crispin confirmed that Councillors had received a letter from West Berkshire Council inviting Parish Councils to support the possibility of a mobile youth club for those aged 13 years and above. A request for an indication of financial support for the project is included in the letter for 2009/2010.

A discussion took place. The Parish Council welcome initiatives aimed at 13 year olds and above and confirmed they would be supportive of the project. The Parish Council have already agreed their precept and budget for 2009/2010 and are unable to offer financial support this year. Additional information is required to help understand the mechanisms of how it will work including the regularity of the visits to the Parish and how many Parish Councils have pledged financial support. **Action: Clerk**

9.02.08 Parish Plan Update.

Cllr Crispin tabled a letter received from the Chairman of the Parish Plan Steering Committee (PPSC). The Chairman read out the main points of the letter. The Parish Council was encouraged by the 80% response rate, a good return. The PPSC are now inviting key stakeholders to become partners in discussing and identifying the action points that are feasible and how they can be delivered. This consultation process involves the Parish Council, West Berkshire Council and other key organisations and local committees in the Parish and is likely to involve subsequent discussion and working partnerships to achieve some of the projects for the community.

The PPSC would like to establish whether the Parish Council can assist on the following initial matters, provision of the burial site in the Parish, improvements of the old tennis courts at the Chieveley Recreational Centre, assist with the provision of a sports field for use by Curridge School and Curridge village residents and how to improve local social facilities for ages between 0 - 25 years.

The Parish Council agreed that a meeting with representatives from the PPSC should take place to discuss the priorities as soon as possible. Cllr Cowan, Cllr Hamlin, Cllr Ramsay, Cllr Spence and Cllr Crispin agreed to be the Parish Council representatives. **Action: Clerk**

10.02.09 Water Pressure and Sewage Issues in the Parish. To discuss and agree action

Water pressure in Northfields and Downend seems low. The clerk was asked to write to Thames Water to establish what the acceptable level of service is and what the water pressure should be.

The Parish Council asked the clerk to write to Thames Water to request a sewage incident record report specifically for Chieveley High Street and the Corner of East Lane. A general report for the Parish is also to be requested. **Action: Clerk**

11.02.09 Denison Barracks Update

Cllr Crispin reported that a formal decision on the Regiment move is expected to be made in March 2009. A final decision for the Royal School of Military Survey is now expected in October 2010.

Cllr Crispin read out the replies Richard Benyon MP received when he raised questions in Parliament.

Question

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what his most recent estimate is of the cost of relocating the Royal School of Military Survey

Question

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what his most recent estimate is of the cost of moving the 42nd Engineer Regiment, including the cost of the movement of the Regiment's headquarters.

Question

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, for what reasons the (a) 42nd Engineer Regiment and (b) Royal School of Military Survey are to be relocated

Question

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, on what date he expects decisions on the movement of (a) 42nd Engineer Regiment and (b) its headquarters and (c) the Royal School of Military Survey to be announced.

The cost of moving 42 Engineer Regiment (Geographic) and its Headquarters from hermitage, together with 14 Sqn of the Regiment, located at Ayrshire Barracks Moenchengladbac, Germany is estimated to be £18.9m (net present value over 25 years). This will improve operational effectiveness, collocating the unit with other intelligence capabilities at RAG Wyton.

It will also provide the opportunity to improve single living accommodation for Service personnel. A decision on the date for the start of the project is expected by March 2009.

The intention is for the Royal School of Military Survey to collocate with other intelligence training organisations at Chicksands, Bedfordshire. As the project is still in its initial state, with the investment appraisal still to be completed, no confirmed date or cost is available. Any announcement on a date for relocation is unlikely before October 2010. This project will bring about efficiency savings in support processes, align outputs toward achieving a national training centre of excellence and will enable sale of the Hermitage site as part of MOD estates rationalisation.

The MOD will work to minimise the impact on personnel at hermitage by providing any assistance it can to those who may be affected, relocating personnel and avoiding compulsory redundancies wherever possible.

12.02.09 Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) Update

Cllr Crispin reported that he attended the Cold Ash/Hermitage/Chieveley NAG meeting held on 28 January 2009. Three priorities have been agreed

Speeding at Cold Ash Hill

Vandalism around Cold Ash Village Hall

Vandalism and nuisance at the Curridge W I Hall and car park

Cllr Crispin confirmed that the police will contact Cllr Friend to discuss the car park and hall issues.

Next meeting 25 March 2009. Cllr Spence will attend and raise concerns about littering and speeding in the Parish.

13.02.09 Curridge Playground Charity. To discuss nominated trustees and agree action

The clerk reported that the Clerk of the Curridge Playground Charity had written to the Parish Council to advise them that Graeme Pitts, one of the Nominated Trustees, had resigned and two Nominated Trustee positions need to be considered and approved by the Parish Council. Lesley Dick and Thelma Crossley have indicated they would accept being renominated. It was proposed by Cllr Taylor that Lesley Dick and Thelma Crossley be the Parish Council's Nominated Trustees. Seconded: Cllr Ramsay.

It was noted that there is currently a vacancy for a Nominated Trustee. To be a future agenda item. **Action: Cllr Crispin**

14.02.09 Clerks Report's (including correspondence)

14.02.1 Flooding and Weather Update

The clerk tabled a flooding and weather update from West Berkshire Council. Currently 1 flood warning and 3 flood watches in place.

14.02.2 District Parish Conference 17 March 2009-02-11

The clerk tabled a letter from West Berkshire Council confirming that the event would take place on 17 March 2009 in the Council Chamber, West Berkshire Council Offices, Market Street, Newbury. Two main topics for the meeting, Access to the Countryside, and Anti Social Behaviour.

15.02.09 Report of the Responsible Financial Officer, Cheque Signing and other financial matters

A copy of the year to date financial statement 2008/2009 with financial budget figures and a Receipts and Payments summary were provided for Councillors information.

It was proposed by Cllr Crispin and Seconded by Cllr Cowan and the Parish Council resolved to pay the accounts for February 2009.

Payments

Cheque No	Payee	Description	Amount
612	T Snook	Clerk Fees	£628.08
		Expenses & allowance	£23.84
Total Payments for February			<u>£ 651.92</u>

Receipts

Total Receipts for February	<u>£0.00</u>
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Financial Position as at 10 February 2009

Receipts for year to date including April/Sept precept received	£ 25,650.45
Less payments for year to date	£ 25,338.81
Sub Total	<u>£ 311.64</u>
Add balance carried forward 31/03/08	£ 21,172.53
S106 Contribution 07/08 carried forward 31/03/08	£ 18,905.44
S106 Contribution 08/09	£ 8,880.00
	<u>£ 49,269.61</u>

16.02.09 District Councillor's Report (Appendix II)

A written report was provided for the meeting.

17.02.09 Councillors' Reports (Information Only)

17.02.1 Flooding at Carbook

Cllr Ramsay reported that a car had been abandoned during the night as it had become stuck in flood water. As there is no means for people to identify how deep the flood water is they are entering the flooded area and getting stuck. An elderly couple needed assistance during the night from the neighbouring property as their car broke down in the water and they had to abandon it. This is regularly happening and it is damaging people's vehicles. Cllr Friend and Cllr Fidler agreed this issue was getting worse, particularly in the last 3 years. Cllr Ramsay has agreed with a local resident to monitor incidences. The clerk asked Cllr Ramsay to encourage affected residents to write to West Berkshire Council or call Streetcare to report the flooding. The clerk will inform West Berkshire Council of the latest incidences.

17.02.2 Comma Funding

Cllr Friend reported that as a result of the Parish Council passing on information about the above funding opportunity the Curridge W I Hall Committee have managed to secure a grant of £4,845 to carry out tree maintenance works, tidy up the boundary, refurbish the posts and wire fencing and clear bracken and

brambles at the Hall and grounds. The fund also allows for the planting of new English woodland trees.

17.02.3 Copyhold Farm and Old Kiln Farm

Cllr Friend reported that West Berkshire Council would be looking into the original application for Copyhold Farm to establish where the site machinery should be sited.

Cllr Friend reported that Old Kiln Farm was too far ahead of the agreed schedule. West Berkshire Council has asked Grundons about the reinstatement of the land but has not yet received a response.

Both sites do not seem to be monitored closely enough and the organisation are working the sites but not doing enough reinstating works.

General concern was expressed by Councillors. To be a future agenda item.

17.02.4 Patient Representatives Meeting

Cllr Taylor reported that the Patient's Questionnaire results were being analysed at present. Likely to be available at the next meeting.

Cllr Taylor reported that the car park matter was progressing. The Practice has to enter into a S106 agreement with West Berkshire Council. Negotiations and a meeting with West Berkshire Council representatives are being organised. Estimates for constructing the car park are being sought. A Grasscrete or gravel finishes being considered.

17.02.5 Curridge Footway

Cllr Crispin reported that the edge along the Curridge Footway was breaking up.

18.02.09 Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent (Information Only)

None

19.02.09 Date of the next meetings

Tuesday 10 March 2009 at Chieveley Recreational Centre at 7.30pm

Tuesday 14 April 2009 at Curridge W I Hall 7pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.36pm.

Signed _____

Dated _____

Planning Applications For the Parish Council Meeting on 10 February 2009

Planning applications for consideration

Planning applications can be viewed on the West Berkshire Council website www.westberks.gov.uk under planning applications

Planning No	Type	Location	Description	Observation
08/02295	FULD	9 Hazeldene, Chieveley	Extension and part conversion to existing dwelling to create 2 new dwellings	No objection
08/02403	HOUSE	Rookery Farm House, Curridge Green, Curridge	Proposed two storey extension to Rookery Farm House annex	No objection
09/00060	HOUSE	Carbrook, Curridge	A new detached outbuilding to provide garaging with garden machinery and attic storage space. Revised proposal - utilises existing access 08/01908/HOUSE	No objection

Planning Application Decisions and Appeal Decisions Notification

Planning application decisions can be viewed on the West Berkshire Council website www.westberks.gov.uk under planning app

Planning No	Type	Location	Description	Decision
08/02122	FUL	Priors Court School	Construction of single storey classroom unit to form part of existing Countryside Learning Centre facility	Approval
08/02125	LBC2	Priors Court School	Construction of single storey classroom unit to form part of existing Countryside Learning Centre facility	Approval
08/02177	HOUSE	11 Middle Farm Close, Chieveley	Porch	Approval
08/02079	FULD	Land adjacent to the Pantiles, Chapel Lane, Curridge	Construction of 1 no detached 3 bedroom house with basement storey	Approval
09/0034	Cond1	16 Faircross, Hermitage	Application for approval of details reserved by condition 2 of planning permission reference 07/02154/HOUSE. The materials to be used in the development shall match those on the existing development to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority	Approval

For Information

08/02026	FULD	Radmore, Freshfields Lane, Chieveley	New dwelling and replacement garage to Radmore	Western Area Planning Committee 4 February 2009 Notification. Deferred
08/02008	OUTD	Land to the Rear of Torne Trask, Downend, Chieveley	Erection of a detached dwelling and the forming of a new access	Western Area Planning Committee 4 February 2009 Notification. Deferred

Agenda Item 16

District Councillors Report

Appendix II

Curridge issues

A complaint has been received from a new resident of Curridge whose 5-year old was unable to obtain a place at Curridge School and so goes to Chieveley. This complaint is now with the Ombudsman, and Cllr Cole will be having a meeting with the resident and the schools admissions officers in the near future. Note: legally we are unable to place the child in Curridge as the class is full

Surgery Car Park: Cllr Cole has spoken to West Berkshire Council regarding any conditioning associated with the surface of the car park. It seems the cost of grasscrete or similar is an issue, so have advised The Downland Practise to speak to Paul Goddard of Highways to explore an acceptable and cost-effective solution.

Planter: Cllr Cole has responded to the PC Mag article and the same response appears on the mychieveley blog.

Freight Network: Have written to Highways endorsing Mr Butcher's' comments and the Parish Council's comments.

Public Rights of Way: No horses signs now erected on footpaths 10b and 15 also Mr Duffield has done something similar on the track leading from Bardown to the top of the High Street. The Curridge footway issue has also been reported to PROW and Highways. Nothing further to report yet.

AONB Leader Action Group

Cllr Cole is the council's rep on the AONB Leader Action Group (LAG). The EU via SEEDA and SWERDA has awarded the N Wessex Downs LAG £2.5 million over the next 5 years to spend on rural initiatives within the AONB. Leaflets are held by the Clerk.

Village Shop:

There is ongoing concern about the Post Office service in the village.