

**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 March 2009 at 7.30pm**

**Present**

Cllr R Crispin	Cllr M Taylor	Cllr E Friend
Cllr D Cowan	Cllr K Ramsay	
Cllr N Hamlin	Cllr H Cole	

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

**1.03.09    Apologies and Acceptance of Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Spence and Cllr Fidler. These were unanimously accepted.

**2.03.09    Declaration of Interest by Councillors on the agenda items listed**

**A statement made by Cllr Cole. "I wish to make it clear that any views expressed in relation to planning applications under consideration at this meeting are based upon the information available to the Parish Council. Further, I am not pre-judging the way I may vote when the matter is considered by West Berkshire Council. At that time I shall assess all the evidence available and weigh the considerations material to that decision"**

**3.03.09    Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10 February 2009 to be agreed and signed as a true record**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2009 were unanimously agreed as a correct record of the meeting and the Parish Council resolved to sign them.

**4.03.09    Planning Schedule and Planning Issues (Appendix I)**

**The Old Village Hall, Chieveley 09/0093/OUTD**

**Demolish existing and replacement with a bungalow with live/work unit**

The Parish Council considered the application. It was proposed that the Parish Council raise no objection. A vote took place. 5 in favour, 2 against. No objection recorded

**Middle Farm, Downend, Chieveley 09/00185/FULD**

**Demolition of house, construction of 5 houses with parking and new access**

The Parish Council considered the application and it was proposed that the Parish Council object on the following grounds. A vote took place. 5 in favour, 2 abstentions. Objections recorded.

The site is outside the village settlement and in an AONB

The properties proposed have a greater impact in terms of size and bulk than the current building on the site.

The proposal would be visually intrusive and harmful to the amenities of the site.

The accesses proposed are not suitable on highway safety grounds and too near Pointers Close entrance and Middle Farm entrance

Not enough designated parking spaces/garages within the site. Due to the location of the site sufficient designated onsite parking is required to ensure residents do not park on the main highway and cause obstructions to the sight lines for Pointers Close, Middle Farm Close and the proposal.

The location is not sustainable. Public transport is very limited in Chieveley. Most residents rely on private vehicles to get to their work places and to access the essential services and amenities.

The Parish Council noted that the proposal was better in appearance and layout but recorded that it had not addressed the Parish Council's previous concerns and objections.

The Parish Council requests a Public Open Space contribution should the planning authority consider approving the application.

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

#### **5.03.09 Sand Extraction Sites in the Parish. To discuss and agree action**

Cllr Friend confirmed investigation in the histories of the associated sites was taking place. Initial findings indicated that both sites have not adhered to the original permission and timescales for the sites. Concern was expressed regarding the Old Kiln Farm site not adhering to restoration work and the agreed reinstatement rolling programme.

Correspondence received from West Berkshire Council indicates concern regarding the lack of site restoration at Old Kiln Farm and associated planting. This matter has been brought to the operator's attention on a number of occasions. The Planning Authority has requested that an application be submitted under Section 73 of the 1990 Planning Act to regularise the breach. The Planning Authority is continuously monitoring the situation and will, if it is considered expedient, take further action to ensure the cessation of this breach of planning control.

The site works at Copyhold Farm site have been ongoing for a period greater than originally proposed and granted, however, West Berkshire Council have confirmed that each extension of time, and change to the operations have been subject to the appropriate planning process and full consideration given prior to further consents being granted.

A discussion took place. The clerk was asked to raise the following questions with West Berkshire Council.

When was the extension granted for Old Kiln Farm?

To seek clarification on paragraph 3 of the email received.

What terms were agreed when the Copyhold Farm processing facility was approved until 2011?

Would West Berkshire Council take action to regularise the situation?

Cllr Cole confirmed she would be making additional enquiries as District Councillor.

**6.03.09 Curridge Playground Charity. To consider nominations and agree action.**  
It was proposed by Cllr Crispin that Mr Ray French be nominated as the Parish Council Trustee. Seconded: Cllr Taylor. No other nominations were tabled.

**7.03.09 Curridge Road. To receive information from Cllr Crispin, Cllr Fidler, Cllr Ramsay and Cllr Friend and to agree action**  
Initial investigations have been inconclusive. A discussion took place. The Parish Council agreed to ask the Curridge Residents' Association if anyone has any substantive evidence to prove the road name as there is uncertainty.  
**Action: Clerk**

**8.03.09 Policy Surgery Event in Chieveley Parish. To receive information**  
Thames Valley Police will be holding a Police Surgery event in Chieveley on Thursday 23 April 2009 at Hazeldene area. The purpose of the event will be to consult with residents regarding any issues in the area. The clerk confirmed she had written to Thames Valley Police to offer assistance in advertising the event.

**9.03.08 Freight Route Network. To receive an update from Cllr Cole**  
Cllr Cole confirmed that the Freight Route Network maps outline what is considered to be the best available routes for freight to use in West Berkshire as well as indicating communities where it is considered unsuitable for through HGV traffic to use and where there are routes with traffic orders legally restricting vehicles in excess of a specified size/weight from using them. As a result of feedback received from Chieveley Parish Council and some local residents through the Freight Route Network Consultation in 2007 and again in December 2008 West Berkshire Council have included an exclamation mark on the Freight Route Network map over Chieveley. This will warn freight drivers that Chieveley village is unsuitable for HGV's.

In addition to the adoption of the FRN The Local Transport Plan Freight Strategy could include a number of initiatives to ensure that best use is made of the FRN to minimise the impact of HGV's on local communities.

The Transport Team will be looking at developing a system for equitably assessing and prioritising the various local freight issues received by the Council to determine which locations should be given priority consideration. Chieveley Parish Council's request for 7.5t weight restrictions on routes into Chieveley will be included as part of the process and updates will be provided on the progress.

Cllr Cole will be contacting the Transport Team to ask what action will happen to secure and protect the routes through Chieveley and to the Wantage Road.  
**Action: Cllr Cole**

**10.03.09 Computer and Projector. To agree action**  
The Parish Council gave consideration to committing the computer and projector fund. The Parish Council resolved to carry forward the fund to 2009/2010. Proposed: Cllr Crispin, Seconded: Cllr Hamlin

### **11.03.09 Clerks Report's (including correspondence)**

#### **11.03.1 Collage at Chieveley Recreational Centre**

The clerk tabled a letter inviting the Parish Council to provide a special event photo or just a photo of the Councillors to be included in the collage project.

#### **11.03.2 Flooding in Chieveley Parish**

The clerk tabled a letter from Highways Maintenance confirming that the drainage system alongside Carbrook on the Curridge Road consists of two gullies and a soakaway. Following the exceptionally wet weather over the past year, the water table in the area is very high severely reducing the capacity of the soak away. The Council intends to improve the capacity of the soak away this summer when the water table is lower, and conditions are more suitable for this type of work. In the interim period West Berkshire Council will arrange for flood signage and for the system to be recleansed to ensure the system is working as well as possible.

#### **11.03.3 Litter in Chieveley Parish**

In response to the Parish Council raising concerns about littering in the Parish West Berkshire Council's Waste Services Officer has confirmed that the matter will be monitored over the next couple of weeks and Veolia will be sent to areas that are felt to need attention.

#### **11.03.4 Downland Practice Car Park**

The clerk tabled a notice from West Berkshire Council confirming that the planning permission for the change of use of vacant land to extend the existing car park had been refused.

### **12.03.09 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 Friend and Seconded by Cllr Crispin and the Parish Council resolved to pay the accounts for March 2009.

#### **Payments**

Cheque No	Payee	Description	Amount
613	BT	Telephone & Broadband charges	£158.68
614	Viking Direct	Stationery Items	£90.55
615	D Carter	Bus Shelter Cleaning	£80.00
616	Kellys Garden Services	Oare Pond Maintenance	£175.00
617	T Snook	Clerk Fees	£628.08
		Allowance & Expenses	£23.28
618	West Berkshire Council	Dog Bin Services	£50.53
619	CPC	Hall hire charges	£90.00
Total Payments for March			£ 1,296.12

## Receipts

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

Receipts for year to date including April/Sept precept received	£ 25,650.45
Less payments for year to date	£ 26,634.93
Sub Total	<b>-£ 984.48</b>
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>£ 47,973.49</u>

#### 12.03.1 Fidelity Guarantee

The clerk brought to the Parish Council's attention that the fidelity guarantee protects the Parish Council against any act of fraud or dishonesty by any employee committed with the clear intent of obtaining an improper financial gain for themselves or for any other person or organisation intended by the Employee to receive such gain. It does not protect the Parish Council from Banks. The fidelity guarantee has been increased to £50,000 to cover the Parish Council funds. The Parish Council has two bank accounts and each account does not exceed £50,000. The Parish Clerk brought to the Parish Council's attention that in the first quarter of 2009/2010 the funds would not exceed £50,000 in either of the Parish Council accounts. The Parish Council agreed that the internal procedures and policies were robust and the risk was agreed to be negligible and acceptable.

#### 12.03.2 Reserves and underspends

It was proposed that the budget underspends be returned to the general reserves and identified funds be carried forward to 2009/2010. Seconded: Cllr Cowan

#### 12.03.3 Year End Accounts

The clerk confirmed that year end accounts will be finalised and presented at the next meeting. This will include interest due up to 31 March 2009 and VAT reclaimed fund.

#### 13.03.09 District Councillor's Report

Cllr Cole confirmed that the pothole in Downend Lane had been reported to Streetcare.

Cllr Cole reminded the Parish Council that £30,000 was available to upgrade the old tennis court to a MUGA.

Cllr Cole invited suggestions for the new round of Member Bids.

#### 14.03.09 Councillors' Reports (Information Only)

##### 14.03.1 Comma Funding and the W I Hall

Cllr Friend reported that the tree maintenance work at the W I Hall had taken place and the refurbishment of the posts and wire fencing and clearing bracken and brambles at the Hall and grounds was underway.

Cllr Friend reported that the tree surgeon noticed that some trees in the Curridge Playground needed attention. The clerk will inform the Clerk to the Trustees.

**15.03.09 Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent (Information Only)**  
None

**16.03.09 Date of the next meetings**  
Tuesday 14 April 2009 at Curridge W I Hall 7pm followed by the Parish Assembly at 8pm  
Tuesday 12 May 2009 at Chieveley Recreational Centre

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.27pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

## Planning Applications For the Parish Council Meeting on 10 March 2009

### Planning applications for consideration

Planning applications can be viewed on the West Berkshire Council website [www.westberks.gov.uk](http://www.westberks.gov.uk) under planning applications

Planning No	Type	Location	Description	Observation
09/00093	OUTD	The Old Village Hall, School Road, Chieveley	Demolish existing and replacement with a bungalow with live work unit	No objection
09/00014	FUL	Thornton House, Priors Court Road	Section 73 - Variation to Condition 8 (landscaping scheme (including existing trees) relating to previous planning permission 04/00757/FUL	No objection
09/00185	FULD	Middle Farm, Downend Chieveley	Demolition of house, construction of 5 houses with parking and new access	Objection

### Planning Application Decisions and Appeal Decisions Notification

Planning application decisions can be viewed on the West Berkshire Council website [www.westberks.gov.uk](http://www.westberks.gov.uk) under planning app

Planning No	Type	Location	Description	Decision
08/02235	FUL	Hermitage Landfill Site, Hermitage	Installation of a landfill gas powered electricity generating plant consisting of two containerised generated sets, transformers, switch rooms and ancillaries to generate electricity from gases produced in the neighbouring Hermitage landfill site	Approval
08/02226	FUL	Chieveley MOTO Services Area	Installation of commercial vehicle washing system and flood lights	Approval
08/02214	HOUSE	Far Acres, Freshfields Lane, Chieveley	Retrospective application following the recent approval to extend and create a first floor level to the existing dwelling	Approval

### For Information

08/02214	HOUSE	Far Acres, Freshfields Lane, Chieveley	Retrospective application following the recent approval to extend and create a first floor level to the existing dwelling	Site visit 19 February 2009. 25 February Western Area Planning Committee
08/02392	HOUSE	Blackthorn Cottage, Graces Lane, Chieveley	Two storey extension on the south, internal redesign and new staircase and single extension to north east	Site visit 19 February 2009. 25 February Western Area Planning Committee
		Land at Woodside Farm, Priors Court Road	Operational Development Enforcement Notice	Withdrawn
		Land at Woodside Farm, Priors Court Road	Change of Use Enforcement Notice	Withdrawn