

Chislet Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 15th June 2023 at 7.30 pm at Hersden Community Centre

Present : Cllrs Fee (in the Chair), Chandler, Stoward, Warnock, Appleby & Cassidy

In attendance : Mr. G. Eaton, Clerk to the Council

Action by:

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Higglesden, Prosser & Rose, KCC Cllr Marsh and CCC Cllr Carnac

2 Declarations of Councillor's Interests in items on the Agenda

There were no declarations of Cllrs interests in items on the Agenda

3 Public discussion

There were no members of the public present

4 KCC & CCC Cllr reports

CCC Cllr Carnac's emailed report which had been circulated was noted with thanks

5 Minutes of the last Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th May 2023 were unanimously approved

6 Matters arising

Cllr Fee reminded Cllrs that they have to declare an interest in any planning applications which would adversely affect them or the enjoyment of their property

There were no other matters arising of note

7 To discuss correspondence received

Email re closure of waste recycling centre – letter to be sent stating that the Council disagrees with the closures as they will inevitably lead to increased fly-tipping

Clerk

Email re road markings in Upstreet – installed in the wrong locations. A reply from Highways about this was awaited

8 To consider Planning and Enforcement matters

New Planning Applications

There were no new planning applications to consider

Decided planning applications

23/00405 – use part of garage as ancillary accommodation together with 3 roof lights to front elevation and solar panels to the rear elevation

Home Farm Barn, North Stream, CT3 4EG

Granted

9 To consider Finance matters

The following accounts were approved for payment -

	£
Chq D Buckett, Internal audit report	360.80
Chq Hersden Community Centre, room hire	14.00
Chq Inland Revenue, Clerk's tax	100.40
Chq J Caddick, grass cutting	180.00

The monthly Standing Order was noted and approved

	£
G Eaton, Clerk's salary & expenses	465.52

The bank balances were noted –

Treasurers account	£ 26181	02.05.23
Fighting Fund	£ 1226	09.05.23
Business Bank Instant	£ 3795	09.05.23

To consider and sign off the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2022/2023

After a general discussion regarding the 8 statements contained within Section 1 of the AGAR, the Annual Governance Statement 2022/2023, the Statement was approved and signed off by the Chairman and Clerk

Following a general discussion about Section 2 of the AGAR, the Accounting Statements for 2022/2023, the Statements were approved and signed off by the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer

The Certificate of Exemption was signed off by the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer

The Clerk was asked to email the Exemption Certificate to Mazars the External Auditor, and ask William to load them onto the website

Clerk

10 Parish Plan

It was agreed to establish a sub-committee to begin the process of consulting with Parishioners about community issues they are concerned about. Cllrs Chandler, Warnock, Appleby and Cassidy were all keen to be involved. Clerk to email the absent Cllrs to ask if they wished to be involved. The sub-committee would then arrange its inaugural meeting. The sub-committee would report to the full Council on 'as and when' basis where its proposals and plans would be discussed and decisions made

11 Litter picking

There was a general discussion about litter picking. It was noted that the Council should follow CCC's guidance regarding litter picking which does not allow litter picking on roads over 30mph as this was illegal. There were also growing concerns about the dangers of litter picking on narrow roads without pavements with aggressive and dangerous drivers. Our insurer raised safeguarding concerns and insisted there should be no unsupervised 1-1 interaction between a minor and an adult – this would be impossible for the Council to police. It was also noted that Parish funds should only be spent on projects benefiting the Parish in general, not a particular area. Given this it was agreed that a vote should be taken on whether or not to continue with the appointment of a salaried litter picker or to drop the idea completely. It was agreed unanimously, by a show of hands, not to proceed with the appointment of a litter picker. Clerk to contact the applicant and explain this decision

Clerk

12 Grounds maintenance

After a discussion it was agreed that J Caddick should decide when the grass needs cutting in order to keep it under control and avoid the recent problems

13 Any Other Business

There was no other business to discuss

14 Date of next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Parish Council Meeting would be held on Thursday 20th July 2023 at 7.00 pm at Hersden Community Centre

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 8.35 pm