

Chislet Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 22nd February 2024 at 7.00 pm at the Hersden Centre

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

In attendance : Mr. G. Eaton, Clerk to the Council, KCC Cllr Marsh, Viv Thompson volunteer litter picker, and two members of the public

Action by:

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Higglesden & Rose and CCC Cllr Carnac

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

There were no declarations of Councillor's interests in items on the Agenda

3 Public discussion

Viv Thompson updated on the volunteer litter picking group and circulated graphs of litter picked over a number of months. There followed a general discussion which highlighted the need for more signage and volunteers litter pickers in Upstreet. Decision on signage to be considered further at the next Meeting

Viv suggested that if the PC were intending to have a stall at the Chislet Fair the litter pickers would like to be involved

Clerk to contact CCC to request a litter pick along the A28 between Chislet and Hersden

Clerk

4 KCC & CCC Cllr reports

KCC Cllr Marsh reported that the KCC budget 2024/2025 had been signed off, but which had necessitated some reductions in services and redundancies. There was also a discussion about the speed sign near the School which KCC had removed as it could not be repaired

5 Minutes of the last Meeting and matters arising

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th January 2024 were unanimously approved

CCC's response to the complaint about refuse lorries inappropriately using Chislet as a 'rat-run' was noted. Anyone seeing rogue lorries should note the date/time and vehicle registration number and report it to CCC Cllr Carnac

6 To discuss correspondence received

Email from CCC Cllr Carnac re Hollow Street

Email from Highways re HIP advising that the Village White Gates should be installed at each end of Upstreet by the beginning of March 2024

It was agreed to produce a comprehensive Parish wide highway survey listing degraded road surfaces, pot holes, signs needing repair/replacing etc. Cllr Prosser kindly agreed to produce a template and details of how to locate faults on google maps

Cllr Prosser

Emails re KALC Community Awards Scheme. The Parish Council had nominated Viv Thompson for the 2024 Community Volunteer Award in recognition of his sterling work in helping to keep the Parish litter free. Clerk to invite Viv to the Parish AGM on 16th May 2024 to formally receive the Award

Clerk

Email from Parishioner praising the litter picker's excellent work

Email from Parishioner re complaint against St Nicolas Cort Farms and farm vehicles dangerously speeding through country lanes causing significant damage to the roads and banks. It was agreed that the Clerk send photos showing the damage caused to all parties copied in on the email. Clerk to write to KCC Cllr Marsh and Roger Gale MP confirming the PCs support of this complaint and asking for their help in resolving this matter

Clerk

Email from Parishioner re possible unauthorised building works in Highstead. Cllr Warnock reported that he had visited the site and the works appeared to be in accordance with a previously approved application

7 Community Engagement update

There was a general discussion regarding the latest Community Engagement update, as circulated by email, and the need to agree a Community Engagement Strategy. To be discussed further at the next Meeting

Consideration was given as to whether the Community Engagement group should be a subcommittee or a working group. It was unanimously agreed it should henceforth be a Working Group

There was a discussion regarding an event for the D-Day 80 commemoration on 6th June 2024 and it was unanimously agreed that an event should be held to include lighting the beacon

CE group

8 Funding streams

Cllr Appleby noted the importance of being aware of the various funding streams that were available and undertook to research these further

Cllr Appleby

9 To adopt the LGA Model Code of conduct

It was unanimously agreed to adopt the LGA Code of Conduct, as circulated by email. Clerk to arrange for this to be posted on the website

Clerk

Cllr Fee and Warnock declared an interest in that they were Trustees of the Chislet United Charities

10 To consider Planning and Enforcement matters

There were no new planning applications to consider

11 Grass cutting

There was a discussion regarding grass cutting/maintenance of the cemetery, Village Green and area by Vision House. The Clerk was asked to produce a specification which once agreed would be sent to various contractors requesting a quote

Clerk

12 To consider Finance matters

The following accounts were approved for payment -

BP	Inland Revenue	Clerk's tax	£100.40
BP	Simon Kidd/Spitfire	Room hire	£60.00
BP	V Thompson	Donation (litter picking)	£234.76

The Standing Order for the Clerk's salary & expenses for £457.32 was noted and approved

The bank balances as at 09.02.23 were noted

Unity Trust Bank	£ 29111.16
Lloyds TSB	£ 0

13 Venue for future Council Meetings (confidential item public excluded)

There was a general discussion regarding the venue for future Parish Council Meetings and it was agreed that these should be held at the Hersden Centre, with some Meetings in the summer months, being held at the Chislet Centre

14 Any Other Business

Cllr Appleby noted that Cllrs Warnock, Halfacre, Cassidy and Appleby would be attending the Joint Parishes Meeting hosted by Hoath PC on 18th March 2024, and would report back to Council in April 2024

Cllr Appleby

It was agreed an email be sent to CCC Cllr Carnac complaining that the planning portal was not working and it was impossible to access current or historic applications

Clerk

After a full discussion it was confirmed and agreed that Parish Council Meetings will continue to take place on the 3rd Thursday of every month and only changed in exceptional circumstances

15 Date of next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 21st March 2024 at 7.00 pm at the Hersden Centre

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 8.45 pm