

Chislet Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 21st November 2024 at 7.00 pm at the Hersden Centre

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

In attendance : Mr. G. Eaton, Clerk to the Council, KCC Cllr Marsh, CCC Cllr Carnac, and two members of the public

Action by:

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Higglesden

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

Cllr Halfacre declared an interest in planning application 24/02039 (agenda item 10)

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

3 Public discussion

The members of the public complained about the damage done to local roads and verges by farm vehicles during the recent harvesting of the maize crop. Very large farm vehicles travelled at speed during the harvest, making multiple journeys from early in the morning to late at night, causing severe damage and disruption, especially in Chitty Lane. Although it was felt that very little could be done, as the vehicles were legally entitled to use the road, it was agreed that a pack be produced giving full details of the issues, evidence of the damage done, and possible solutions. The Council would then write to the Farm concerned (cc KCC Cllr Baker portfolio holder for Highways) seeking a solution

Clerk

4 KCC & CCC Cllr reports

KCC Cllr Marsh added his comments and concerns about the damage done by farm traffic and confirmed that the cost of repairing the damage could not be recharged but offered to assist as far as he was able. Alan also updated on the Sturry Relief Road

CCC Cllr Carnac provided a useful update on several issues including bin collections, pavement parking in Island Road, and enforcement action at Hollow Street

5 Minutes of the last Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 24th October 2024 were unanimously approved and signed

6 Matters arising

HIP 2024 submission – Cllr Appleby confirmed the HIP had been sent to Highways and a virtual meeting was planned for 29th November 2024 @ 10.00 am. A meeting with the Headmaster of Chislet C/E School to discuss the HIP proposals was also planned
Cllrs Appleby & Prosser

VE Day 8th May 2025 – Clerk confirmed that he had written to Batchelor's Farm about lighting the beacon and a response was awaited

Highstead Riding School application – Clerk had sent comment to CCC – no objections to the application but asking that external lighting is bat friendly

7 Farm traffic through the Parish

This item was discussed under agenda item 3

8 Updates on spending plans for community projects

Several projects were discussed -

Bus shelter refurbishment – the agreed works should be undertaken shortly

Chislet School – traffic calming and safety measures were part of the 2024 HIP submission

Reinstate Speed Indication Devices in Upstreet were part of the 2024 HIP submission

Benches for the cemetery and the Village Green – Cllr Warnock will progress

Cllr Warnock

Commission Illustrator to produce a Parish Map including places of interest / footpaths etc. for residents, visitors and walkers, and installation of display boards and stands. Possible places of interest, footpaths etc. to include on the Map to be sent to Cllr Appleby to collate and liaise with the proposed illustrator
Cllr Appleby

Website – to be upgraded/refreshed with a new look. Cllrs Halfacre, Appleby and Prosser kindly agreed to make recommendations about possible changes and report back. It was hoped the upgrade/refresh would be achieved at nil cost
Cllrs Halfacre, Appleby and Prosser

9 To discuss correspondence received

Email from CCC re capital grants 2025/2026 – Clerk to forward email to Cllrs

Clerk

Email from CCC re precept requirement 2025/2026 – Clerk to prepare draft budget figures and forward to Cllrs for consideration in advance of the December 2024 Meeting. The figures to include proposed salary uplift for the Clerk
Clerk

Email from CCC re notice of vacancy

10 To consider Planning and Enforcement matters

24/02039 - retrospective application for 1.8m fence to front boundary together with formation of access and driveway
Hatch Cottage, Church Lane, CT3 4EB

Cllr Halfacre declared an interest and left the room whilst the application was discussed

There were no objections to this application

11 Biodiversity grants

The email from CCC re Biodiversity grants was discussed. It was agreed Cllr Cassidy would make an application for some insect hotel boxes
Cllr Cassidy

12 To consider Finance matters

The following accounts were approved for payment -

SO	G Eaton	Clerk's salary & expenses	£470.80
BP	J Caddick	Grass cutting	£351.99
BP	Inland Revenue	Clerk's tax	£104.00
BP	D Warnock	Sundry expenses	£57.20

The bank balance as at 16.11.24 was noted

Unity Trust Bank £41983

Other finance matters

After discussion it was agreed that any small works/projects (electrical/building/repairs etc.) costing less than £2000 could be undertaken by individuals or contractors that the Council had used previously without the need to obtain three quotes

Three quotes to be sought for all works costing over £2000

It was agreed that a budget of £250 be allocated for attendance at the Christmas Fair to cover sundry expenses

13 Any Other Business

There was a brief discussion about trying to obtain from CCC a general/dog waste bin where the Saxon Way footpath meets Chitty Lane. Cllr Halfacre to send details to the Clerk **Cllr Halfacre/Clerk**

14 Date of next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 12th December 2024 at 7.00 pm at the Hersden Centre

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 9.03 pm