

Virtual meeting of Charlbury Town Council held on Wednesday 24th March 2021 at 7.30pm

Members Present: Mr R Fairhurst(Chairman), Mr P Kenrick, Dr A Merry, Mr R N Potter, Mr V Hill, Mr R Puttick, Mrs J Burroughs, Ms L Reason, Mr P Morgan, Mrs K Broughton.

Apologies: Mr R Prew, Mrs N Ely.

Also in present: Ms L Leffman and Mr A Graham together with eight members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed those present and outlined the 'rules' of the meeting.

1. To receive the minutes of the last meeting.

Mr Potter proposed that the minutes be signed as a correct record, this being seconded by Dr Merry and agreed.

2. To deal with matters arising.

Notes of meeting with Cottsway representatives. It was agreed that a copy of the notes be sent to Cottsway for information. Council representatives at the meeting to prepare a note for the website to include the pre-conditions for the meeting.

Wigwell House. Nothing further from WODC re conditions not met. Exhibition Foundation trustees have agreed a boundary.

Election. 14 forms issued.

Wigwell. Some work on the footpath through the site.

Riverside Festival. Cancelled for 2021.

3. Declaration of Interest.

Mrs Burroughs declared an interest in planning application **21/00494/FUL** as a trustee of the Exhibition Foundation which owns the land.

4. To sign orders for payment/receive report.

The Clerk had previously circulated a list of accounts to be paid together with a year end report on finances and balances in hand. The financial review was agreed at the precept meeting in December 2020 and grants to the Gifford Trust and Charlbury PCC were considered. Two items of unexpected expenditure were also agreed; tree works on the Playing Close and canopy repairs at the Sports Pavilion. These were agreed on a proposal from Mr Potter, seconded by Dr Merry and agreed nem con.

Cheques were signed by two Councillors on a proposal from Ms Reason, seconded Mrs Broughton and agreed.

5. To receive a report from the Planning Committee.

The following plans were considered:

21/0357/HHD Alterations and extension at 15 Sandford Park.

1. We have no objection but ask that the highest standards of energy efficiency be used in view of climate change.

21/00462/LBC External work, flats 1-4 Bayliss Yard and 11 Sheep Street.

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21/00468/HHD Extensions and conversions at Field End, Woodstock Road.

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21/00494/FUL Wigwell House, Banbury Hill. Amendment to previous application (retrospective).

1. This application contains the following inaccuracies:

Page 1: S1 The address is Banbury Hill not Nine Acres Close.

S2 The applicant is surely Mrs Skelton.

Page 2/3: S5 Has the work been completed - NO. Surely this is not the case.

S8 New or altered pedestrian access - NO. Surely this should be YES as it is a condition of the consent given.

2. We deplore retrospective applications.

3. We note that there are no explanations attached to the submission to explain the reason for re-orientation of the building. The pedestrian access appears to be shown on the plan but is NOT constructed. The condition in the original consent has not been met yet the property is occupied. The Council has asked that this be investigated and this application does not address this.

4. In view of the above, this Council consider that this application is inadequate in its detail, does not address the concerns previously expressed (we were told this would be regularised in a new application) and disrespects the planning process.

5. Given the history of non-compliance (the footpath condition was the subject of an application to remove it - REFUSED). We object to this application.

6. To deal with Correspondence.

Ms Rangeley (for Museum), Ms N Ryecroft (for Charlbury Society), Mr R Scott.

Letters expressing concern at the process being adopted by the Corner House trustees to change to a CIO under the Charity Commission had been circulated to Councillors.

The Town Council has no role to play, other than via its nominated trustees, in the process, as it is simply the Custodian trustee. There was some sympathy with the letter's content in terms of consultation, or lack of it, on a town wide basis. New trustees had been proposed to serve under the terms of the CIO which had been discussed at C/H meetings previously.

The Chairman said that the existing trustees have to make the decision to change from the current scheme to a CIO and it appears that there is no requirement to hold a public meeting.

Ms Reason had previously expressed concern on issues relating to the Corner House, its use and management. She was interested in the building, its purpose and a business plan.

The Chairman referred to the AGM on 29th March which the committee had advertised. It is open to the public and questions can be raised (Zoom link). Mr Scott to be asked if he could address the April Council meeting with an update.

Mr Caston. Trees at Oxpens boundary, safety inspection. Noted.

Mr Carritt, Representative on WVTAG. The Chairman said that there was little evidence of traffic issues in Charlbury but that a watching brief could be requested.

Greenbarnes. Names for honours board (2020). Quote of £96.12 agreed on a proposal from Mr Morgan, seconded Mrs Broughton.

C. Potts. Gifford Trust appointment of two trustees. Follow agreed procedure. April agenda item. Let Mr Potts know.

7. To receive reports with reference to Charlbury.

District Councillor:

Mr Graham reported as follows:

- WODC had given a grant of £5,300 to the Community Centre, plus other grants locally (list circulated)
- Still waiting information on EV points in Charlbury.
- Cabinet agreed to close tourist information centres.
- No action on bring sites. Charlbury site needs better management/greater capacity.

County Councillor:

Ms Leffman reported as follows:

- Traffic issues (HGV's) in Leafield, may be farm traffic hence not reaching Charlbury.
- Review needed of the traffic issues in Burford.
- Finstock rail bridge re-opening delayed causing traffic issues around the area and damage to verges on narrow roads.
- Gigaclear - issues around reinstatements being addressed.
- Lines around the town will be repainted when MKJ leave.
- Trading Standards are taking action against HGV's illegally crossing the river bridge.
- Chasing up Corner House funding from Pandemic Fund.
- Councillor priority fund is now £7,500. She would welcome any applications.

8. To consider the Neighbourhood Forum.

Mr Kenrick reported that the referendum is to be arranged by WODC for 10th June, a major milestone. The Council is not permitted to campaign for a yes vote merely to encourage people to vote. WODC will be updating the draft document and it is hoped that some hard copies will be made available for public use.

The team were thanked for their efforts by the Chairman. Mr Kenrick will seek to arrange to make the document as available as possible including on-line.

9. To consider the April surgery.

Cancelled due to Covid restrictions.

10. To receive a report from the Working Group.

a. Traffic.

- Have not met recently. The Chairman will prepare a report in due course.

b. E.W.G.

- Mr Kenrick sought the Council's consent to circulate a short questionnaire. This was agreed on a proposal from Mr Morgan, seconded Dr Merry. Journeys team to gather base information and aspirations of the community. Some soil samples have been taken and sent for analysis (from Mill Field).

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed.....
Chairman