

CHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk – Frances Ashfield, Greenways Butterrow Lane Stroud GL5 2NH
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Chairman- Cllr Mike Mitchell

Minutes of the Cherington Annual Parish Meeting held on April 23rd 2016 at 10.30am at the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Henry Arden, Kate Gegg, Mike Mitchell (Chairman), Alison Sharpe and Peter Workman

Also present: Parish Clerk Frances Ashfield, County Cllr Tony Hicks, District Cllr Jim Parsons, CPSO Paul Hancock, Hilary Hodges, Wendy Eldridge, Beryl Milsom, Roger Maggs, Roger Gegg, Liz Workman, AnnTarlton, Paul Cable, DJ & DW Ridgeway, Diana Jagger, Desi Dillger, Tony Hollis, Duncan Branch, Joan Tubbs, Christine Williams, John Bate-Williams, Kevin McMahon and Hugh Shuttleworth

- 1. Apologies for absence** – Carol and Lynne
- 2. To approve minutes of Annual Parish Meeting April 2015** – Agreed and signed
- 3. Police Report - CPSO Hancock**

Paul Hancock distributed a report prior to the meeting which was available to view at the meeting. He reported that there was a relatively low crime rate in the parish. Across the county burglary has been the main issue, the majority being in non-dwellings such as sheds. He advised that high value items should be made secure. He answered questions on 'clear up' rates, speeding through the village, patrols in Tetbury and advised on road safety precautions which could be looked at re speeding cyclists

4. Chairman's Report – Cllr Mike Mitchell

Cllr Mitchell welcomed new residents to the village. He also thanked all those who had taken part in the Christmas events and the annual litter pick. He reported that the beacon event for the Queen's birthday had been very successful. Quite a number of planning projects had taken place over the past year which have required comments and input from the parish council. The byway had been upgraded so no motorised vehicles were allowed to use it. Barriers had been installed which had raised some concerns and were being looked into. Continued issues relating to motorbikes using the track which is illegal. Finally, Cllr Mitchell extended his thanks and gratitude to Beryl Milsom, who was due to leave the village after 59 years, and acknowledged her great input into the life of the village.

5. County Councillor's and District Councillor's reports

County Cllr Tony Hicks had circulated a report prior to the meeting which was available to view at the meeting. He highlighted the responsibilities of the county council and expanded on issues relating to education which was performing very well as opposed to social care which wasn't in very good shape with a budget overspend of £3.5m, an increase of £2m. 'Looked after' children had doubled to 540 with

insufficient people to foster or adopt. Fire & Rescue services were good value for money. The Highways contract with Amey hadn't initially gone very well but was gradually improving. Bad weather had affected pothole repairs. Cllr Hicks answered questions relating to road repairs and council tax.

District Councillor Jim Parsons reported that the Health Care and Overview Scrutiny Committee were consulting on ambulance response times in the Cotswolds and Forest of Dean. The District Council had frozen council tax again this financial year.

6. Village Hall Report

This had been made available to view at the meeting. Beryl Milsom talked through the report and reported that there had been new toilets fitted with grab bars, new curtains, chairs and decorating materials bought. There was a £640.34 increase in the balance this year to £4,784.20. Thanks went to Zac who had got a team together to paint the hall which had saved up to £2,000. Cllr Mitchel thanked Beryl and Wendy for all their hard work. Wendy will take over from Beryl re hall bookings in June. Zac Curtis and Kevin McMahon are to become trustees.

7. St Nicholas Church

It was reported that a questionnaire had been circulated asking for people's views on St Nicholas Church. 70% thought that the building was important. The church is opened and closed daily. The number of volunteers is decreasing and the building needs to be maintained. Financial assistance is needed re vicar. Thanks were made for all those who volunteer to keep the building and services going.

8. Bench for the village

Funding had been received in the past year towards a bench to commemorate the First World War. Various options were discussed in relation to the siting the bench. Wendy Eldridge had brought in the prototype model of the bench by the phone box. Ideas would be discussed at further PC meetings.

9. Queen's 90th birthday event in June 2016

The meeting was asked to put forward ideas for a celebratory event to take place in June. The date of June 12th was agreed and a range of ideas discussed. It was decided that a sub-group be set up to take ideas forward and to organise an event. The clerk advised that 50 commemorative coins had been delivered for the children of the village.

10. Village Plan

Cllr Gegg reported that a number of issues had been looked at such as parking and new housing. The area at the bottom of the allotments had been identified as potential land to build housing for rent. A parking area could also be developed. Comments included: what is the future use of the church?; Can't afford a village hall and a church; need to be thinking ahead; map of village needed with topography identified. How can village be sustainable. It was agreed that a future meeting would be needed to look at these issues.

11. Open Forum

Broadband: Cllr Parsons had contacted Fastershire and been informed that Cherington was up to 2 mg but this was sporadic. Cllr Gegg asked everyone to register with Gigaclear. Cherington comes under Rodmarton exchange and some come under Frampton Mansell. Fibre optics over airfield. Could this come as far as Cherington? What are criteria for installation? There might be enough people interested to contribute to update. Fastershire is to send someone to Cherington talk about this. Cllr Gegg to email details to residents.

Bumps in pavement – white lines have disappeared. Cllr Hicks to look into this.

Cllr Mitchell thanked all the councillors and the Clerk for their continued hard work.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 12.25pm