

CHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk – Beverley Rymer, 11 Rectory Lane, Avening, Tetbury GL8 8NN
email: cheringtonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk
Chairman - Cllr Mike Mitchell

Minutes of the Cherington Annual Parish Meeting held on April 6th 2019 at 10.00am at the Village Hall

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

Also present: Beverley Rymer (Parish Clerk), County Cllr Stephen Hirst, District Cllr Richard Morgan, Members of the Public

- 1. Apologies for absence** – Cllr Sharpe
- 2. To approve minutes of Annual Parish Meeting April 2018** – Agreed and signed

3. Chairman's Report – Cllr Mitchell

Cllr Mitchell welcomed a number of new residents to the village. He noted the installation of the defibrillator and thanked the resident who had made a generous donation to the cost, alongside a grant received from Cotswold District Council (CDC). He noted slow progress by Gigaclear on broadband; there was an agenda item on this. He thanked all those involved in the organisation of a very successful Show; the show, Christmas services and the Christmas tree event all helped to bring the village together. The council has addressed problems caused by trees near the car park. The Village Hall now has a new floor. The council was installing dog waste bins near the church and by the lake. He thanked Cllr Sharpe for her long service on the council as she retires in May; Kevin Macmahon has been elected to that seat from May. Finally he thanked County Cllr Hirst and District Cllr Morgan for their support and attendance throughout the year.

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

District Cllr Morgan reported that a Local Plan (to 2031) is now in place to manage planning and development. A recent waste and recycling review will introduce changes in domestic recycling with new recycling vehicles. As of November 2019 there will be more robust recycling receptacles (£200k) and separation of food and garden waste to improve environmental impact. It is expected that fewer residents will require green bins; these will be collected fortnightly, with a review in 2020 to offer a weekly collection option for those still requiring it. CDC recycling levels are high for the UK. Car parking charges are frozen and free parking after 3pm continues in all CDC car parks. CDC is funding a new post to address dog fouling and fly tipping. Council tax rises by 2% but CDC's tax level is 11th lowest in the country. CDC needs to build a reserve to prepare for a number of central government financing events in the coming years. District Cllr Morgan would pass on a resident's suggestion that vehicles carry a supply of recycling bags so that postal delivery costs could be avoided; Tetbury Council offices have a supply of bags. In response to questions, he stated that all plastic is recycled in the UK except for black plastic, which goes to Bulgaria, that there will be publicity on recycling guidelines nearer November and that he didn't as yet have exact details on anaerobic digestion.

County Cllr Hirst had circulated a written report. He remarked that, despite the rise, GCC's council tax level remains amongst the lowest in the UK. Questioned on rapidly

rising social care costs (both for the elderly and young), he stated that on current trends these would consume the entire GCC budget in 10 year's time. There were innovative steps to address this, such as Your Circle, providing information to help people stay in their homes longer (as most elderly residents wished). As people move location to retire it may be that their personal care budget is transferred. He was informed of a number of potholes and reported that Amey has ceased general highway maintenance, with 5 companies now contracted to deliver aspects of the highways service. Potholes should be reported at <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-rights-of-way/roads/report-it/>

5. Village Hall Report

A statement of the accounts was provided and Mr Curtis reported on receipts and expenditure. Pens are still available to help with fund raising. There had been significant expense during the year (a new floor, wasps and a new rear door) so expenditure had reduced the reserve. He commented that tables and chairs were available to hire at reasonable charges. It was agreed that improved heating was a priority, both the location of the switch and the insulation of the hall.

6. Police Report

The police team had been invited but were not able to attend. There was discussion of the unknown late night walker in the village. The police are aware and have asked residents to ring 999 if he is in danger of being hit by a car, or 101 if they see him and have concerns.

7. Village Issues - update

Broadband: Cllr Mitchell reported that Gigaclear has offered to hold a local event to discuss their plans for Hampton Fields and Cherington (details to be advertised when available). Cllr Arden explained his 4G mobile solution, with an initial cost of £125 and ongoing £27 rent; it is in use by other residents and he can provide details.

Village Hall access: parking outside the hall door causes visibility problems at the corner and difficulty for disabled and loading access. The council proposed to restrict parking outside, possibly from the corner to the entrance of the car park and residents approved such a step. A vehicle, delivering to an Aston Down business recently, had damaged the green when trying to turn in limited space. Aston Down businesses had been sympathetic but are unable to ensure that drivers always receive correct directions (e.g. when hauliers sub-contract). It was agreed that posts around the green and more signs in the village would be unsightly and that there are signs near the main roads already. County Cllr Hirst confirmed that GCC contacts satnav providers about roads but it was pointed out that drivers still use maps. The council would contact Highways for advice, both on the planned parking restriction and on measures to address large vehicles passing through the village.

Welcome newsletter: Cllr Workman felt that information was now being circulated in hard copy more often, since search engines can present links in an unhelpful order. It was commented that a hard copy would need to be updated regularly and there was concern about printing costs when there is such a small number of new residents. The Parish Clerk had drafted a welcome newsletter from the parish council which is on the website and available for download and printing.

8. Open Forum

Cherington Church: Rev South welcomed residents to attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting at St Nicholas' at 10am on Saturday 13th April.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11.07am