

# Minutes of the Chineham Parish Council Recreation Committee

**Date:** Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2017

**Time:** 7.30pm

**Place:** Community Room, Chineham Village Hall, Thornhill Way, Chineham

**Present:** Cllr. Andy Clarke  
Cllr. Laura Romney  
Julia Johnston (Assistant Clerk)  
Cllr. Ginny Wright  
Cllr. Sue Fuller

**1. To elect the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Recreation Committee**

**Actions**

Cllr. Andy Clarke proposed and Cllr. Laura Romney seconded that Cllr. Sue Fuller be nominated for the position of Chairperson and Cllr. Fuller was duly elected.

Cllr. Sue Fuller proposed and Cllr. Laura Romney seconded that Cllr. Andy Clarke be nominated for the position of Vice Chairperson and Cllr. Clarke was duly elected.

**2. To receive apologies**

There were no apologies.

**3. To agree the minutes from the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017 were signed as an accurate record of that meeting.

**4. Allotments**

Duncan Little from the Chineham Allotment Team joined the Recreation Committee meeting for the allotments section of the meeting.

**4.1 To receive an update from a representative of the Chineham Allotment Team (CAT)**

It was acknowledged that the proposed works to trees on plot 38 had not yet taken place. It was also acknowledged that following the site visit with the Senior Tree Officer for Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council (BDBC), it had been highlighted that the tree on plot 9 was creating more shade on plots 11 and 13 and a subsequent request was made for this tree be included in the works schedule when contractors visit the site. The Assistant Clerk confirmed that she had asked to be advised when the work would be carried out so that she could warn affected plot holders.

There was a discussion about the annual CAT barbecue and 'Best Allotment' competition which is being held on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July. The best allotment will be voted for by plot holders attending on the day and the Assistant Clerk gave Mr Little the Wyevale vouchers which will be awarded as prizes (£30 for first place, £20 for second and £10 for third). Permission to purchase the vouchers had been granted at the Parish Council meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> April. Mr Little also took the

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trophy to be awarded for the best allotment on the day. The Assistant Clerk will arrange the engraving of the trophy plinth once the winner is known.

There was a discussion about the next CAT inspection scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> June and specifically about two plots which were not being cultivated and giving cause for concern. The Recreation Committee and Mr Little reviewed the letters which have been issued to the one particular plot holder who has already been served with one final warning in October 2016 and agreed that if the plot had still not been cultivated to an acceptable standard by the next inspection, the tenancy will be terminated.

Mr Little advised that with one exception, all of the new plot holders who had taken over plots in the last few months were making good progress.

### **3.2 To review and agree appropriate actions for allotment issues raised since the previous meeting**

The Assistant Clerk advised that one plot holder had still not paid their rent despite having been contacted by phone by the Assistant Clerk and more recently by email by the Clerk. It was agreed that if the rent was still outstanding at the time of the next CAT inspection and the plot was highlighted for non cultivation, a final warning would be issued.

Action: Assistant Clerk & Cllr. Fuller to review the allotment rules to understand what is included about non payment of rent. JJ & SF

The Assistant Clerk advised that the current type of allotment key has been discontinued by the manufacturer and it is not possible to have any more keys cut. This has been a Borough-wide problem resulting in all Borough Council-run sites having their padlocks and keys changed. The Assistant Clerk was able to ascertain that two of the many keys handed back to the Borough Council were compatible with the Chineham keys and these will be re-cut as spares. The Assistant Clerk also has two other spares and it was acknowledged that some Parish Councillors have keys as well as the Clerk and these may need to be handed back to the Assistant Clerk if supplies run short. In the longer term it was acknowledged that the allotment padlocks and keys will need to be replaced and it was agreed that it would be preferable to do this during the winter months.

Mr Little advised that there was no need to use a padlock on the communal building as there was nothing of value stored inside.

Mr Little left the meeting at this point.

### **4. To review next steps for new Section 106 projects agreed in principle by Chineham Parish Council at its October 2016 meeting**

- **To refurbish the play area on Hanmore Road beside the Busy Bees Nursery**

There was a discussion about the additional charge of £110,000 which BDBC have advised they will levy for ongoing maintenance which is over and above the £50,000 quote for the supply and installation of the playground equipment taking the total cost of the project to £160,000. It was acknowledged that this hadn't been flagged in earlier discussions with BDBC representatives when outline costings were first discussed and the project was not viable at this amount, given the outstanding balance of the Chineham Section 106 allocation is around £158,000 with other

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projects in the pipeline. It was agreed to put the project on hold and to seek further clarification about the additional maintenance charge, specifically:-

- What was the additional maintenance charge allocated for the new Dryden Close playground in Popley which had been highlighted by BDBC officers as an example of the type of facility that could be provided at the Hanmore Road site.
- If the playground scheme was redesigned to have less play equipment, how would this impact on the maintenance charge
- Who is maintaining the site currently and how often
- Is the maintenance charge fixed or is there some room for negotiation.

Action: Assistant Clerk to liaise with Borough Council officers and Cllr. Paul Miller

JJ

- **To replace the concrete bridge over Petty's Brook in Tollhouse Meadow**

It was acknowledged that the Parish Council had agreed a budget of up to £15,000 for the replacement bridge. The Assistant Clerk advised that following a site visit to Petty's Brook with Borough Council officers, it had been highlighted that the area of Petty's Brook where the concrete bridge is located may be on land owned by Thames Water. This is unclear as the map being used was from the 1980's and the course of the brook has changed since then. The Assistant Clerk advised that BDBC officers had confirmed that permission would not be needed from Thames Water to replace the bridge and after a discussion it was agreed that the project should proceed as planned and be paid for from the s106 budget as previously agreed rather than approaching Thames Water to find out if they would fund it instead.

- **To consider possible new locations for seats around Chineham**

It was acknowledged that this project is currently on hold until a final decision is made about the playground and the full cost of the bridge replacement is known. It was agreed that a request will be made to the Rapid Response Warden (RRW) to carry out another review of the existing seats and benches in the Parish to understand if there are any in a poor condition and in need of repair or replacement. The RRW will also be asked for her recommendations about possible new locations for seats as well as a request being made to Parish Councilors in order that a 'wish list' of new locations can be prepared.

## 5. **Chineham Landscaping**

It was acknowledged that the Parish Council had agreed a budget of £150 for the purchase of wild flower plug plants or seed. Cllr. Wright advised that because of the prolonged spell of dry weather, it had been decided not to plant any wild flower plug plants in the new bund as they would have required too much watering to get them established which would have been impractical.

There was a further discussion about using wild flower seed instead and brushing this into the existing grass on the bund and the area behind it later in the summer and autumn. The Assistant Clerk advised that she has contacted the municipal nursery at Bournemouth to find out more information about the wild flower seed that they sell.

Cllr. Romney suggested that the Incredible Edible group would be prepared to plant some native apple trees in the grass area now protected by the new bund and all of the Recreation Committee agreed that this was a good idea. It is possible that Incredible Edible could supply the

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trees, otherwise it was agreed that they could be purchased out of the £150 budget.

Action: Assistant Clerk to liaise with BDBC to seek appropriate permissions to plant the trees. JJ

**6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2017 at 7.30pm (TBC), Community Room, Chineham Village Hall.**

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