

**Minutes of
CHITTERNE PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING OF ELECTORS
Held in the Village Hall at 7pm on Monday 8th May 2017**

BUSINESS TRANSACTED

1. **Acceptance of apologies for absence** – John Smedley,
2. **Approval of minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Electors held on 9th May 2016.**
No formal meeting was held but a presentation and debate on the issue of fracking in the area was held for the benefit of the Electors. The poster for the event was signed.
3. **Matters arising from the last meeting** – no action is being taken as the licenses have not been taken up in the Codford/Chitterne Area.
4. **Chairman's Annual Report** - M. Lucas
Good evening ladies and gentlemen and welcome to this evening's Annual Parish Meeting of Electors. Your Parish Council have been very busy this past year on the following matters:
On roads and traffic, we have:
 - Initiated and agreed with Wiltshire Council, the imposition of a 20mph speed limit on the C22 through Townsend and this scheme is planned to be put in during the summer/autumn this year.
 - Had the additional traffic calming measure added to the junction of the B390 and the C22 to Tilshead.
 - Been working with Warminster Town Council and the other villages to have a schedule of deployments for the Speed Indicator Devices, obtained by Warminster Town Council from Wiltshire Council, throughout the area. To support this, the Parish Council have had erected poles to take these devices and these cover the entrances (and exits) from Knook, Tilshead and Shrewton. Unfortunately, these devices have been found not to be working properly when they were deployed and are now deemed to be beyond economic repair. The Council are looking at the feasibility of purchasing a speed indicator device for the village. This would be deployed to complement the work of the Community Speed Watch team. Approx cost £2,000.00 - £2,500.00 but we would make an application for a grant to the Area Board to offset the cost to the village.
 - Commented on the Highways Agency proposed scheme for the A303 improvements. Our main concern has been with the impact of traffic during any building work on the local roads and also on how the scheme, once in place, may impact on those roads. Our main suggestion is that the opportunity is used to re-organise the entrance and signage to the Stonehenge Visitor Centre to encourage buses and coaches to use the upgraded A303 rather than the B390. We have also engaged with Wiltshire Council on the same subject but also taking into account the likely increase in traffic caused by the Army Basing and the urban development plan for Warminster. These are ongoing matters.
 - We are engaged with the Parish Steward scheme as provided by Wiltshire Council and Peter has built up a good relation with our Parish Steward so we can give him our priorities for work. Thank you Peter for this.

On mobile communications, we learnt that there is to be a new Emergency Services Communications Contract which has been let by the Home Office to EE which will be based on a 4G network and is planned to be operational by 2019. As we have no mobile signal in the village, we were concerned that the emergency services would not be able to deliver a service to the residents of Chitterne. We have raised our concerns with the PCC and with the Warminster Area Board. This matter is still ongoing.

The Police and Crime Commissioner published his plan for comment and we submitted our thoughts on it. These were primarily on the fact that there was very little detail in the plan on which to measure the effectiveness of the work of the Police. Unfortunately our comments did not change the Plan in its final published iteration.

Barry and Virginia have been attending the regular Flood Working Groups to ensure that Chitterne is not forgotten. They have achieved some action from Wiltshire Council and are continuing to keep

Chitterne and the proposed plan to prevent future flooding here on the schedule. Thank you both for this sterling work.

Virginia has built up a good relationship with Earthline, who manage the Landfill site, and they have been responsive about mud on the road or if their drivers are seen exceeding the speed limit, even to the extent to deploying their own speed monitoring device. There has been an issue with the road sweepers pushing silt into the drains to the Valley Farm side of the B390 which has caused blockages. This has been reported to planning enforcement and Earthline.

On other matters, we have:

- Put forward the case for the retention of the Public Telephone Box.
- Attended the regular Community Area Board and Neighbourhood Tasking Group meetings.
- Supported the procurement of the Defibrillator.
- Part funded the repair to the potholes that were in the car park outside the village hall.
- Organised the village clean up last year – note that this year's clean-up is this weekend (Sat 13 May) in conjunction with Breakfast Club.
- Started to look at updating our register of assets.
- Started to review the grass cutting contract let to the Cricket Club to formalise the contract content.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the councilors and especially to Virginia as the Parish Clerk for all their hard work and support throughout this past year.

That concludes my report. Are there any questions?

Q: have Warminster Town Council paid WC for malfunctioning SID? Response: No

5. Finance Report - V. Neal, Clerk

2016/2017 Accounts:

Balance per bank statement 31 March 2017	£ 7,765.00
Less unrepresented cheques 31 March 2017	£ 910.00
	£ 475.00
Unbanked cash as at 31. March 2017	£ 0.00
Total – net balances as at 31 March 2017	<u>£ 6,381.00</u>

Cashbook (Receipts & Payments)

Opening Balance	£ 5,883.00
Receipts in year	£ 8,319.00
Payments in year	£ 7,771.00
Balance Carried forward	<u>£ 6,381.00</u>

6. Wiltshire Councilor report – a short report from Christopher Newbury was read out by M. Lucas

Below is a link to an annual report from the Wiltshire Council Cabinet members.

[https://gallery.mailchimp.com/c4b5755b633490b729f38f906/files/523cca43-ec04-4c90-ab8c-4287329424b1/Annual Town and Parish Councils Report 2017 FINAL.pdf](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/c4b5755b633490b729f38f906/files/523cca43-ec04-4c90-ab8c-4287329424b1/Annual_Town_and_Parish_Councils_Report_2017_FINAL.pdf)

On the immediate Chitterne front, the main issues seem to be mostly outside Wiltshire Council's direct responsibility, but as the parish council knows we can always try to use the Warminster Area Board to apply pressure to other agencies:

(1) Speeding in the village. The Police are providing little support, but Chitterne PC is of course exploring progress with a Speed Indicator Device on its own account, following the end of WC funding.

(2) Valley Farm planning issues. The parish council has worked hard to try to ensure enforcement of the planning conditions and reasonable behaviour by the operators and hauliers, especially the hauliers. More work is to be done on this.

(3) Flooding. It is very lucky that there was no repeat this year of the great flood of two years ago, as WC has been slow to respond to the need for better prevention. As ever, Chitterne has done better with its own resources. We must hope for more progress before the next comparable flood.

(4) Lack of mobile coverage. The PC has explored every avenue, and from recent correspondence I know it hopes a police communications project may at last lead to a breakthrough. It may be a good idea for us to take the next chance to question the police representative in the next Area Board.

If there are any specific questions from anyone present, I am getting better at responding to emails! Please do give everyone my email address. christophernewbury@gmail.com

7. Reports from the Groups and Clubs of the Parish:

Community Speedwatch (CSW)– presented by Douglas Stobie.

Chitterne abandoned CSW last year, however we never formally pulled out. As of January 2017 we had a change of mind and started up again. Chitterne operate with Bishopstrow and have the speed camera 3 out of every 6 weeks. We could do with some more volunteers. The situation is still bad in the way the police deal with speeders - little action is ever taken. Most of the speeders live out of county therefore cannot be charged, despite what was said by Police & Crime Commissioner and Andrew Murrison MP.

Village Hall – AGM last week well attended by committee and shadow committee but not many members of the community. PP chair for 10 years and has the most vibrant committee for a long time. Improvements made to the hall in the last few years has been impressive. The Committee are very hard working. Numbers of events sometimes disappointing. The Breakfast club is very popular. Thanks to the committee. The appreciation of the Parish Council to the Village Hall Committee for the running of all the events is recorded here.

Cricket Club – report from C. Horsfall

Cricket has been played in Chitterne for over 100 years. There is a picture somewhere that I have seen, probably painted about 1920, of a game being played in the field behind the church! Chitterne is very fortunate to have the playing field. It encouraged a number of enthusiasts in the village some 15 years ago to resurrect the current Chitterne Cricket Club. The Club continues to survive thanks to support from the village and the grass cutting contract which is awarded to the Club every year by the Parish Council. The contract ensures that the Club has the means to keep the playing field in good shape. Every season the Cricket Club plays 8 or 9 matches on a Sunday afternoon starting at 2:00pm and finishing around 6:30pm. Tea is taken in the Village Hall at 4:00pm and everybody in the village is welcome.

The Club has 9 fixtures this season including a single wicket game next week, Sunday 14th May. The purpose of this match is not only to provide some much needed practice before the first match but also to encourage others, particularly the young in the village to turn out and have some fun.

Thanks recorded by the Parish Council for the smooth running of the grass cutting contract

Q: How is the club doing? Response: Played eight fixed games against opposition won 4 lost 1 and the others were not played.

It was suggested that the results of games etc are recorded in Chit Chat, to raise the profile of the Cricket Club on a regular basis.

ACTION: C. Horsfall

8. **Village Issues** – questions from the floor - none

9. **Chairman's Closing Speech** – Councillors have worked very hard on the villages behalf, and is one of the most proactive councils in the Warminster Area. Thank you to all for all your hard work.

A vote of thanks from the village expressed by Pam Kent to councillors for all their hard work

Meeting concluded at 19.30