

Minutes for Little Cheverell Parish Council Meeting, 7pm Wednesday 8th February 2023, Village Hall

In attendance – Sue Ivey (chair), Mike Philips (vice chair), Drew Spearey, Clive Broe, Louise Brebner (minute taker)

1. Approval of minutes of the council meeting on 23/11/2022 – Drew Spearey Proposed, Mike Phillips seconded.
2. Apologies – Benji Thompson and Dominic Munns
3. Declaration of interest – Nil

4. Public Forum

- a. Member of public – Grave concerns over where the speed count has been placed in the village and the validity of it because of where it is. All 3 parties at the top of Westbury Road are not happy where the speed count has been placed. Sue Ivey response – We did ask for the speed counts to be placed, closer to the 40 and 30 mph signs. Neither have been placed according to the application made last June. ACTION – Sue Ivey to contact Emma Painter, Transport Planning Technician – POST MEETING UPDATE – Sue Ivey has exchanged several emails with Emma Painter, who followed up concerns expressed by the member of the public with TRACIS, the company that installs the counts all over the country. Emma received the following explanation from them, last Monday 13th February *“Re 040-016. I have spoken with my tech this morning. He mentioned that once on site the bend was sharper and became a blind bend when securing the tubing to the road near the houses; he could not see vehicles approaching and they could not see him”*. Emma had anticipated that this might have been the reason for changing the position of the tubing. She realises that it is not ideal and apologises that this has caused an issue for the residents in the village. At our suggestion, Emma is trying to arrange to meet local residents who live in the 40mph section of Westbury Road on site.
- b. Following on from the speed issues Sue Ivey has contacted Worton Parish Council asking about their “Please Slow Down” which is displayed, attached to their planter at the start of the village. See below ACTION Sue Ivey to apply for permission to erect a similar sign. POST MEETING NOTE – Sue Ivey has contacted Helen Pickett Assistant Highway Asset Engineer, who issued the license allowing us to place a planter at the 40mph sign. The hope would be to have purchase either 1 or 2 for each end of the village which can be put up once permission is granted. ACTION Sue Ivey will contact the chair of Worton Parish Council to ask about the costs they’d incurred when installing their speed indicator devices. Sue Ivey understands that the devices must be paid for by the Parish Council. If a successful application is made to LHFIFG (Local Highways and Footway Improvement Groups) for funding, ¾ of the costs of actually installing the device will be paid by Wilts Council and the PC will pay ¼.

- c. Sue Ivey then read an email she had received from Dominic Munns (chair of the LHFIFG): *“at our most recent Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Group meeting LHFIFG, we discussed the need to ensure the groups small budget is used effectively across the year. We are already at risk of exhausting next year’s budget due to the number of requests being brought forward. This troubles me since, if it continues, parishes will find themselves under pressure from residents to champion small local projects and find that there is no budget for two or even three years. To help spread the tasks I am going to request that parishes seeking funding for Speed indicator devices, white gates, speed limit change requests, and anything else employed to combat speeding are first demonstrating that they have an active community speed watch group in place.”* Sue Ivey had requested a speed limit review but has been told it will not be funded from the LHFIFG budget. A CSW needs to happen and be supported by the community, it is all done safely through the police, but they will not help until the metro speed count is done.
- d. Member of public – Worried about excessive traffic because of the bridge closure – Response from Highways -There will be plenty of signs and cars will just need to turn around if they go the wrong way.
- e. Barnes Coach Incident 2nd February 2023– Sue Ivey has been told by highways that it wasn’t illegal though of course unwelcome, as coaches are a different category of vehicle!! Sue Ivey has spoken to the bus driver’s management who have said they will look at the sat nav used.
- f. Member of public – Raised concerns over parking in Low Road by Old School House and Springfield Cottage, very narrow tight road, and many times the road is obstructed – Advised by the PC to call the police if there are any major obstructions

- g. PC very clear that people in the village need to be reporting problems to MyWilts, on the app, but also by phone or email. There will be a list of contacts added to the website.
- h. Member of Public – email concerned about the rubbish from the railway workers at the railway bridge end of Low Road. Sue Ivey has advised the person to report this to My Wilts and Drew Spearey will go to speak to them in person. POST MEETING NOTE – The Network Rail project manager has dealt with this matter and has apologised to Drew Spearey. The member of the public has also reported the situation to Network Rail.

5. Update on Low Road

- a. Sue Ivey has had an email from Charles Lucas (the land agent responsible) advising he has got a quote for the trees over hanging Low Road. However, the PC agree the hedge also needs cutting. The council tractor will not cut private hedges unless it is making the road unsafe. ACTION Sue Ivey will contact Charles Lucas and let him know that 2 cuts are needed annually, the first before the end of Feb due to bird nesting laws. POST MEETING NOTE Sue Ivey has received an assurance from Charles Lucas that this work has been requested. It has been noted that, if the overgrown brambles along the bank constitute a hazard then cutting back can be carried out at any time. This will be happening as soon as possible.
- b. Sue Ivey is meeting Matt Perrott engineer for Wiltshire highways on 23rd Feb to discuss:
 - i. Subsidence of Low Road above two properties
 - ii. The planned digging back of Low Road to the extent of the tarmac
 - iii. Why was the MyWilts report about the faded 30ph sign on the B3098 rejected.
 - iv. Repair to damaged railings alongside the stream next to the wooden bungalow. This was reported on MyWilts Nov 2022 but has not been dealt with.

POST MEETING NOTE – Sue Ivey met with Matt Perrott and two local residents. The Discussion was reassuring and helpful. It also covered the need to cut back the vegetation on the opposite side as described in a. Matt considered this to be a priority. The damaged railings will be repaired by County. Matt will send a report covering the other issues raised, which will be on the agenda for the next PC meeting.

- 6. **Finance** – Currently in the Parish Council bank account there is £4590.70 . The Parish Council also agreed to increase the 2023-2024 precept to approximately £54 per house per year. This increase is necessary to enable the parish council to fund future initiatives within the village as well as those currently under consideration. The proposed increase will result in a household contribution of significantly less than the UK average for all parish councils.

- 7. **Village Maintenance** – see item 5 iv

- 8. **Planning Applications** – There have been three applications for treeworks, at Orchard Acre, Yew Tree Cottage and Glebe Farmhouse, the parish council had no objections. Regarding PL/2022/09707 at Rosegarth Stables, planning permission has been granted with some conditions. If you would like to know more this link will be on the website. <https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0i3z000019Bqw8>.

- 9. **Village Hall** – There is to be a free cheese and wine night on March 10th, 2023, to encourage residents to come along and bring their ideas for what they would like to see the Village Hall used for.

- 10. **Website update** – Louise Brebner continues to keep the website updated. Asked for permission to add the PC full names onto the PC page, agreed. Also, further plans to add footpaths, spring photos, and extra info for reporting to Wilts Council.

- 11. **Gov.uk Consult on draft legislation to support identity verification** – a link will be added to the website for more information

12. AOB –

- a. Defib training is scheduled for 27.03.23, 18.30, this will be added to the village website
- b. Mike Phillips proposed a salary review is conducted for Louise Brebner, seconded by Sue Ivey

- 13. **Date of next meeting** - 10.05.2023 This will be the Annual Village Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council