

Virtual meeting of Charlbury Town Council held on Wednesday 28th October 2020 at 7-30p.m.

Members Present: Mr P Kenrick (Chairman), Dr A Merry, Mr R N Potter, Mr V Hill,
Mrs J Burroughs, Ms L Reason, Ms N Ely, Mrs K Broughton, Mr R Puttick,
Mr P Morgan.

Apologies: Mr R Fairhurst, Mr R Prew

1. To receive the minutes of the last meeting.

Mr Potter proposed that the minutes be signed as a correct record this being seconded by Dr Merry and agreed.

2. To deal with matters arising.

Tree at Nine Acres. In hand awaiting WODC consent for work.

Priority Post Box. The box allocated by Royal Mail and sited on Ticknell Piece Road is not wholly suitable. However the Clerk has tried to get this message across without success.

Allotment Report. Actions continue.

Citizens Award. Framed certificates and citations will be presented on Monday 2nd November in a Covid safe manner by the Chairman. This will be in the Garden Room at the Memorial Hall. An article with photos will be placed in the spring Chronicle.

EWG. Monthly agenda item in future

Remembrance Sunday. Service with restricted attendance. There will not be a march to the Church.

3. Declaration of Interest.

Mr Kenrick declared an interest in agenda item 4 as a cheque recipient.

4. To sign orders for payment/ receive report.

The Clerk had previously circulated a list of accounts to be paid and went on to explain these. Mrs Broughton proposed that the accounts be paid this being seconded by Mr Hill and agreed. Accordingly cheques were signed by two Councillors.

5. To receive a report from the Planning Committee.

The following plans were considered:

20/02290/HHD Extensions and front porch at 23, Sturt Close.

1. We have no objection but ask that the highest standards of energy efficiency be applied in view of the climate emergency.

20/02343/FUL Demolish existing bungalow, construct two dwellings at Yew Dell, Hixet Wood.

1. Can the highest standards of energy efficiency be used in view of the climate emergency?
2. Surface Water Drainage. The application form indicates that the site is not within 20 metres of a watercourse, however the Sandford/Slade stream runs under the site and emerges into the spreads by the police houses directly opposite. A sustainable drainage system is required rather than a soakaway as indicated.
3. Environmental Design Standards. The D&A statement gives no indication of how this development addresses the climate emergency and the need for the homes to be made zero carbon(Policy NE9 of the emerging N/H plan)
4. Garage Units. The garages read as separate two storey dwellings with studios. This is positive for home working in line with policy ECT3 of the emerging N/H plan.
5. Green Corridor. Policy NE6 of the emerging N/H plan states that the Sandford/Slade blue/green corridor must be preserved and conserved for the benefits it provides in terms of biodiversity, landscape character etc. This needs to be kept in mind here.
6. Overlooking. Many of the previous objections seem to have been addressed in this submission.

20/02374/HHD Extensions and new rooflights at Shadbolts, Hixet Wood.

1. We ask that the neighbours concerns be noted and carefully considered.
2. Some documents are missing from this (D&A statement) and some plans appear inadequate.
3. Any increase in on- street parking would be a real problem at this pinch point in Hixet Wood.
4. Can the highest standards of energy efficiency be applied in view of the climate emergency?
5. Some Members object to this as a possible over development of the site.

20/02535/HHD Alterations and extensions at Wayhill, Spelsbury Road.

1. We ask that the highest standards of energy efficiency be used in view of the climate emergency.
2. Otherwise no objection.

20/02548/HHD Alterations and extensions at Priory Cottage, Park Street.

1. We have no objection but ask that the highest standards of energy efficiency be applied in view of the climate emergency.

20/02894/HHD Erect garden studio at 5 Graces Court, The Slade.

1. We ask that the highest standards of energy efficiency be used in view of the climate emergency.
2. Can any neighbour concerns, particularly with reference to overlooking be considered?
3. Otherwise no objection.

Ms Reason. Letter regarding the strengthening of comments with regard to environmental standards and planning. It was resolved that the Clerk would write to the Chief Executive of WODC to seek some answers/clarification to enable the matter to be considered again at the next meeting.

6. To deal with Correspondence.

Gifford Trust. Thanks for grant noted.

Corner House. Thanks for grants noted.

Boward Trees. Quotation for tree work at Ticknell Piece Play Area (Oak near seat). A quote of £1230 was accepted on a proposal from Dr Merry seconded Mr Potter.

Mr Robinson (for Cottsway). Meeting request re possible development at Jeffersons Piece to discuss with Town Council and WODC based on a submission to the N/H plan.

Ms Reason said that the Council should seek an exemplar sustainable development as a start point. Mr Kenrick will seek to arrange a meeting involving WODC, Cottsway and a small group from this Council.

ONPA. Mr Kenrick to attend the webinar on 21st November.

7. To consider the Neighbourhood Forum.

Examination expected during November.

Referendum cannot take place until May 2021.

The process continues.

8. To receive an Audit Report.

No reply from Moores as yet.

9. To receive an update on the pavilion extension project.

Mr Morgan reported: The building is complete and the license approved. It is open with good business so far. Some 700 members have signed up to date. The Chairman thanked the club for use of the premises by the surgery for flu vaccinations which went very well. Mr Morgan concluded by saying that he hoped that the premises would be used by the community. (Remove item from agenda).

10. Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill support.

Support for this Bill, presented to Parliament by Caroline Lucas MP, was requested by Ms Reason and Brigid Avison. A paper had been circulated. Mr Potter was concerned that the Council should not get involved as this could set a precedent. Further discussion ensued and the following was proposed by Mr Morgan:

That Charlbury Town Council supports the objectives of the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill (CEE Bill) and will:

- a. Ask Robert Courts, MP for Witney and West Oxfordshire to support the Bill.
- b. Add Charlbury Town Council to the list of organisations. Groups and businesses who support the Bill
- c. Join the CEE Bill Alliance.

This was seconded by Mrs Broughton, F 9 A 1

11. To receive reports.

- a. Cemetery. See report
- b. Corner House and Memorial Hall. Ms Reason expressed concern that the list of potential trustees are not going to save it. No decisions yet taken. November agenda.
- c. Mill Field, Watery Lane and Bridges. See report.
- d. Nine Acres See report.
- e. Quarry Lane and Ticknell. Work needed on skatepark progressing.
- f. Wigwell .See report. Some interesting possibilities.
- g. Gifford Trust. See report from Tanya Stevenson.
- h. School Governor. See report. Some discussion took place re the supply of school meals at half term and children in need of support.
- i. Transport/Station. No report.
- j. Environmental Working Group. Ms Reason and Dr Merry were thanked for the notes on potential work to be funded. Discussion ensued on the proposals and Mr Morgan drew attention to the fact that one of the two signatories to a proposal for £5K funding was the potential recipient, a clear conflict of interest.

The Chairman made it clear that any actions needed to be transparent to prevent wrong assumptions by residents and similar concerns. There was also a need to ensure that financial regulations were followed. Both schemes had merit and it was considered that the EWG should present costed bullet point proposals to cover work to be undertaken without reference to who may do the work (may need to be tendered). Report for Finance Committee to consider on 18th November.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9-05p.m.

Signed
Chairman