

CHILMARK PARISH COUNCIL
www.southwilts.com/site/chilmarkparishcouncil/
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 6 MARCH 2024 IN THE
READING ROOM**

Sir Richard Packer – Chair
Bev Small – Vice Chair
Sir Raymond Jack - Cllr
Carl Jacobs - Cllr
Johan Denekamp – Cllr
Morag Philpott – Cllr
Peter Young - Cllr
Sofya Samokhina - PC Clerk

In attendance:

Bridget Wayman – Wiltshire Councillor
Olivia von Halle, Chair, Claybush Playground Committee
Mungo Melvin, Chair, Forbes Field Management Group (FFMG)
Martyn Simpson – BDWP

Becky Lee, Darren Lee, Roy Trigwell, Alison Whipp-Long, Stephen Fisher, Shelley Fisher, Gill Hibberd, Neil Pattenden, Felicity Pattenden, Sarah Miller, Brennan Eldridge, Julia Sainsbury, Mark Gullidge, Heidi McCormack, Christine Oswell, Lesley Denekamp, Gloria Harvey, Rachel Harvey

1. **Apologies/welcome** – The Chair Cllr RP welcomed all to the meeting and mentioned that the council was going to have a private meeting at the end.
No Apologies.
2. **PUBLIC FORUM** – Cllr RP invited anyone to speak. MM requested to speak to the school and advise school parents to follow one way system otherwise there is chaos with cars going in different directions. Cllr RP asked Clerk to action.
3. **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr MP declared an interest in School/ Playground fencing as MP is married to a Chilmark School Governor.
Cllrs RP, JD and PY declared an interest in Planning Case PL/2024/02021, they being members of the Parochial Church Council.
4. **Minutes** of Parish Council Meeting held on 10 January 2024. Approved unanimously without amendments and no Matters Arising.
5. **Wiltshire Councillor Bridget Wayman's Report**
WC Cllr BW outlined the topics touched at the Area Board mtg of 28th February. 4.99% increase in CT was agreed. WC is in a good position financially putting £10mln extra into highways maintenance as there is a lot of damage to the roads and will take some time to get back to a decent state.
Planning permission for the development in Hindon which included a new doctors' surgery was approved in April 2023, subject to a S106 Agreement being completed. At that time, the development was covered by an interim agreement on phosphate discharges, but because a new charging system was introduced in cabinet on 6th February (with the charge rate to be ratified at full Council on 22nd February), officers refused to complete the S106 Agreement at the end of January. The developer will now have to pay a very large bill for phosphate credits or redesign the scheme to include phosphate mitigation. Redesign would require an amendment to the planning consent and take some months. Paying the large bill could jeopardise the viability of the scheme. Either solution could jeopardise the provision of the new doctors' surgery, used by many Chilmark residents. In protest at this, Cllr Wayman declined to vote in support of the Budget because of these new charges being brought in.

BW also mentioned Easter FUEL Programme for young people in need. Booking will remain open until 27th March.

6. Black Dog Working Party update

Martyn Simpson provided a brief update on behalf of the BDWP: the offer was made to Bob Jones but was not accepted. The offer was made to buy the pub and the whole site it occupied. Bob Jones asked for higher figure. BDWP is in a holding position and is monitoring the situation. The Planning Application to fell trees on the site was withdrawn by the applicant as it was not supported by a clear map and evidence of the need to fell of that many trees. The tree officer who went to the site did mention that several trees show signs of ash die back. In order to apply for funding, BDWP need their offer to be accepted. BDWP party were to continue fundraising. Next event will take place in the Reading Room on 16th March – St Patrick's day pub night with Irish music. Everyone welcome!

7. Playing Field Planning Permission update

Cllr RP stated that Adam Smith, Head Teacher at Chilmark school, and SDBE had hoped that they would shortly suggest a way forward, but no such suggestion had yet been received.

8. Claybush Playground Lease update

Olivia von Halle, Chair, Claybush Playground Committee, started by confirming that the meeting between the School Governors, Claybush Playground Committee and the Head Teacher had taken place on 24th January, and it had been decided to work in a constructive partnership to resolve the matter. It had been agreed that SDBE and the school had to check on the legalities and come back to the Playground Committee. So far nothing had been heard.

The Playground Committee is to continue fundraising. Next event is the Duck Race in early April. Cllr BS said that she had been undertaking extensive research in the archives as to the circumstances surrounding the gift of the land to the school and hoped to report on her findings shortly.

9. Frickers Paddock Playground update – Cllr RJ

There had been an inspection of the Frickers Paddock Playground. The report was circulated to all the Parish Councillors. Everything is ok, but it is getting old, which was expected.

Malcolm Roberts had cut down and removed shrubbery. There are two ash trees one of which at least has die-back and will need felling. MR has said it is too large for him so the expense of a professional will be incurred. Cutting the grass at Frickers will be somewhat more expensive as MR is justifiably charging for the playground and other Council-owned land separately.

10. Forbes Field update – Mungo Melvin

Twenty volunteers had planted ten Bird Cherry trees and one Apple tree, together with 85 metres or so of mixed hedging. Forbes Field is now in the final stage which includes installing interpretation panels and notice boards (the first draft of the interpretation panel was presented at the meeting). Next step is to start work on the secondary information panels describing the Orchard and Western Grove, each containing the names of the villagers who had funded specific trees. The School will be invited to provide a suitable sign to mark the planting of the Coronation Grove on 11 December 2023. FFMG have had close conversations with the Forbes family regarding the cairn in memory of Diana Forbes. The Forbes family intend to provide an inscribed plaque and will pay for this and for the labour involved in the construction of the cairn.

There is a plan to have an opening event on Saturday 7th September 2024 to mark the completion of the project, which will include BBQ and drinks. More details to follow. The initial project, as agreed in September 2022, will be completed during this summer. Then it will transition to a maintenance regime. FFMG will report in September on how they are planning to do that, most probably they will need some fundraising.

Cllr RP confirmed PC approval for FFMG's proposals for the interpretation panels and memorial plaque including the siting of the latter in the [South West] corner of the field. It was also said that FFMG discussed with Forbes family the positioning of the memorial cairn and it was agreed that the top corner was where Diana Forbes most enjoyed the view of the village.

Forbes Field Financial update – Cllr JD

Opening Balance on 1st of January was £3,636. Over the period of two months there were 3 substantial transactions: Grant from AONL of £3,026; VAT of £936 and interest earned of £10. There was 1 outgoing of £1,836. This covered the 11 trees planted on 10 February (£1,032), the 85 metres of hedge planting (some 350 whips costing £435), tree pruning at £190 and website hosting fees of £179. Bank balance on 29 February 2024 was £5,772. Another NL FiPL claim for £1,463 was submitted and expected to be paid in the next few weeks. 3 Notice Boards have been quoted for just under £2,000 and that will be covered by the final NL FiPL claim. There will likely be ongoing running costs of approximately £2,000 per annum. In late 2024 there will probably be another round of fund raising with standing order contributions in the order of £100 per household/donor, or £2 per week. Targeting twenty such donors seemed realistic.

11. Finance

Payments and Receipts Statement for period 1 January to 29 February 2024 – Clerk –

Opening Balance on 1st January was £5,981.26. In the two-month period we had 1 Receipt of money (R8) of £99 from Wiltshire Council. Clerk has been in touch with Tina Winfield from Accounts trying to allocate the money. The matter has been raised with Accounts payable, but nothing has been reported so far. Clerk has called accounts payable on many occasions and has had no luck in speaking to them. Clerk will try to get through and understand what this payment was for. We made 9 payments amounting to £1,312.29: previous clerk's expenses (P38) of £26.48; Clerk's salary for January and February (P39 and P43) of £432.00; Village maintenance costs came to £325.60: Frickers Paddock Playground (P46) of £100.00; two DD payments to Grist (P37 and P40) of £67.20 for animal waste collection and (P44) £158.40 for Frickers Paddock playground inspection; RR hire for BDWP of £134.75 (P41) was paid on 5th February. We also paid £393.46 for Waste bin installation in FF (P45). Cllr MP pointed out to Clerk that £393.46 is to be reimbursed by FFMG. The PC, however, agreed to pay for its emptying. Closing Balance on 29th February was £4,767.97.

12. Planning Procedures & Applications - Cllr Bev Small

Applications determined or progress since last meeting

PL/2023/04332 & 04333 Ham Cross & Engine Shed, Chilmark Estates - Retrospective planning application

Parish Council position: Objection

Consultation Deadline 21/11/2023

Wiltshire Council position: Approved with Conditions. Decision date 30.01.24.

PL/2023/09616 Chilmark & Fonthill Bishop Primary School - Replacement of fencing

Parish Council position: No Objection with comment

Wiltshire Council position: Approved with Conditions. Decision date 09.01.24

PL/2023/10053 Brazier Cottage - Tree works in a Conservation Area

Parish Council position: No Objection

Wiltshire Council position: Approved. Decision date 08.01.24

PL/2024/00797 WINTERBOURNE HOUSE, THE STREET - Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area

Parish Council Position: No Objection

Wiltshire Council position: Approved. Decision date 26.02.24

PL/2023/10702 Barn at Bevisfield, Cow Drive - Lawful development: Existing use

Parish Council Position: Objection.

Wiltshire Council Decision Deadline: 07/03/24

The PC objected as the applicant has not been able to clearly demonstrate that the three buildings have been in continuous, uninterrupted use for the last 10 years for the purposes incidental to the enjoyment of the adjacent residential property. There were a number of other objections from the villagers. The deadline for decision has been extended as the case planning officer is busy and is aware of sensitivities.

PL/2023/11191 BLACK DOG INN, SALISBURY ROAD - Consent under Tree Preservation Orders

Parish Council Position: Objection

Application withdrawn by the Applicant.

20 letters of objection were very helpful to the officer. There will probably be a new inspection this summer as several trees show signs of ash die back.

PL/2024/00419 Bevisfield, Cow Drove - Vary Condition No 3 on PL/2022/00888 - to add an additional Dormer window

Parish Council Position: No Objection

Wiltshire Council Decision Deadline: 12/03/24

Original plans are thorough. Does not overlook neighbours.

PL/2024/00466 Manor Farm, Chilmark - to allow for external changes to the building and works within the surrounding application site -Removal/variation of conditions

Parish Council Position: No Objection

Wiltshire Council position: Approved. Decision date 27.02.24

Ongoing project, continuation of application. Seems in order.

PL/2023/10721 Pasture Land North of Stockley Wood, Stockley Wood, Ridge - Works to create a wetland habitat for biodiversity and environmental benefit. Application type: Full planning permission

Parish Council Position: No Objection

Wiltshire Council Decision Deadline: 23/04/24

Cllr CJ who is flood warden has looked at it and he felt that it was a very thorough application the results of which potentially will help to reduce flooding.

Cllr RJ noted that this was a rather remarkable scheme to manage the water flowing down the valley running between Ridge and the Chilmark/ Tisbury Road with 6 ponds and associated bunds and ditches. The residents affected had looked at it carefully. It should improve the drainage down Mill Lane and Frickers Lane, which become rivers with heavy rainfall with road damage. It should improve biodiversity. There will be no public access.

PL/2024/02021 St Margaret of Antioch, Barberry, Chilmark SP3 5AR - Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area

Parish Council Position: No Objection

Consultation Deadline: 18/03/24

PL/2024/01717 Angoni, Frog Lane, Chilmark, Salisbury, SP3 5BB - Rear and side extension to existing bungalow, minor alterations to porch and replacing existing porch roof with sloped roof

Parish Council Position: No Objection

Consultation Deadline: 26/03/24

Angoni was re-named to Lillypad. Thorough application for a tired building.

13. Barn Hill Parking - Rachel Harvey

Rachel Harvey who lives in Barn Hill started by saying that parking situation in Barn Hill was awful and the situation had been going on for years. There is not enough parking space for the residents. There are elderly people living there and if they have visitors, those do not have access to any parking spaces.

After a substantial discussion it was agreed that the situation needs to be investigated as there are potentially few places where parking could be created: part of the drive where the sign says Private Road; unadopted bit of the road need to be brought to the attention of Highways department of Wiltshire Council. Another issue of potholes was brought to the attention of PC. Cllr CJ advised that even if a road is not adopted by WC, the potholes still can be reported via MyWilts App and the problem will be dealt with. It was agreed that it might be easier to make progress on the parking problems when Wiltshire Council has adopted the road.

14. Wessex Internet in Chilmark update – Mungo Melvin

MM had been in touch with Josh Goodchild, Community Engagement Manager Wessex Internet, requesting an update. JG confirmed that Phase 2 of the project was completed with provision of potential services to 108 properties in the village. Wessex Internet are in Phase 3 to provide internet to the final 35 properties in the north of Chilmark, around Park Drive and the eastern half of Cow Drove.

He also mentioned that they are looking for new orders and registrations so that they could implement another push. So far there are 42 active accounts, making it 26% which is their minimum.

15. Chilmark War Memorial Restoration – Cllr Peter Young

It was reported to PC by PCC that War Memorial in the Church grounds was in a poor state and in need of remedial work. It is Grade II listed. A specialist restorer is being contacted and will be invited to the site for an estimate. PCC will then report.

Action for Clerk: Keep this item in the Agenda for the next PC meeting.

16. Bin emptying contract update – Cllr MP

There is 1 bin for animal waste in the village in Lower Mooray (gets emptied twice a month) and 1 for general waste opposite the Black Dog (gets emptied once a month). A 3rd bin has arrived and will be erected near the entrance to Forbes Field at FFMG's cost; the PC would pay for emptying once a month.

The bin which is in Lower Mooray often fills quickly as it seems to be too small. After a discussion on whether PC should get a larger bin, it was decided to keep the small one for now and return to the issue at a later date.

17. Flood Prevention update – Cllr CJ

Cllr CJ started with saying that it had been rather busy.

Fonthill groundwater level is updated daily. Environmental agency predicts flood alerts looking at Groundwater Level at Fonthill. If it goes up, then we get informed.

Maintenance work has been very beneficial, the flood equipment has given us resilience. The main problem now is not properties in danger of getting flooded but the sewers getting filled with flood water and coming to the Street. Wessex water come out promptly when called out. They are supposed to do a survey of Chilmark sewage system. It is not a simple matter as a lot of the system is in privately owned land and getting access there is difficult.

There was a suggestion to get warning signs to make people aware of the sewage water being on the Street. Cllr CJ agreed to investigate and to report back.

18. Traffic Survey Results (Fovant Road and Tisbury Road) – Cllr PY

PC received the results of the two traffic surveys which were carried out on Tisbury Road and Fovant Road. The results show that on both sites where the survey was carried out with the speed Limit of 60mph, speeds are very low with Tisbury Road at 34mph and Fovant Road at 24mph. WC are most likely to close the matter.

19. LHFIG meeting 7th February 2024 – Cllr MP

Cllr MP stated that this meeting was already covered in Village Voice.

20. Preparation for usability testing sessions for the Wiltshire and Swindon Local Nature Recovery Strategy 20th February 2024– Cllr BS

This is a system which is in construction stage. The meeting was more of a discussion forum. The app is a long way from being fit for purpose with a plan on unveiling in December. It will have data and maps in downloadable format detailing Farmland, rivers etc. unfortunately, planning and neighbourhood planning were not covered at the meeting.

21. Neighbourhood Plan/ Village design statement for Chilmark/ The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – Cllr JD

JD started by saying that he would recommend and support new housing in Chilmark. There is a grant available if the village had a neighbourhood plan. It was said that the topic is big and interesting and had already been discussed 10-20 years ago with 85 people voting against the plan. It was also stated that Chilmark is too small to have a neighbourhood plan. It was suggested to look into Village Design Statement as it could potentially be useful.

22. Area Board mtg, Wednesday 28 February 7-9pm (Wilton Community Centre, West Street, Wilton, SP2 0DG) – Cllr CJ

The issues discussed at the Area Board mtg were already covered by WC Cllr Bridget Wayman at the beginning of the meeting.

23. Future SW Wilts Meeting Dates / Attendance

- LHFIG meeting is on the 8th May 2024 – Cllr RP
- Area Board Meeting - Wednesday 29 May 2024, 6.30 pm – Cllr MP

24. Village Voice Items

Bridget Wayman's report on Phosphorous Credit charges

BDWP Update

Playing Field planning permission (if any progress)

Claybush Playground (if any progress)

Forbes Field Report

Planning Applications

Barnhill Parking

Potholes reporting on MyWilts App

Wessex Internet

Chilmark War Memorial

Bins

Flood Prevention/ sewage issues

Traffic Survey Results

25. Annual Assembly / next PC meeting – 8th May 2024, 7pm.