

**CHILMARK PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 6 November 2024, 7pm**  
**Chilmark Reading Room**

Members Present:

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

In attendance:

Bridget Wayman – Wiltshire Councillor  
J R Trigwell, J Perou, A Pettigrew, M Campbell, B Eldridge, J Middleton, J Moore, S Butcher, C Downard, B Downard, C Eden, A Taylor, B Lee, G Miller, S Miller, K Brown.

1. Apologies/welcome - The Chair Cllr RP welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies had been received from Cllr Carl Jacobs.
2. Public Forum –The Chairman said that on the Claybush Playing Field/Playground (see also items 6 and 7 below) he had that week received a new proposal from the Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education (SDBE). They now offered, subject to Charity Commission approval, to transfer the ownership of the land to the PC without charge, though there might still be significant financial implications for the PC from legal charges and other costs. SDBE's communication made no mention of the fence, which was in serious disrepair, and suggested the school should, after transfer, be able to use the field without charge. SDBE had also forwarded a draft legal instrument designed to effect the transfer in the terms described in their letter. The proposal represented a significant step forward in the direction desired by the PC, though careful analysis of the precise terms and implications were needed. The thrust of public comment was to welcome the proposal warmly.

On Speeding on the B3089 (see also para 12 below) Cllr BS outlined the possible actions that the PC could take to improve the situation and their respective advantages and disadvantages following the research that she and Cllr PY had undertaken. Her points are now included in the note annexed to these minutes.'

3. Declarations of Interest – none.
4. Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 18 September 2024 - Approved without amendment and no matters arising.
5. Wiltshire Councillor Bridget Wayman's Report

Cllr BW spoke about the Flood Working Group. The Ground level of water was extremely high and the village should keep an eye on it. She reminded all that the clearing of gullies should be reported via My Wilts app.

Cllr BW also spoke about the speed concern on Salisbury Road. Cllr BS thanked her for helping in this matter. She also mentioned that Paul Shaddock was aware of the parking situation in Barn Hill and was planning a visit on 13 November.

The Area Board Meeting was mentioned. She expressed concern with the new Budget coming out and how it was going to affect the local businesses with the National Insurance contributions rising. She spoke about Area Board Grants and how they help local communities, such as Techie tea parties and Grants to Peer support cafes for unpaid carers in Mere, Tisbury and Broadchalke.

6. Claybush Playing Field update – Cllr RP informed the present that a new proposal from SDBE had been received which involved a lot of legal terminology and had to be looked at very carefully. It was agreed the Chairman should seek an early meeting with the Playground Committee to push matters forward in the light of the developments outlined in para 2 above. It was noted that Cllr RJ was continuing with his investigations into the legal merits of the draft legal instrument they (SDBE) had suggested.
7. Claybush Playground Lease update – It was recognised that one matter that would need to be determined was whether the Playground Committee would need a lease, assuming the transfer of ownership to the PC went ahead.
8. Black Dog update – To open on 1 December. Everyone is welcome!
9. Finance (Clerk):
  - a. To receive Payments & Receipts statement for period 1 September to 31 October 2024. Opening Balance on 1 September 2024 was £5594.68. In this period we received the second installment of the Precept of £5500.  
PC made 8 payments:  
2 Payments for PC Clerks salary amounting to £486.00.  
2 Payments for grass cutting amounting to £230.  
2 Payments for bin emptying in the village of £60.48.  
We made a donation of £200 to Seeds4Success and paid for External audit £252.00.  
Closing balance on the Treasurer's account on 31 October was £9866.20.  
Millenium cross account's balance on 31 October was £1304.86.
  - b. Proposed Budget for 2024/2025 – The Clerk presented the Cllrs with a proposed budget for financial year 2025/2026. Cllrs JD had sent information to the Cllrs showing the trends of Precept increase in surrounding villages. After a long discussion it was agreed that the precept for next year had to be increased considering the amount of expenditure expected (Speed Indicator device on Salisbury Road, War memorial restoration, Elections in May, potential legal costs for Playing field transfer, maintenance of the playing field etc.). The Chairman suggested he would reflect on the best way to alert the village to the scale of the increase needed and its justification before the next PC meeting, when decisions would be required. He might seek help from VV.
10. Planning Procedures & Applications

Applications determined since last meeting:  
**None**

Applications in progress:  
**None**
11. Chilmark War Memorial Restoration update – Cllr RP received a note from Grant Philpott about the restoration plans and the fundraising. PCC account was to be used for Donations. Cllrs agreed unanimously that the plan was satisfactory.
12. The provisional view among councillors was that the installation of a speed device, probably in the Eastern section of the road, was the best option if it could be afforded. It was noted that the possibility of private funding should not be ruled out, though management of the device would need to be controlled by the PC. The essential first step in all possible traffic measures is the Traffic Survey (previously known as a metro count) and this has been booked.
  - a) Salisbury Road, Chilmark Milestone update – the restoration was in progress and was going to be done in due course.
13. Barn Hill Parking - Nothing more to add. Cllr BW and Paul Shaddock to visit the site.
14. Frickers Paddock playground – Cllr PY – the piece of land and the hedge adjacent to Crissy Eden's garden in

fact did belong to the PC. Cllr PY was to arrange for the grass and hedge cutting. Cherry tree which was of concern had been looked at and it was decided to leave it as it was for now. It was agreed by the Cllrs that a new bank account had to be open for the Frickers Paddock Sinking fund. – **Clerk**.

15. Village Website – It was agreed that the website planning process should begin in Summer-Autumn of the next year.

16. Date of next PC meeting 8 Jan 2025. **Clerk** to send the list of dates.