

CHOLESBURY-CUM-ST LEONARDS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at Cholesbury Village Hall
on Monday 25th January 2010 at 8 p.m.

Present: Cllrs Brown (Chairman), Allen (part), Coates, Horn, and Matthews.

Also present: Mr Clarke (Clerk), District Cllr Rose, County Cllr Birchley and eight members of the public.

708) Apologies for absence

Cllrs Blomfield and Sanger.

709) Approval of Minutes.

Minutes of meetings of the Council held on 23rd November 2009 and of the Planning Committee on 21st December 2009 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

710) Declarations of Interest

Cllr Allen, as a trustee of the Hawridge and Cholesbury Church of England School Trust, declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 8.1 and joined members of the public for this debate.

711) Questions from members of the public.

Cllr Allen, speaking from the public area, explained the background of the Hawridge and Cholesbury Church of England School Trust and how it had arrived at a decision to request change of use of the old school house to residential. District Cllr Rose noted that he had referred this application (1792 & 3) to the Planning Committee of Chiltern District Council. Mrs Griffin, representing The Hawridge and Cholesbury Commons Preservation Society, said the Society approved the application in principle but had concerns about possible adverse effects on traffic congestion and children's safety. Mr & Mrs Henbury expressed concern over removal of a walk-way used by children entering the school which would increase congestion. Mrs Barnard, a School Governor, said the Governors are aware of traffic problems and will continue to investigate possible improvements. Cllr Rose encouraged members of the public to write to the Planning Committee expressing their views.

County Cllr Birchley explained how the County gritting teams had worked round the clock to keep the roads open during recent icy conditions. Lessons had been learned and there is a need to keep at least one hill open at all times to enable urgent journeys to take place. The County Council has allocated an additional £2M to deal with potholes.

Cllr Allen left the meeting at this point.

712) Planning. In view of public interest in agenda item 8.1 the Chairman brought this item forward.

a) Applications

- i) **1792.** Hawridge and Cholesbury Church of England School House. **The Parish Council raises no objections to change of use from School house and buildings to a dwelling. It considers that there are already adequate community facilities in the Parish of sufficient variety to meet the needs of residents and local organisations and the conversion of the property to a private dwelling would not diminish this.**

The Parish Council does wish to draw the attention of the Planning Committee to the concerns brought to their attention by members of the public regarding the potential impact of closing the current pedestrian access to the main school buildings which traverses this property. In short, parishioners are concerned that there will be an increase in school traffic congestion around the school vehicle access and more pedestrians using the only other school access point in regular use. Whilst the Planning Committee may consider this issue is itself not a material matter in relation to the application we feel this needs to be factored into the Planning Committee's deliberations.

- ii) **1793.** Hawridge and Cholesbury Church of England School House. **The Parish Council has no additional comments to make on the proposed alterations to the property to those expressed under application 1792 except to recognise that there are concerns that conversion to a**

single dwelling might affect the number of cars parking outside adjoining properties and we ask the District Council to take this into account.

iii) Applications 1907/8. The Old Manor House, Cholesbury Lane. **No objections.**

b) Decisions.

1763. Oak Lane. Permitted.

1621. Three Gates Farm. Withdrawn.

c) Appeals

None.

713) Reports.

a) Local Area Forum. Cllr Brown said that a system of voting for LAFs is still unresolved but is likely to be the “Amersham” model, one vote per Council. Our LAF is now known as “Chesham and surrounding villages”. It was agreed that proposals for village entry signs should be accepted in order to get them installed as soon as possible. **Cllr Brown will advise Shaun Pope and point out the Council’s preferred locations for the signs.**

b) NAGs. Cllr Coates said that speed checks have been postponed due to bad weather. A new PCSO, Andy Piotrowski will shortly replace PCSO Lesley Roche.

c) Cholesbury Camp. It was agreed that this Council is not interested in taking primary responsibility for Cholesbury Camp.

d) List of current water leaks, Cllr Allen. **Cllr Allen will be asked to supply a current list to the Clerk.**

e) Local Transport Plan, Cllr Brown. Deferred to next meeting.

714) Finance.

a) The Clerk’s financial statements were received.

b) The following payments were authorised:

Cholesbury Village Hall – pantomime meeting. £12.00.

Cholesbury Village Hall, Council meetings. £24.00.

J Hyland – Poster printing for pantomime. £49.77.

J Allen – Fliers for pantomime. £83.14.

Chiltern District Council – installation of dog bin. £289.40.

Clerk’s SLCC/ILCM membership (50%). £92.50.

c) A subscription request from Buckinghamshire Playing Fields was noted.

715) Parish Council 75th Anniversary.

Pantomime. Cllr Coates said that the pantomime is on schedule and tickets are selling well. Fliers will be distributed with Hilltop News. A small profit is expected.

716) Footpaths and Highways.

a) Naming of roads. A letter had been received from Mr Farmer of Hillside, Sandpit Hill, expressing concern that Sandpit Hill would no longer exist under the proposals. Cllr Brown said that the Royal Mail Postcode Directory is wrong and Sandpit Hill does not exist as a road name. There would therefore be no change to the existing address of Cholesbury Lane. **Chiltern District Council will be asked to change the name of the road between Rays Hill and Church Lane to “Hawridge Common” and between Church Lane and Nuthazel Cross to “Hawridge Hill”, both as previously recommended in 1936.**

b) Potholes. **A list of potholes requiring urgent repair was compiled and will be submitted to Highways for urgent action.**

c) Road gangs. **The following items will be submitted to Highways for road gang attention.**

Drainage outside Red Barn.

Footpath from St Leonards Parish Hall to the Church.

Sign at Nuthazel Cross pushed into hedge.

d) **The broken road sign at the bottom of Gilberts Hill will be reported to Chiltern District Council.**

e) Buckland Common. It was noted that work has started on improvements to the area outside the post box.

f) Schedule of Works. Deferred to next meeting.

717) Springal Hill Allotments.

It was noted one invoice is outstanding despite two reminders. **The Clerk was instructed to give notice of termination if necessary. The same tenant has still not cleared the area close to the new hedge despite a written request and a further reminder will be issued.**

The meeting closed at 10.05 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....

Date of next meeting: Monday 22nd February 2010 at St Leonards Parish Hall.