

Churt Parish Council
Clerk to the Council
Mrs Dawn Barrow

**Minutes of the meeting of Churt Parish Council
held on Wednesday 28 July 2021
at 7.30 pm in the Churt pavilion.**

Present

Churt Councillors: David Crossley (Chair), Myra Johnson, Roger Rowe, Lisa Martin,
Dominic Raeside

Surrey County Council: Cllr Harmer
Waverley Borough Council: Cllr Adams
Clerk to the Council: Dawn Barrow
Members of the Public: 1 (Richard Bourne)

21/72 Chairman's welcome

Cllr Crossley welcomed all to the meeting and invited Cllr Johnson to summarise what CHEWG has been up to as an introduction to Steve Williams' talk.

Established in Feb 2020 as a working group. Initiatives have been launched to help people connect to nature thus leading to protection of the environment. Charter for Churt launched in Nov 2020 with 2 main items. 1) What we do as a PC and how we make decisions? Focus on planning issues, electric vehicle chargers, management of Pond Lane, community orchard etc
2) How we engage the community to enhance biodiversity and reduce household carbon emissions.

There are now 2 websites and other social media platforms. Website lists partnerships, carbon footprint calculator and the digitised version of Michael Stenning's 10 Walks around Churt. 40 new year ideas requested to reduce carbon footprint, No Mow May, Earth Day and plant a tree for the jubilee next year.

Main topics recently addressed cover EV chargers, dark skies, planning, air quality, biodiversity.

21/73 Presentation by Steve Williams WBC

Steve opened by saying how impressed he was with the 2 websites and Cllr Johnson's commitment to the environment.

WBC are looking at ways they can lead communities to adopt measures to reduce their carbon footprint? How can this be enabled, encouraged, supported and delivered? We are all on a learning curve to get priorities right.

'Take the Jump' campaign has a website showing how communities can begin to change their habits and WBC are supporting local initiatives who in turn are supporting this campaign.

1) EV chargers - Delma Bryant is working with parishes and councils. WBC have installed EV chargers in their main town car parks. Need to be able to connect to electricity and require a reasonable turnover of visitors. WBC are ensuring EV chargers are available to people who don't have their own driveways. Width of pavement and existing parking regulations are an issue in some cases. Kent CC have a scheme whereby any profit made from EV chargers goes back into the community.

2) Cycle and pedestrian network - WBC want to deliver a 'green way' network across the Borough. Need to work with other bodies and SCC as the highways authority. Tom Lancaster has been appointed as the new sustainable and active transport officer in charge of bringing all these bodies together.

3) Planning - CC1 and CC2 of the Local Plan include requirements for environmental consideration in relation to planning issues. Looks at the balance of power of developers v power of councils. Currently in favour of developers. Neighbourhood plans can also influence this aspect. Should we work in conjunction with Frensham PC to draw one up?

4) Air quality- WBC have powers to impose environmental regulations regarding bonfires, woodburning stoves and open fires and have produced a video about air quality. Matt Lank at WBC manages heathland sites in conjunction with fire services.

5) Dark skies - seen as a key issue but WBC have not looked into it much yet. Developing a policy **and have asked for some input from Churt PC and CHEWG.**

6) Environmental stewardship- trees and hedgerows all come under Matt Lank's green spaces team. Now have a pesticide policy and one for rewilding.

SCC and WBC have similar policies and strategies but their targets differ. SCC are leading on and paying for a number of projects to do with tree cover consultancy. WBC have submitted bids for government funding to help with decarbonising houses and are now building 100% sustainable social housing. Are looking into retrofitting existing properties.

Cllr Crossley thanked Steve for his presentation and mentioned the overgrown pavement alongside the A287. WBC have a contract with Continental Landscapes and will ask them to clear it. Clerk mentioned the bus stop near Hop House, WBC responsible for its upkeep (Matt Lank). Cllr Martin mentioned that we do not always have all the information when assessing planning applications but want to consider any environmental impact. Steve Williams suggested she speak to each individual planning officer although many only work part time. Zak Ellwood and his team are developing a check list for planning officers and councils.

Cllr Harmer was invited to speak. SW Trains have notified us of the reduced number of services. During the pandemic fewer trains ran but with greater efficiency and reliability. Where vegetation has grown across the highway we need to contact Steve Lindsay-Clark at SCC. Blue Heart Scheme - cut back one foot to ensure sight lines are maintained. Cllr Johnson said the zebra crossing has been resurfaced but the level of the road has not been improved leading to flooding. Chairman of school governors to write to SCC's chair of the Road Safety Team.

21/74 Apologies for absence

Apologies were given from Cllrs Potts (WBC), Law, Shorthose, Burch and Petty.

21/75 Disclosure of Pecuniary and other Interests

None

21/76 Minutes of the meeting of 16 June 2021

The Minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2021 were **AGREED** by all. **Proposed** by Cllr Johnson, **seconded** by Cllr Rowe.

21/77 Report of the Clerk to the Council

- 1) Works at Green Cross Farm blocked the culvert on Green Lane leading to serious flooding.
- 2) One of the parking posts outside shop damaged by car.
- 3) Zebra crossing approach has been resurfaced.

21/78.1 Community and Environment

21/78.1.1 Report from Environment Working Group (MJ)

There have been recent CHEWG and inter parish environment meetings. Thursley PC reported they have now raised the funds to replace the boardwalk destroyed by fire. Cllr Johnson will meet the Surrey Wildlife Trust on 10 August at Pond Lane to carry out a survey which will form the basis of a management plan going forwards. Cllr Harmer asked if he could attend too.

Cllr Crossley advised we have applied for a grant from WBC's 'Welcome Back Fund' to pay the survey costs and are 99% likely to receive it.

21/78.1.2 Village centre portfolio (RR)

Nothing to report.

21/78.1.3 Crime and Disorder (DR)

Nothing to report other than Cllr Raeside had spoken to Police Inspector Sam Adcock who was amenable to meeting up.

21/78.2 Roads and Transport

21/78.2.1 Jumps Road Parking and Sculpture Park

Planning appeal relating to the Sculpture Park has been postponed until Nov and will likely take 2/3 days. Richard Bourne advised we have until the end of July to put in submissions. The car park of the Bel and Dragon is full of people visiting the Sculpture Park.

21/78.2.2 Cycling and pedestrian matters

Nothing to report.

21/79 Financial Matters

21/79.1 Payments for authorisation - June 2021

June accounts **Proposed** by Cllr Rowe , **seconded** by Cllr Raeside and **AGREED** by all.
Appendix 2 - Payments for June 2021 - circulated

21/79.2 Budget Update and Income report - June 2021

Noted and agreed.

Appendix 3 - Expenditure v Budget - circulated

21/79.3 Individual monthly costs exceeding £500 for June 2021

1 June - £1171.68 - Dawn Barrow, Clerk's salary May
21 June £2038.74 - PWLB, loan repayment
21 June £799 - Amazon, 3D video camera for pavilion
28 June £823.89 - HMRC, employer's tax and NI
28 June £1171.68 - Dawn Barrow, Clerk's salary June

**21/80 -To note and comment on current planning applications
Report circulated in advance of meeting by Cllr Martin.**

WA/2021/01556 Bottom Barn, Green Cross Farm, 3 neighbourhood objections, accessed via 1 driveway. Stuart Turner is now buying part of the bottom barn from the original owners of the property.

WA/2021/01468 Silverbeck Lodge - no comment.

WA/2021/01395 Lanvean - small extension but this now takes the additional development up to 44.3%. Neither object nor support.

WA/2021/01385 Little Corries- rear and side plus basement extension, unclear as to additional square footage involved.

Cllr Harmer advised that parish councils should make comment on applications that are not in keeping with the village scene.

Cllr Adams advised that A'sONB are now statutory bodies and dark skies should be considered by planners.

21/81 Pond Lane and environment survey

As above see 21/78.1.1

21/82 'Party in the Park' 11 September 2021

Cllr Johnson has asked for a table to the rear of the village hall near the CHAPS event for the CHEWG 'Plant a tree for the Jubilee' initiative.

21/83 Litter Pick

Date set for morning of 10 October. Clerk to advertise via usual social media channels.

Other matters

'Frensham Retreat' going ahead at Symondstone. SCAG have written to EHDC, the EA and are liaising closely with Frensham PC.

Cllrs Harmer, Adams and Richard Bourne left the meeting.

There being no other business the meeting of the Churt Parish Council closed at 9.35pm. There then followed a virtual meeting of the Churt Recreation Ground Trust (See separate Minutes).

.....
Signed:
Chairman

Date:

The next meetings of the Churt Parish Council and Churt Recreation Ground Trust will be held on **Wednesday 15 September 2021 at 7.30pm in the Churt pavilion.**