

CANDOVERS PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date: Wednesday 13th November 2013. **Time:** 7:00pm

Venue: The Old Post Office, 31 Brown Candover

Present: Sue Marriott Vice-Chairman
Edwina Curtis-Hayward
Adam Willmott
Di Peisley
Wendy Simson Clerk
PC Andy Reid
Sergt. 2079 Shaun Stinson, Whitchurch Beat Sergeant

Apologise: Jonathan Moseley Chairman

712 Apologies

The Chairman sent his apologies for the meeting and confirmed that the Vice Chair would be able to attend and head up the meeting. The meeting was held at The Old Post Office, 31 Brown Candover as the Candover Valley Club hosts the beavers, cubs and scouts on a Wednesday evening and uses both halls.

713 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes for the last meeting held on 10th September were reviewed and agreed by the Council as an accurate record. The Vice Chair signed both to confirm this.

714 Police Update

PC Reid explained that a few instances which had required his attention since the last meeting, these were:-

- 27/10 – a domestic related assault near the Woolpack Inn, Totford resulting in an arrest
- 28/10 – a tree was blown down during the storms across the B3046 at the end of Grave Close
- 29/10 – a suspicious car seen at Mulberry Cottage without its lights on.
- There was criminal damage reported in Chilton Candover.

PC Reid had brought his Sergeant to the meeting to see the work he carries out. The Council asked about the broader picture in Hampshire and the Polices thoughts about these. PC Reid explained that there were a number of trends across the County but holistically crimes were down by 3,500 compared with 2012. The reason for this was that 80% of crimes were committed by about 20% of criminal and the numbers being imprisoned were increasing which meant that they were no longer free to commit the crimes.

PC Reid explained that the main issues effecting rural communities such as the Candover Valley were still activity such as hare coursing and non-dwelling burglaries. There is a central

team who work with Eastern European Countries to collect intelligence about gangs travelling to the UK who are known to steal farm machinery and a high percentage are now intercepted before they get to the ports.

The Vice Chairman expressed to Sergeant Stinson what an excellent job PC Reid does within the community and how valued he is. Sergeant Stinson explained that he had received this feedback from all of PC Reid's area and whilst he could not guarantee that there would not be change to policing practise in the area, that there was no plan to remove the rural officers from these areas.

715 **Matters Arising**

Rural Walks – The Vice Chair and Clerk have not yet managed to arrange to meet and talk through the various walks in the valley. The Clerk had collected some maps of the local area to help map out the walks and would try to get the initial stages of this project completed for the next meeting.

Action: Clerk to report at next meeting

Local Plan – The Clerk reported that having spoken to HALC that there were no similar plans for areas like Brown & Chilton Candover on file currently. The Clerk had not asked if being in a conservation area meant that a plan would not be required as the Council agreed that the most important issue for the Parish was that of development.

Action: Clerk to speak to HALC about being in a conservation area.

Website Training – The Clerk reported that at the meeting of Preston Candover & Nutley Parish Council on Monday 21st October that the Chairman had explained that due to the difficulties with getting a training session organised, he had met with the website designer and had some training. He was then to pass this information on to the Preston Candover & Nutley representative along with Councillor Peisley from Candovers Parish Council. Councillor Peisley explained that she had not had any training to date and so had not been able to update the website.

The Council felt that this was becoming an issue with the site and that it may be that a new provider would need to be found and therefore further money allocated to design. The Council felt that the situation needed to be resolved quickly to ensure the current website be saved as if it became obsolete that it would be very difficult to get the community to start using it again.

Action: Clerk to rise at Preston Candover & Nutley meeting on 18th November to try to move forward.

Moth House Roadway – The Clerk had reported that the residents at Moth House had created a roadway across their paddock without planning permission to Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council. The Borough Council had been made aware of this situation and was investigating. It had also been brought to a member of the Parish Council's attention that the buildings which had been converted to a gym and office were being used as dwellings. It was agreed by the Parish Council that this must be brought to the Borough Council's attention as well.

Action: Clerk to speak to Basingstoke & Deane and breaches to planning rules.

Emptying swimming pool into Candover Stream – Following the last Parish Council meeting the Clerk did report this to the Environment Agency (EA) and had an immediate response. The Clerk explained that having logged the issue with the EA website that a call was received

to ask if this was currently happening, the Clerk reported that it had happened about a week previous. The EA explained that if swimming pool water was allowed to sit for a period of days without chlorine being added that it could be pumped into the ground but only with the land-owners permission. The EA explained that they would liaise with Basingstoke & Deane and contact the resident and ensure they were aware of the rules.

Lengths Man role – The Clerk explained that having looked into grants available for this project that they were tied to the Parish Council working as part of a group of 8 to 10 Parishes and that a grant of £1,000 would be given to the lead Parish for administering the project and that each Parish would get up to £1,000 each. Having discussed the project the Parish Council agreed that the work they would want to have carried out was clearing of the Candover Stream and generally tidying verges. It was agreed that the Highways Department and Borough Council did an excellent job to these tasks and that there would be little value in taking them on for the Parish. It was therefore agreed that the Parish Council would not pursue this project any further.

Clearing of Candover Stream – On a related note to the previous point, Councillor Willmott had spoken to Environment Agency and they had been out and strimmed the dry stream bed since the last meeting. The Council thanked Councillor Willmott for this. Councillor Willmott was going to contact the Environment Agency again about clearing from the end of Duck Lane across the water meadows so the water will move through the valley and there will be no blocks.

Councillor Curtis Hayward explained that she would contact the Water Company about getting the same work done through to Totford to ensure water does not back up in the valley.

6 month financial audit – Councillor Curtis Hayward reported that having looked through the accounts after the last Parish Council meeting in September that they were all in order. Councillor Curtis Hayward had emailed round to all the Councillors with her finding and as the audit had been recorded in both the September minutes (prior to audit) and these minutes (with audit findings) that no further action would be required. It was agreed that an interim audit be carried out each year.

716 Financial Statement

The Clerk explained that there were no payments to be made at this meeting but that the remaining 50% of the precept from Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council had been received at £1,500 along with interest on the bank account of £1.29.

The Clerk explained that there were a number of payments which were due including for grass cutting at the bus shelters and the burial ground, along with hedge cutting at both the cricket pitch and burial ground. It was agreed that the Chairman would be asked to chase up these payments before the next meeting. The on-going cost of the website had also not been understood and the Parish Council were unsure if this needed to be factored in due to the issues with the website currently.

The budget for 2014/15 were discussed and grant applications for the Candover Valley Club for £1,000 for projects such as renovating the front bar and a further £300 for the Children's Christmas party had been received. Candover Valley Cricket Club had also applied for £400 for upkeep of the machinery to mow and prepared the pitch for games. The application for St Peter's church and 1st Candover Valley Scout Group had not been received. It was

therefore agreed that the next meeting be planned for 21st January 2014 which was prior to the deadline for getting precept and grants applications to Basingstoke & Deane of 31st January 2014. At this time the Parish should have all invoices received pertaining to 2012/13 and also all grant applications through. The final budget and precept requirements would be agreed and signed off at this meeting.

Action: Clerk to chase grant application from Scout Group

Action: Chairman to chase invoices for grass and hedge cutting

Action: Councillor Curtis Hayward to chase grant application for St Peter's church

717 Candover Valley Club update

Bob Parks attended the meeting and explained that business at the Candover Valley Club was good. The beavers, cubs and scouts having both halls on a Wednesday evening had been a huge boost with lots of people now visiting the Club regularly; however they were in need of additional helpers. The Committee had decided not to hold the Children's Christmas party this year as they wanted to look at some new ideas at the feeling was that it needed a new design. The Club were planning to reinstate the event in 2014.

The plans for renovating the front bar were progressing with a sub-committee meeting to look at plans. There were also initial talks about creating a larger patio/decking area at the front of the club which would extend to the hedge line. Mr Parks explained that this area was heavily used particularly during functions such as weddings.

718 Planning Applications

Gate at Woolpack Inn – the gate which was put in from the additional car park area to the field without planning permission has had permission granted for a smaller bridal gate to replace the full size gate which was installed. Councillor Curtis Hayward reported that to date this had not been changed over but she would keep an eye.

Moth Farm – The plans to convert the derelict dairy building into a shooting lodge have been amended (amended application number 13/01270/FUL) to:-

- Reduce in number and size the proposed roof lights
- Alter the window and door details
- Increase the area of landscaping around the property
- Remove the glazed canopy and reinstate the slate roof.

The Parish Council looked at the plans and agreed to pass without objection.

Action: Clerk to inform Basingstoke & Deane of decision

Yew Tree Cottage – The Parish Council had received a notice that the resident at Yew Tree Cottage intended to have some work done on the trees in the garden. The Parish Council agreed that the trees reduced the amount of light to the cottage and agreed that the work should be carried out.

A34 closure – The Clerk reported that the A34 would be closed over the weekends of 16th and 17th November and 23rd and 24th November for work on a bridge.

32 Brown Candover – Councillor Peisley informed the Parish Council that she was about to put in an application for 32 Brown Candover.

719 Website

Councillor Peisley reported that there had been no updates made to the site due to the lack of training given.

720 General Correspondence

The Clerk had sorted through all the old paperwork sorted at her home and had taken all old minute books and financial records to the records Library at Winchester. The Clerk explained that the planning applications were not able to be put into storage but she had kept the last 3 years of applications along with any controversial applications.

The Clerk explained that while she was sorting through the paperwork she discovered the deeds for the burial ground. It was suggested that these should be stored with Lloyds Bank so they were in a safe fireproof storage area.

Action: Clerk to speak to Lloyds Bank about costs and report to next meeting.

721 Any Other Business

Councillor Willmott raised the adopting of the standing orders which were discussed at the last meeting. It was agreed that the documents were very bureaucratic but as a structure for the meetings was required that the standing orders would be adopted.

Councillor Willmott mentioned the war memorial at St Peter's church and having surveyed the structure felt that there was some work which required attention prior to the 100th Anniversary of the start of WW1. The Clerk had received through some information about grants which were available. Councillor Willmott agreed to investigate and report back so a budget line could be included for 2014/15.

Action: Clerk to send Councillor Willmott grant information.

722 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 21st January 2014 at 7:00pm at the Candover Valley Club front bar.