CHEVERELL MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHEVERELL MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON Monday 10th February 2020 AT THE PAVILION, WITCHCOMBE CLOSE, GREAT CHEVERELL

Minute No.	ltem	Action
143/19	Councillors in Attendance R. Hayward, K. Porter, P. Cadwgan, S. Pearce	
	Cllr. R. Gamble, Wiltshire Council	
144/19	Public in Attendance: 2	
145/19	Apologies for Absence: Cllr. A. Alexander Cllr. N Bland Cllr. B Morillo-Hall Mr T Knight, Erlestoke Prison	
146/19	Open Forum	
	A parishioner advised of their concerns regarding 'overage' legal provision that the Parish Council had required on some dwellings in Witchcombe Close in Great Cheverell. Concern was voiced that this provision appeared to be a strong deterrent to those who wanted to purchase property in the Close. Financial institutions appeared loathe to be prepared to lend monies where such a provision was imposed. The Parishioner asked whether the Council could remove this provision. Cllr. Hayward and the Clerk explained that this provision had been in place for a number of years and had been put in place to ensure that the Parish Council retained a legal interest in any 'enhanced' sale of properties and land. The Council was the custodian of such rights on behalf of the people of the Parish and, should any enhanced sums be realised, the Council would be entitled to collect a proportion of these on behalf of the Parish for the benefit of those living within the Parish. As such, the Council was not in a position to simply remove such a provision. The Clerk asked whether the parishioners' own solicitor had brought this up as a caution for the Parishioner when this property was bought by themselves. The parishioner said not; at that time, there appeared to be no concerns by financial lending institutions. A second Parishioner also expressed similar concerns and said that this provision may cause sales of the dwellings in that Close to become extremely difficult, and maybe impossible, unless there was some movement to ease the provisions. Council repeated that it was not able to remove such a provision but, should the Parishioners' solicitor require some clarification as to Councils intentions, then the solicitor could write to the Clerk who would seek further legal advice on the matter. On another matter; a Parishioner asked whether the Council was able to influence the	Clerk
	farmer behind Witchcombe Close to maintain the land as it had become filled with thistles. These cause a problem as the seeds then blew into gardens and public spaces which caused a hazard. Council advised that it was likely to be the Environment Agency who dealt with such matters.	
147/19	Disclosures of Interest None	

148/19	Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 th January 2020 Agreed unanimously without amendment. Signed off by Cllr. Cadwgan for Public Display.	Clerk
149/19	Report by Cllr. R. Gamble, Wiltshire Council	
	1. Area Board meeting - January 2020 - Cllr. Gamble advised that the meeting had covered the Climate Emergency and that there would be a further meeting in March to which a number of interested Groups would be invited.	
	2. Cabinet Meeting - he advised that the Cabinet had met to agree the Council Tax increase. Wiltshire Council was likely to increase the Tax by 1.9% although this had not been finalised. Wiltshire Council was getting no additional funding from the Government and was therefore having to fund all expenditure themselves directly from Council Tax monies raised. Social Care (adult and child care) as a single item accounted for 70% of all spending with everything else having to fit within the other 30%. Additionally, Government required the Council to pass over 70% of all Business Rates collected with only 30% of this being retained by Wiltshire Council. Cllr. Gamble said it was a slightly less tight financial environment than previously but the sums that could be raised still represented a smaller amount than was needed for the Council to deal with all its' responsibilities.	
	3. Local Plan - this was being reviewed up to the year 2036. In addition to future housing provision, transport issues would also be looked at. Consultation would happen over the next couple of years.	
	Council <i>noted</i> Cllr. Gambles' report.	
150/19	Wiltshire Police The Police Report was not received in time to be distributed with Council papers and would therefore be distributed at the March meeting for consideration and comment.	
151/19	Clerk's Report	
	 Correction on minutes: The Clerk determined that there was minor error in the numbering of the Minutes for the Council meeting 2nd December. This related to the final version of the Budget for 2020-21 which were approved by Council. The Minutes should have been labelled 130/19 5 (Finance) Budget 2020/21 Version 3F and not 3G. Council noted and agreed the new numbering for future reference. 	Clerk
	 Unity Bank: The application for online banking from the Council had been approved and all participants should now have received their registration documents. Council <i>noted</i> this information. 	Clerk
	3. Pensions Regulator: The Clerk advised Council that she had submitted the Councils' re-enrolment (as required by regulation) documentation and that this has been accepted by the Pensions Regulator. She had also submitted Councils' Declaration of Compliance and this too has been accepted by the Pensions Regulator. Council noted this information.	

	 Neighbourhood Plan - The discussion of this item was deferred to the next meeting due to the unforeseen and unavoidable absence of Cllr. Alexander who was to lead the discussion. 	Cllr. Alexander
	 Pavilion Hearing Loop: Council unanimously approved the payment of a £500 Grant to the Pavilion Trust towards the provision of a Hearing Loop for the Pavilion building. 	Clerk
	6. Working Party: Data Protection (WP:DP) - Cllr. Cadwgan and the Clerk updated the Council on the progress of the WP:DP of completing a number of Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA). Progress was slow but steady and a great deal of ground had been (and was still to be) covered. Council <i>noted</i> this information.	Cllrs. Bland and Cadwgan, Clerk
	7. Great British Spring Clean - The discussion of this item was deferred to the next meeting due to the unforeseen and unavoidable absence of Cllr. Bland who was to lead the discussion.	Cllr. Bland
152/19	Finance:	
	1 Council <i>noted</i> the current balances, and projected outturns for 2019/20.	Clerk
	2 The following payments were <i>approved</i> :	
	a) Clerk's Salary (February 2020)	
	b) £28.00 Ringstones Media	
	c) £500.00 the Pavilion Trust (Charitable Grant)	
	(First item, payment is made by cheque; other items are by due invoice)	
	3. Variances to the 2019/20 approved budgets were <i>noted</i> by Council. Council <i>noted</i> that a current overspend was projected and was <i>agreed unanimously</i> as a matter that had been expected.	
	The Clerk advised Council that the 'reserves' were dwindling and it would be beneficial if Council could attend a Strategy Planning session to review the current situation and determine Council long term strategy and to consider what steps could be taken to improve the reserves in the current restricted financial climate of local government funding. An improvement in Council reserves would mean an enhanced ability of Council to support the local Community in its' aspirations. Council <i>noted</i> this suggestion and <i>agreed</i> that this would be a helpful exercise.	Clerk
153/19	Standing Reports:	
	There was no further information on any other standing report responsibility which had not already arisen in other parts of the Council meeting.	
	The meeting closed at 8.55pm	

Cheverell Magna Parish Council Meeting 10th February 2020

NEXT MEETINGS: Monday 2nd March 2020, 7.30pm

Monday 6th April 2020

Thursday 23rd April 2020 - Annual Parish Meeting

At The Pavilion, Witchcombe Close

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE SEE THE COUNCIL'S WEBSITE AT www.greatcheverell.org