

Minutes of General Meeting

Held in the Village Hall on Monday 13th December 2021, 18:00.

Councillors present: Cllrs Chapman (Chair), Thomas, Classen, Papadakis and Thornton.
In attendance: 9 attendees, including GCC Cllr Mark MacKenzie-Charrington and CDC Cllr Richard Keeling.

- 211213/1** **Chairman's Opening Remarks:** Cllr Chapman welcomed everyone to the meeting and confirmed that the PC were still following protocol and NALC guidelines by continuing to have face to face meetings. Cllr Chapman advised Council of the recent passing of Shasti partner of Gerald Harris at The Old Mill. Condolences of the PC go to Gerald, Laura and the Harris family.
- 211213/2** **Declarations of Interest:** Cllrs Chapman and Thomas declared an interest in agenda item 8.4.
- 211213/3** **Apologies:** None. All Councillors are present.
- 211213/4** **Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 18th October 2021 :** These minutes were approved by all and signed by Chair, Cllr Chapman.
- 211213/5** **Matters Arising from the previous meeting held on 18th October 2021:**
5.1 Gilders Scrapyard and Gravel Pits update
Cllr Chapman briefly summarised the current situation for three applications relating to Gilders Scrapyard and Gravel Pits (relocation of the Scrapyard to Gravel Pits, the extended use of Gravel Pits by utility contractors for a further 12 months and the compliance of conditions for the redevelopment of the scrapyard and haulage depot to create an electric car charging service station). CDC Cllr Keeling advised Council that he had received a report from the case officer, Andrew Moody requesting that he be given delegated authority to permit the extension as he believed it was still an active site. Cllr Chapman challenged this and requested CDC conduct suitable due diligence with TW to ensure the site was still required and active.
- 211213/6** **To receive an update and report from District Councillor, Richard Keeling and GCC Councillor, Mark MacKenzie-Charrington.** Reports and updates received. In addition, Cllr Keeling advised Council that CDC were hoping to move the costs of funding local elections away from central administration by passing them directly onto local councils and PC's. NB: LSPC would need to make provisions for this (circa £2k) in 2023-2024. Full ports can be found in the Appendix.
- 211213/7** **Update on Future Potential Major Project Investments:** Cllr Chapman reiterated once again, that the total costs of these important projects exceed resources available. Council welcomed input from interested attendees.
7.1 Mill Dam Path
LSPC are still considering this investment. £10k quote received from CDC for improvements.
7.2 Scare Lane
LSPC have finally received two quotes and proposals for improvements from GCC Highways for remedial work along this bridleway with disabled access. The tarmac solution is the preferred option, but at an approximate cost of £22k. This preference would only be affordable if split funding could be generated from key stakeholders.
7.3 River Flooding Alleviation Works
LSPC are awaiting further reports and recommendations from the appointed consultants with regards

to a topographical survey and hydraulic modelling outputs. Cllr Chapman advised that no decisions would be made until the full report with a cost benefit analysis for all recommendations had been received from HR Wallingford. Cllr Thomas stated that he hoped that the draft report would be available in January 2022 for review.

7.4 Allotment Improvements

LSPC are still committed to allocate £2-4k to upgrade space on the allotments into communal use areas. NB: LSPC agreed that no decisions would be made until detailed costings for all the Major Projects had been received and publicly viewed. Cllr Chapman asked Cllr MMC if a contribution would be available from GCC for Scare Lane, and Cllr MMC indicated that £5k might be available as well as a contribution from his Build Back Better funds for the allotments.

211213/8

Planning Applications Update:

8.1 21/01736/COMPLY Gilders Scrap Haulage Yard, Fosseyway, Lower Slaughter GL54 2EY

Compliance with Conditions 4 (Phasing), 5 (Eco Traveller Charging Technology Method Statement), 6 (Landscaping), 10 (Ecological Mitigation), 11 (Landscape and Ecological Management Plan), 15 (Contamination), 16 (Construction Management Plan), 17 (Sample Materials), 19 (Windows, doors and glazed screens) and 21 (surface water drainage) for permission 18/01681/FUL - Redevelopment of existing scrap yard and haulage depot to create Electric Car Charging Service Station and Associated Works. *Approved by CDC.*

8.2 21/04366/LBC Church Farmhouse, Copse Hill Road, Lower Slaughter GL54 2HR

Replacement of domestic gas boiler requiring provision of a new flue pipe taken out through roof. (Existing boiler discharges into an existing traditional masonry flue which under current regulations is not permitted). *Awaiting decision by CDC. LSPC have considered and have no comments.*

8.3 21/04429/TCONR Paxton Cottage, The Square, Lower Slaughter GL54 2

Maple - Fell because diseased and dying. Crab apple - Reduce Crown by no more than 20% to improve shape. Lilac - Crown thinning to northern side to improve shape and weight as leaning towards house, and removal of dead branches. *Awaiting decision by CDC. LSPC have considered and have no comments.*

8.4 21/04127/FUL Caradon, Mill Lane, Lower Slaughter GL54 2H

Demolition of existing rear and side extensions. Erection of front facing gable, two rear facing gables, half-hipped side extension and single storey rear extension. Cllrs Chapman and Thomas temporarily left the Village Hall. *Awaiting decision by CDC. LSPC considered and have no comments.*

211213/9

Allotments: To receive an update on income generated by plot rentals and the creation of the Allotment Committee.

Cllr Classen reported that £220 rental income had been received to date with seven payments outstanding. Two allotment holders have not renewed their agreements due to having no spare time. Cllr Classen advised that the Allotment Committee had been formed and that she and Cllr Papadakis would organise a meeting with the Committee to facilitate the exchange of ideas. Council subsequently discussed the income generated by allotment rentals (£300) versus the annual maintenance costs which are currently more than £1k. The precept funds the shortfall. Cllr Chapman confirmed that the recent 10% increase in rentals had been included in the precept/planning budget document distributed earlier on in the year and apologised that this item had not specifically been minuted. The Parish Clerk was asked to record this retrospectively during this meeting. Council agreed to this action plus the 10% levy in 2022 and the intention to a 10% increase annually to support maintenance charges. After further debate, the conclusion was to aspire to £500 annual income, consult with the Allotment Committee about rental charges in the future and encourage full occupancy by advertising vacant plots to Parish Councils in the surrounding areas (US/BOTW/Stow/ Lower Swell). Please note, a lively debate occurred with regards to bonfires. As a result, LSPC agreed to communicate bonfire etiquette to allotment holders.

211213/10

Finance:

10.1 Cllr Chapman reported on the current financial status and full itemised details can be found in Appendix 1.

10.2 and 10.3 Cllr Chapman reported on receipts since the last meeting/retrospective payments and secured approval from Council for payments due. These are also detailed in Appendix 1. All were APPROVED.

211213/11

Reports from Wardens

11.1 River Previously covered earlier in the meeting.

11.2 Rights of Way Discussed in agenda item 7.

11.3 Trees Nothing new to report. An arborist's survey of the primary trees on the common land in the Village has been programmed to take place around March/April 2022.

11.4 Highways Nothing new to report. Double yellow lines have been requested to replace the single yellow lines in the Village as have more patrols in the Village. Additional 20 is Plenty signs have been installed.

11.5 Flood and Snow Cllr Chapman reported that David Barnes has stepped down as Flood Warden and expressed his sincere thanks for David's valuable contribution to village life. It was announced that Cllr Papadakis and Thornton were the new flood wardens and that they had both recently attended flood support meetings organised by CDC.

211213/12

Correspondence: To review relevant correspondence received since last meeting; consider actions/responses.

12.1 An enquiry from an allotment holder requesting clarification with regards to the recent 10% rental increases included in the Allotment Holder Tenancy Agreement. *Covered under item 9.*

12.2 An invitation from the Village Hall Committee for the Parish Council to nominate a councillor who could be co-opted onto the Committee to represent the PC. *LSPC thanked the Village Hall Committee for this invitation. It was agreed that Cllr Classen would represent Council.*

12.3 Concern from a resident living near the allotments. This resident is requesting that allotment holders respect the living environments of neighbours and do not light bonfires when washing is being dried on lines outside or people may be relaxing in their gardens. *Covered under item 9.*

12.4 Concern from a resident about the Village shed roof requiring attention and work to trees nearby. Minuted confirmation required that these works could go ahead. Parish Clerk to investigate this further with CDC and ascertain if special powers exist for this to go ahead and if not, obtain permission from CDC.

211213/13

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 17th January 2022 at 6pm in the Village Hall (Covid permitting).

Meeting ended: 19.32

Signed: *Kevin Chapman* (Chairman)

Date: 21st February 2022

CDC Ward Councillor Briefing for Town and Parish Councils November/December 2021
Cllr Richard Keeling Bourton Vale Ward

Flood warden launch- This week saw the launch of our flood warden scheme to Town and Parish councils, which we are running with the GRCC. The scheme aims to train volunteers as eyes and ears of their community, increasing awareness of flood risks, and working with relevant authorities to help enact mitigation measures. We held two events, one in Moreton and one in Cirencester, both of which also involved a very helpful presentation from Bledington Parish Council on how they worked to improve Bledington's flood resilience after the floods last Christmas. This programme will enable Towns and Parishes to share approaches with one another and learn from each other's experiences.

If you were unable to attend this event and would like the slides from the evening or more information, please contact Helen Richards at helenr@grcc.org.uk.

Brownfield sites- Cotswold District Council has approved over 100 affordable homes on brownfield sites in Cirencester and Kempsford through a range of regeneration schemes in partnership with Bromford Housing.

Cotswold District Council and Bromford Housing have recently completed a regeneration scheme to update and replace existing affordable housing that was no longer fit for purpose in Paterson Road, Cirencester, providing 36 affordable rent and shared ownership homes, built to modern energy efficiency standards, for local residents. While new regeneration schemes in Cross Tree Crescent and Oakley Flats, Kempsford, and Leaholme Court, Cirencester are set to provide 27 new flats, houses, and bungalows for social rent and 44 new flats at affordable rents.

Cabinet Agenda - The agenda for the 6th of December Cabinet meeting has been published on the Cotswold District Council website, and there are several items that may be of interest to Town and Parish Councils. The agenda can be viewed on the CDC website under [council meetings and minutes](#).

Town and Parish Council Engagement- We are working to put together a schedule of engagement events based on the feedback we received from the forums last month. We'll be in touch with some dates in the New Year. In the meantime, if you have any ideas for presentations from us, or if your Town and Parish Council is doing work that you would like to share with CDC and other Towns and Parishes at a future forum, please email ana.prelici@cotswold.gov.uk

South Cerney Neighbourhood Development Plan- A referendum is being held on Thursday 2 December for the South Cerney Neighbourhood Plan which could impact the future of housing and business development across the South Cerney parish. The referendum is open to all registered electors in South Cerney parish and is being held at the South Cerney Village Hall between the hours of 7am and 10pm on 2 December.

You can read the plan and supporting information by [visiting the planning section of our website](#).

[Forthcoming Meetings, Decisions and Events](#)

30th November- Overview and Scrutiny Committee

6th December- Cabinet

8th December- Planning and Licensing Committee

15th December- Council

Councillor Mark MacKenzie – Charrington GCC

- I continue to liaise with the planning officers over the various quarry applications within the North Cotswold Cluster. In particular the Oat Hill Quarry which was visited by a number of PC Councillors on 20th October where the owners want to double extraction.
- The government is allocating a further £4.8m to assist the care sector to prevent Covid spread over this winter. It is aimed at providing rapid testing both staff, residents, and visitors
- The County Council announces the appointment of a new Director of Transport and Highways to drive forward the ambitious transport delivery program. Chartered Civil Engineer, Jason Humm is coming from the West of England Combined Authority where he is Head of Transport. He formerly held a similar position at Swindon Borough Council.
- The Environment Agency is seeking consultation on the 2nd draft of Flood Risk Management Plans for the period 2021 – 2027. It is for a 3-month period from 22nd October 2021 to 21st January 2022. County Council is a lead member on the consultation.
- The County Council is looking for land across the county where up to 1 million trees can be planted by 2030. Working with the Woodland Trust they want to plant 360,000 trees over the next 3 years as part of our desire to reduce global warming and are seeking landowners who are happy for trees to be planted and maintained on their land.
- To date 5,000 ash trees with die-back have been felled and are being replaced on a 2 for 1 native specimen basis. Latest figures show 10,400 have been planted. Current targets are for 28,300 new trees to be planted by March 2022. In some cases, quite tall stumps will have been retained as suitable sites for the very rare violet click beetle which lives only in ash or beech trees in the UK.
- Reduce the impact of flooding by sweeping leaves from drains & gullies outside your home. Put the leaves in your green bin or your compost.
- The government's Levelling Up Fund has awarded Gloucestershire £12.8m to go towards connecting Cheltenham & Gloucester with a walking/ cycling link that ultimately would join up with Stroud to Bishops Cleeve. This is a follow up on improvements to the Sharpness Canal Towpath.
- A reminder that £385,000 of the Build Back Better - Market Towns fund of £500,000 has been allocated to 45 bidders with the aim of boosting the county's market towns and high streets. A further round of bids is now open, closing 17th December, to place the final £115,000 of funds.
- Fosse Cross recycling centre is now open again following essential drainage repairs and general resurfacing, at a cost of £165,000. Please note however online booking is required. Additionally for the time being asbestos, rubble, plasterboard, large appliances, fridges, freezers and tyres will need to be taken to the other 4 Gloucestershire centres.
- Don't forget my 'Build Back Better' Fund where Councillors have access to £40,000 over the next 4 years to support projects, such as:
 - Nature and Environment
 - Physical and Mental Wellbeing
 - Digital Inclusion
 - Building Connections and Improving Neighbourhoods

- The funds will be open to community and voluntary organisations, charities, sporting groups and other non-for-profit groups, town and parish councils. An award of £5,000 has been made to Cotswold Friends, based in Moreton.