

Chebsey Parish Council

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Minutes of the Chebsey Parish Council meeting held on

**Monday 7th November 2022 7pm**

**In Chebsey Parish Hall**

**Cllr’s Present: Cllr M Ainsworth-Hickman (Chair) Cllr R Hopley (Vice Chair) Cllr B Jones**

**Cllr J Lawson Cllr D Foster-Birks Cllr B Samra Cllr S Edge (Arrived at 19.15 left at 20.26)**

**In Attendance: S. Stokes (Clerk) Cllr J Pert (SBC SCC) (Arrived at 19.42 left at 20.25)**

**Members of the public: None**

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| **22/159** | **Welcome and Public Participation. (Please refer to the Chebsey Parish Council Public Participation Policy which can be found on** [**www.chebseyparishcouncil.org.uk**](http://www.chebseyparishcouncil.org.uk) **)**  The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. |
| **22/160** | **Apologies.**  Cllr J Pert hoping to arrive later after attending another meeting. |
| **22/161** | **Declarations of interest, to consider written requests from Cllr’s for the Council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011.)**  Cllr S Edge declared an interest in item 22/170 Meecebrook. |
| **22/162** | **Minutes and Matters arising from the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th October 2022.** (To include update on Warmer Spaces)  Item 22/144 Questionnaire regarding the bus route 103 is in final stages of preparation and will hopefully be distributed in the next couple of weeks.  The History Society Exhibition was a great success with 150 people attending.  Friends of Norton Bridge have agreed to pay for the DBS certificate for Santa and his Elf to attend the Christmas Afternoon Tea .It was agreed any profit made from the event will be donated to the Bee Project.  Item 22/152 The History Society has written a “Brief History of Chebsey Parish” for the new website. The content was approved by all present. The clerk will add it to the website: **Action clerk**  Item 22/153 The plaque for the commemorative bench has been received. The clerk will contact D. Davis and J Green to arrange a date for the official unveiling of the bench: **Action clerk**  **The minutes of the Chebsey Parish Council meeting held on 10th October 2022 were agreed as a true record by everyone present.**  **Warmer Spaces**  Cllr M Ainsworth-Hickman has been working very hard in trying to secure venue’s, and food for the Warmer Spaces Project. Dates and times to be confirmed  There will be a one off payment of £225 per venue for the period from Mid November till March. Transport costs will be looked into.  Shallowford House have agreed to help and will provide soup and a roll.  Jenkinson’s have agreed to help with soup and a roll for Ranton.  Great Bridgeford will accommodate Monday one week ,Wednesday the next  Tuesday will be at Ranton  Thursday Norton Bridge/Chebsey  Friday Seighford |
| **22/163** | **Finance.** To approve November expenditure  **Nat West Current account balance to 25th October 2022 £8063.64**  (Precept paid 10th October £3633.99)  Clerks salary for November (cheque no 964 ) £224.20  Reimburse clerk for plaque for bench (cheque no 964 ) £12.99  Awaiting invoice for clerks social media training (cheque no ) £30.00  Awaiting invoice and report of Recreation Area inspection  (cheque no ) £90.00  Awaiting invoice for Meecebrook Flyer and Christmas Tea  (cheque no ) £81.00  Un presented cheque D. Davis (Cheque no 963) £20.00  **Balance**  **£7605.45**  All payments approved by everyone present.  **To discuss the increase for D M Payroll Services to £100 per year**  The increase was discussed and approved by everyone present.  **To discuss the SPCA/NALC rates for 2023/24 (estimated cost £190.08)**  The increase was discussed and approved by everyone present.  **To Approve the increase in the clerks working hours to 24 hours per calendar month.**  The increase in hours was approved from 1st October 2022 by everyone present.  **To approve the new NALC Salary award from £11.97 per hour to £12.97 per hour backdated to April 2022.**  The increase in salary was approved by everyone present.  **Budget review**  **Budget and spend report Sept 2022.** Following an update of the spend analysis to the end of September 2022; it appears that the Parish Council is on track with the annual budget set at the start of the year. At the half year point the bank and cash book balance is £4,704, having reduced by £1,051 since the end of March, a decrease in funds that is normal for the first six months of the year. The second payment of annual precept has been paid in October and this has sharply increased the bank balance. If spending for the second half year remains to plan then the aim of the Council retaining a safety balance of £4,000 at year end is very achievable. As a separate note the bank reconciliation at 30th Sept is complete and agrees to the cash book. |
| **22/164** | **Highway and Footpath Matters.**  CPC has submitted a list of required road improvements to the HS2 “highways improvement fund”. It’s hoped that these will be considered favourably. Bob Jones  Network Rail: the only issue this month is regarding the ragwort(which everyone has been copied into emails about) Latest correspondence from Network Rail are disappointing, after confirming they would deal with the ragwort by the end of October, they have now stated they will deal with the issue when flowering stops. Richard Hopley.  The clerk has replied to Net Work Rail voicing the disappointment of the Councillors and pointing out the government guidance on dealing with the weeds. |
| **22/165** | **Update on the website and Face book page.**  The clerk continues to work on the new website. Hopefully next month it will be ready it to go live, The clerk will send a link to everyone for approval: **Action clerk.**  The face book page is live and we need to let residents know so it can be a useful tool. |
| **22/166** | **Discuss and adopt Chebsey Parish Council Policies.**  Cllr B Samra and the clerk will work together to produce the required policies for discussion at the next meeting. **Action Cllr Samra and clerk.** |
| **22/167** | **Agree dates for the 2023 Parish Council Meetings.**  Dates for next year’s meetings agreed. The Clerk will post them on the website. **Action clerk** |
| **22/168** | **HS2.** Any updates and funding.  There is little to report on HS2 this month due to the turmoil at Westminster and the lack of information emanating from government as a result.  The SRCG, and our neighbouring parish councils, are waiting to see if the HS2 project will be impacted by the likely cost cutting exercise within the budget planned on 17th November. |
| **22/169** | **Correspondence.**  E mail from Swynnerton Parish Councils clerk regarding the sale of a speed sign device. The clerk has replied requesting further details.  E mail regarding next year’s civic amenities visits. Costs for an hour visit at a single location £111.00. Seven visits agreed as per last year. A cost of £777.00. The clerk will confirm with the Borough Council: **Action clerk.**  The Norton Bridge and Chebsey defibrillators were recalled due to software problems. They have now been reset and returned. The battery is not fully charging on the Norton Bridge Defibrillator, the cost of a new battery is £232.80 inc VAT (£194 ex VAT). The clerk has written to WEL Medical to see if a discount can be agreed. If not the purchase of a new battery was approved by all present. |
| **22/170** | **Planning Updates.** (To include Meecebrook)  22/36091/OUT Outline application for 4 bedroom detached dwelling complete with double garage at The Grange Stone Road. Application refused.  22/35708/FUL Cazoo to erect single storey preparation building. Application allowed.  Cllr S Edge has produced a document giving details of planning applications in Chebsey Parish for the last twelve months. The document will be updated regularly. Cllr J Pert asked for a copy of the document: **Action Cllr S Edge**  **Cllr S Edge left the meeting at 20.26**  **Update on Events**  Tuesday 8th November – Parish Councils Briefing for Meecebrook  Wednesday 9th November – Meecebrook Presentation  Thursday 10th November – Meecebrook Presentation, 4-8pm Jubilee Room, Eccleshall Community Centre  Monday 14th November - Meecebrook Presentation, 4-8pm Grosvenor Centre, Gnosall  Tuesday 15th November - Meecebrook Presentation, 4-8pm, Westbridge Room, Christchurch, Stone  Saturday 19th November - Meecebrook Presentation, 11-3.45pm, Stafford Central Library  Monday 5th December – Parish Council Meeting, 7pm, Chebsey Parish Hall  Saturday 10th December – Christmas Afternoon Tea, 12.00-4.30pm, Chebsey Parish Hall  Monday 12th December – Meecebrook Consultation Closes  Tuesday 13th December – HS2 Meeting with Joe Wilson, 7-8pm .The clerk is to confirm details of the meeting and the location :**Action clerk**  Cllr B Jones prepared a leaflet about the Meecebrook proposals. The leaflet has been printed and is to be distributed to all the residents of Chebsey Parish.  Cllr Samra will cover Cold Norton, Cllr Foster-Birks Norton Bridge, Cllr Hopley Shallowford, Cllr Lawson Chebsey, Cllr Ainsworth-Hickman Hilcote,Scamnel Lane, Upper and Middle Heamies and C. Kinnersley will cover Lower Heamies.  It was agreed a letter should be sent to Sir Bill Cash and the Prime Minister Rishi Sunak. Cllr B Jones will start to compile a draft: **Action Cllr B Jones**  It was agreed an Extraordinary meeting of Chebsey Parish Council should be arranged for Thursday 1st December at 6.15pm to discuss and agree the statement to be sent to Stafford Borough Council.  **Feedback from Stone Area Parish Liaison Meeting 26th October 2022.**  An agenda item for the preferred site of a garden village at Meecebrook was discussed by the Group The main point raised related to the sheer lack of transparency provided by SBC over the choice of Meecebrook above the other potential sites identified in earlier local plans produced by SBC.  The question of “why Meecebrook” is key to the issues that the BC needs to answer. On behalf of Chebsey PC, cllr Bob Jones alerted the meeting that about 975 acres of predominately arable land, within the Parish, will be swallowed up if the plan comes to fruition. There is no real clarity as to why SBC has simply pushed the development into the parish due to the refusal of MOD to give over land at its site. In short the area now earmarked is inconsistent with the original preferred site. John Fraser -( clerk to Yarnfield & Cold Meece PC), agrees with CPC that it is essential that councillors in the parishes, directly affected, be granted a direct meeting with the Meecebrook planning team to discuss the issues affecting them and their residents. It seems that SBC would rather talk at the residents rather than be questioned. All the councils represented at the meeting agreed that residents deserve to know more about the issue and that SBC must communicate with the respective PC’s as a conduit to residents. The Meecebrook issue will be raised by the Stone Area Parish Liaison Group as a standard agenda item. Bob Jones |
| **22/171** | **Items for next Parish Council Meeting.**  Agree and request Precept for 2023. |
| **22/172** | **Date of next meeting.** The next meeting will be held on 5th December 2022 in Chebsey Parish Hall.  It was agreed by all present that Chebsey Parish Council meetings will be held at Chebsey Parish Hall until St Luke’s Church Hall is available.  With no further business the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 20.57. |

*S*ue Stokes Clerk to Chebsey Parish Council 8th November 2022

Signed by.....................................................................................Date.....................................................