

At a meeting of Chetton Parish Council, held on 5th September, 2017,

Present Mrs.S.Bayliss, (Chairman), Mr.T.Maiklem, Mr.J.Dunn, Mr.M.Clarke,
Mr.E.Crawford Clarke, Mr.J.White, Mr.R.Fox

Apologies Unitary Councillor R.Tindall

Minutes The Minutes of the previous meeting, having been circulated were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Correspondence All SALC Bulletins had been forwarded to Councillors.
Letter from British Legion regarding purchase of Parish Poppies.
It was agreed that 20 poppies should be ordered.
Comments from parishioners had been received regarding several matters related to possible breaches in Planning and nuisance from light aircraft over the parish. The clerk was instructed to make enquiries into both matters.

Planning Application 17/03814/AMP A non-material amendment to 16/02791/FUL for the movement of personnel door from one elevation to another addition of windows in two elevations at Millington Engineering Lower Cockshutt Farm Bridgnorth Shropshire WV16 6RF

Status: Granted - please note Chetton Parish Council was not consulted on this amendment.

Application 17/03687/FUL Erection of two storey side and rear extension, front porch and associated renovation work (re-submission) at Warden's Cottage, The Down, Bridgnorth There were no objections.

Mr.Crawford Clarke declared an interest and left the room.

Application 17/03214/FUL Extension of agricultural building for free range egg production at Eudon Burnell Farm, Eudon Burnell, Bridgnorth. There were no objections.

Highways There were no highways matters to discuss.

Reports Village Hall Mrs.Baylis registered an Interest in this item and the clerk gave a report on the future of the Village Hall. Following discussion it was unanimously agreed that Chetton Parish Council should take over the role Sole Trustee of the Village Hall. A copy of the report is attached to the Minutes.

The Chairman explained that the Parish Council had received a lottery grant in order to organise a weekly exercise group. Details of the group - to be called Chetton Active Friends were explained by the Chairman.

Finance

Cheques required - Clerk salary £277.46, HMRC 69.20, Lengthsman £500, Paragon Internet Group £69.98

Village Hall account ABC Fire Protection Inspection and 2 new Fire extinguishers £284.65, Michael Jones (Electrical inspection including testing (PAT) and replacement parts £340

The accounts were approved on a proposal by Mr.Crawford Clarke and seconded by Mr.Maiklem.

Any Parish matters or problems to be placed on the next agenda.

There were no matters for the next meeting.

Date of next meeting Tuesday, 2nd January 2018

Schedule 1

Copy of Village Hall Report

As with many other social assets the VH is facing a difficult and uncertain future as it struggles to finance itself when money is so short

When it was built in 1966 it depended mainly on grants from the Parish Council to enable it to remain open. Gradually, over the years more and more people used it and at one time it became self-sufficient. We must remember however, that the heating in those days was less than adequate and people froze in the winter if they were here for more than an hour. The PC was called on more frequently for grant aid and that has remained the case ever since. In 1968 a grant of £100 was made - although the balance carried forward was just £56.8s.5d and the precept was reluctantly fixed at £5.

Since those days, two of the original Trustees, Mrs. Vale and Rob Lamb have died, leaving the existing Trustees as Barry Jenkinson, Sue Bayliss and Robin Lamb.

The Conveyance clearly states that if the VH can no longer manage, and is forced to sell the premises, the money it raises should be invested in another building for the parishioners or, failing that into another Parish Charity - however the only one we had - the Educational and Nursing Charity, has now wound up because of lack of interest.

To ensure the future of the hall, we have looked very carefully into the possibility of the PC becoming the Sole Trustee of the premises. This would not involve any personal financial responsibility for Councillors but would enable the Council to make substantial grants or to raise money and handle those funds with its own VH account. Normal day-to-day and general financial management would remain with the VH Committee. The Charity documents would be vested in the Parish Council, which would also involve registering with the Land Registry.

If the PC agree to become the Trustee, it would need to decide on a figure they would be prepared to add to the precept to support the Hall for the next 12 months after which there should be some indication of future costs. We shall be setting the precept at either the November or January meeting depending on the County's timetable.