

# **CHINNOR PARISH COUNCIL**

**PRESENT:** Cllr's Ashdown, Portnall, Edwards, Mackenzie and Webb.

You are hereby summoned to attend a Meeting of the **AMENITIES & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** To be held **Monday 03<sup>rd</sup> March 2025** at 7pm in the Community Pavilion, Station Road.

*Liz Folley* - Clerk

**Public Question** – There were 3 members of public present. A question was asked with regard to the Allotment AGM and the meeting that has taken place between CAGA and CPC and a public statement

1. **Apologies for absence:** Received and accepted from Cllr Sarai

2. **Declarations of Interest** – Nothing declared

3. **Minutes of the last meeting:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Amenities & Environment Committee held on 06<sup>th</sup> January 2025 were approved and signed by the chair

4. **Footpaths, Play Areas and Open Spaces**

**4.1 Chinnor Footpaths Nos. 23, 24 and 40 - Public Path Proposals at Wainhill Farm, ref: 03739 | Let's Talk Oxfordshire** **IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the proposal**

**4.2** To note that Ladybirds Pre-school are organising a fundraising litter pick event and will be borrowing the litter picking equipment. Noted

**4.3** To note that there was a reported incident of an aggravated dog dangerously out of control at the Playing Fields. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that a report should be put on social media and in the newsletter

**4.4** The Community Garden would like to allocate a disabled parking space and have identified a space that could be used. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the clerk should find out the legal standing for providing this facility and will respond to the next relevant meeting.

**4.5** The Community Garden will be installing recycled brown planters, 18 inches high, to prevent parking on grass verges. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that this is allowed if it does not contravene highways regulations

**4.6** CG request permission for a safe walkway to be painted in yellow across car parking area. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that this is not suitable and will not be allowed. Slabs to be used for first part of walkway as it is across grass behind the newly positioned raised flower tubs. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that CPC allows and pays for a walkway across the grass.

**4.7** To bring to the attention of the committee anti-social behaviour outside the external toilets at the Pavilion during half term. The staff at the Pavilion are no longer prepared to clean the toilets. To agree a plan of action for the opening, closing and cleaning of the same. A discussion took place. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the toilets remain closed and the public are informed of the nearest available toilets.

**4.8** Chinnor & Thame Friends of the Earth are launching a tree planting group and seek permission to

- fill in the gaps of shrubs along the edge of Whites field, adjacent to the road and where CPC are removing some dead trees. Clerk informed the members that the tree surgeon has stated that he believes 70/80% of the trees are diseased or dead. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the tree surgeons report is reviewed prior to any future planting
- add a few trees at Whites' Field within the small copse area and to replace the trees that were lost. Considering the previous resolution, it was agreed that a report from the tree surgeon should be sought prior to any further planting in this area.
- Plant hedging around the perimeter fencing, which has been erected around the OLD Kiln Lakes play area. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that due to H&S responsibilities shrubs & hedging are not suitable to be planted in this area

## 5. Youth Matters

**5.1 IT WAS RESOLVED** that the youth clubs' hours are increased to provide separate sessions for 11-13 yr olds and 7-9pm for 14-16 yr olds. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that a proposal is put to HR to employ an additional youth worker. **IT WAS RESOLVED** to increase the Youth Leader's hours from 3-4 to 5-6 per week

## 6. Special Projects & Events

**6.1** August Bank Holiday event update was discussed. Next working group meeting to take place 9<sup>th</sup> April. Beer festival committee will inform the clerk by Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March if they intend to use their allocated date

**6.2** Art Project update. Permission from landowners for the erection of the trail posts is being sought. Request for an update from the artist regarding progress to be available at the next meeting.

## 7. Allotments & Gardens

**7.1** Report following the recent meeting with representatives from CAGA to be presented and discussed and to agree Council response.

CPC met with 2 members of the new CAGA committee on 10<sup>th</sup> February.

They reported that there is now a new committee, the previous chairman had resigned however, no one had come forward to take that position, so they are working with a rolling chair until the next AGM.

The CAGA representatives also reported that the committee had taken responsibility and apologised for its failings at the AGM in October 2024 to the plot holder that made a complaint to them.

CAGA are in the process of updating its policies and procedures.

CPC proposed updating the occupancy agreement/lease as it was last reviewed in 2011.

The next liaison meeting to be set for the new council year in May.

CAGA have joined the National Association of Allotments

CPC representatives feel confident that CAGA are moving forward in a very positive way.

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** the following Recommendation is put to full council

CPC supports the new CAGA committee in its stated aims and objectives.

That the matter of the incident at the CAGA AGM has been resolved by CAGA apologizing to the complainant. CPC considers the matter closed and no further correspondence will be entered into regarding it.

**7.2** To agree appointment of gardener to maintain the flower beds and tubs on a contractual basis. Interest has been expressed by 4 people for this position. **IT WAS RESOLVED** to invite the candidates to meet with Cllrs Mackenzie and Ashdown to discuss requirements and appoint if the needs can be met.

**Next Amenities Committee date:** Clerk to circulate dates

Chair.....Date.....