

REVISED at October 17th 2016

Notes taken at Chilton Polden Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 14th
September 2016, by K. Ulliyatt in the absence of the Parish Clerk

1. Those Present:

Councillors A. Carr, M. Aylmer, G. Baker, M. Davidson, T. Hayne, B. Parsons;
Dist. Councillor S. Kingham;
There were 8 members of the parish in attendance

2. Apologies for absence:

Parish Clerk.

3. Declarations of Interest:

None declared initially but Cllr. Davidson suggested a closed session for an issue he wished to raise.
The public were asked to step outside.

(The issue was one of Council standards and declarations of interest at the conclusion of which Cllr B. Parsons tendered his resignation and left the meeting Cllrs. T. Hayne and M. Aylmer declared interests in item 8 of the agenda.) The public then returned to the hall at the end of this point.

4. Statements by County/District Councillors (if present):

Cllr. S. Kingham informed the meeting that Sedgemoor District Council no longer maintains full-time life guards but works with the RNLI in the event of coastal emergencies.

5. Minutes of P.C. meeting on 20 July 2016:

These were not signed due to a point regarding circulation of a letter requiring guidance by the Parish Clerk at the next meeting.

6. Matters Arising

7 a) Financial update: On the website for councillors.

b) Approval of Clerk's salary - £371.06 for two months. Proposer - Cllr. A Carr,
Seconder - Cllr. G. Baker. All in favour.

c) Approval of payment (£95) to cover hire of entertainment (Magician) for Playing Field Fun Day.
Proposer - Cllr G. Baker, Seconder - Cllr M. Aylmer. All in favour. (this event had already taken place earlier in September))

8. Church Hall/Parish Room

The meeting was informed that as this matter is in the hands of the Charity Commission the Parish Council would leave further discussion until the decision of the Commission was known.

The chairman opened the meeting to the public

A parishioner asked if a circular distributed to villagers concerning the hall had been approved by the Parish Council. Cllr. Hayne also queried this. In answer the chairman stated that the circular had not

been issued by the clerk as a council circular, it was sourced by him as an individual who was Chairman of the Council." As the Clerk was not present at this meeting it was agreed that this matter to be deferred until the November meeting – allowing the Clerk to contact SALC for guidance

Cllr. Hayne proposed that "Correspondence be taken up with SALC to determine whether the distribution of the letter had followed due process." This was seconded by Cllr. Aylmer. There were 2 against (Cllr Carr and Cllr Davidson) with 1 abstention (Cllr Baker). The chairman exercised his casting vote and the motion was denied.

At this point Cllr. Davidson urged the meeting to move on as the matter of the hall was in the hands of the Charity Commission.

9. Community Questionnaire/Data Protection

A questionnaire asking villagers to contribute to a database of local skills and ways to help the community had been distributed under the guidance of Cllr. Parsons. Cllr. Hayne expressed concern that this may infringe data protection laws. As Cllr. Parsons had provisionally resigned the matter was put in abeyance.

10. New Parish Councillor:

Ms. Becky Oram was introduced to the meeting, and it was proposed that an interview be arranged with the chairman, vice chairman and parish clerk as the interviewing panel. All were in favour of this arrangement.

11. SALC AGM 17/09/2016

Chairman A Carr to attend.

12. Planning training 18/09/2016

Clls. Aylmer and Davidson to attend.

13. Stile repairs

Following information provided by Cllr Hayne – the stile on footpath BW-9/6 needed repair – the Clerk to ask SDC to rectify

14. Flood alleviation update

Council had received an award of £35,000 for this in relation to Goose Lane stream. Cllr. Davidson outlined proposals for (i) an overflow pipeline from Coomb La./Goose lane junction to below Bramble Cottage and (ii) improvement to lower stream where it splits in two near Smallways La/Goose La. junction. As item (i) was the costliest requiring more funding it was proposed that scheme (ii) Option 2 - "improvements to the lower stream" was proposed by Cllr Davidson, and seconded by Cllr Baker. All in favour – this was the preferred way forward, but that expenditure would be proposed at the next meeting following Cllr Davidson's letter with information about the work to the Clerk and the Council.

Cllr. Davidson would draft a letter to this effect and pass it to the Clerk for clearance.

15. Process Management

This agenda point raised by Cllr Hayne was deferred to the next meeting as the Clerk was not present.

The next meeting was arranged for Wed. 12 October at 7.30 in the hall.

This meeting was closed at 9.00pm