

CHEVERELL MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON Monday 19th April 2021 Online Meeting

Minute No.	Item	Action
01	Councillors in Attendance: A.Alexander; R.Hayward; K. Porter; P Cadwgan; P. Fox; B Morillo-Hall; S.Pearce	
02	Public in Attendance: 5	
03	Apologies for Absence: None	
04	Minutes of the Meeting held on 25th April 2019: Council <i>unanimously agreed</i> the Minutes	
05	Open Forum: No items were brought forward by the Public in Attendance for discussion.	
06	<p>Parish Council - Chair's Report: Councillor Alexander said that the year had been a particularly eventful one with COVID-19 having hugely impacted the lives of the entire population. The Council had had to pull out all the stops to create a volunteer group with the support of the many volunteers who had offered to help their fellow parishioners throughout the village.</p> <p>Additionally, the Council had started a good number of initiatives during the year. He said he hoped that the new Council which would take up its' place on 10th May would continue with those; one of which was the Working Party for the Pavilion landscaping, which sought to improve the landscape around the area of the Pavilion for the benefit of the County as a whole. He thanked Councillor Hayward, who was stepping down at the Election, for all the work he and his team had put into doing the grass-cutting and hedge trimming. Councillor Pearce is also stepping down and he was thanked for being the person that Councillors could go to 'get things done'. Councillor Morillo-Hall was thanked for all her work in keeping the Play Area safe and secure and clean and tidy. Councillor Porter was thanked for building a good working relationship with the Parish Steward which was instrumental in getting work carried out in various parts of the village. Councillor Cadwgan was thanked for his support for the issues relating to traffic and speeding which he relayed to the CATG meetings of Wiltshire Council. He thanked all the Councillors for the difference they made, often in the background, to the Parish of Cheverell Magna.</p> <p>Councillor Alexander then told the meeting that he too was standing down at the next Election. He said he'd had a great time in his tenure as Councillor and Chair of Council and he'd been involved in lots of projects. Council thanked Councillor Alexander for everything he had done.</p> <p>Councillors Alexander, Hayward and Pearce all said that they would still be happy to help if they were to be called upon where needed.</p>	
07	<p>Parish Council Finance Report - Parish Clerk, Proper Officer and Responsible Finance Officer: The Clerk shared the projected budget outturn at the end of the Financial Year with the Meeting. This was not the final calculation as there was still work to be done however, Council looked to be in a good position at the end of the year despite COVID-19 having caused significant disruption and impact upon Council activity for a year now.</p>	

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	<p>Councillor Alexander advised the Meeting that the Clerk had resigned and thanked the Clerk for all her hard work during her tenure.</p>	
08	<p>Wiltshire Council Report -Cllr. Richard Gamble. Councillor Gamble told the meeting that Wiltshire Council had had lots going on throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Children’s and Adult services had been particularly stretched during this time but, despite the additional pressures that had been put upon the organisation (and having, in the early days of the pandemic forecasted a deficit budget of around £50M), it had nevertheless managed to balance its’ budget.</p> <p>The Council had started to build its’ own council houses for rent.</p> <p>It had also reduced its’ carbon footprint and had won an award for being ‘the most carbon-friendly county’ by Friends of the Earth.</p> <p>Councillor Gamble suggested that the Parish Council should keep an eye on Planning matters as policy could change and Central Government may make decisions which could impact upon housing and other planning priorities which may affect communities in less advantageous ways.</p> <p>He also advised the Meeting that there was continuing consideration for a railway station for Devizes (Devizes Lydeaway).</p> <p>Victoria Park was an ongoing matter with the potential adoption of the roads on the development.</p> <p>The road system had been and continued to be a broad concern with inappropriate routing of HGV’s through Great Cheverell using the High Street.</p> <p>Finally, Councillor Gamble said that he was standing down at the next Election. He said it had been an enormous pleasure working with Councillors throughout his tenure and, in particular, held Great Cheverell in high esteem.</p> <p>Councillor Alexander thanked Councillor Gamble for all his hard work on behalf of the Community of Great Cheverell. He had been a huge source of support and guidance to the Parish and Councillors.</p>	
09	<p>Village Organisations Reports: Holy Trinity School: Mrs Mercedes Henning, outgoing Head Teacher of the School told the meeting of the tremendous work done by teaching staff, support staff and pupils during what had been a particularly challenging year. 2020-21 had seen a pandemic strike which had caused people all around the globe to need to rethink how they went about their daily lives. As it did with the School. Despite that and the many challenges that COVID-19 had brought with it, Mrs Henning told the meeting of the positive, cheerful, hardworking approach that staff and pupils had shown during this time. Despite the challenges, the School had been successful in its’ endeavours.</p> <p>It is Mrs Hennings’ last academic year at the School after which she is retiring. She told the meeting of the new Head Teacher, Mrs Anna Woodman, who would be taking her place at the School and encouraged the community to get to know her as they had Mrs Hennings. She invited the community to continue to visit the School and engage with staff and pupils.</p> <p>Councillors thanked Mrs Hennings for all her outstanding work.</p> <p>Great Cheverell Speedwatch: Mr Andrew Jenkinson spoke of the work of the Speedwatch Team in Great Cheverell. Their remit was primarily to educate the public about the dangers caused by speeding. Additionally, this was important work to help collect trend data that the Police could use to reduce the incidence of speeding through the village. He advised that the Police now had the ability to review Speedwatch data on their systems in patrol cars.</p>	

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	<p>Councillor Alexander thanked Mr Jenkinson and the volunteers in the team for all their efforts to help educate people and to help make the village a safer place.</p> <p>St Peters Church, Great Cheverell:</p> <p>Mrs Pauline Jenkinson spoke of the work of the Church. COVID-19 had had a big impact on the ability of the Church to hold events but on more recent months it had managed to hold a few. Events such as: a Harvest service; an Act of Remembrance; a Carol Service (with limited numbers). A legacy to the Church had meant that the church organ had been able to be restored.</p> <p>The Parochial Church Council was now planning some events the first of which would be a Harvest Supper which was to be held on 2nd October at The Pavilion.</p>	
	The meeting closed at 8.27pm	

NEXT MEETINGS: Due to the current Coronavirus situation it is anticipated that Full Council meeting will be held online for some time to come. Joining information will be published in due course on the Agenda for each meeting, copies of which will be found on the Council noticeboard; the Great Cheverell Facebook community page and the Council website.

Meeting dates:

May	24 th	2021	Annual General Meeting
June	7 th	2021	Full Council
July	5 th	2021	Full Council

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE SEE THE COUNCIL'S WEBSITE AT www.greatcheverell.org