

Minutes of the 7th Annual Parish Meeting
of
CHIPPING WARDEN and EDGCOTE PARISH COUNCIL
held on
Tuesday 14th April 2015 at 7.30p.m.
at
Chipping Warden Village Hall

Present: -

Councillors: - N Galletly Chairman
 C Brooke P Brown H Gairdner D Hussey N Meades
 V Woodford
SNC Cllr MA Sergison-Brooke , Cllr R Herring
NCC Cllr I Morris
Public 32 Members
Clerk L Stanley
Apologies D Cross N Douglas

WELCOME – The Chairman, N Galletly welcomed everyone to the meeting

It was agreed to take the reports from Mrs Sergison-Brooke and PCSO Colin as both were engaged to attend second meetings

PCSO COLIN BROOKS

As PCSO Brooks is new to this parish, he introduced himself and gave a report on the various topics; the full report is attached. (PCSO Brooks left the meeting)

1. SNDC COUNCILLOR, Mrs Sergison-Brooke

Mrs Sergison-Brooke thanked the Parish Council for its very good work especially with regard to Hs2. Also, Andrea Leadsom, MP, has been tireless in her support of the Stop Hs2 Campaign and has even turned down a ministry post to fight it. Ian Morris has worked hard to get Chipping Warden a bypass (relief road) with a fixed sum of £2k from NCC towards it. The main thanks must go to PC Chairman, Nigel Galletly, who has work so hard to produce and present the petition to the Select Committee. Mrs Sergison-Brooke also took the opportunity to thank the audience for allowing her to represent them at SNDC and she left the meeting

2. PARISH AWARDS – There has been one nomination this year – Captain Mike Carr, for his excellent work litter picking throughout the village. Unfortunately, Captain Carr is unable to attend; the trophy will be passed on to him.

3. COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Ian Morris presented his report to the meeting (a full copy is attached) and he took questions from the floor: -

Q: You mention £1m in your report for education, is this figure county or UK?

A: County

Q: Will it include academies?

A: Not sure on that one, I will find out and e-mail the clerk.

Q: Will the broadband be upgraded soon?

A: Work is underway to spread out superfast broadband and there is a countywide voucher system of grants available that small businesses can apply for. If there are enough local businesses linking together this could be a mechanism of getting priority.

NG thanked Councillor Morris for attending and for his support regarding Hs2.

SNDC COUNCILLOR

Mrs Rosie Herring backed the concerns from PCSO about staff shortages at Brackley. She has been to meetings about policing where their numbers have been cut by 25% and the politicians have told the Police and Crime Commissioner's office that they are renegading on election promises.

Domestic crime has increased but this spike may be due to a change in reporting statistics.

She has been working with Daventry Young Citizen Award and this has had an impressive response. Topics included road awareness, keeping safe on the internet and saying no to bullying.

Mrs Herring said that she was proud of SNDC achievements. Council tax has unchanged in five years and savings have been made through the joint working with Cherwell DC. South Northants is now listed as the fourth best place to live in UK. Moat Lane is now complete and most of SNDC has moved in; the library is excellent and the Births Deaths and Marriage Registrar is also there.

Waste recycling in SN is one of the highest in UK

She is now a Trustee of the Health and Wellbeing at the John Radcliffe Trust in Oxford.

It is hoped to increase the first responder scheme and to get more volunteers.

Hs2 – it is a positive result in gaining the bypass round the village; she understands that Hs2 will “solve” the issues over compensation and the Select Committee will monitor this closely. All small businesses in the affected area should collectively write to the minister expressing their concerns.

Q; Will the same people be on the Select Committee?

A: It depends on the election outcome, but it would be useful if they remained as they are all very engaged with issues that have been raised.

NG thanked Mrs Herring for attending and for her support regarding Hs2.

4. REPORT of the PARISH COUNCIL

The Chairman’s report had been circulated to all residents along with the invitation to the meeting and there were no specific questions raised.

5. FINANCE

The accounts, had been circulated with the above reports; there were no questions arising.

6. Hs2 Update

The proposed bypass has been accepted and will form part of the Hybrid Bill. This will be brought before Parliament as an Additional Provision to the Bill which will be heard separately by the Select Committee. Chipping Warden will also benefit from the green tunnel rather than the open cutting first proposed.

The map (circulated with the report) shows the bypass starting north of the village and rejoining the A361 by the corner adjacent to Miss Adams wall. On current planned Hs2 timescales it will probably be constructed in 2016 (or before the Hs2 construction) this will alleviate the need for most of the construction traffic to travel through the village.

Culworth Road will still be closed at Calves Close.

Q: Will there be a speed limit by Allens Orchard.

A: It should be 30mph and PC will press for that.

Q: Can we put trees on the Allens Orchard green to shield the houses from the work?

A: Not yet because they may use that area during construction and also there may be a balancing pond there. There may be other balancing ponds as shown on the map, they will be dry dips until it rains and then collect the run-off becoming ponds in wet weather and gradually soak away again.

Q: Couldn’t Hs2 use soak-away blocks instead?

A: This will be mentioned to them.

Q: Why couldn’t the bypass follow a straight line? This would have taken traffic further from Allens Orchard.

A: It would involve other landowners and also may be too close to ancient burial mounds.

Q: Will there be any compensation for the house owners on Allens Orchard? What if they have to sell during the construction period?

A: Don't think that this will be covered for compensation as the A361 goes right past houses now, but "Need to Sell" clause might cover this situation.

Next stage will be to add an extra Additional Provision to the bill. There is already one which was required so that the planned access to Calves Close could be widened. The bypass needs to be added and when it is drafted there will be another chance to present to the Select Committee again.

Following Parliamentary approval Hs2 will move on to detailed planning of the scheme and the Local Engineering Management Plans (LEMPs) will be drawn up, with consultation, which will have details and controls for the construction site which will probably have living quarters.

7. QUESTIONS ON VILLAGE REPORTS

The reports from the Village Organisation's had been previously circulated and there were no questions arising.

8. QUESTION TIME

Q: What is happening about flooding in Hogg End and by the Allens Orchard bus stop.

A: A report is made at every PC meeting and it is carefully monitored. Drain cleaning helped at the bus stop, it still holds water but it disperses quicker. Hogg End has not been a problem recently. Hs2 has constantly been told about flooding in the village and has been asked many times about their plans to combat the possible increase of floodwater once construction starts. PC has asked for a meeting on this issue as soon as possible.

There was a problem with sewage from Manor Farm down to fields in Mill Lane. Pipes were unblocked but this may be another area of concern. Again, it is being monitored closely.

The flooding by the Steps in Mill Lane will be dealt with in the next few weeks. Over time vehicles have overridden the grass verge and are destroying the green. Kerbing will be laid to re-instate this area and remove the dip causing the large puddle.

Q: The report mentions the Churchyard, how will this affect neighbours?

A: Not at all, when required the Parish may find land at its discretion if it so wishes and there are several options that could be considered.

Q: What is the position on the play area?

A: The Sports Club has not yet obtained permission from the landowner. With regard to funding there are several options being investigated.

Mr Allen may be prepared to consider tennis courts or other activities but there are logistical problems that need to be looked at for such schemes.

There being no further questions or comments, the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.00.

Chairman's Signature.....Date.....