

Draft

EAST CHINNOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk

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East Chinnock
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Chairman

Jeremy Churchill
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Minutes of the East Chinnock Parish Council Meeting that was held on Monday 4th January 2010 at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.

Present

Chairman	Mr J Churchill
Vice Chair	Mr A Sinclair
Councillors	Mrs L Kemp, Mr M Jones, Mrs M Merchant, Mr A Harris Mrs P O'Donnell
District Councillor	
County Councillor	
Officer	Mrs H Early

During public questions a parishioner raised a concern about overhanging trees by the Rookery. The Clerk will try and find out who owns the land and ask them to deal with the issue.

Mrs Carter asked the Chairman for the results of the Speed and traffic survey that was carried out between Odcombe and Chinnock Hollow. This information was passed on and will be circulated to all the Councillors. Mrs Carter asked what the position of the parish Council was in respect of the Hollow speed action group. The Chairman said that the Parish Council were supportive of the Action Group and would be able to comment further when any proposals for action were put in place.

A parishioner reported that there is a lot of dog fouling occurring particularly down Forge Lane. This is really unacceptable and the Clerk was asked to put a reminder into The Chimes

154. Apologies for absence

R Pallister
C Bakewell
B Murdoch

155. Declarations of interest

None

156. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes from the last meeting, which had been previously circulated to Members were approved and the Chairman signed them as a true record of the meeting

157. Matters arising from the minutes

Community Speed Watch Programme. Training for the volunteers will take place on the 23rd January 2010. The next step is to agree the location with the Police

Second Dog Bin – The dog bin has been received and the Lengthsman was due to install it but due to frozen ground was unable to do so. As soon as the ground has thawed it will be installed

Removal of tyres from top of Hollow. Clerk to remind Mr Pallister to action this

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Rocking Rockette Seat – this has been received but unfortunately there is an allen key missing so the Lengthsman was unable to fit it. The Clerk is trying to get a new allen key sent.

Salt – Unfortunately the salt that was put at the bottom of the Hollow has been taken. It was agreed that Andy Harris would take a couple of bags and give to Lucy Pickersgill and Mr Bustle, to keep on their property for use by themselves and neighbours

158. Clerks Report and Correspondence

Parish Lengthsman Meeting – this was planned for the 12th January but has been postponed due to the weather

Speed of traffic on the A30 Update from Victoria Knight – she has finalised her report/response but has been waiting for Mark Harris to agree it. She is going to send it to the Highways Rep direct as well as East Chinnock Parish Council and David Laws. She suggested that the next real step is then to have a public consultation sometime in March. The Clerk was asked to check if this was really necessary, and to chase up the report

Road Closure – Partway Lane, Hardington Mandeville from 11 January for 3 days

Allotments – The Clerk was asked to solicit interest and report back to the parish council

Westways Ditches and Gulleys – The Clerk was asked to contact Ric Pallister to find out how to resolve this

Post Office Break In Unfortunately there has been a break in at the Post Office. Damage was done to the property and items were stolen. The police believe this may be an organised group so we should all be more security aware, even if you have an alarm system.

Flood Awareness Workshop – Mrs Merchant will be attending

159. District Councillor's Report

Not present

160 County Councillor's Report

Not present

161. Finance

Payment of £153.95 has been made into the Entertainments account following Bonfire Night and the Roberts Leaving event

162. Payments

£100 2nd West Coker Brownies Donation to Brownies

£179.98 to JRB Enterprises for Dog Bin

£109.83 to Wicksteed for replacement Rocking rockette seat

163 Planning Applications

None received

164. Planning Decisions

09/03902/FUL

Mr & Mrs Frank Hogarty

Alterations to former Coach House

Permission Granted

09/03870/COU

BW & L Kemp

Change of use of premises

Permission Granted

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165 Parish Lengthsman Report and Update

Sadly the weather has stopped the Lengthsman from installing the dog bin and unable to fit the rocking rockette seat due to missing allen key

166 Potholes and General Maintenance Report and Update

A large hole in the road opposite the Post Office, and more holes along the road between the Hollow and Odcombe

167. Play Area Report and Update

Nothing to report

168. Rights of Way Report and Update

Nothing to report

169. Village Newsletter

Nothing further

170 Entertainments Committee

Nothing to report

171. Items to Report

Nothing further

172 Next Meeting

Monday 1st February 2010 at 7.45pm

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting

Signed (Chair)

Date.....

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EAST CHINNOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the East Chinnock Parish Council Meeting that was held on Monday 1st February 2010 at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.

Present

Chairman	Mr J Churchill
Vice Chair	Mr A Sinclair
Councillors	Mrs L Kemp, Mr M Jones, Mrs M Merchant, Mr A Harris Mrs P O'Donnell
District Councillor	Cathy Bakewell (part of the meeting)
County Councillor	Ric Pallister (part of the meeting)
Officer	Mrs H Early

During public questions a parishioner raised a concern about slates coming off the bus shelter roof. Mrs O'Donnell will ask the Parish Lengthsman to resolve this matter

173. Apologies for absence

None

174. Declarations of interest

None

175. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes from the last meeting, which had been previously circulated to Members were approved and the Chairman signed them as a true record of the meeting

176. Matters arising from the minutes

- **Overhanging trees at the Rookery** – the Clerk was having difficulty finding out who owned the land. Another name was suggested at the meeting. The Clerk will continue to pursue this matter.
- **Community Speed Watch programme** - 11 volunteers from the village have now been trained. The police have approved 4 sites within the village – the lay-by at the bottom of the village, the lay-by at the top of the village, outside the village hall and Chinnock Hollow. We are now awaiting the equipment. If anyone else wants to get involved please contact either Andy Sinclair or Jeremy Churchill
- **Speed of traffic on A30** – update from Clerk on the action group activity. We are still awaiting the report from Hardington Mandeville Parish Council. Once received it will be circulated to all Councillors. Any public consultation will be undertaken by the County Council
- **Westways Ditches and gullies** – Cathy Bakewell will contact Highways to ask them to remove the fallen tree and to make sure the markers are put back in place. The Clerk was asked to contact the landowners to ask them to clear the ditches. Pam O'Donnell will ask the Lengthsman to clear the grips
- **Flood Awareness Workshop** – update from Mrs Merchant who attended this. Mrs Merchant said that the information was mostly focused on residential issues and that leaves in drains are the main concern. This is down to residents to clear themselves. She felt that there were no major points that were relevant to East Chinnock

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177. Clerks Report and Correspondence

- Proposal for permanent diversion of footpath Y8/23 at Barrows Hill Farmhouse was fully discussed and the proposal was supported. Clerk to contact South Somerset District Council
- Elliotts Hill – request from Hardington Mandeville to share cost of salt bin. Whilst the Council has every sympathy with the situation they were unable to support this request. The Clerk was asked to reply.
- Aggressive / Frightening ponies have been reported along path Y8/16. The Clerk was asked to write to the landowners to see if the matter can be resolved informally and amicably.
- South Somerset Bridleways Association – request to present at meeting. This was agreed for the March meeting
- Letter from Brownies- to say thank you for the donation of £100, and to say that one Brownie from East Chinnock was no longer attending the trip and did the Parish Council want them to return a percentage of the donation. The Councillors unanimously said no

The following information was circulate to and read by all Councillors

- Rural Youth newsletter
- Streetscene Environmental enforcement presentation
- News from Flourish Homes
- Schools organization proposals. Area West Committee meeting 20th Jan
- Youth in your community workshop – 3rd Feb

178. District Councillor's Report

There is to be a change in from Development Control to Development Management. In practice this means that Councillors will be involved in decisions earlier on.

SSDC are looking to have a joint partnership agreement with East Devon. A CEO will be recruited and cost sharing initiatives will take place.

A benefactor has arisen to look at recycling cardboard and plastics. An announcement is expected at the end of February

179. County Councillor's Report

There is to be a 0% council tax increase over the next three years. £75million is to be taken out so cuts will be noticed. The Highways budget will be cut and the Councillors community budgets will be gone. Cathy Bakewell is to investigate if the Parish Lengthsman scheme will be affected.

180. Finance

- £165 received from donations towards logs
- £212.50 received from Feofees as half donation to cost of clock repairs

181. Payments

- £940 + £17.97 = £957.97 - Helen Early, Clerks Salary & Printer cartridge
- £489.33 - Sally Strachley, Historic Conservation Village Clock Repairs (Half to be repaid by Feofees)

182. Planning Applications

None received

183. Planning Decisions

None

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184. Parish Lengthsman Report and Update

- The dog bin has now been installed along Carters Lane. The Clerk was asked to inform the District council for collection purposes, and put an article in the Chinnock Chimes
- We now have the allen key to replace the seat on the rocking rockette

185. Potholes and General Maintenance Report and Update

Mr Churchill continues to chase these issues

186. Play Area Report and Update

The Ash Tree has now been felled. The Clerk has been asked to write to Mr Stewart to thank him for his use of the trailer and storage. Mr Harris was asked to order 3 replacement trees and a site visit was arranged for 2nd February to agree where the trees would be planted.

187. Rights of Way Report and Update - Nothing further to report

188. Village Newsletter - Nothing further to report

189. Entertainments Committee - Nothing to report

190. Items to Report

- Mrs Merchant asked if the Councillors could have copies of the electoral register. This was agreed and Councillors were reminded that they must use this information only in their capacity as Councillors and not pass on any of the data
- **Speed of traffic and number of vehicles using Chinnock Hollow.** Following the traffic survey, the data had been circulated to all Councillors. After much discussion the following was agreed- The East Chinnock Parish Council sympathises with the situation. Having reviewed the figures given by the Highways department it feels that the data does not at present support any demand for further action. This decision is also made in light of the current financial climate with an appreciation that the Highways budget is to be cut. The Parish Council will continue to pursue the need for clear road markings and pot holes to be filled.

191. Next Meeting

Monday 1st March 2010 at 7.45pm

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting

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EAST CHINNOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the East Chinnock Parish Council Meeting that was held on Monday 1st March 2010 at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.

Present

Chairman	Mr J Churchill
Vice Chair	Mr A Sinclair
Councillors	Mrs L Kemp, Mr M Jones, Mrs M Merchant, Mr A Harris Mrs P O'Donnell
District Councillor	Cathy Bakewell (part of the meeting)
County Councillor	Ric Pallister (part of the meeting)
Officer	Mrs H Early

During public questions two parishioners raised a concern about the state and general maintenance of 22 Orchardleigh. They reported rats and an overgrown garden. Mr Pallister will contact the Empty Property team to ask them to persuade the owners to reinstate the house into use. He will also ask the Environmental Health Team to look at the property again.

Some parishioners raised concerns over the auction of two plots of land at the top of Springfields. As this is a private sale of land, then the Parish Council cannot affect the situation and any change of use will be subject to the usual planning restrictions.

192. Apologies for absence

None

193. Declarations of interest

Mrs O'Donnell in item 10 Planning Applications.

194. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes from the last meeting, which had been previously circulated to Members were amended to include the word unanimously on point 190. They were then approved and the Chairman signed them as a true record of the meeting

195. Matters arising from the minutes

- **Overhanging trees at the Rookery** – the Clerk will contact the owner of the tree to inform them that the land is up for sale and so no action can take place until the new owners are known.
- **Speed of traffic on A30** – the report from Haselbury Plucknett has now been received and circulated to all Councillors. The Parish Council reiterated that they support the general proposal to reduce speed on the A30 and await the public consultation
- **Westways Ditches and gullies** – Cathy Bakewell will contact Highways to ask them to remove the fallen tree and to make sure the markers are put back in place.

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196. Clerks Report and Correspondence

- *Scamwise Events* – No Councillors wished to attend these events,
- *St Margarets hospice* – request for donation. This will be revisited next month when the end of year financial situation is known
- *Cluster workshops* - Mr Sinclair volunteered to attend this meeting on the 4th March and will report back to the Parish Council at the next meeting
- *Play Area Report* – a detailed report has been received and the Parish Council response to the major issues identified is as follows
 - Tyre Tower – As the bottom of the poles are breaking up, the Lengthsman has offered to completely replace the tower in the Summer. Mr Pallister will speak to Adrian Moore to ensure that this is satisfactory from a Health and Safety point of view
 - Swings shackles - As the shackles are self lubricating the Parish Council do not feel this is a major concern
 - Football goal posts - It is accepted that the posts do move but they are set into sockets in the ground. They do lean back at an angle but neither of these issues are felt to be of major concern at this time
- *Resume of meeting with Colin Fletcher regarding the issues of traffic numbers and speed in the Hollow* - The Chairman has met with Highways and a resume of the meeting was circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting. The Chairman then asked Councillors that having read the report did this change their opinions from the decision made at last months meeting. They unanimously said that the decision made last month should stand.
- *Area West Parish / Town Council Meeting* No Councillors wished to attend this meeting

The following information was circulated to and read by all Councillors

- Rural Youth newsletter
- Speed indicator device – renewal of funding
- SID results
- SID programme for 2010
- A30 report
- Ponies on footpath
- Tree talk
- Somerset Playing Fields Association
- Area West Committee agenda
- Discover South Somerset 2010

197. District Councillor's Report

It has been announced that Marks and Spencer are the sponsors of the plastics and cardboard recycling in South Somerset. The roll out starts in October in Chard and will progress eastwards

The District Council budget has been set and there will be significant cuts in the public sector including job losses. The cost sharing merger with Devon is going ahead, but there is still a significant gap of £2million approximately to find. It is likely that all areas will be affected

198. County Councillor's Report

There is to be a 0% council tax increase over the next three years. £75million is to be taken out so cuts will be noticed. There is a recruitment freeze and there will be redundancies

199. Finance - Nothing to report

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200. Payments

The following payments were presented and accepted for payment

- P Martin £350 for tree felling (Mrs Merchant abstained from voting on this matter)
- SSDC £79.32 Annual playground inspection and risk assessment
- Yeovil Hire Centre £85.31 for hire of roller for play area

201. Planning Applications

Parish Council for information – tree preservation order. Tree surgery works on apple tree at 11 Weston Close. This is not a consultation, and no concerns or queries were raised.

202. Planning Decisions

None received

203. Community Speed Watch programme

The volunteers have been active since 10th February with an official opening by the Beat Officer on the 26th February. There will be a press release and further information is shown on the website .

There are currently 11 volunteers with 2 more to train. All new volunteers are welcomed.

Mr Sinclair proposed that he reports back the data at every meeting. This was unanimously agreed.

Since they have started they have identified 26 speeding vehicles. Letter from the police will be sent to these drivers.

Mr Sinclair also proposed that the Parish Council actively support this venture through their communications and also financially. It was suggested that the costs will simply be for small set up costs and the on going cost of stationery. This proposal was seconded and unanimously agreed by all Councillors. The chairman also proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Sinclair and Ms Langford for all the work they have put into this

204. Parish Lengthsman Report and Update

Mrs O'Donnell attended a meeting where the future of the Lengthsman scheme was discussed.

There are funds to continue the scheme for the next year. However if the scheme is cut then it is estimated that it would cost an additional £500 per year to continue the current service for East Chinnock.

The Lengthsman has ordered replacement tiles for the bus shelter.

The chairman asked Mrs O'Donnell to pass on the thanks of the Parish Council for his hard work.

205. Potholes and General Maintenance Report and Update

Mr Churchill continues to chase these issues, including painting of signs down the Hollow. He will ask about the clanking drain in the Hollow and the pothole by the village shop, and Odcombe road.

206. Play Area Report and Update

Nothing further than previously reported

207. Rights of Way Report and Update

Nothing further to report

208. Village Newsletter

Mr Sinclair will forward a piece regarding the Community Speed Watch Programme

209. Entertainments Committee - Nothing to report

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210. Items to Report

The clerk will update the asset register and circulate to all Councillors

211. Next Meeting

Monday 12th April 2010 Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm followed by the monthly Parish Council meeting at 7.45pm

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EAST CHINNOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the East Chinnock Parish Council Meeting that was held on Monday 12th April 2010 at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.

Present

Chairman	Mr J Churchill
Vice Chair	Mr A Sinclair
Councillors	Mr M Jones, Mrs P O'Donnell
District Councillor	Cathy Bakewell (part of the meeting)
County Councillor	Ric Pallister (part of the meeting)
Officer	Mrs H Early

During public questions a parishioner brought to the village attention the matter of a missing man from Crewkerne.

There then followed a detailed, and long debate regarding the concerns of the Chinnock Hollow Action Group. The summary of the discussion can be found at the end of the minutes
The actions to be taken are outlined in the minutes of the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence

Mrs Kemp, Mrs Merchant, Mr Harris

2. Declarations of interest

None

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes from the last meeting, which had been previously circulated to Members were approved and the Chairman signed them as a true record of the meeting

4. Matters arising from the minutes

- **22 Orchardleigh** – At the last meeting some parishioners reported that they were concerned over the state of this empty house. Mr Pallister has contacted the Empty Houses Team who have in turn contacted the owners. The owners have assured the council that they intend to get the house back into a suitable state of repair for renting. Apparently the ceilings are now coming down so the house is deteriorating. The Clerk was asked to contact the neighbours to inform them of what has happened. Mr Pallister has asked that this matter be kept on the agenda
- **Westways gullies and ditches** – Mrs Bakewell has written to both landowners and asked them to clear the ditches.
- **Clusters Workshop** – Mr Sinclair attended this workshop. In essence the Council are looking at the provision of land for house building and the discussion was whether this should be in rural communities or established towns. The workshop concluded that there should be a split in the town/village housing development of between 65 and 80% in the larger towns with villages having the ability for limited future growth where the villagers desire it and the infrastructure can support it.
- **Play Area Tyre Tower** – The Lengthsman has offered to replace this, but before he does so, Mr Pallister will check with the Play Area Health and Safety team that this is a suitable option, rather than replace with a purchased item.

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- **Clanking drain in Hollow and pothole outside village shop** – Mr Churchill reported that the clanking drain had been mended but is now clanking again. The pothole has been filled. Mr Churchill continues to chase these matters as well as road markings in the Hollow, pot holes in the Hollow and along the Odcombe Road
- **Asset Register** – the Clerk had updated the list but has been given more items from Mrs Merchant. The list will be circulated again to Councillors so that they can decide whether or not these items still exist and whether they are in a fit condition for continued use.
- **Subscription to SALC** – The Chairman suggested that it would be useful to have this membership. It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed that East Chinnock Parish Council would subscribe to SALC with immediate effect.
- **Letter from Chinnock Road/Hollow Traffic Action Group** – further to the in-depth discussion during public questions, Mr Jones volunteered to be the liaison Councillor between the group and the Parish Council. The Chairman proposed and was seconded (and unanimously agreed) that the Parish Council would support the groups right to pursue this matter
- **Area West Parish/Town Council Meeting** Mr Jones volunteered to attend.
- **Recruitment of new Clerk** – the Councillors agreed the job advert and asked that it be put on the notice boards, website and into the Chinnock Chimes
- **Health and Safety Questionnaire for Playing Field** - the Clerk will endeavour to complete these

5. Clerks Report and Correspondence

- **Re-appointment of Charity Trustees** – Feofees have asked for the Parish Council to confirm the reappointment of Pat O'Donnell and Shirley Condon as Feofees trustees. Before doing so, the Clerk was asked to contact them to make sure they want to be re-appointed
- The following information was circulate to and read by all Councillors
 - Letter from Mr P Dolan
 - Area West Committee
 - Somerset Today
 - South Somerset News
 - Letter from Mr Hills regarding safety concerns on the A30
 - Sunday and Public Holidays bus services
 - Somerset Records office move
 - News from YDH
 - Notice of Accounts
 - Somerset Minerals Core Strategy
 - Play Area Report
 - A303 Podimore roundabout signage

6. District Councillor's Report

Meetings have taken place with Devon and there is still a need for cost savings. People are concerned about job losses

7. County Councillor's Report

Mrs Bakewell reported that the proposed red route review of the A30 and surrounding roads has not been axed. She will find out when the proposed public consultation is likely to take place East Chinnock are due to have the speed indicator device on the 2th June and the 25th October this year

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As part of the road safety review some signage will be removed. It is believed that the removal of some signs improves safety.

8. Finance

The precept of £4500 has been received

9. Payments

The following payments were presented and accepted for payment

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|------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| • A Sinclair | £34.99 | Bag for Speed Watch materials |
| • East Chinnock Village Hall | £5 | Hire of hall for speed watch meeting |
| • East Chinnock Village Hall | £120 | Hire of hall |
| • Parish Lengthsman | £336.09 | |

10. Planning Applications

09/04532/LBC

Dr C Metrweli

Fordhay House, Fordhay

The installation of 7 replacement windows

Through previous circulation of information the Parish Council have no objection to this application

10/00653/FUL

Mr S Williams

13 Fordhay Terrace, Fordhay

The erection of a conservatory to rear of dwellinghouse

Through previous circulation of information the Parish Council have no objection to this application

10/00562/FUL

Mr Tim Prior

Spring Holten, Broad Lane

The formation of a new access and the erection of an agricultural workers dwelling

After much discussion the following was proposed, and seconded with a vote for 3 to 1

The Parish Council do not object to the application but have concerns over the visible impact of the building. They support the design as long as it is ensured that the building is set into the landscape

11. Planning Decisions

10/00625/TPO

Mr Brian Lock

Tree surgery at 11 Weston Close

Consent granted

12. Community Speed Watch programme

Since February the group have measured over 14000 cars with 87 exceeding the allowable limit

13. Parish Lengthsman Report and Update

The steps into the airfield have now been done and he plans on putting up a handrail. The bus shelter tiles have been fixed but he has warned that it may need a new roof.

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14. Potholes and General Maintenance Report and Update

In addition to the other matters the 30mph sign has fallen down towards the end of Weston Street. Mr Churchill to report this

15. Play Area Report and Update

Nothing further to report. As Mrs Kemp has now resigned Mrs O'Donnell agreed to report back on this matter every month

16. Rights of Way Report and Update

- Obstruction on Y8/22 Heavy gate that does not open. Clerk to do joint letter with West Chinnock to landowner
- The County Council have now taken back responsibility of rights of way matters from the District Council. The new contact is Rob Coast on 01823 356851
- Y8/10 sheep fence across path and Y8/12, heavy gate obstructing path. Clerk to refer both of these matters to the County Council

17. Village Newsletter

Clerk to contact Meg with job advert for new Clerk, asking for a volunteer Councillor and to remind villagers to clean up after their dogs.

18. Entertainments Committee

There will be a barn dance. Date to be confirmed

19. Items to Report

Street light on Weston Street working intermittently. Clerk to report

20. Next Meeting

Monday 10th May 2010. Annual General Meeting

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Summary of discussion from Chinnock Hollow Action Group

The Chinnock Road/Hollow Traffic Action Group wished it to be put on record and summarised in the minutes that they believe that the decision made by the PC on 1st February 2010 was unlawful. They cited the statement on page 7 of the 'Doing it Right: A Practical Guide for Parish Councillors' booklet, which they claimed is mandatory not advisory, which requires that each item on the agenda must contain sufficient information to indicate the nature and purpose of the business to be transacted. They pointed out that the agenda for the February meeting had contained no information whatsoever to indicate not only that the traffic survey results were to be discussed, but a decision was to be made about what further action was to be taken by the PC in respect of the traffic problems in the Chinnock Road and Hollow.

They stressed that the whole point of the instruction appeared to be to ensure that members of the public knew in advance what was to be decided at any meeting. Given that the main role of a Parish Councillor was to speak on behalf of the people of the Parish ('Doing it Right' p.5), they claimed that this could not have been done at the February meeting. None of the Councillors had spoken to any member of the Traffic Action Group to find out what their position was with regard to the results. According to them, what the PC did know was that the Traffic Action Group had sought 2010

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clarification, further information and a missing page in respect of the data, and was awaiting a response from the Highways Department of Somerset County Council.

They asked that the PC reconsider their position, withdrew their decision and resolve to continue to support the Traffic Action Group.

They went on to challenge points set out in the resume of the meeting between the Chairman and Colin Fletcher, Area Traffic Engineer. One resident maintained that the results of the survey did not support the assertion that levels of motor vehicle use in the Hollow had dropped, and that this continued to be as big a problem as it had always been. He further claimed that it was incorrect to say that Chinnock Hollow had no record at all of accidents, incidents or injuries. There were numerous near misses, there had been accidents and incidents, some of which had been reported. The traffic problem did not just affect the households in the Hollow, but the whole village and the drivers of the 2,500+ vehicles which used the Hollow and Chinnock Road each weekday.

In response to the point in the Parish Council's letter to Mrs Carter that the CSW would provide helpful data with regard to speeds in the Hollow, another resident pointed out that a significant problem was the speed of traffic as it entered and left the Hollow at Badger's Cross. The speed limit at that point was 60 mph and because the CSW could only be used on roads with a 30 mph and 40 mph there was no means of monitoring the excessive speeds used by many vehicles at that stage. She claimed that Badger's Cross is an extremely dangerous junction and the policeman running the CSW course had recognised this when he referred to the Chinnock Road/Hollow area as a 'hot spot'.

The new sign at the top of the Hollow restricted vision for high vehicles, especially tractors.

The Parish Council's position remains that, in the light of the results of the traffic surveys which have been carried out at Odcombe since 2003 - which show little or no increase in traffic since 2003 - and the speed survey carried out at the top of Chinnock Hollow at the end of 2009 - which showed entirely normal speeds for a road of that type, there is insufficient evidence of increased traffic and excessive speeds to warrant action being taken, in view of the high cost of such action and the very small number of houses immediately affected. Questioning revealed that the "numerous near misses, accidents and incidents, some of which had been reported" actually amounted to one reported incident.

The Parish Council hopes that the Speed Watch Group's activities will in time help to reduce the speed of traffic through the Hollow, as well as through the village itself. The effectiveness of this action will, of course depend entirely on the frequency of Speed Watch sessions, which will in turn be dependent on the willingness of volunteers to participate.

The Parish Council is at a loss to understand the conflicting opinions expressed by members of Avon & Somerset Constabulary, as previously the Chairman had been informed by members of the Road Policing Unit that there was absolutely no record of any incidents at all in Chinnock Hollow and that they could not understand why the East Chinnock Community Speed Watch Group wanted to establish a site at the top of Chinnock Hollow.

As to the Parish Council's decision of February 1st, all those involved, who had been present at the January Parish Council meeting, were aware that the results of the speed and traffic surveys were being circulated and that the Parish Council's position would be entirely contingent on the evidence produced by the those surveys. As the matter has been discussed on an ongoing basis over the past year, whether or not it was mentioned on the agendas of the meetings concerned, the Chairman saw

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no problem in asking the Councillors for their views during the February meeting. There is absolutely no question of the Council's decision being illegal.

The Parish Council does however acknowledge the right of the Chinnock Road/Hollow Traffic Action Group to pursue this matter.

The Parish Council with no evidence from the road statistics could not find a way forward that would lead to positive results and therefore decided to drop the matter from the agenda. The PC did not withdraw support for the Chinnock Hollow Traffic Action Group in the February resolution and they have the full support of the PC if they wished to pursue their concerns as private citizens; the April meeting affirmed this position as recorded in the minutes.'

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EAST CHINNOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the East Chinnock Parish Council Meeting that was held on Monday 10th May 2010 at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.

Present

Chairman	Mr J Churchill
Vice Chair	Mr A Sinclair
Councillors	Mr M Jones, Mrs P O'Donnell, Mr Harris, Mrs Merchant
District Councillor	Cathy Bakewell (part of the meeting)
County Councillor	Ric Pallister (part of the meeting)
Officer	Mrs H Early

During public questions a couple of parishioners brought to the Parish Council the matter that the pre-school is charging £10 for a stall at their summer fair. It was felt that this charge was excessive and as the pre-school do not pay to hire the field, that there should not be a charge for village groups to rent a stall. The Clerk was asked to write to the Pre-school.

There then followed another long debate regarding the concerns of the Chinnock Hollow Action Group. As the Chairman has forwarded the groups proposals to Colin Fletcher, the Group asked to be copied into any future communications regarding this matter.

21. Apologies for absence

None

22. Appointment of Parish Council Chairman.

Mr Churchill stood down. Mrs Early took over the meeting and asked if there were any nominations for Chairman. Mr Jones asked Mr Churchill if he was willing to continue to stand. As Mr Churchill confirmed that he was, Mr Jones nominated Mr Churchill. This was seconded and all the Councillors unanimously voted in Mr Churchill as the Parish Council Chairman. Mrs Early then handed the meeting back to Mr Churchill

23. Appointment of Parish Council Vice Chairman

Mr Churchill asked for any nominations. Mr Sinclair was nominated, seconded and unanimously voted in as Vice Chairman

24. Declarations of Interest

None

25. Minutes of the last meeting.

The minutes that had previously been circulated to all Councillors were signed by the Chairman as a true record of the April meeting

26. Matters arising from the Minutes

- **No.22 Orchardleigh** – Mr Pallister had no further update on this. He has been to see the property and spoken to local residents. The Empty Homes team is aware of the situation and are in communication with the owner

Draft

- **Tyre Tower** – Mrs O'Donnell has put a safety fence around the tower as she feels it is not safe. She will arrange for the equipment to be removed as soon as possible. Mr Pallister has spoken to the relevant people and he confirmed that the Parish Council can ask the Lengthsman to replace the tower as long as he uses the same dimensions and uses appropriate materials. The Lengthsman should carry out a risk assessment to ensure that any risks are negated. Mr Pallister suggested that the Lengthsman meet with Adrian Moore on site to discuss any other potential issues. The new tyre tower would then be included in future play area reports. Mrs O'Donnell will liaise with the Lengthsman and Mr Harris to move this forward. They will come back to the next meeting with the proposed costs of replacement.
- **Recruitment of new Clerk** – this has not progressed. There are 2 applicants. It was proposed and seconded (and unanimously agreed) that Mr Churchill, Mrs O'Donnell and Mrs Merchant would meet with the candidates and make an appointment on behalf of the Parish Council.
- **Chinnock Road/Hollow Traffic Action Group** – The Chairman has forwarded a copy of the action groups proposals to Colin Fletcher by e-mail. The Chairman agreed to send a copy of this e-mail and any responses to the Action Group. Mr Jones suggested that we should await the costs of the proposals before any further action is taken, as there are Parish Council funds that could possibly be used to address some of the issues.

27. Finance

The Clerk took the Councillors through the expenditure and income for the year ending 31st March 2010. The sums reconciled, with a balance of £11779 moving into the 10/11 financial year. Full details of expenditure and income is available from the Clerk on request.

The Clerk then took the Councillors through Section 2 – Annual Governance Statement for the Audit Commissions Annual return for the year ended 31 March 2010. The Chairman and Clerk then signed and dated Section 1 and section 2

The Clerk had previously arranged for an internal audit to be completed by Mr Lucas who has completed section 4.

The Councillors then identified potential costs over the next 12 months as:

Cost of running the Chinnock Chimes, Trees and tree guards, Clerks salary & expenses, Clerks IT set up, mower replacement, village plan, marquee replacement, Chinnock Hollow signage,

28. Clerks Report and Correspondence

Nothing to report

29. District Councillor's Report

Nothing to report

30. County Councillor's Report

Nothing to report

31. Payments

The following payments were presented and accepted for payment

- £116.11 to SALC for annual membership costs
- £50 to St Margarets Hospice. Mr Lucas audit fee

Draft

32. Planning Applications

None

33. Planning Decisions

09/04532/LBC

Dr C Metreweli

Fordhay House, Fordhay

The installation of 7 replacement windows

Consent granted

10/00653/FUL

Mr S Williams

13 Fordhay Terrace, Fordhay

The erection of a conservatory to rear of dwellinghouse

Consent granted

34. Community Speed Watch programme

Since last month the group have been out for 11.7hrs, measured 7000 cars and identified 72 speeders

35. Parish Lengthsman Report and Update

The play equipment has been painted. Mrs O'Donnell will ask him to take out the tyre tower and build a new one, see if he can secure the loose goal post, paint the bus shelter, and if he would dig holes to put in signage if required.

36. Potholes and General Maintenance Report and Update

The potholes along Odcombe road have been filled. Holes still remain at the bottom of the Hollow. Holes still on A30 on way out of village, and near the village shop. Grid still clanking in Hollow. Mr Churchill will continue to report on these matters.

37. Play Area Report and Update

Mr Harris to advise the Parish Council on the costs of the new trees.

38. Rights of Way Report and Update

Our Rights of Way representative is now Peter Keenlyside on 0845 345 9155

39. Village Newsletter

Meg has given the parish Council notice of her intention to give up the newsletter after the February 2011 issue. She has suggested that a sub committee is formed, and she will set this up and report back at the July Parish Council meeting. The Clerk was asked to write to Meg to confirm this.

40. Entertainments Committee

There will be a barn dance on the 26th June

41. Items to Report

None

42. Next Meeting

Monday 7th June 2010.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.

2010

Draft

EAST CHINNOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk

Christine Langford
Milestone House
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East Chinnock
01935 862837

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Chairman

Jeremy Churchill
6 Portman Court
East Chinnock
Somerset
01935 862515

Minutes of the East Chinnock Parish Council meeting held on Monday 7th June 2010 at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.

Present;

Chairman	Mr J Churchill
Vice Chair	Mr A Sinclair
Councillors	Mr M Jones, Mr A Harris, Mrs M Merchant
County Councillor	Cathy Bakewell (part of the meeting)
Officers	Ms C Langford with Mrs H Early

The Chairman welcomed Christine Langford as the new clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to the Parish Council.

During public questions a parishioner brought to the Parish Council the matter of people creating an access behind the garages at the top of Orchardleigh where there is no right of way. SSDC officers have looked at this issue and thought the access was not in use. The Clerk was asked to contact SSDC (Andrew Gillespie).

It was confirmed that Springfields has always been a private road.

43. Apologies for absence

Mrs P O'Donnell and Mr Ric Pallister.

44. Declarations of Interest

Mr Sinclair declared an interest in Item 9.

45. Minutes of the last meeting.

The minutes that had previously been circulated to all Councillors were signed by the Chairman as a true record of the May meeting

46. Matters arising from the Minutes

Tree guards - Mr Harris confirmed these have been ordered for the Play Area.
Tyre Tower – Mrs O'Donnell sent confirmation that this has been removed.

Draft

47. Circulation of minutes

After discussion it was agreed that the draft minutes would be circulated to all councillors, the County and District councillors, website (Jewells), rights of way rep, tree rep, the shop and the main notice board.

48. Clerk's report and correspondence

- **Pre School Fair** - the pre school has written confirming that there will be a charge to village groups. It was reported that groups are voting with their feet in not having a stall. Clerk to write confirming the Parish Council view that a charge is not appropriate for village groups, given their free use of the Play Area, and a request for a donation would be more acceptable. Clerk also to chase up request for proof of Public Liability cover.
- **South Somerset Bridleways Association** - request to give short presentation on their recording and identifying the correct status of all public rights of way. Clerk to invite to July meeting.
- **SALC meeting** - Mr Sinclair to attend.
- **SSDC LSP annual meeting** - no councillor able to attend.
- **Lengthsman meeting** - Mrs Merchant to attend as Mrs O'Donnell away.
- **Storage of PC archive material** - it was agreed that the files would be stored in the parish trunk (in Mrs Merchant's loft) and the old filing cabinet would be sold. Clerk to action this.

The following had also been circulated and read by all councillors:

- Sustrans updating cycle route signage
- Area West agenda
- Rural Services Network - letter to Prime Minister re fairer funding for rural areas.

49. District Councillors report - none.

50. County Councillors report - Mrs Bakewell is in contact with Patrick Flaherty, SCC Highways re the Red Route Review (A30) see minute 55. Mrs Bakewell had invited Colin Fletcher to the meeting to answer queries from Chinnock Hollow Action Group about the accuracy of the speed readings. Mr Fletcher could not attend. It was agreed that any meeting with SCC Highways would be about the Red Route Review and not just the Hollow. This would be taking place during the next few months.

It was reported that a member of the Action Group had passed on his thanks to the Chairman for all his efforts on their behalf.

51. Finance

Ms Langford left the room. Mr Sinclair took part in the discussion but did not vote on the clerk's salary. Parish clerk's salary and expenses - taking SALC guidance the clerk's salary was set at the starting scale of £1400/annum plus expenses. Ms Langford returned and Mrs Early left the room. It was proposed by Mr Jones and seconded by Mr Harris that the retiring clerk Mrs Early would be given £700 to offset that she had been paid below the recommended SALC scale during her 2 years in office. This would also cover the April to June 2010 period. Clerk to inform HMRC that she is now employed as parish clerk by ECPC. The clerk's salary and expenses would be a standing item on future agendas.

The Chairman presented Mrs Early with a gift from the councillors in thanks for all her hard work.

Draft

52. Payments

The following payments were presented and accepted for payment;

- Aon Limited for insurance £449.66
- Ms Langford for stationery £14.81
- Mr Jones for mower fuel £17.01
- Mr Sinclair for food hygiene course £60
- Mr Pope for metal marquee pegs £240 - from the Entertainments a/c
- RT Services for cleaning the bus shelter £15. Mr Harris to clarify if this is a six monthly invoice in which case it is accepted for payment, if not then it will come back to the next meeting.

53. Planning Applications - None

54. Planning Decisions - None

55. Red Route Review - see minute 50.

56. Community Speed Watch programme

The team had been out for 14 hours during May, there had been some 9,000 cars with 70 recorded as speeding. In total the team has done 43 hours with 29,000 cars. Mr Sinclair asked Mr Churchill to request summer weight vests at the next Speed Watch meeting.

57. Parish Lengthsman Report and Update

The tyre tower has been removed. .

The bus shelter has been cleaned and the painting of the shelter is in hand.

58. Potholes and General Maintenance Report and Update

Mr Churchill will continue to report on holes at the bottom of the Hollow, on A30 on way out of village and near the village shop and the clanking manhole cover. Also the 30mph sign in Weston Street is still unsecured.

59. Play Area Report and Update

The new tower parts will be funded by the Lengthsman Scheme but the lengthsman says a safety surface is also required. Clerk to contact Mr Pallister to confirm with Adrian Moore (SSDC) if this correct.

Mr Jones to acquire a copy of the Rec mowing rota to display in the village hall.

60. Rights of Way Report and Update

Mr Murdoch reported that the Somerset Hedge Group has funding for training of volunteers to survey hedges. Clerk to pass this information to Lou Pickersgill.

Somerset County Council website has details of rights of way being maintained, currently thought to be across the airfield and through the plantation.

It was reported that a parishioner had contacted SSDC re maize being grown across the footpath in fields at the end of Carter's Lane. The farmer has redefined the path with a quad bike.

Clerk to write (enclosing RoW leaflet) jointly with the West/Middle Chinnock clerk, to the landowner at Barrows Dairy Farm re iron gate at the boundary of their farm and Broadstone Farm. The gate does not open and there is no stile so it is an obstruction to the RoW. The path is designated Y8/22 and when it enters Middle Chinnock it becomes Y28/2

Draft

Clerk to write (with leaflet) to the landowner at Spring Holten on Broad Lane. They have obstructed the path (Y8/16) with fencing. The fence can remain if they put in stiles on the definitive route or they can apply for a diversion.

61. Village Newsletter

It was noted that Meg Wellard had stated that she would be reporting back to the Parish Council meeting in July on the appointment of a replacement editor for The Chimes.

62. Entertainment's Committee

There will be a barn dance on the 26th June.

The village hall committee requested that hall tables and chairs are booked with their booking clerk and returned clean.

63. Items of Report

Mr Jones had not attended the Area West Parish Council meeting as it had been cancelled.

Mrs Merchant reported that the wooden village tubs would need renewing soon. To be reviewed in the Autumn.

There is still a vacancy on the council. Clerk to advertise again in The Chimes, with Mr Churchill as the contact.

Mr Sinclair suggested a review of the notice boards. A larger board is needed at the village hall and a board is needed in Carter's Lane. Messrs Harris and Jones to get some prices.

It was noted that there had been a break in at the Church. Nothing had been stolen but it was recommended that the warden report this incident to the police.

64. Next Meeting

Monday 5th July 2010. There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting

Copies of these draft minutes can be found on the village website at www.eastchinnock.btik.com

Draft

EAST CHINNOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the East Chinnock Parish Council meeting held on Monday 5th July 2010 at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.

Present;

Chairman	Mr J Churchill
Vice Chair	Mr A Sinclair
Councillors	Mr M Jones, Mr A Harris (part of meeting), Mrs M Merchant, Mrs P O'Donnell
District Councillor	Ric Pallister (part of the meeting)
County Councillor	Cathy Bakewell (part of the meeting)
Officer	Ms C Langford

During public questions a parishioner on the Chinnock Hollow Action Group wanted to clarify that the email sent by SCC re financial cutbacks affecting the Red Route Review was not a response to the Hollow issues. This was confirmed and Mr Churchill will contact Colin Fletcher (SCC) regarding costs to address some of the issues i.e. village sign, extending 30mph zone.

65. Apologies for absence

Mr A Harris

66. Declarations of Interest

None.

67. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes that had previously been circulated to all Councillors were amended to include the hourly rate for the Parish Clerk then signed by the Chairman as a true record of the May meeting

68. Matters arising from the Minutes

- Unlawful access by the Orchardleigh garages; the land belongs to Yarlinton Housing Group. They have had a look and passed it to their legal team.
- South Somerset Bridleways Association will give a short presentation at the September meeting on their rights of way work.

69. Clerk's report and correspondence

- The owners of Spring Holton Farm have met with SCC to discuss what action is needed for the blocked footpath Y8/16.
- The filing cabinet was sold for £10.
- The clerk asked if the council could join the Society for Local Council Clerks as they provide information and advice for clerks. As there are proposed Government changes to the responsibilities of parish councils and there will be less Local Authority support for the clerk it was proposed that we join for a year or 2 then review. This was agreed.

Draft

The following items have been circulated to all councillors:

- Thank you letter from St Margaret's Hospice.
- Sustainable Communities Act request for lobbying of MPs to encourage thriving communities.
- SCC removal of unnecessary speed camera signs.
- Avon & Somerset Police authority Strategic Policing Plan 2010-2013
- SSDC Area West Committee on 16th June
- 2011 Census Councillor Handbook - awareness raising.
- South Somerset News
- Somerset Waste Partnership members digest
- Somerset Rail Guide 2010
- SCC Chairman's awards for service to the community 2010

70. District Councillors report

Mr Pallister reported that the regional spatial strategy has been scrapped so SSDC can now look at their realistic and lower figures for housing development rather than the high figures in the previous government edict. SSDC are looking at sustainable communities in clusters rather than in isolation. Mr Harris joined the meeting. SSDC have to make £2.5M savings for each of the next 3 years. They are working with East Devon DC and sharing senior management and some services.

There is nothing to report on the empty property 22 Orchardleigh. Council action is unlikely due to cutbacks and statutory responsibilities being prioritised.

71. County Councillors report

Mrs Bakewell said that some SCC services would be cut and others delivered in a more cost effective way in partnership with the private sector. A councillor asked about free bus passes and was told that this scheme is currently unsustainable. The passes are Government legislation and will be moving from SSDC administration to SCC next year.

72. Red Route Review

Mrs Bakewell reported that Patrick Flaherty (SCC Highways) says that they are currently reviewing how budget cuts will impact on the extent and timescale of the Red Route Review and will keep us updated.

73. Finance

- Moore Stephens have signed off the annual audit for year ending 31st March 2010 and the public notice of this has been displayed. They note that the PC has a high level of general reserves but general discussion highlighted several areas of projected expenditure i.e. parish plan questionnaire, new mower, bus shelter roof maintenance, possible costs in Chinnock Hollow and the Lengthsman Scheme will probably lose its SSDC funding.
- Clerk to look into the No 1 & 2 accounts to see if we can get any higher interest rates.
- Entertainments Committee Tent a/c - it was noted that this fund is for a replacement marquee and to underwrite Entertainments events. Clerk to clarify how the tent a/c is ring fenced for this purpose.
- Income; £10 received for the filing cabinet in No 1 a/c and £235 in marquee hiring's and skittle alley in the Tent a/c.

Draft

74. Payments

The following payments were presented and accepted for payment;

- Moore Stephens audit fee £141. Clerk to check re claiming VAT.
- Diocese 1/2 year Glebe rent £20.
- Ms Langford for 2 printer cartridges + 2 SALC courses mileage + 1.5 months salary £266.37.
- Mr Sinclair for mower fuel £23.50.
- Society of Local Council Clerks membership £66 agreed and to be reviewed in 12 months.
- RT Services for bus shelter cleaning £15/quarter. This will be a regular charge. Payment agreed. Mrs O'Donnell to ask RT Services to continue but to include the village hall seat.

75. Planning Applications

- Spring Holton, Broad Lane: 10/00562/FUL - amended access.
- The Bungalow, Higher Odcombe - erection of replacement dwelling & outbuilding. 10/02456/FUL. Item being circulated for comments.

76. Planning Decisions

None

77. Community Speed Watch programme

Mr Sinclair reported that the team had been out for 10 hours during June, there had been some 7,000 cars with 73 recorded as speeding. There have been no repeat offenders. There has been some police support which does make a difference. Summer weight vests to be asked for at the CSW co-ordinators meeting.

78. Parish Lengthsman Report and Update

Mrs O'Donnell said there were concerns that the Lengthsman funding would be going in cutbacks. Winter salt will be available. Chinnock Brook is still to be cleared. Mrs O'Donnell to check if the bus shelter has been painted and to ask for the bus timetable and cover to be reinstated.

79. Potholes and General Maintenance Report and Update

Mr Churchill reported that the A30 potholes had been filled. He has reported fly tipping in Green Lane/Chinnock Hollow to SSDC for action.

80. Notice Boards

Mr Harris is awaiting quotes for a larger board at the village hall, with a locked section for PC notices. Mr Jones confirmed that the job was too big for R Beasley. More than one quote required. It was agreed that the Orchardleigh board is satisfactory. The old hall board will be moved to Carter's Lane, by Portman Court entrance.

81. Play Area Report and Update

There is some dispute as to whether safety surfacing will be required around the tyre tower. Mr Pallister considers the present grass surface is sufficient, but the Parish Lengthsman says that safety surfacing will be required. It was reported that the surfacing under the swings and slide needs repairing and the wooden surround to the slide surfacing is broken. Mr Harris to find out exactly what the situation is regarding the need for safety surfacing - what kind, how extensive its coverage should be, etc - and to report back with costs to repair the surfacing under the slide and swings and to install any safety surfacing that may be required around the tyre tower - more than one quote required (3 ideally).

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It was reported that a tent had been in the play area the previous week and a lot of rubbish left. There were requests for the grass cuttings to be spread around the edge of the play area rather than in one large heap.

82. Pre-School Support

After considerable extra effort from Messrs Churchill and Sinclair and the clerk a copy of the Public Liability Insurance was produced on the day of the Pre School Fair. It was noted that the pre-school is run as a business. The PC supports the pre-school as it provides and maintains the Play Area at no charge. It was agreed that the clerk will write to the pre school informing them that, in future, they will be charged the village rate for the marquee (white or brown) and they must put any request to hold an event on the village play area in writing to the PC with a copy of their current Public Liability Insurance.

83. Rights of Way Report and Update

The clerk has not yet written to the landowner at Barrows Dairy Farm due to confusion over the property name. It was confirmed that the landowner is Mr Culvers at Barrows Dairy Farm. Clerk to contact the landowner at Spring Holton to ask what action they will be taking after their meeting with SCC officers regarding the obstructed footpath (Y8/16).

Contractors have blocked a ditch along Westways and Cod Lane. Mr Churchill to report this to Highways.

84. Village Newsletter

Meg Wellard reported that she is setting up a small group to discuss the future of The Chimes meeting in September. Roger Jewell to advertise the need for a new editor on the website. The PC needs an idea of the likely costs of the newsletter. There is likely to be a reduction in size (as it was noted that some information is duplication i.e. church services) and less colour print for the new format. The PC is keen to see the newsletter on the website and as many copies as possible emailed to villagers to reduce costs.

There followed discussion about the Parish Plan. There needs to be a consultation process. Lou Pickersgill offered to be on the Parish Plan working group. Updates can go in The Chimes and on the website. Mr Sinclair to contact Roger Jewell about what information to put on the website and clerk to put this in The Chimes.

85. Entertainments Committee

Mr Jones reported a very successful Barn Dance held on the 26th June. There was a 25% increase in income with a profit of £379. Mr Jones proposed using some of this profit to buy 3 lump and 1 sledge hammer for use with the marquees. All agreed. The clerk is to raise the issue of publicising the Entertainments Committee meetings at the next opportunity.

86. Items of Report

- The PCSO Michelle Haines will be at the first coffee morning in September.
- Mr Harris has planted trees on the Play Area and will order tree guards, to be installed as soon as possible.
- Mrs Merchant reported a damaged tree support in the Memorial Wood. Mr Harris to notify the appropriate person.
- It was noted that the Post Office/Store is on the market as a potential residential property. Change of Use would be required. Clerk to write to the Post Office stating PC concern that the Post Office/ Store is up for sale and asking what they can offer the village i.e. mobile provision and to draw their attention to the availability of wireless Broadband in the hall.

Draft

- Mr Churchill reported that the pub tenants have handed in their notice and are hoping to go in November.
- Mr Bruce Murdoch offered to fill the vacancy on the Parish Council until the elections in May 2011. Mrs Merchant proposed Mr Murdoch as a councillor, seconded by Mr Sinclair. Mr Churchill thanked Mr Murdoch and asked the Clerk to put his appointment in The Chimes.
- Mr Jewell reported that the website is to be run by a different company from the end of October 2010. Mr Jewell is looking at various options to maintain the quality of service. He will report back to the September meeting with an idea of costs involved.

87. Next Meeting

Monday 6th September 2010.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.

Draft

EAST CHINNOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the East Chinnock Parish Council meeting held on Monday 6th September 2010 at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.

Present;

Chairman Cllr J Churchill
Vice Chair Cllr A Sinclair
Councillors Cllrs M Jones, B Murdoch and M Merchant,
District Councillor -
County Councillor Cathy Bakewell (part of the meeting)
Officer Ms C Langford
There were 10 parishioners present.

Public Question Time;

- There was a request to use part of the football pitch on the Recreation Field to start a Croquet Club. Mr A Dodge is prepared to cut the grass shorter for the lawn area. He will get more detail on what is required, including CRB checks and insurance, and report back to the clerk. Cllr Merchant and Mr Dodge would be the co-ordinators initially. All in favour in principle but it was noted that the field must still be available for football as well as the croquet.
- In answer to a query it was confirmed that Somerset County Council (SCC) trim the bridleways.
- Cllr Churchill to clarify with Highways what the white line in front of cottages in The Hollow means.
- There was a request for the Lengthsman to trim the footpath from the school bus stop by the bridge towards Hardington.

88. Apologies for absence; Cllrs P O'Donnell & A Harris, Mr R Pallister & Mrs S Wheeler.

89. Declarations of Interest; none.

90. Minutes of the last meeting;

The minutes, that had previously been circulated to all Councillors were amended to state June meeting in Minute 67 and then signed by the Chairman as a true record of the July meeting

91. Matters arising from the Minutes

- Unlawful access by the Orchardleigh garages; there has been no update from Yarlington Housing Group. Clerk to ask Cllr O'Donell to give an update re the site meeting with Yarlington.

Draft

- The clerk confirmed that to ring fence funds for a specific purpose this should be stated in the minutes or when presenting any accounts. The tent account is for a replacement marquee.
- The clerk has been in contact with Mr Tim Nickolls, Post Office Network Development Manager South West. Cathy Bakewell, with support from Mr David Laws, has arranged to meet with Mr Nickolls on 23 September to discuss potential options.

92. Clerk's report and correspondence;

- The Western Gazette has asked to be emailed the Parish Council agendas.
- ***The following items have been circulated to all councillors;***
 - Somerset Highways re salt/grit bins and Winter Service questionnaire. We have requested bags of salt if available.
 - SSDC Area Committees papers - these will be electronic in future.
 - NHS pharmacy services questionnaire and SCC community safety consultation survey
 - SALC notice of AGM/Annual Report. No-one able to attend.
 - Chinnock Hollow - Colin Fletcher's reply to suggestions for improvement to traffic flow.
 - Library focus groups. Cllr Churchill offered to attend.
 - Boundary Review - not relevant as East Chinnock is not, and is unlikely to be, in a designated area i.e. AONB, National Park.
 - Government consultation re parish precept capping. We have been asked to respond to a Government consultation into excessive increases in precepts. It was agreed that this is aimed at much larger councils with budgets to match.
 - Newsletters; Clerks & Councils Direct, SMP Playgrounds, Yeovil District Hospital, Somerset Playing Fields Association, No Need for Nuclear campaign.
 - No-one was able to attend the SS CAB AGM and the South Somerset Funding Fayre is on 14th September.
 - War Memorials Trust bulletin - it was noted that the village memorial is the church clock; its condition does not at present require attention but will be monitored closely.
 - Tour of Britain Cycle Race 2010 is coming through Somerset on the 14/15th September.

93. District Councillors report - Mr Pallister has given his apologies.

94. County Councillors report

Mrs Bakewell said that with the Government Big Society idea there will be a cut back in statutory services. Town/Parish Councils could choose to provide some of these but there would need to be some core funding.

There is a proposal to have direct election of the Chief of the Avon & Somerset Police Authority. There is cross party concern in SCC that rural Somerset votes would be swamped

Draft

by inner city Bristol votes and also the huge cost (some £2M in a neighbouring authority) that reduces funding for much needed front line delivery.

95. Red Route Review

Mrs Bakewell reported that she had no update from Patrick Flaherty (SCC Highways) on when the review will take place.

At a local level several options have been presented to SCC to ease traffic problems in The Hollow. Two of these are being looked at in more detail; a village sign (cost £300) and extending the 30mph signs to beyond the cross roads (cost £2000). Cllr Sinclair proposed that Cllr Churchill negotiate with SCC regarding the costs of these two options and that the Parish Council will contribute up to £500, this was seconded by Cllr Jones and agreed. Cllr Churchill to report back to the Parish Council.

There will be District and Parish Council elections in May 2010. There is a possibility that the District election will be run alongside a referendum resulting in the Parish Council elections having to be held separately and paid for by the Council rather than sharing costs with the District Council. Clerk to ask SSDC how much they would charge us to run the election.

Residents from The Hollow expressed their appreciation of the Parish Councils efforts on their behalf and asked to be kept informed of negotiations so that they could look at contributing to the costs. Mrs Carter asked that the Parish Council recognize the commitment of the Chinnock Hollow/Odcombe Road Traffic Action Group, in the long term, to establishing a one-way priority scheme for traffic passing through the Hollow, and asked that this be kept in mind for the future when such schemes might once again become economically viable.

96. Finance

As there were no higher interest accounts available the clerk has combined the No 1 & 2 accounts. We cannot have a separate cheque book for the tent account so payments will continue to be transferred across from the No 1 account.

Two items of expenditure that we need to be mindful of in the next couple of years are the Parish Plan and a replacement mower. The cost of replacing the mower is to be ring-fenced in the Parish Council's budget in the same way as the cost of a replacement marquee.

Request for funding for the village website; the current BT free hosting service contract is ending and the new BT service is too restricted. Mr Jewell presented 3 options and recommended option 3 which would allow full control of the site (with online tools and a basic structure if required) also the site can be transferred to a new host if necessary rather than rebuilding. This would make it easier to train future webmasters. JustHost offer the best value for money with a £15.95 set up plus £6.95/month charge making a total of £100.35 for the first year. Once established we could go to a £1.95/month charge for a 5 year contract. Cllr Sinclair proposed that we support Option 3, seconded by Cllr Murdoch. All agreed. Mr Jewell to liaise with the clerk regarding setting up a direct debit payment.

Village Echoes book; There was a suggestion that the Parish Council may wish to buy some books for presentations etc, to make the print run up to 100 and therefore cheaper per copy. The Parish Council cannot spend scarce public monies on a private venture of this sort. Request for contribution towards clerks Broadband and telephone costs; Cllr Jones proposed £5/month towards these costs, seconded by Cllr Murdoch. All agreed, Cllr Sinclair abstained.

Draft

97. Payments

The following payments were presented;

- Ms Langford for 2 months salary plus stamps, paper and 4 months Broadband/telephone costs = £261.78.
- Cllr Sinclair for CSW microphone and batteries £28.82. Cllr Sinclair confirmed that the batteries should be sufficient for a year.
- Cllr Jones proposed that these payments be accepted, seconded by Cllr Murdoch.

98. Planning Applications

A & P Fleet, Spindleberry, Fordhay - 10/03373/FUL application for livestock shelter. This will be circulated for comments.

99. Planning Decisions

Spring Holton, Broad Lane: 10/00562/FUL amended access. Granted.

100. Community Speed Watch (CSW) programme

Summer weight vests had been requested but are not available. The CSW team had done a full day in July covering 11 hours between 6am to 8pm. There were 7745 vehicles with 58 speeders. There was police support for 3 hours. In total the team has done 76 hours with over 51,000 vehicles and 410 speeders, so 8 in a thousand vehicles reported as speeding. There has been a fall in the number of top end speeders (over 45mph). The team now has a laser gun which uses up batteries faster but is much more accurate, with the high number of vehicles passing through the village.

101. Parish Lengthsman Report

There was a request from Marion Andrews for Lengthsman support in cleaning her father's memorial. This was agreed.

The tyre tower has been removed. The Lengthsman can get approved materials from SSDC and could build the new tower over winter if agreed. Matting will be required.

The seat at Stump Stone will be repaired in the next couple of weeks.

The Lengthsman has put weedkiller on the pavement from Weston Street down towards Fordhay and has arranged for the road sweeper to come.

Clerk to inform Cllr O'Donnell of the request to trim the footpath from the school bus stop by the bridge towards Hardington.

102. Potholes and General Maintenance Report

More fly tipping reported. Also Cllr Churchill to find out who is responsible for lighting and report the No1 light at the bottom of Weston Close.

103. Notice Boards update

Cllr Harris has reported that he has searched the internet for noticeboards, most of which cost over £500 + VAT. He is recommending a board from Sign Solutions in Yeovil costing

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£435 + VAT. They would make a board with 2 lockable units, each holding about 8 A4 posters. It would have East Chinnock Parish Council along the top. This would enable Parish Council papers to be locked in whilst the other unit can be used by villagers for their notices. It was agreed that Cllr Harris be asked to order the board but with no writing on. Clerk to inform Cllr Harris of this decision.

104. Play Area Report

It was noted that the swings will need repairing soon as there is a split seat and the chains are worn. This was confirmed by the SSDC Play Area inspection Report.

With contradicting information regarding the need for safety matting around a replacement tyre tower it was agreed that the potential costs could far outweigh the use of a replacement tower. As there is a variety of equipment on the play area and there had been no request from parishioners for the tower to be replaced Cllr Jones proposed that the tower is not replaced, seconded by Cllr Sinclair. All agreed. Cllrs Jones and Sinclair to organise a work party to level off the ground. Clerk to inform Cllrs O'Donnell and Harris and the Lengthsman.

Clerk to ask Cllr Harris for an update on the tree guards.

105. Rights of Way Report

SCC Rights of Way has informed the Council of applications for the upgrade of two footpaths off Eastfield Lane to bridleways. There were no comments regarding this.

Y8/16 Spring Holton Farm; Cllr Murdoch has met with the owners and SSDC for discussions to overcome the complaint made about the obstructed definitive route. They are happy to have walkers on the footpath through their farm. The preferred solution is that; they put 2 stiles in the woodland boundary on the definitive route (so that it could be walked if someone insisted on following that route) and they will put a notice at each stile asking walkers to follow a permissive path around the edge of the woodland (to avoid destroying newly planted trees and for bio-security of the hens). The Village Walking Group will follow the permissive route and will encourage others in the village to do the same. All agreed with this solution. Cllr Murdoch to inform the landowners.

Y8/22 Barrows Dairy House; Cllr Murdoch has spoken to Mr Culver and arranged to have a site visit when he returns from holiday.

It was reported that there are two broken signposts and an electric fence across one footpath; Cllr Murdoch to report this to SCC Rights of Way.

The signpost at Stump Stone is broken; Cllr Churchill to report this to SCC Highways.

106. Village Newsletter update

It was agreed that Cllrs Murdoch and Sinclair with Mr Jewell and Ms Pickersgill form a working group to formulate a plan with costs. They will report back to the Council.

107. Entertainments Committee

At the Barn Dance wash-up meeting there was discussion over the hire of the marquee outside of the village, given that most of the erection team are over 70. It was agreed that as we do not advertise the marquee the number of outside bookings would be limited by the

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availability of an erection team. It was agreed that the tent erecting team should look at their pricing policy which had not increased for some time, if ever.

In response to the clerk raising the requirement to publicise the Entertainments Committee meetings future meetings will be publicised on the noticeboard and held in the village hall. It is hoped that more volunteers will come forward to help with the Barn Dance and Bonfire Night events and marquee duties.

108. Items of Report

Cllr Jones reported that Ric Pallister is trying to sort out the bureaucratic burden that SSDC are making of the Parish Licence. He will chase this up.

Cllr Murdoch is attending the Community Council for Somerset Village Halls Conference and will report back on any relevant items.

109. Next Meeting

Monday 4th October 2010.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.15pm.

Copies of these draft minutes can be found on the village website at www.eastchinnock.btik.com

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EAST CHINNOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the East Chinnock Parish Council meeting held on Monday 4th October 2010 at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.

Present;

Chairman Cllr J Churchill

Councillors Cllrs M Merchant, P O'Donnell, M Jones, B Murdoch & A Harris

District Councillor Ric Pallister (part of the meeting)

County Councillor Cathy Bakewell (part of the meeting)

Officer Ms C Langford

There were 5 parishioners present.

Public Question Time; The residents of Chinnock Hollow thanked the Parish Council for all their efforts on their behalf regarding traffic issues.

There will be an open session on Sunday 10 October at 2pm on the recreation field to see how many people are interested in a Croquet Club. Allan & Harry Dodge are looking into CRB checks and insurance requirements. There was discussion about the length of grass and the need for rolling but it had been agreed at the September meeting that the Croquet Club would be responsible for any additional effort to maintain a suitable pitch.

There was a request for the grass mowing rota to be published. Mr Pallister will send the 2011 rota to the clerk to display in the village hall.

110. Apologies for absence; Cllr A Sinclair.

111. Declarations of Interest; none.

112. Minutes of the last meeting; The minutes, that had previously been circulated to all Councillors, were amended to delete 'for presentations etc, to make the print run up to 100 and therefore cheaper per copy' in Minute 96 and then signed by the Chairman as a true record of the September meeting.

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113. Matters arising from the Minutes; Cllr Murdoch attended the Community Council for Somerset Village Halls Conference. They have a Parish Plan database and Cllr Murdoch will send details to Cllr Sinclair.

Cllr Churchill did not manage to attend the Libraries Focus Group event.

114. Clerk's report and correspondence;

The following items have been circulated to all councillors;

- SSDC Register of Members Interests with a reminder that SSDC must be informed of any changes (within 28 days) including any gifts/hospitality to the value of more than £25.
- SSDC response to the Government proposal for a Local Authority council tax veto and referendum. SSDC is not in favour of this proposal as it ignores the local democracy and consultation of town/parish councils with their communities and also the cost to these small councils would be prohibitive.
- SSDC update re: Sort It Plus (cardboard & plastic recycling) - East Chinnock is in the first phase, starting on 25 October 2010. Residents will receive an extra box and information pack.
- Avon & Somerset Community Policing Awards 2010 - no candidates put forward.
- Somerset County Council and Yeovil District Hospital annual reports plus South Western Ambulance Service newsletter

115. District Councillors report - Mr Pallister spoke about the devolution of power from County/District Councils to town/parish councils in an effort to make savings. The annual SSDC budget is £20.3M and £7.5-8M needs to be saved over the next 3 years. For East Chinnock the Lengthsman covers most of the service needs, but this scheme will no longer be subsidised by the County or District Councils and this must be taken into account in the next budget. The SORT IT recycling scheme will be paid for by Marks & Spencer for the initial 5 years. All homes will be receiving a draft Local Development Framework leaflet as part of the SSDC public consultation on their plans for housing development up to 2026.

The update on 22 Orchardleigh is that there has been no response from the owner following requests to bring the house back into use. As there is council tax owing on the property, and it is in poor condition having stood empty for some 3 years, SSDC will now move to force a sale.

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116. County Councillors report - Mrs Bakewell reported that SCC has to protect statutory services and is looking at alternative ways of providing these. In the case of libraries there are two models for community libraries across the county, one with limited staff support and the other community run. The 3 major towns will retain their SCC run libraries.

Mrs Bakewell reported back on her meeting with Mr Nickolls, Post Office Ltd. The East Chinnock shop/PO has been on the market for 18 months. If it is sold as residential property then there are various options to keep a Post Office service in the village e.g. community run in the village hall or part of an existing local business. Mrs Bakewell emphasised that the fall off in business was not due to lack of interest from villagers in having a village PO service. The present PO contract holders must give 3 months notice and would need change of use to sell the property as residential. Mr Nickolls will keep Mrs Bakewell updated and, should notice be given, then that would be the time for negotiations.

117. Red Route Review; Mrs Bakewell reported that it had been agreed that there could be no further discussions on taking this forward until the SCC budget has been set.

Cllr Churchill reported that Colin Fletcher is moving forward regarding the request for a village sign and extended speed limit in Chinnock Hollow. Cllr Churchill had made it clear that the Parish Council could contribute a small amount towards this work but Mr Fletcher has not mentioned any costs.

118. Finance; The clerk presented a half year financial report and highlighted that, as expenditure is greater than income this year, the reserves will be reduced as requested by the Auditors.

The clerk presented a draft budget for 2011/12. The Lengthsman scheme is likely to increase to around £2000 as the County and District Council contributions will cease (currently split 3 ways). It was suggested that he could be employed on an hourly basis to maintain the service. The clerk highlighted that the clerks costs should increase as 14 hours/month is inadequate for the role of parish clerk/responsible financial officer (SLCC states that the average hours for a parish of 251-500 parish is 18.25 hours/month) and the clerk is currently on the lowest salary grade for a parish clerk. There are various items of expenditure; repairs to bus shelter, flower tubs and swings plus additional costs for the Parish Plan and newsletter. These will all serve to reduce the reserves that are currently at too high a level.

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It was agreed that the mower should not be replaced until it needs costly repairs and this season it has just incurred fuel costs.

The clerk reminded councillors that they are able to claim expenses. It was suggested that a small sum be made available in the budget as this may help to encourage candidates at the May 2011 elections. Councillors agreed that their work on the Parish Council is part of their support for the village.

The clerk was congratulated on her clear financial presentations.

119. Payments; the following payments were presented;

Miss C Langford - Sept salary + expenses = £121.67.

Mr A Harris - 3 trees supplied for recreation ground £75.

Mr P O'Donnell - mower fuel £19.59.

Second yearly payment to Parish Lengthsman £336.09.

Designs on Iron - 3 tree guards £255.

Cllr Jones proposed that these payments be approved, seconded by Cllr Murdoch. All in favour.

120. Planning Applications;

Mr & Mrs A Whelan, 2 Springfields - 10/03678/FUL application for two storey extension.

A & P Fleet, Spindleberry, Fordhay - 10/03373/FUL application for livestock shelter.

There had been no objections to either of these from the Parish Council.

121. Planning Decisions; none.

122. Community Speed Watch (CSW) programme; In September the team did 11.5 hours, with 7511 vehicles and 65 speeders. We continue to get regular PCSO and RTU support. In total the team has done 87.5 hours with 57,792 vehicles and 466 speeders, so 8 in a thousand vehicles reported as speeding. We have two new volunteers signed up to be trained.

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123. Parish Lengthsman Report; The seat at Stump Stone will be repaired this week. The road sweeper has been to the village. The lengthsman will clean out drains and grips as needed. Cllr O'Donnell will ask him to trim the grass by the school bus stop (by the bridge towards Hardington) and also the grass on Back Lane to Green Lane, from the top of College.

124. Potholes and General Maintenance Report; Cllr Churchill has requested repairs to Green Lane (by the Gillards) and potholes around the village. The Stump Cross sign will be repaired and the street light in Weston Close has been repaired. The running spring in Chinnock Hollow continues to cause problems and these potholes have been reported again.

125. Notice Boards update; The signmaker has recommended that the board has some writing on. Cllr Jones proposed East Chinnock, seconded by Cllr Murdoch, all agreed. The board will be fixed to the outside of the village hall boundary wall, lower down so that notices can be read more easily. The old board will be erected in Carter's Lane.

126. Play Area Report; The chains and seats need replacing on the two big swings. Clerk to contact Wicksteed and report back on costs - proposed by Cllr Jones, seconded by Cllr Harris, all in favour. Clerk to pass on thanks to Cllr Sinclair for removing the redundant, sharp hinge.

127. Rights of Way Report; Mr Culver has removed the field gate blocking Y8/2. Cllr Murdoch will speak to Mr Culver regarding possible diversions to Y8/23 that crosses his garden. The waymarks for Y8/22 are unclear.

128. Village Newsletter update; all councillors to ask their village contacts what they would like to see in the newsletter and gauge support for an internet based newsletter.

129. Entertainments Committee; The committee will be looking at the marquee pricing policy at the next meeting which will be on Monday 11th October, 7pm in the village hall. Councillors were asked to publicise this meeting to any contacts they thought may be interested in helping the committee.

130. Items of Report; Cllr Churchill raised the issue of fallen trees in Green/Copse Lane. It was agreed that the wood generally is cleared away by parishioners with wood burners.

131. Next Meeting; Monday 1st November 2010.

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EAST CHINNOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the East Chinnock Parish Council meeting held on Monday 1st November 2010 at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.

Present

Chairman	Cllr J Churchill
Councillors	Cllrs M Merchant, P O'Donnell, B Murdoch & A Harris
District Councillor	Ric Pallister (part of the meeting)
County Councillor	Cathy Bakewell (part of the meeting)
Officer	Ms C Langford

There were 4 parishioners present.

Public Question Time

Harry Dodge reported that 2 croquet taster sessions had been held with 20 people expressing an interest and so a club will be started next Spring. Regarding CRB checks, the Croquet Association has advised that new legislation is imminent and so, in the meantime, the group is asking for parents to accompany any juniors.

There was a request for the grass to be rolled to improve the surface for all users.

132. Apologies for absence

Cllrs M Jones and A Sinclair. Clerk to send best wishes to Cllr Sinclair as he has a broken leg.

133. Declarations of Interest; none.

134. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes, that had previously been circulated to all Councillors, were signed by the Chairman as a true record of the October meeting.

135. Matters arising from the Minutes; none as all covered in the agenda.

Mr Pallister asked if Mrs Bakewell and his reports could be taken next as they both had other meetings to attend. This was agreed.

136. District Councillors report

- Mr Pallister said that SSDC are not currently looking at cutting the Lengthsman scheme, so their share of funding looks secure for 2011/12.
- SSDC are giving Parish Councils the option to take over SSDC services but East Chinnock does not have any e.g. toilets.
- SSDC are balancing their budget by cutting staff. The partnership with East Devon DC is going ahead with changes. Services will be shared where possible but senior staff will not be shared as East Devon had more senior staff in place and so were looking at much greater savings in the initial years.

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- In response to a question regarding the continuation of Ham Hill and Nine Springs country parks Mr Pallister said that there would be no changes to public access in the immediate future.
- Mr Pallister to report back on printers used by SSDC as a possible printer for the newsletter.

137. County Councillors report

An extensive list of proposed cuts in services had been circulated to all Councillors. Mrs Bakewell highlighted those of interest to East Chinnock.

- The Safety Camera Partnership is to lose SCC support and will be run by the Avon & Somerset Constabulary.
- The Lengthsman support has been cut and the grass will only be cut once, instead of twice.
- Bus subsidies have been cut.
- The Youth Service funding has been cut, including the Rural Youth Project.
- There is a 100% cut in Arts funding e.g. Take Art village hall events.
- The Community Council for Somerset grant has been cut.
- There are extensive cuts to Highways services; this led to questions regarding repairs and safety.
- There are currently £43M proposed cuts with £70M needed. There are proposed staff cuts, redundancy and pay protection packages have been reduced.

138. Clerk's report and correspondence

The Post Office (PO) service in Fordhay shop will cease business in December. Cllr Murdoch met with PO Ltd. as the clerk was unable to attend.

PO Ltd. is proposing a PO service in the village hall with a provisional start date of 4 January 2011. A PO service would be provided Monday 1-3 pm (possibly 2-4 to tie in with the school bus) and Tuesday 9am -12noon.

The PO would use the small hall servery and the kitchen can still be used for coffee mornings.

An initial 12 months contract would become a rolling contract with 3 months notice. The contract would be between the Parish Council and the Sub-Postmaster offering the service. The PO would provide signage visible from the A30.

Action required;

- A new BT line to be arranged by PO Ltd..
- A dedicated broadband line to the servery to be arranged by PO Ltd..
- A dedicated 13amp double socket next to the broadband point to be arranged by PO Ltd..
- East Chinnock to provide a lockable store cupboard. The hall could provide this, cost say £150.

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- For security purposes a bolt must be fitted inside the kitchen door. Again the hall could provide this.
- A post would be needed in the car park for a temporary PO sign when the service is open, cost say £50. PO Ltd. would provide the sign.
- Agree who would pay the hall rental of £5 per hour. This would be for 52 weeks/year for 5 hours = £1300. PO Ltd. would pay £1.50/hour = £390/year. Cllr Murdoch suggests that if this was matched by the Parish Council and Feoffees, the village hall would pay for the store, bolt and post and make up the 10% shortfall in rent (i.e. £130).

Cllr Murdoch proposed that the Council agrees to go ahead in principle and make a decision in December, seconded by Cllr Harris. All in favour.

A working party with Cllr Murdoch, as hall representative, and Cllr O'Donnell, as PC representative, will look at the action required and report back to the Council. Feoffees to be asked for a grant and the Council would need to make a block booking of the hall.

SS Citizens Advice Bureau have requested a donation. Cllr Harris proposed £50 donation now, seconded by Cllr Murdoch. All in favour. This will be reviewed at the end of the financial year.

Speed Indicator Device will cost £350 to continue in the scheme. Cllr Harris proposed that we do not continue with this as we have the Speedwatch Team, seconded by Cllr Merchant. All in favour.

Local Development Plan draft consultation; Cllr Churchill attended a SSDC presentation and reported that the plan is to develop around the market towns with both housing and employment land. Yeovil would develop southwards so as not to impede RNAS Yeovilton or Westland's airspace and also to avoid areas prone to flooding. It was agreed that the Council supports the Barwick/Stoford/East Coker option as this is logical in terms of sustainability, allowing development of an appropriate infrastructure. Clerk to respond to SSDC.

The following items have been circulated to all councillors

- SSDC Area West and Standards Committee papers
- Correspondence on the proposed 100% cuts in Arts funding
- SCC eParish Council newsletter and the Somerset Compact.

139. Red Route Review

Cllr Churchill reported that he had heard nothing from Colin Fletcher regarding work in Chinnock Hollow.

140. Finance

The Clerk informed Council that the precept paperwork has a deadline of 31 January 2011. It was noted that the East Chinnock precept is not high compared with similar sized villages.

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The clerk presented a report illustrating that 14 hours/month is not sufficient for a parish of this size. The Society for Local Council Clerks recommends a minimum of 18.25 hours/month. Cllr Harris proposed that the clerks hours should be increased to 20 hours/month to cover the hours worked and backdated (to May), seconded by Cllr O'Donnell. All in favour. The clerk will continue to complete a timesheet.

As SCC have cut their Lengthsman support the Parish Council will now be paying £1400 for this service 2011/12. There was discussion about purchasing a leaf blower to clean the safety surfaces and a brush cutter to keep pathways clear as well as encouraging volunteers to supplement the reduced Lengthsman service.

Figures were put to various lines in the draft budget; £500 bus shelter repairs, £100 flower tub repairs, £600 for newsletter, £250 for Parish Plan and £150 for mower service. Swing repairs will be in the current year. There would be increased village hall rent for the proposed Post Office service. Clerk to update the current years spend and the draft 2011/12 budget to present at the December meeting when the precept will be determined.

141. Payments

The following payments were presented;

- Miss C Langford - October salary + expenses = £121.67.
- Diocese of Bath & Wells 1/2 year Glebe rent (2nd payment) = £30.
- Mr & Mrs Jewell first year subscription for webhosting Village Website = £59.40.
- SSDC annual playground inspection & risk assessment = £81.08
- Mr Brian Pope for fireworks = £397.50.

Cllr Harris proposed that these payments be approved, seconded by Cllr O'Donnell. All in favour.

142. Planning Applications

10/04089/FUL Dairy House, Carters Lane; erection of single storey extension. There were no objections to this application from the Parish Council.

143. Planning Decisions

- 2 Springfields 10/03678/FUL application for two storey extension was granted.
- Spindleberry, Fordhay 10/03373/FUL application for livestock shelter was granted.

144. Community Speed Watch (CSW) programme

Cllr Churchill reported that a couple of sessions had been rained off and, with winter approaching, we will expect to lose more sessions.

One new volunteer is trained and another to be trained this month.

145. Parish Lengthsman Report

Cllr O'Donnell had nothing to report.

Council requested that the undergrowth in Back Lane be cleared and also to look what repairs are needed for the Recreation field dividing fence

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146. Potholes and General Maintenance Report

Cllr Churchill had no update. All his requests had been met with a refusal due to cuts in funding.

It was agreed that the deep potholes by the Gillards house needed a safety barrier around. Cllr Churchill to report back on costs for a barrier.

Asbestos sheets have been dumped by the Chiselborough Hill road. Cllr Churchill to report this to SSDC.

147. Notice Boards update

Cllr Harris to chase the sign maker for this.

148. Play Area Report

The clerk presented two quotes for swing spare parts; GB Leisure & Sport (£168.73) and Wicksteed (£190.73). GB Leisure were chosen as the cheaper quote. Cllr Harris proposed that the clerk order the parts and that the Lengthsman be asked to fit them, seconded by Cllr Merchant. All in favour.

It was agreed that the Council continue to use SSDC for the annual play equipment inspection and risk assessment.

The goal posts have been reported as unsteady. Cllr O'Donnell to ask Mr Pat O'Donnell to investigate action required.

149. Rights of Way Report

Cllr Murdoch has written to Mr Culver regarding possible diversions to Y8/23 that crosses his garden. A response is still awaited as Mr Culver spends considerable periods abroad.

Cllr Murdoch has cleared overhead branches obstructing access on Y8/21, by the A30.

150. Village Newsletter update

The current editor Meg Wellard has informed the Parish Council that she would like her successor to start in April 2011. Meg has suggested an A5 booklet style may be more cost effective.

Councillors had consulted parishioners and the overwhelming majority wanted a hard copy of the newsletter.

After discussion of various formats it was agreed unanimously to look at the costs of a black & white A5 @ 4 page booklet with 250 copies, produced 6 times a year.

Cllrs Murdoch and Harris to make enquiries re printing costs. £600 was put in the draft budget to cover production costs.

Mr Jewell confirmed that the newsletter will be on the new website, in colour.

Cllr Murdoch informed the meeting that Lynda & Brian Kemp had expressed an interest in taking over as editors.

151. Entertainments Committee

There will be a Bonfire Event this Friday 5th November. Helpers are required. Clerk to circulate minutes for the Entertainments Committee meetings to Councillors.

152. Items of Report

Cllr Merchant reported that the minutes for 2000-2003 are missing. Clerk to ask Mr Halford, clerk at that time. Councillors to ask past Councillors.

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Cllr Harris reported fly tipping in his field at the top of the hill. Cllr Harris had found evidence of the person responsible but was disappointed at the lack of action from either the police or SSDC to apprehend the culprit or clear the rubbish when he reported it. There was concern that this will encourage more of these incidents.

153. Next Meeting

Monday 6th December 2010.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.15pm.

Signed (Chair) Date.....

Copies of these draft minutes can be found on the village website at :-

<http://www.eastchinnock.btck.co.uk/ParishCouncil/ParishCouncilMinutes>

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EAST CHINNOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the East Chinnock Parish Council meeting held on Monday 6 December 2010 at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.

Present;

Councillors Cllrs M Merchant, P O'Donnell, A Sinclair, B Murdoch, M Jones & A Harris

Officer Ms C Langford

There were no parishioners present.

Public Question Time; no questions.

154. Apologies for absence; Cllr J Churchill so Cllr Sinclair took the Chair. Mr R Pallister.

155. Declarations of Interest;

Cllrs Murdoch, O'Donnell and Jones declared an interest in Item 9 as they are on the Village Hall Committee and/or are Feoffees trustees. Advice has been taken from SLCC to say that these Councillors are allowed to vote as they have no personal gain from the issue being discussed.

156. Minutes of the last meeting;

The minutes, that had previously been circulated to all Councillors, were signed by the Chairman as a true record of the November meeting.

157. Matters arising from the Minutes;

- East Chinnock has withdrawn from the SCC Speed Indicator Device scheme but has been added to the list of sites that may be considered for future funding should resources allow.
- Cllr Murdoch drew attention to the South Somerset strimmer project and the clerk will look into this with regard to supplementing the Lengthsmans work in the village.
- The clerk has contacted Mr J Halford regarding a mislaid minute book and will continue to make enquiries.

158. District Councillors report; no report.

159. County Councillors report; Mrs Bakewell was not present.

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160. Red Route Review; Mrs Bakewell was not present and there were no further updates.

161. Clerk's report and correspondence;

SALC notice of their next meeting on 13 December; no-one can attend. SALC also sent guidance on snow clearing; Parish Councils are not obliged to clear snow but if they do then care must be taken not to create a greater risk.

A thank you letter has been received from South Somerset CAB regarding the £50 donation.

SCC Severe Weather briefings are being received daily. It was agreed that these could not usefully be forwarded on. Cllr O'Donnell to ask the Lengthsman if he could collect 10 bags of salt for the village.

Rural Services Community Led Delivery (SCC) conference. The clerk will be attending this. SSVCA invite to networking forum re 'Big Society' plans on 9 December. No-one able to attend.

Somerset Future Transport Plan 2011-2026. Cllr Churchill has agreed to respond to this on behalf of the Parish Council.

CleanUp UK a charity setting up local litter picking groups. The clerk has sent details to the webmasters and Lou Pickersgill.

Crewkerne Recycling Centre; villagers are responding to the petition against closure of this facility. Cllr Jones attended the meeting with SCC regarding closure. The Somerset Waste Partnership has made the decision to close Crewkerne and 3 other sites, from the 18 sites across the county. It was noted that Gloucestershire has only 5 sites whereas Somerset has invested heavily in providing sites across the county. Representatives at the meeting were against closure and suggested paying to tip. Cllr Jones proposed that the clerk write to Mrs Bakewell (and government minister Eric Pickles) suggesting that a charge is made to tip, seconded by Cllr Harris, 5 in favour, 1 against.

Revised Register of Electors. The clerk read out the restrictions on use of this document. The clerk will send a copy of the register to each councillor.

The following items have also been circulated to all councillors;

- Request to help raise awareness of Census 2011,

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- Notice of SSDC Area West meeting on 17 November and Standards Committee on 1st December,
- County Roads winter service 2010/11,
- SCC transport for NHS appointments,
- South Somerset News,
- 3 letters from SCC regarding the budget cuts

162. Post Office Outreach Service;

The Post Office (PO) service in Fordhay shop will cease business on 15 December and PO Ltd is proposing a service in the village hall starting on 20 December. PO Ltd will pay £1.50/hour (£390/year) rental and Feoffees has agreed to match this. The Village Hall committee has agreed to provide certain capital items and 10% of the rental (£130/year). This leaves a shortfall in rental of £390/year. The BT line is installed and the secure cupboard bought. The security bolt, dedicated Broadband line and socket are in hand. Discussions are underway regarding the PO sign, provided by PO Ltd.

Cllr Merchant proposed that the Parish Council support the provision of a PO Service in the village hall and that the Parish Council pay £97.50 in rental for the period up to end of March 2011 and £390 rental for 2011/12 to the Village Hall committee, seconded by Cllr Jones. All in favour.

Cllr Murdoch to provide copies of letters from Feoffees and the Village Hall Committee confirming their agreement to support the rental charge.

The contract would be between the Parish Council and Paul Price, the Sub-Postmaster. Clerk to send a summary of councillors comments to PO Ltd in response to the public consultation.

167. Finance;

Requests for donations have been received from SSVCA & Age UK. It was agreed that these would be considered in April when it would be clearer what funds are available.

The reserves are too high and should be held at up to the annual precept level. Various projects will reduce the reserves; parish plan, bus shelter repairs, new notice board, Chinnock Hollow signs. However, ongoing expenditure is also increasing with the PO outreach service, website, Lengthsman scheme and clerk hours. Cllr Murdoch informed the meeting that the village hall rent would not be increasing next year. It was agreed that the

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precept should increase by £500 for 2011/12 and then could be raised again in 2012/13, rather than one large increase. It was agreed to set the final figure at the January meeting due to the ongoing budget cuts being discussed by SCC. The clerk to request more frequent bank statements.

168. Payments;

The following payments were presented;

- Parish clerk; November salary + expenses + back dated hours as agreed £462.83.
- SSDC annual licence fee £70. The clerk to send a copy of the invoice to Feoffees for reimbursement of the fee.
- Annual donation towards Parish burial ground maintenance costs £400
- Pat O'Donnell mower fuel £19.49
- GB Sport & Leisure swing parts £168.73
- Entertainments committee meeting hire of hall £10. Fee to come from the Tent account.

All in favour that these payments are approved.

169. Planning Applications;

A & P Fleet, Spindleberry 10/04381/FUL application for livestock shelter (amended). There were no objections to this application from the Parish Council.

170. Planning Decisions; none.

171. Community Speed Watch (CSW) programme;

There is another new volunteer waiting to be trained. CSW continues to be supported by the police and were part of a highly visible Christmas drink-drive campaign last weekend. Figures given after the meeting had 21 sessions since the September report, 3 sessions recorded no speeders and five were cancelled or curtailed due to poor weather. Of the 11,193 vehicles recorded there were 92 speeders

172. Parish Lengthsman Report;

The Lengthsman has missed some days due to poor weather. At the latest Lengthsman Group meeting it had been proposed that the East Chinnock contribution be increased from £672.18 to £1021.67, due to the loss of the SCC contribution. It was noted that the figure in the draft budget is £1400.

Draft

173. Potholes & General Maintenance Report;

Cllr Churchill sent a report that he had heard nothing from Colin Fletcher regarding work in Chinnock Hollow and that requests for repairs were being refused due to cuts in SCC funding.

174. Provision of a new notice board update;

This is in hand and Cllr Harris is getting a price for installation. The existing board will be installed in Carters Lane.

175. Play Area Report;

The swing parts have been bought and the Lengthsman will repair the swings as soon as possible, he will also look at repairs needed for the link fence.

Cllr Sinclair confirmed that he had removed a sharp piece of pipe from the lefthand gate post.

The latest SSDC Play Area inspection report has been received and was handed to Cllr O'Donnell.

176. Rights of Way Report;

Cllr Murdoch has contacted Sue Watson at Spring Holton Farm to check progress on the agreed new stiles and signs for Y8/16 and she has contacted SCC to progress the proposal.

Cllr Murdoch has had a site meeting with Mr Culver of Barrows Hill House regarding Y8/23. Mr Culver has been dealing with SSDC with regard to issues the Open Spaces Society has with a proposed diversion but it was noted that the Parish Council had not been informed. The Parish Council has previously supported a diversion of this path and a village walk with 11 villagers visited the site and there was general agreement that Mr Culver's proposal was reasonable. This leaves an issue regarding obstructions on the southern end of the path on Mr Doble's land. It was agreed that the clerk contact SSDC (Derek Waddleton) and ask them to ensure that any action they take covers the whole of the path and not just Barrows Hill House land and would they keep the Parish Council informed on progress.

A fallen tree blocking the junction of Y8/7, Y8/8 and Y8/28 has been cleared with the help of volunteers. There has been additional clearance activity on Y8/21 (by the A30) and Y8/15 behind the chicken sheds on Cott Farm. Feoffees has agreed to refurbish the stile on Y8/15.

Draft

Cllr Merchant reported a collapsed bank along a footpath off Springfield. Cllr Murdoch agreed to look at the damage and report back.

177. Village Newsletter - to discuss the way forward when the current editor retires April 2011.

The clerk read an email from current editor Meg Wellard confirming that the February Chimes would be her last and suggesting a piece from the Parish Council announcing the change in that issue. It was noted that Mrs Wellard suggested photocopying may be a cost effective way of producing The Chimes.

The clerk to send details of the Post Office Outreach Service for the December issue.

Cllr Jones informed the meeting that he had prepared a piece for The Chimes to acknowledge the years of hard work put into various village activities, more specifically as Entertainments Committee chairman, by Mr Brian Pope. He will be much missed and councillors send their condolences to Mrs Shirley Pope. All were in agreement with this .

178. Entertainments Committee - Bonfire Night Report;

The event had been a great success. There were several new helpers and a profit of almost £200.

179. Items of Report;

Cllr Merchant reported that unauthorised entry by the Yarlington garages was creating an unsightly track. The clerk to contact Yarlington for an update on this matter.

The clerk informed the meeting that she will be starting as Parish Clerk and Responsible Officer for Misterton Parish Council in January.

180. Next Meeting; Monday 10th January 2011.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

Copies of these minutes can be found on the village website at www.eastchinnock.btck.co.uk/ParishCouncil/ParishCouncilMinutes