

CANDOVERS PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date:	Monday 22 nd July 2024	Time: 7:00pm
Venue:	Candover Valley Club	
Present:	Jonathan Moseley	Chair
	Adam Willmott	Vice Chairman
	Edwina Curtis Hayward	
	Antonia Cunningham	
	Sam Foote	
	Brad Evans	South East Water
	Wendy Simson	Clerk
Apologies:	Juliet Henderson	County Councillor
	Paul Gaskell	Borough Councillor

1618 Public Forum

Brad Evans, Southeast Water, joined the meeting talked through the upcoming Candover stream catchment surveys. Southeast Water have a license to extract 27million litres of water a day from the River Wye at Lasham. Currently they are taking between 8 and 12million litres a day but this is impacting on the river and Southeast Water are looking to reduce the quantity removed. There may be an impact on the Candover Brook from both an increased groundwater level and from nitrates being released from the unsaturated chalk layers. Data has been collected from bore holes and the watercourse since 2020 which will allow models to be created which will demonstrate the impact of reducing the water extraction levels. The year end for this data collection is September when the aquifer is due to be at its lowest.

The Cllrs explained their concern about the water levels in the Candover Valley following a very wet winter in 2022/23, a short summer in 2023 and another wet winter in 2023/24. The ground water levels remain high as demonstrated by the water still in the brook through Chilton Candover, Brown Candover and into Northington.

Cllr Curtis Hayward explained that the Candover Brook is rich in wildlife and recent samples taken by Natural England and the Environment Agency showed the most highly populated and diverse samples of the 40 locations tested. These included species such as the rare Stonefly.

The Vice Chair asked how this project impacted the Drought Elevation Scheme being proposed which would see water pumped out of the aquifer at Axford down to Portsmouth and Southampton to provide drinking water. Brad explained that he was not able to comment on this Southern Water project.

It was agreed that representatives from Southeast Water and Southern Water should attend a public meeting to allow for an open discussion about the implications of both

projects. Brad suggested that he look at a date in September/October to meet, Cllrs suggested that it may be matter for this to take place in March 2025 when the 2024 data has been collated and analysed.

Action: Brad to provide dates to the Clerk for circulate.

1619 Declaration of Public Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary or personal interests declared.

1620 Any additional Agenda Items

No additional agenda items were suggested.

1621 Apologies

The Clerk informed the Councillors that Cllr Henderson and Cllr Gaskell sent their apologies.

1622 Minutes of the last meeting

The Minutes for the last meeting held on 3rd June 2024 were reviewed and agreed by the Council as an accurate record. The Chairman signed the minutes of the meeting.

1623 Matters arising

Painting the two telephone boxes – The contractor sent a message via the contact us page on the website on Friday 19th July to explain that work would early week beginning 22nd July. The Chairman confirmed that work had started on the telephone box in Brown Candover. At this time not materials have been purchased, Cllr Cunningham suggested that this would be included with the invoice for labour at the end of the project.

Village signage – The Chairman sourced examples of the types of signs which were presented at the meeting. The Councillors agreed that the white posts would need more maintenance than those left natural. It was agreed that four signs be purchased, two for Brown Candover and two for Chilton Candover. The Chairman and Clerk to identify possible locations where farm machinery was not likely to damage the new signs. The Clerk to speak to Highways about locations as these would need to be approved.

Action: Clerk to bring map showing sites to next meeting.

Examples of Neighbourhood Priority Statements – The Vice Chair explained there were no examples of this document, and it was believed that the new Government would make them obsolete. It was agreed to put this action on hold at this time.

Defibrillators contact list – The Chairman agreed to progress this item for the next meeting.

Action: Clerk to add to next agenda.

1624 Financial update

The Clerk circulated the financial statement prior to the meeting along with posting on the Parish Council website.

The Clerk explained that the PAYE was outstanding on the Lengthsman admin payment, and this was due along with the PAYE on the Clerk's salary for April to June 2024.

The Parish Councillors signed off the following payments:

- Clerk's salary (April to June) - £300
- PAYE - £297.88
- Transfer of funds to Lengthsman account - £11,000

The Clerk informed the Councillors that the final cheque for the Lengthsman work in 2023/24 had not been received, the Lengthsman had contacted the Clerk to ask for this to be sent again. The Clerk has cancelled the original cheque and has made out a new cheque for the £3,000 outstanding from 23/24 along with the first payment for 24/25 of £3,000. All payments were approved.

1625 Candover Valley Club (CVC) Update

The Chairman informed Councillors that the carpark has been complete with generous donations from two residents. The Parish Council had offered £500 of CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) towards this project which is no longer required. However, the fire alarm at the CVC has broken and the CVC Committee have asked that £300 be given to support these expenses instead of the carpark. The Councillors approved this payment.

Cllr Curtis Hayward asked how much use the Pickleball set was getting, the Chairman agreed to report at the next meeting.

Action: Chairman to report on Pickleball use at next meeting.

There is some ground maintenance work to be done around the CVC, this will include the hedges in the Autumn.

One of the key members of the community is leaving so a leaving party is being held, the Councillors discussed a suitable gift.

1626 Flooding

This was covered as part of the open forum.

1627 Lengthsman

The Clerk confirmed the dates for the Lengthsman visits as:

- 2nd September
- 13th December
- 6th March

In June the Lengthsman cleaned all the road signs and trimmed round the bases. It was agreed that in September the grips would need to be dug out ready for the winter.

1628 Planning

The Council received one application; it is:

- **Pelican House, Dundridge Lane, Chilton Candover (24/01429/HSE)** – The application is to remove the existing outdoor swimming pool and erect a new covered pool building linked to the dwelling. Comments were required by 19th July, but the Clerk has requested an extension of B&D. The Chairman and Cllr Cunningham agreed to visit the property to look at the plans and introduce themselves.

1629 Website

The Clerk has updated the website.

The policies have been reviewed and the Clerk suggested that Councillors check and approve them at the next meeting.

Action: Clerk to add policy update to the next agenda.

1630 General correspondence

Cllr Foote informed the Council that this would be his last meeting as the move to Gloucestershire was scheduled for September. Cllr Foote thanked the Parish Councillors for their support and giving him the opportunity to get involved with the broader community. The Chairman thanked Cllr Foote for his work as a Councillor and wished him and his family every success in the future.

Action: Clerk to prepare the bank mandate for the next meeting to remove Cllr Foote as a signatory on the account.

The Clerk has received details of an opportunity for work with Hampshire Forestry Partnership to plant trees or hedging. The Councillors identified an area where some hedging has failed and could be replaced.

Action: Clerk to send Vice Chair the information about the packs and varieties of whips.

1631 Date of next meeting

Monday 23rd September 2024.