

CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 15th September 2005, at 7.30 pm in the Old School Room, Charlton

PRESENT Cllr B B Browne (Chairman)
Cllr S M Eggleston
Cllr Mrs B W Jack (until Item 23, Minute no. 113/05)
Cllr M P Wood

In attendance: County Cllr Mrs E Eyre
R D Gurney, Clerk to the Parish Council

91/05 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

These were received and accepted from Cllr Grazier.

92/05 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Eggleston declared a personal interest in Item no.

93/05 PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

The Clerk reported that no applications had been received and the vacancy will be re-advertised for consideration at the next meeting.

94/05 APPOINTMENT OF PARISH FOOTPATH WARDEN

The Chairman reported that Cllr Mrs Ooi has agreed to continue as the Footpath Warden.

95/05 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE ON THE WORKMAN TRUST

Mrs P A Sims has informed the Clerk that she intends to retire as the Parish Council representative on the Workman Trust. It will be necessary at the next meeting for the Parish Council to appoint another representative.

96/05 INSPECTION OF PARISH COUNCIL DEEDS

These have been available for inspection and the Chairman will shortly return them to Lloyds TSB.

97/05 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14th JULY 2005

It was proposed by Cllr Eggleston, seconded by Cllr Mrs Jack, and **RESOLVED** that these be signed as a true record.

98/05 PROGRESS REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

- 1. Planning complaint: Farm shop, Evesham/Pershore road.** Following the report to the Enforcement Officer that the site is being used for residential use a request for further details has been received. Further detailed information was given to the meeting and the Clerk will forward this to the Enforcement Officer for investigation.
- 2. Planning Complaint: 1 Canada Bank.** The Clerk reported that, although planning permission has been granted retrospectively for the extensions, the matter of the fencing is still under investigation by the Enforcement Officer.
- 3. Planning complaint: Rear of Merryfield.** The Clerk reported that the Planning Office is investigating the encroachment of residential use on to agricultural land.

4. Maintenance of land adjoining Merry Brook. The Clerk reported that he has not had any success in contacting the Land Registry and he was asked to pursue this. He was also asked to find out what is happening to the land adjacent to the Gardener Arms.

5. Web site/The Local Channel. The Chairman suggested that this should not be pursued and this was accepted. The Chairman informed the Council that he is setting up a website.

6. Overhanging trees, Canada Bank. The Clerk reported that he has not had a reply from Mrs Stratton.

7. Request for footway, The Dovecote to the Church. The Clerk reported that he had receives a letter from Sally Everest at the HPU. WCC will be investigating to establish whether the construction of a footway here will be viable, and resources for this type of work is limited.

8. Opening of the Sheppey Project. The Clerk reported that he had attended.

9. Licensing Act 2003; The Gardeners Arms PH. The Clerk reported that a licence for the Gardeners Arms has been approved in April 2005. This included a variation of the existing conditions, including extended opening hours until 12.30 am, although this may not be the case in practise. Members noted that the pub has been closed since late August and the Clerk was asked to try and find out when it will re-open.

ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC FORUM

(One member of the public were present. Mrs Sims commented that she hoped that the PC would be able to appoint a representative on the Workman Trust at the next meeting).

99/05 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

The Chairman invited Mrs County Cllr Mrs Eyre to speak. She commented on 4 items. First, the new highways contract from October has been awarded to Ringway. Also, the number of HPU offices is being reduced from 6 to 3; this will mean that greater communication will have to be via the local "hub", as staff will be based with the Ringway staff. Highway staff are to have a greater responsibility for roadside trees. Second, hot meals are to be provided in schools; the take up of free school meals will mean additional grants. Third, there is a programme to get the views of 13-18 year olds. Fourth, councillors are invited the Forum at Evesham.

100/05 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr Meikle was not in attendance and there was no report.

101/05 RE-ISSUING OF CHEQUE FOR INTERNAL AUDIT, 2003/4

As the time limit for presenting this cheque has passed it was agreed that this cheque for £50.00 be re-issued.

102/05 DISTRIBUTION OF THE VILLAGE CLEAN-UP BURSARY AWARD

The Clerk reported that this had been successfully undertaken by the Scout Group and the award of £500 has been received. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Jack, seconded by Cllr Eggleston, and agreed, the £100 be given to the Scout Group and the balance be used to purchase a new litter bin to replace the temporary bin on The Green. The Clerk was asked to arrange for this to be done.

103/05 REQUESTS FOR GRANT

(1). Evesham and Pershore Neighbourhood Watch Association. It was proposed by

Cllr Eggleston, seconded by Cllr Mrs Jack and agreed, that a grant of £50 be awarded. The Committee hope that this will help to re-establish NW in Charlton and it was suggested that the Association contacts the Chairman.

(2). Crophorne and Charlton Village Hall Committee. In a letter from the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee a scheme is being prepared for refurbishment of the village hall at a cost of some £300,000. Planning permission is currently being sought and feasibility study has been prepared. Financial support from the parishes is now being sought. While members would support the scheme in principle they wish to know what level of grant is being sought. The Clerk was asked to obtain further information on time for the next meeting.

104/05 FINANCE

1. Receipts and Payments Account: 01.07.05 - 02.09.05

This was circulated with the agenda and was accepted.

2. Accounts for Payment

It was RESOLVED that the following accounts be paid:

Limebridge Rural Services Ltd		
July	£464.00 + £81.20 VAT	£545.20
August	£464.00 + £81.20 VAT	£545.20
R D Gurney salary, 01.08.05 - 30.09.05		£435.84
Worcestershire CALC, Clerk's meeting, 09.08.05		£ 15.00
Staples UK Ltd - photocopying, stamps, stationery		
£18.54 + £1.54 VAT (3 invoices)		£ 20.08
Charles Tooby, Internal Auditor, 2004 and 2005		£100.00
Evesham and Pershore Neighbourhood Watch Association		£ 50.00
Charlton Scout Group		£100.00

105/05 HIGHWAY MATTERS, INCLUDING PARISH LENGTHSMAN SCHEME

The Clerk has applied to the HPU to join the Lengthsman scheme and is waiting for a training session to be arranged.

106/05 STREET LIGHT NO. 7, RYDEN LANE

A letter from Central Networks (CN) was circulated with the agenda: this set out again the details of the offer regarding the replacement/retention of this street light. Members felt that this matter should not be considered until Pirelli has had an opportunity to assess the suitability of the wooden pole. The Clerk reported that no information regarding the exact highway boundary has been forthcoming.

107/05 WCC ASSISTANCE WITH STREET LIGHTING

It was agreed that the Clerk asks Pirelli to undertake the survey requested by WCC in their original letter.

108/05 FUTURE OF THE PAYPHONE, THE GREEN

A letter from BT was circulated with the agenda; this related to BT's proposals to re-align payphone provision to meet customer demand, in view of the reduction in the number of calls made from payphones and the increase in the use of mobile phones, which is affecting the viability of the service. Members noted that cash payphones are now vulnerable, but it was felt that the payphone on the Green should be kept. Members felt

that a cashless phone should be retained in the village, as there is a need for an emergency service and for use by the many temporary agricultural workers in the area.

109/05 PARISH PLAN/REPORT OF PARISH PLAN COMMITTEE

The Clerk reported that there had been two meetings of the Committee since the last Council meeting and Bill Rose has taken over as its Chairman. The Parish Plan Committee has agreed to hold an Open Meeting on Saturday, 12th November in the Old School Room. A Committee meeting is arranged for 29th September to put in place the arrangements for publicity, etc. This would be the first stage of consultation with the residents of Charlton.

Whilst the PP Committee will be seeking grants for the production of the Parish Plan it was suggested that some expenses may be incurred in these early stages, including room hire. It was proposed by Cllr Wood, seconded by Cllr Eggleston, and agreed, that up to £100 be made available during this financial year, as further expenses can be included in the budget.

110/05 REPAIRS TO THE PUBLIC NOTICE BOARD

It was agreed that the Clerk arranges for the board to be repaired, up to a cost of £200.

111/05 ROAD SAFETY FOR CHILDREN IN CHARLTON

Cllr Grazier had informed the Chairman that he had spoken to the Pre School, who did not feel that road safety was a concern at the present time. The Chairman agreed to discuss this with Cllr Grazier to see if a further meeting with Simms and Wood would be beneficial.

112/05 PROVISION OF VILLAGE COMPOST HEAP

It was agreed that this be deferred to the next meeting and for Cllr Eggleston to prepare a report.

113/05 MODEL COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE AND OFFICER MEMBER PROTOCOL

These documents had been presented to the previous meeting. It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Wood, and agreed, that these two documents be accepted.

114/05 QPS GUIDANCE BRIEFING

The Chairman reported that he has made a provisional booking for this free briefing and this was formally agreed. It was suggested that the briefing with Jenny Maturi be set up at a meeting in February in 2006.

115/05 REPORTS OF PLANNING COMMITTEE

The reports of the Planning Committee dated 14th July 2005 and 8th August 2005, which had been circulated with the agenda, were noted. Members asked if CALC will be setting up any planning training in the near future.

116/05 CALC MATTERS

The Chairman reported that the Executive is discussing the level of subscriptions, especially the balance between the smaller and larger local councils. There had been two speakers at the Area Meeting, Mr Jesson from the Police Consultative Group and Claire Flanagan from WDC talking about the DC Charter. It was agreed that

the Chairman and Clerk formulate a response to the two Charters at the appropriate time.
The Worcestershire MAIL was circulated with the agenda.

117/05 CORRESPONDENCE FOR DECISION

1. WDC Environmental Crime Survey - Clerk to complete
2. WDC Members allowances - noted
3. WDC Consultation on draft Diversity Strategy - Chairman to complete
4. WCC consultation on Waste Core Strategy/workshop, Evesham - Chairman to attend
5. Local Works, campaign for Sustainable Communities Bill - no action

118/05 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

The following list of correspondence was noted:

1. WDC glass recycling box scheme
2. Best Practise Guide for Burial Ground Administration
3. Home Office Burial ground survey
4. Peter Luff, MP, letter re Licensing Act 2003
5. WDC Heritage Gardens Events diary 2006
6. Countryside Agency, Conclusive Map of Open Country and Common Land
7. Publications
 - Clerks and Councils Direct
 - Local Council Review
 - Newsline
 - West Midlands Regional Assembly

119/05 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA

1. Risk assessment schedule
2. PC representative on the Workman Trust
3. Budget for 2006/7

120/05 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This is confirmed for Thursday, 10th November 2005.

10th November 2005