

## CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

80

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> July 2008, at 7.30 pm, in the Old School Room, Charlton

**PRESENT** Cllr E G Grazier (in the Chair)  
Cllr B B Browne (from Item 8, minute no. 74/08)  
Cllr Mrs D M Barlow  
Cllr Mrs B W Jack  
Cllr Mrs F Wilkinson  
Cllr M P Wood

In attendance: County Cllr Mrs Liz Eyre  
Paul Cooper, Worcestershire CC Highways  
Clive Bostle, Parish Paths Warden  
Roger Gurney, Clerk to the Parish Council

### HIGHWAY CONCERNS IN CHARLTON

*(Paul Cooper, highway liaison engineer for WCC was invited to speak. He reported that WCC has £15 million for the maintenance of urban classed residential roads this year, part of which can be used in villages. Particularly, The Dovecote and Brook Lane will be resurfaced. No funding is allocated for roads used as diversions caused by the Crophorne Canyon, even though they have deteriorated. Jubilee Bridge to The Strand will be extensively patched, as, too, will Yessell Lane, but Canada Bank is not given a high enough priority; it will be 2 years before that will be looked at again! This work will be done in the third quarter of the year (or possibly the last quarter). Mr Cooper emphasized that there is a cost involved with setting up the equipment in a village and the more work to be done the more economical it is. He wished to be informed of gullies in need of further jetting, after the work done following the Flood Meeting in February 2008. The Chairman thanked Mr Cooper for attending)*

### ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC FORUM

*(3 members of the public were present and all questions related to roads or flood alleviation. Attention was drawn to the road surfaces breaking up in Top Street, Ryden Lane and Canada Bank, where the rough patching proved useless. The pedestrian refuge on Canada Bank is overgrown; and this will be looked at by the Lengthsman. It was hoped that there would be liaison between WCC and the Environment Agency regarding the necessary drainage work in Brook Lane/Ryden Lane. Clive Bostle reminded WCC that the Shakespeare's Avon Way and the Cotswold Line Path are both routed between the Cemetery bridge and Jubilee Bridge. WCC will need to assess with the EA necessary works on the bridges across Merry Brook. The Flood Committee had met recently and understood that the EA report will be available in September and the Wychavon report should be available by the end of July. Members of the Flood Committee would join with PC members on Flood Working Group. The Chairman and Clerk reported that, on inspecting the deeds, the PC did not own the footbridge across the Green; it seems that WCC is the owner, as the path is a public right of way. The Flood Group had a display about the possible design of a replacement bridge at the Charlton Fair in June and details were circulated at the meeting).*

**67/08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

These were received and accepted from Cllr Eggleston.

**68/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**69/08 FLOOD PREVENTION UPDATE AND PROGRESS**

The Clerk confirmed that the footbridge over Merry Brook at the Green is not owned by the Parish Council and is likely to be the responsibility of WCC. Alan Kingston at WCC is working on bridge designs, but it is understood that is waiting for details from the EA and WDC.

The PC agreed that the setting up of a Flood Working Group would be pro active and, therefore, beneficial; Cllrs Grazier, Wood, Mrs Jack and the Chairman would be PC members; the Flood Committee would be represented by Roger Davies, Bob Holloway and Roy Stevens. It was agreed that a notice be displayed inviting other persons to sit on the Working Group. The first meeting would be on Thursday, 31<sup>st</sup> July in the Old School Room.

**70/08 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8<sup>th</sup> MAY 2008**

The draft Minutes had been circulated previously. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Jack, seconded by Cllr Mrs Wilkinson and RESOLVED that these be signed as a true record. (County Cllr Mrs Eyre asked if a plan and photographs of the suggested footway between the church and The Dovecote could be supplied).

**71/08 PROGRESS REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**

- 1. Footpath Warden.** Clive Bostle was invited to speak. He reported that he has been clearing some paths and has been concerned about paths across cropped fields not being defined. He is planning to hold public walks around the Parish (and adjoining parishes) on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> August.
- 2. Lengthsman.** Steve Gwilliam was not in attendance. Members raised the problem of overhanging vegetation on the bank outside Old Vicarage Drive and past The Whitehouse and asked if the Clerk would ask Steve Gwilliam to take necessary action.
- 3. New seats in the Cemetery.** Cllr Mrs Jack reported that the seat kindly donated by Jane Purvor, in memory of her parents is now in place and is a welcome addition to the Cemetery. The Clerk was asked to write to both Jane Purvor and Mr and Mrs Gisborne for their kind donations to the Cemetery.
- 4. Litter picking bursary.** The Clerk reported that this has been completed by Peter Head and the Scout Group. One item of equipment had been damaged and the £500 will be sent when the damaged item has been paid for.
- 5. Letter of thanks.** The Clerk reported that a letter of thanks from the Joseph Baker Workman Trust for the grant towards the double glazing has been received.
- 6. Street Lighting electricity price increase.** A letter dated 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2008, from Npower, explaining the increased charges, was circulated with the agenda. It was agreed that the PC remains with npower for the supply.
- 7. Village Green registration.** The Clerk reported that WCC confirm that the Green is registered as a Village Green. The extent of the registered land coincides with the Parish Council's ownership.

**72/08 FINANCE WORKING GROUP**

The report of the Finance Working Group held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2008 was circulated with the agenda, and was noted. The Clerk has still to arrange for the shelter to be cleaned.

**73/08 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

**County Cllr Mrs Liz Eyre** was invited to speak. She asked whether the PC felt that a "rural cinema" for young children be suitable in The Old School Room. There would be an advertisement in Five Alive to assess the demand. She reported that WCC is aiming to save Hartlebury Castle and Museum with help from third parties. She also confirmed that she would keep an eye on the highway matters referred to by Paul Cooper before the meeting.

**District Cllr Tom McDonald** had sent an apology and his a report, sent to the Clerk, concentrated on the projected SWJCS housing allocations for the area.

**74/08 FINANCE****1. Receipts and Payments Account: 03.04.08 - 03.06.08**

This was circulated with the agenda and was accepted.

**2. Accounts for Payment**

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Jack, seconded by Cllr Wood and agreed that the following accounts be paid:

R D Gurney, salary, 01.06.08 - 31.07.08	<b>£485.56</b>
expenses, 01.03.08 – 30.06.08 £66.70 +£0.38 VAT	<b>£ 67.08</b>
Staples UK Ltd - photocopying, stationery, stamps (May/June) £28.32 + £3.63 VAT (5 invoices)	<b>£ 31.95</b>
Community First – subscription	<b>£ 38.00</b>
Limebridge Rural Services	
mowing, incl. verges (May)£524.00 + £91.71 VAT	<b>£615.71</b>
mowing (June) £439.00 + £76.83 VAT	<b>£515.83</b>
N power (April-June) £144.20 - £7.21 VAT	<b>£151.43</b>
WDC (broken litter pick item) £12.24 +£2.14 VAT	<b>£ 14.38</b>
Steve Gwilliam lengthsman duties (June)	<b>£160.00</b>
<u>Confirmation of payment made, 05.06.08</u>	
Steve Gwilliam lengthsman duties (May)	<b>£160.00</b>

**75/08 HIGHWAY MATTERS**

These have already been discussed earlier in the meeting.

**76/08 CHARLTON PARISH PLAN COMMITTEE**

Cllr Browne reported that the three members of the Group would be preparing draft statements on the issues which had been raised previously. This would be followed by a further consultation period and meeting. The matters raised at that time, together with the comments raised previously, would be the basis of the Parish Plan.

**77/08 PLANNING BRIEFING MEETING**

The Clerk reported that a meeting with Wychavon Planners has been arranged at Fladbury Sports Pavilion on Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> July, at 7.00 pm, which is open for all councillors in Fladbury, Crophorne and Charlton.

**78/08 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The report of the Planning Committee meeting held on 5th June 2008, which was enclosed with the agenda, was noted.

**79/08 CALC MATTERS**

The Chairman reported that details of CALC training in the autumn would be available soon. CALC members were objection to the “eco town” proposal and there is a possibility that the local elections, scheduled for next May, could be moved to 4<sup>th</sup> June, to coincide with the European elections. Sir Michael Pitt’s report on the flooding of 2007 is on the CALC web site.

**80/08 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

The following correspondence was noted:

1. WDC – Parish Matters (copy enclosed)
2. WDC – Introduction of Wheelie Bins
3. WCC – Worcestershire Warden
4. WCC – Bus Bulletin
5. Wychavon Policing Matters – meeting 9<sup>th</sup> July
6. Magazines, including Local Council Review, Community First Newslines, Wychavon Magazine, Clerks and Councils Direct
7. WDC Summer Arts Events

**81/08 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA**

A report from the Flood Group.

**82/08 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

11<sup>th</sup> September 2008