

CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

15

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 8th July 2010, at 7.30 pm, in the Old School Room, Charlton

PRESENT Cllr B B Browne
Cllr R L Davies (from Item 4, Minute no. 77/10)
Cllr S M Eggleston
Cllr E G Grazier
Cllr M P Wood (from Item 5, Minute no. 78/10)

In attendance: District Councillor Tom McDonald
Clive Bostle, Footpath Warden
Roger Gurney, Clerk to the Parish Council

ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC FORUM

(Two members of the public were present. No issues were raised).

74/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

These were received and accepted from Cllr Mrs Jack and Cllr Mrs Wilkinson.

75/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

76/10 CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR

The Clerk formally reported that one application has been received for the vacancy, from Mr Roger Davies. It was proposed by Cllr Browne, seconded by Cllr Eggleston, and agreed, that Mr Davies be elected. Mr Davies signed the acceptance of office and took his place at the meeting.

77/10 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13th MAY 2010

The draft Minutes had been circulated previously. It was proposed by Cllr Eggleston, seconded by Cllr Grazier, and agreed that the Minutes be signed as a true record.

78/10 PROGRESS REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

1. Footpath Warden. Clive Bostle was invited to speak. He explained that the Public Walk on 31st July will be on the web site and advertised in the village. Due to WCC expenditure cuts the Parish Improvements Programme has been dropped and the Parish Map for Charlton is on hold until September. On the wider aspect he has considered 62 planning applications in Wychavon which affected footpaths.

Following enquiries, FP 507 has been cleared again; he has not looked at FP 502 and he is trying to clear FP 514.

2. Lengthsman. Steve Gwilliam was not in attendance. Reports have been received about the overgrown hedge between Old Vicarage Gardens and White House and the Clerk will tell Steve Gwilliam about this.

3. Crophorne and Charlton Village Hall. Cllr Mrs Wilkinson was absent and there was no report.

4. Leaning headstones. Cllr Mrs Jack has received a quotation of £25 per stone for the restoration of 6 headstones. Authorisation was agreed for the 3 original headstones and clarification is needed for the remaining three.

5. Parish Plan Group. There has been no meeting since the last PC meeting. The summary of the outcome of the comments at the WDC Planning Event were noted: it was felt that this had been a worthwhile afternoon.

The PC agreed that the Draft Parish Plan needs to be considered by the Parish Council before the public consultation.

6. Housing Need Survey. This is proceeding towards the survey being done in October.

7. Replacement street light, no.2 Cherry Orchard. The Clerk reported that this should be completed by the end of July.

8. Parish Council newsletter. It was agreed that a newsletter is not an essential item, although before QPS can be granted, the Annual Report, etc, has to be circulated to all households in the Parish. It was suggested that the Parish Plan Group gives consideration to this issue.

9. Future of the telephone kiosk. The Clerk has been informed that WDC has no proposal for the kiosk. Members enquired whether WDC has any maintenance policy for the kiosk, which is being damaged.

10. Audit Progress. The Clerk reported that the Annual Return was sent to the external auditor within the prescribed time.

11. Letters of thanks. These were received from Wychavon CAB and Crophorne and Charlton Village Hall Committee for the receipt of grants.

12. Litter Pick. WDC does not now organize litter picks, but Cllr Davies agreed to check to see if it is possible for the Scout Group to do this in the autumn. Members agreed that a grant could be given to the Scout Group for doing the litter pick.

79/10 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

County Cllr Mrs Liz Eyre was not in attendance.

District Cllr Tom McDonald presented his report, which included references to Housing Need surveys; the abandonment of the Regional Spatial Strategies in favour of "localism"; green aspects/energy conservation in WDC; regeneration. high speed broadband connections for rural areas.

80/10 UNAUTHORISED TRAVELLERS SITE, YESSELL LANE

Cllr McDonald updated the Parish Council on this appeal, which will be heard on 24th August 2010. The implications of the pronouncements of the coalition government have yet to be assessed. Cllr Eggleston agreed to attend the hearing on behalf of the Parish Council.

81/10 FINANCE

1. Receipts and Payments Account: 24.03.10 - 03.06.10

This was circulated with the agenda and was accepted.

2. Accounts for Payment

It was proposed by Cllr Eggleston, seconded by Cllr Grazier, and agreed that the following accounts be paid:

R D Gurney	salary, 01.06.10 – 31.07.10	£563.68
	expenses (to June 2010)	£ 54.00
Staples UK Ltd	- photocopying, stationery (May/June) £23.70 + £4.14 VAT (4 invoices)	£ 27.84

Limebridge Rural Services Ltd Cemetery, Green and verge mowing		
May	£216.00 + £37.80 VAT	£253.80
June	£527.00 + £92.23 VAT	£619.23
Steve Gwilliam, lengthsman duties (June)		£220.00
Essential Tree Services		£350.00
<u>Confirmation of payment made 10.06.10</u>		
Steve Gwilliam, lengthsman duties (May)		£176.00

82/10 CHESTNUT TREES ON THE GREEN

It was reported that a large limb had broken off a chestnut tree on the Green during the previous week. On inspection it was seen to have been caused by bleeding canker and the PC was advised that the remainder of the tree should be taken down; this was done on the same day. Essential Tree Services have prepared a report on the remaining trees and given the public access on the Green, it was proposed by Cllr Browne, seconded by Cllr Eggleston, and agreed that, in the interest of public safety, the remaining 3 chestnut trees and one birch tree being in a poor condition, should also be felled. It was proposed by Cllr Eggleston, seconded by Cllr Wood, and agreed that Cllr Grazier obtains quotes for the work and, provided it does not exceed £1,200, the work should proceed. Otherwise the matter should be referred to the Finance Working Group. In the meantime the Clerk will contact the Tree Officer at WDC.

83/10 FLOOD ALLEVIATION

The EA has asked for details of flooding in Charlton during previous floods and it was agreed that this would best be dealt with by County Cllr Liz Eyre meeting with the Flood Working Group.

84/10 HIGHWAY AND FOOTWAY MATTERS

The Chairman had attended a meeting regarding road flooding in Brook Lane with other authorities and a response regarding future action is awaited.

The Clerk referred to a letter from WCC regarding winter work during bad weather; the Clerk will respond appropriately.

85/10 DEMARCATION OF THE GREEN/PRIVATE DRIVEWAY

The meeting with the residents is still to be arranged.

86/10 REPLACEMENT OF THE CEMETERY HEDGE

The Clerk has discussed this with Steve Gwilliam and he advised that this should be done in the autumn. This work would be outside the lengthsman's duties.

87/10 LYCHGATE

Cllr Mrs Jack had received a quotation for the repainting, which seemed excessive. The Chairman agreed to ask Mr Gisborne to quote a price for the work.

88/10 SHEPPEY PLAY SCHEME

Cllr Mrs Wilkinson had given details of the scheme, including fund raising, to the Chairman. The support of parish councils is being sought, so that applications for grant funding can proceed. It was proposed by Cllr Browne, seconded by Cllr Eggleston, and agreed that Charlton Parish Council fully supports in principle the Sheppey Play Scheme.

89/10 STANDING ORDERS AND BYLAWS

The Chairman commented that he had studied the possible changes to Standing Orders suggested by NALC and he suggested that there should be no change to the Council's Standing Orders.

Cllr Eggleston withdrew his request for the By-laws relating to the Green to be revised.

90/10 PLANNING COMMITTEE

The reports of the Planning Committee held on 13th May 2010, which was enclosed with the agenda, and on 1st July 2010, which was circulated at the meeting, were noted.

91/10 ITEMS FROM CALC

There was nothing to report.

92/10 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

The following correspondence was noted:

1. WCC – Worcestershire Waste Core Strategy: emerging Preferred Options consultation
2. WDC – Rural Play Initiative grants 2010
3. Magazines, including Local Council Review, Newslines, Clerk and Councils Direct

93/10 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA

1. Appointment of street lighting warden
2. Tree planting on the Green

94/10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This is arranged for Thursday, 9th September 2010

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