

## CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

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**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> September 2010,  
at 7.30 pm, in the Old School Room, Charlton**

**PRESENT** Cllr B B Browne  
Cllr R L Davies  
Cllr S M Eggleston  
Cllr Mrs B W Jack  
Cllr Mrs F Wilkinson

In attendance: Roger Gurney, Clerk to the Parish Council

### **ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC FORUM**

*(No members of the public were present).*

### **95/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

These were received and accepted from Cllr Grazier, Cllr Wood and Clive Bostle.

### **96/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

### **97/10 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8<sup>th</sup> JULY 2010**

The draft Minutes had been circulated previously. It was resolved that the Minutes be signed as a true record.

### **98/10 PROGRESS REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**

**1. Footpath Warden.** Clive Bostle was not in attendance. The Chairman commented that the Parish walk took place on 31<sup>st</sup> July. Some problems were found with the paths, which will be attended to. Mr Bostle continues to liaise with WCC regarding the publication of a brochure for the footpaths in Charlton.

**2. Lengthsman.** Steve Gwilliam was not in attendance. The Chairman reported that the bricks on the gully across the Green are missing, and he will ask Mr Gisborne if he can repair it.

**3. Crothorne and Charlton Village Hall.** Cllr Mrs Wilkinson reported that there will be a meeting next week to give an update on the progress of the refurbishment.

**4. Leaning headstones.** The Clerk has given Cllr Mrs Jack details of the original three leaning headstones. It was agreed that authorization be given for the five identified unstable headstones to be attended to, in accordance with the previously received quotation.

**5. Parish Plan Group.** There has been no meeting since the last PC meeting.

**6. Housing Need Survey.** The Clerk reported that he had not heard from Nigel Potter, but had recently emailed him to ascertain progress. It is not likely that the survey will be undertaken before next spring.

**7. Replacement street light no.2, Cherry Orchard.** The Clerk reported that Prysmian has erected the new column. He has instructed Eon to disconnect and reconnect the power, but this has not yet been done. When it has been done Prysmian will remove the old column.

**8. Future of the telephone kiosk.** It was suggested that, if WDC has no proposals for the maintenance and/or use of the kiosk, it should be removed.

**9. Litter Pick.** Cllr Davies reported that the Scout Group is to undertake a litter pick on the coming weekend. He has liaised with WDC regarding any necessary items of equipment and for the collection of litter. It was proposed by Cllr Browne, seconded by Cllr Mrs Jack, and agreed that £100 be donated to the Scout Group for this litter pick.

**10. Replacement of the Cemetery hedge.** The Clerk was asked to remind Steve Gwilliam to proceed with this as soon as is practical.

**11. County Council/Parish Council web site link.** Although the Clerk has asked WCC to arrange for a link between these web sites to be set up, the resultant link is still not satisfactory. The Clerk was asked to report this to WCC.

**12. Planning enforcement items.** The Clerk reported that the enforcement officer considers that the animal building at Fenn Brook, Boston Lane, is in accordance with the planning permission. The enforcement officer also reports that no further action is to be taken with the caravan in the field behind the Old Chapel, Canada Bank, as this is considered to be an ancillary use of the land. No reply has been received regarding the compliance with the conditions attached to the development at 2 Canada Bank.

#### 99/10 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

County Cllr Mrs Liz Eyre was not in attendance and there was no report.

District Cllr Tom McDonald was not in attendance and there was no report.

#### 100/10 UNAUTHORISED TRAVELLERS SITE, YESSELL LANE

The public hearing was held on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2010 and the decision is expected to be received in early October. The Chairman thanked those who attended and spoke at the Hearing.

#### 101/10 FINANCE

##### 1. Receipts and Payments Account: 03.06.10 – 23.07.10

This was circulated with the agenda and was accepted.

##### 2. Accounts for Payment

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

R D Gurney	salary, 01.08.10 – 30.09.10	£563.68
Staples UK Ltd	- photocopying, stationery (July/August) £18.95 + £3.32 VAT (2 invoices)	£ 22.27
N Power	£144.58 + £7.23 VAT	£151.81
Charles Tooby		£ 50.00
Steve Gwilliam	(August)	£176.00
Clement Keys	£135.00 + £23.63 VAT	£158.63
Essential Tree Services		£750.00
<u>Confirmation of payment made 12.08.10</u>		
Steve Gwilliam,	lengthsman duties (July)	£132.00

#### 102/10 AUDIT REPORTS

The reports of the External and Internal Auditors were reported and were noted. The notice of closure of the accounts was advertised for two weeks from 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2010.

#### 103/10 TREES ON THE GREEN

In accordance with the decision made at the previous meeting, two quotations were

requested and received. The contract was given to Essential Tree Services and the three Chestnut trees and one birch tree have been now removed and their roots ground out. This action was approved. The Clerk had informed the Tree Officer at WDC of the action.

The Chairman reported that he had received an offer of £200 from Howard Heath, on behalf of the PCC, towards replacement trees. After some discussion it was evident that there are differing views as to whether or not to replace some or all of the trees. It was agreed that this matter would be suitable to be raised at the Parish Meeting in April. The Chairman agreed to inform Mr Heath of this decision.

Concern was raised that the large willow tree is currently shrouding the lighting column. As the overhead electricity cable pass through the tree, the Clerk was asked to see if Eon would attend to this. If not the Clerk would ask Mr Cheung to attend to the matter, with the cost not to exceed £100.

#### **104/10 FLOOD ALLEVIATION**

The EA regional meeting is arranged for next week, in readiness for the October meeting; the Chairman and Cllr Davies (as a member of the Flood Action Committee) agreed to attend. County Cllr Liz Eyre is in contact with the current new "local" member on the EA Committee. It was reported that a new officer has taken over the Charlton scheme from Anthony Perry.

The Flood Action group has undertaken a survey in Charlton for the EA and Cllr Davies and Derek Arnold have cleared a section of Merry Brook. The Clerk was asked to remind Limebridge Rural Services that their contract includes monthly clearance of Merry Brook across the Green. A new edition of Flood News has been produced and is on the web site. The Chairman commented that a resident of Sedgeberrow had given a talk about the flood issues from the 2007 floods.

#### **105/10 HIGHWAY AND FOOTWAY MATTERS**

Following the meeting in June with EA, WCC and WDC residents had noticed that some drains had been cleared and a survey undertaken. As there has been no feedback to the PC, the Clerk was asked to find out the results and action programme.

Cllr Davies reported that farm traffic is still speeding through the village. It is known that there is a change in farm ownership, but, if the speeding traffic problem continues, it was agreed that a meeting be held with the management.

A large pothole has developed in Canada Bank and needs to be reported to WCC.

#### **106/10 DEMARCATION OF THE GREEN/PRIVATE DRIVEWAY**

Even though fewer vehicles seem to be parking on the Green itself, it was agreed that a letter be sent to the residents fronting the Green, drawing attention to the bylaws.

#### **107/10 LYCHGATE**

At the Parish Conference it was reported that work, such as painting, could be carried out by people on probation and under supervision. The Chairman agreed to follow this up and to keep the Clerk informed.

#### **108/10 PACT MEETING**

The mobile PACT meetings had not been well attended and it is now suggested that a joint PACT meeting with Cropthorne and Fladbury parishes be arranged by the Police.

**109/10 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The report of the Planning Committee held on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2010, which was enclosed with the agenda, was noted.

**110/10 ITEMS FROM CALC**

The Chairman reported that Andy Ford from WDC spoke at the last Area CALC Meeting about the impact of the abandoning of the Regional Spatial Strategy and Advantage West Midlands.

A Sedgeberrow resident spoke about the impact of the 2007 floods in the village.

The Chairman reported that the Government is consulting parish and town councils on the prospect of "capping" the precept. The various difficulties were explained and it was agreed that the Chairman emails the Parish Council's concerns to the DCLG.

**111/10 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

The following correspondence was noted:

1. WDC – Annual Report of Wychavon Standards Committee
2. WDC – Local referendums to veto Excessive Council Tax increases consultation
3. WDC – Revised rates for Members' Allowances
4. Community First Conference and AGM, 27<sup>th</sup> September
5. Magazines, including Newsline, Clerk and Councils Direct

**112/10 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA**

None

**113/10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

This is arranged for Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> November 2010

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