

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> November 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 E G Grazier  
Cllr Mrs B W Jack

In attendance: County Cllr Liz Eyre  
District Cllr Tom McDonald  
Clive Bostle, Footpath Warden  
Roger Gurney, Clerk to the Parish Council

**ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC FORUM**

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

**114/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

These were received and accepted from Cllr Mrs Wilkinson.

**115/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**116/10 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2010**

The draft Minutes were circulated with the agenda. It was resolved that the Minutes be signed as a true record.

**117/10 PROGRESS REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**

**1. Footpath Warden.** Clive Bostle was invited to speak. He reported that WCC is proposing to prioritise rights of way into 4 categories for maintenance purposes. He will complete the survey as a draft prior to discussing it with the Chairman and it will be reported to the next meeting. Mr Bostle reported that Wychavon DC has produced a list of circular walks, one of which includes Charlton and it will be put on the Vale of Evesham web site. The leaflet for Charlton Parish is still in preparation by the County Council.

**2. Lengthsman.** Steve Gwilliam was not in attendance and there was no report.

**3. Crophorne and Charlton Village Hall and Workman Trust.** Cllr Mrs Wilkinson had sent reports to the Clerk. The main contractors, Spicers, have gone into Receivership before the work at the Hall could be completed. Until this is resolved the completion of the Hall remains in limbo.

Cllr Mrs Wilkinson also informed the Clerk that the Workman Trust has received a grant for improvements to the Old School Room and this work should be started shortly.

**4. Parish Plan Group.** There has been a recent meeting and the Plan is progressing. Cllr McDonald reported that WDC is carrying out a community survey, the results of which should assist the Parish Plan Group.

**5. Housing Need Survey.** The Clerk reported Nigel Potter is aiming to carry out the survey in February. The Clerk will continue to liaise.

**6. Replacement street light no.2, Cherry Orchard.** The Clerk reported that Central Networks had made the necessary power connection and Prysmian were due to remove the old column this afternoon.

**7. Future of the telephone kiosk.** The Clerk reported that the responsibility for the kiosk lies with the Planning Department and he is awaiting a reply to his enquiry. Members expressed their desire for the kiosk to be removed.

**8. Village Litter Pick.** Cllr Davies reported that the Scout Group has undertaken the litter pick in the village and had received use of equipment from WDC. The Parish Council has agreed to give the Scout Group a donation of £100.

**9. County Council/Parish Council web site link.** The Clerk had been told by WCC that the link between the County Council and the Parish Council web sites is to be improved; this is following discussion at the recent Parish Conference.

**10. Planning appeal, travellers' site, Yessell Lane, Charlton.** The decision on the planning appeal is still awaited.

**11. Willow tree, The Green.** Eon had undertaken to prune the willow tree to avoid overhead cables. Unfortunately, the prunings were left under the tree and the Clerk was asked to contact Eon to arrange removal. A report for the tidying up the tree is being requested from Toby Cheung.

#### 118/10 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

**County Cllr Mrs Liz Eyre** was invited to speak. She referred to the budgetary constraints facing the County Council and drew attention to a questionnaire in the local press for residents to complete and send in.

County Cllr Mrs Eyre referred to the meeting held earlier in the day with the Environment Agency, WDC, local members and Charlton Flood Committee. The EA reported that work on the pond scheme showed that it is not likely to be as effective as first thought and, therefore, it will not proceed. The EA will, however, make an average of some £5,500 available for each affected property; this will be detailed in a newsletter to be circulated and explained at a public meeting in the village. She will work to progress clarity around a number of highway and bridge clearance issues in Charlton.

**District Cllr Tom McDonald** was invited to speak. He reported that WDC is involved with a Comprehensive Spending Review, needing a 10% savings requirement in the first year and 28% over 4 years. There is likely to be no increase in Council Tax in 2011/2012. On flood alleviation in Charlton Cllr McDonald felt that the EA needs to be able to justify its decision to abandon the pond scheme to residents.

Cllr McDonald reminded the Parish Council about the Youth Bus, which is available for village communities across Wychavon.

#### 119/10 CEMETERY MATTERS

**(1) Leaning headstones.** Cllr Mrs Jack reported that Toby Cheung has done the necessary work to make the leaning headstones safe. With one headstone lying down, the Cemetery is now considered to be hazard-free.

**(2) Lychgate.** The Chairman reported that Mr Gisborne does not wish to take on this task. It is necessary for quotations to be obtained.

**(3) Cemetery hedge.** The Clerk reported that Mr Gwilliam has the replacement of the roadside hedge in hand.

**(4) Possible unauthorized interment.** The Chairman received a call in late September

from the vicar, who had been asked to officiate at an interment of ashes in the cemetery.

When there were no authorizing papers she refused to take part, informing the person that permission was needed from the Parish Council. This has not been done. The Clerk has tried to contact the vicar without success and will continue to do so.

## 120/10 FINANCE

### 1. Receipts and Payments Account: 23.07.10 – 01.10.10

This was circulated with the agenda and was accepted.

### 2. Mid Year Financial Summary.

This was circulated with the agenda. The Clerk drew attention to the figures and explained that no further large receipts or payments are anticipated during the remainder of the financial year. This Summary was accepted.

### 3. Accounts for Payment

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

R D Gurney salary, 01.10.10 – 30.11.10	£563.68
expenses	£ 44.00
Staples UK Ltd - photocopying, stationery, stamps (Sept/Oct) £17.45 + £1.33 VAT (4 invoices)	£ 18.78
Prysmian Cables & Systems Ltd £474.20 + £82.99 VAT	£557.19
Limebridge Rural Services Ltd Cemetery, Green and Verge mowing	
September £527.00 + £92.23 VAT	£619.23
October £432.00 + £75.60 VAT	£507.60
N Power £146.17 + £7.31 VAT	£153.48
Steve Gwilliam (September)	£176.00
(October)	£176.00
Charlton Scout Group	£100.00
<u>Confirmation of payment made 01.10.10</u>	
Limebridge Rural Services (July) £743.00 + £130.03 VAT	£873.03

### 4. Business rate refund.

The Clerk reported that a refund of £18.62 has been received in respect of the cemetery rates and this was noted.

## 121/10 FLOOD ALLEVIATION

Details of the meeting earlier today had been discussed during the report from County Cllr Liz Eyre. The comments were noted by the Parish Council. The only comment to add was that the date of the meeting with the EA has been arranged for Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2010, at 7pm, in the Old School Room

## 122/10 HIGHWAY AND FOOTWAY MATTERS

The Chairman reported that no report has been received and no work undertaken regarding the drainage problems in Ryden Lane/Brook Lane; County Cllr Mrs Eyre has agreed to follow this up. The Clerk reported that WCC has made financial provision for any claim made against a resident who clears snow from in front of his/her property, and this work is also now included in the lengthsman's duties. The Clerk was asked to report that new street name plates are required for Ryden Lane and Sidings Lane.

## 123/10 DEMARCATION OF THE GREEN/PRIVATE DRIVEWAY

It was agreed that, rather than hold a meeting with residents living on The Green, the

Clerk sends a letter to all residents to remind them that there is a bylaw against any parking on The Green.

**124/10 STREET LIGHT No. 6, MERRYFIELD**

Following a report that this street light was not working the Clerk informed the contractor of the fault. In reply Prysman report that the lantern is full of water and will need to be replaced. This type of lantern is not now readily available and, if Prysman are unable to obtain a replacement lantern, the PC will have to consider replacing the column. It was agreed to delay a decision until a response has been received from the contractor.

**125/10 IMPACT OF THE ECONOMY ON PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE**

The Chairman reminded the Council that the Government is giving thought to capping parish councils, although how this would come into effect has not been made known. Members will need to be aware of this when the budget is set, at the next meeting. At this time the position regarding the flood alleviation money could also be discussed.

**126/10 COMMUNICATION WITH PARISHIONERS**

Cllr Eggleston raised the possibility of parishioners with an interest in Parish Council matters registering with the Clerk, so that they could be notified of meetings via email. After some discussion it was agreed that this matter be deferred to the Annual Parish Meeting and, in the meantime the Clerk discusses the matter with the Executive Officer at CALC.

**127/10 PACT MEETING**

No meeting has been arranged.

**128/10 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The reports of the Planning Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2010 and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010, which were enclosed with the agenda, were noted.

**129/10 ITEMS FROM CALC**

The Chairman reported that the AGM had been held and that subscriptions were not expected to increase next year.

**130/10 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

The following correspondence was noted:

1. WDC – Update on South Worcestershire Development Plan – meeting in Pershore on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 6.30 – 8.00 pm
2. WDC – Allotments Scrutiny Team Final Report
3. WDC – Notification of adoption of WDC Residential Design Guide
4. WDC – Parish Matters (copy enclosed)
5. WCC – Waste Core Strategy: First Draft Submission consultation

**131/10 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA**

Budget and Precept for 2011/2012

**132/10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

This is arranged for Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2011

13<sup>th</sup> January 2011