

## CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

47

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014, at 7.30 pm, in the Old School Room, Charlton**

**PRESENT** Cllr R L Davies (Chairman)  
Cllr B B Browne  
Cllr S M Eggleston  
Cllr E G Grazier  
Cllr Mrs B W Jack  
Cllr R R Sims  
Cllr M P Wood

In attendance: Clive Bostle, Footpath Warden  
Roger Gurney, Clerk to the Parish Council

### ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC FORUM

*(One member of the public was in attendance.)*

### 121/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none.

### 122/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

### 123/14 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2014

The draft minutes were circulated with the agenda. The following amendments were agreed;

Minute no. 112/14, line 1, delete 'The last part', insert 'Most parts'

Minute no. 109/14, line 2, delete last sentence, insert 'As the mirror is to be installed on private ground, not within the highway and would be funded and arranged by the affected parties the PC sees no reason that they should not proceed with this.'

Subject to these amendments it was proposed by Cllr Sims, seconded by Cllr Browne, and resolved, that the Minutes be signed as a true record.

### 124/14 COUNTY COUNCILLOR.S REPORT

County Cllr Liz Eyre and Cllr Bradley Thomas had sent their apologies, and there were no reports.

### 125/14 REPORT FROM REPRESENTATIVES

**1. Footpath Warden.** Clive Bostle referred to the proposal for the Cycle route through Charlton and commented that some re-surfacing of Ryden Lane will be needed; he accepted that there will have to be discussions with the landowners.

He reported that the work on the footpath between The Bight and Merry Brook is now much improved, thank to help from Cllr Wood. The willows alongside the Brook have been made safe. He has been keeping the footpaths off Boston Lane clear, in spite of the fact the plants are still growing.

**2. Crothorne and Charlton Village Hall.** The minutes of the Village Hall Committee dated 20<sup>th</sup> October 2014, were circulated with the agenda, and were noted.

**3. Workman Trust/Old School Room.** There was no report.

**126/14 APPLICATION FOR DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF**

A copy of the letter from WDC and the application for Rate Relief from the licensee of 'The Gardeners Arms PH' was circulated with the agenda. It was resolved that the £239.41, as requested, be paid.

**127/14 FINANCE****1. Receipts and Payments Account: 01.08.14 – 3.10.14**

This was circulated with the agenda and was accepted.

**2. Accounts for Payment**

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

Staples UK Ltd	£12.50 + £2.50 VAT	<b>£ 15.00</b>
Steve Gwilliam (October)		<b>£205.00</b>
bulbs and planting		<b>£ 60.97</b>
Wychavon DC (for Rate Relief)		<b>£239.41</b>
New Farm Grounds Maintenance (Oct)	£530.00 + £106.00 VAT	<b>£636.00</b>
N Power (April-June)	£212.16 + £10.61 VAT	<b>£222.77</b>
N Power (July-Sept)	£214.50 + £10.72 VAT	<b>£225.22</b>
B B Browne re-imburement	£18.72 +£3.75VAT	<b>£ 22.47</b>

**3. Confirmation of Payments made on 23.10 2014:**

New Farm Grounds Maintenance (Sept)	£280.00 + £56.00 VAT	<b>£336.00</b>
Steve Gwilliam (September)		<b>£132.00</b>

**128/14 DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2015/2016**

The Chairman explained that during the current year income and payments are broadly in line with the budget. However, the income from the Cemetery is down from the previous years and new tenders are required for the grounds maintenance. Members expressed the hope that there will be a zero increase in the Precept. The Clerk has recently received a letter from WDC in which the Budget requirement is requested by 16<sup>th</sup> January 2015. A shortfall grant will still be paid. It was agreed that the Finance WG meets to assess the requirements prior to the next meeting.

**129/14 NEW FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

The Clerk reported that CALC has now issued an amended version of the Financial Regulations and this has still to be considered.

**130/14 FLOOD ALLEVIATION**

Cllr Davies reported that the agreement with the EA for work off The Bight has been signed and it was accepted that the contractor will be responsible for the health and safety aspects of the work. He will pursue the EA for the work to start.

Regarding the land to the rear of the Gardeners' Arms he has had difficulty making further contact with the landowner A method statement has been completed and the Clerk was asked to obtain written confirmation, following the verbal confirmation, from WDC that the work is 'de minimus.'

It is noted that the fallen tree at the car park to the Jubilee Bridge picnic site is still across Merry Brook, although the Clerk first reported this in April. He was asked to channel this lack of action through County Cllr Liz Eyre.

It was noted that weed has again become a nuisance in the Brook across The Green and it was considered that the EA may have a suggestion for its removal.

#### **131/14 CHARLTON CEMETERY**

Cllr Grazier confirmed that he will obtain a new quotation for the necessary work of the trees and it was felt appropriate for new planting to be held over for a further 12 months. The Chairman, Cllr Browne and Cllr Mrs Jack agreed to continue the revising of the conditions relating to the Cemetery. There was no firm information for the temporary access to the Cemetery from the adjoining farm track, but this will need to be in the far corner and not look like a permanent access.

The Clerk reported that he wrote to the family of the grave where additional work appears to have taken place, but he has had no reply.

#### **132/14 HIGHWAY, FOOTWAY AND STREET LIGHTING MATTERS**

The Chairman will report the unrepaired potholes in Ryden Lane via the Hub. It is noted that WCC have marked the gullies across The Green, prior to work being done. Badgers have re-appeared on the banks at Canada Bank and it appears that WCC have done minimal hedge cutting on B.4084, on either side of the Boston Lane junction.

#### **133/14 30 MPH STICKERS**

Cllr Sims has noted that these are prominent in nearby villages, where there is a problem with speeding traffic; they are often attached to residents' wheelie bins. Members agreed to seek out suppliers and to raise this at the next PACT meeting.

#### **134/14 EVESHAM TO PERSHORE CYCLE ROUTE**

Work has now started on School Lane, Hampton.

#### **135/14 PAINTING THE BUS SHELTER**

Cllr Sims has spoken to Helen Fowler whose group has agreed to prepare a scheme for improving the bus shelter, with the aim of finishing in the Spring. The ideas will be presented to the PC for approval at the next meeting. It is possible that a grant for the paint can be obtained from Dulux.

#### **136/14 GRASS CUTTING TENDERS**

It was agreed that tenders for grass cutting of The Green, Cemetery and verges be requested in time for the January meeting. It was agreed that tenders be invited from New Farm Grounds Maintenance, Limebridge and Smart Cut. Cllr Davies will be meeting the current contractors to discuss the work necessary in Merry Brook.

#### **137/14 COLD CALLING**

Cllr Sims suggested that there may be a case for 'no cold calling' areas in Charlton and he agreed to carry out enquiries of examples in other villages. It was agreed that this matter be raised at the next PACT meeting.

**138/14 PROGRESS REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**

1. **Lengthsman.** Steve Gwilliam was not in attendance. His worksheet for October was circulated with the agenda and was noted.
2. **Broadband progress.** This should now be completed, although there is little evidence currently of improvement.
3. **Telephone kiosk.** There is still no progress. The Parish Council was invoiced for the disconnection, but this was passed to WDC. The Clerk was asked to check whether the disconnection has happened.
4. **PACT meeting.** The next meeting is on 8<sup>th</sup> December in Fladbury.
5. **Parish Plan.** There was no information.
6. **Junction of Canada Bank and the Green.** This was considered earlier in the meeting.
7. **New Homes Bonus.** The Clerk reported that the application for a new bench on The Green has been approved and the grant has been paid into the bank account. Currently there is £2,924 available for the Parish.
8. **Floral displays.** Steve Gwilliam has purchased the bulbs and these have been planted.

**139/14 REPORTS OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The reports of the Planning Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2014 and 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2014, which had been circulated with the agenda, were approved, as these two meetings were inquorate.

**140/14 ITEMS FROM CALC**

Cllr Browne reported that the CALC Executive has considered how to adapt if WCC does not continue to give the regular grant. This will also be considered at the CALC AGM on 26<sup>th</sup> November.

**141/14 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

The following correspondence was noted:

- (1) WDC – consultation re controlling street trading; comments by 31<sup>st</sup> December
- (2) WCC – application form for Events Diary 2015
- (3) Clerks and Councils Direct

**142/14 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA**

Risk assessment  
Budget/Precept

**143/14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at 7.30 pm in The Old School Room.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.