



**CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2020**

Present: Cllr J Smith (Chairman), Cllr C Ward (Vice Chairman), Cllr I Smale, Cllr C Mills, Cllr P Wylde & Cllr M Bonarius.

In attendance: Mrs H Bourner – Clerk  
HCC Mrs Zilliah Brooks  
1 Member of public

PLEASE NOTE THIS WAS A VIRTUAL MEETING IN LINE WITH GOVERNMENT ADVICE DURING THE CORONA VIRUS RESTRICTIONS.

Cllr Smith expressed thanks to Jen Mulberry who has resigned as a councillor due to the pressure of work. She was thanked in particular for her work on climate change, it was hoped that she may still be able to help the village with this initiative.

**1) Apologies for Absence**

Apologies had been received from TVBC Linda Lashbrook.

**2) Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3) Co-option of new Councillor**

Barry Hodgson had put himself forward for co-option to the Parish Council. He had previously been a Councillor and it was unanimously agreed to co-opt him back onto the Parish Council. The Clerk will send the necessary forms for completion.

**4) Minutes**

Cllrs to approve the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020, including the amendments to the paragraph regarding the railings in front of Carters Meadow, as a correct record of proceedings

**Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> September were confirmed as a correct record proposed by Cllr Smith & seconded by Cllr Ward.

**5) Public participation**

A member of the public raised a question regarding the grass area outside 106 & 107 Charlton Road which he described as an important open space for the village and which he believed should be kept free of parked vehicles. This was listed as a separate agenda item.

**6) Clerk's Report**

**The Clerk reported on several items as follows: -**

**Lengthsman**

The invoice for all strimming and erection of the new sign has been paid. A quote to repair the bench at Carters Meadow has been requested.

**Defibrillator**

A new battery and pads were ordered and have been delivered to the new guardian.

**Tesco No entry signs**

HCC Zilliah Brooks was hoping to establish who asked for the no entry signs to be erected. She confirmed she had not received a response but would follow this up.

### **Book exchange**

A request has been received by Cllr Smale to loosen the hinges on the door of the book exchange as this is very heavy particularly for the elderly. The Clerk confirmed the hinges were large leather straps and required to support the door. If these fail the door is at danger of falling and could cause serious harm. She was asked to get the Lengthsman to look and see if there was a simple solution.

### **Flooding/blocked drains**

All blocked drains on Charlton Road have been reported to HCC. A response has been received to say the gullies will be dug out as soon as possible and drains cleared by jet washing early in the new year.

### **Stream bank repairs & railings on bridge**

Following a discussion ~~ed~~ with Cllr Ward as to how to get this project up and running again advice has been sought from Charlotte Rimmer TVBC environmental officer. A reply is awaited.

### **7)HCC & TVBC Report-**

HCC Mrs Z Brooks reported that a decision is imminent regarding the Lengthsman scheme and whether it will continue in 2021/22. The proposal is that it will continue with the possibility of additional authority to work on the live carriageway, with the necessary training. It is unlikely the funding will increase.

She asked if a salt bin check could be made in the village. Any broken bins and any refills required should be reported.

Finally, she reported the bridge over the stream into Charlton Park is complete but cannot be used as no gate was fitted. The original plan did not include one however for health and safety it had been agreed one was required. She confirmed the bridge will be accessible to those with limited mobility but will safeguard children and animals and prevent them running into the road.

### **8)Finance -**

The bank balance at 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020 was as follows:

Lloyds current £14509.85

Savings £35537.06

Cllrs to consider and approve the financial statement for the period 1<sup>st</sup> October to 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

**RESOLVED:** It was resolved to approve the financial statement for the period 1<sup>st</sup> October to 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020 as a correct record of accounts.

### **Cllrs to approve payments to be made**

H Bourner Salary £411.29

HMRC £63.60

H Bourner expenses £23.60

Clive Ward £30.00

Clive Ward £39.58

Clive Ward £16.06

Parish Online £180.00

### **Retrospective**

Glasdon £379.72  
Welmedical £243.48  
Signway Signs Ltd £295.39  
Barry Notley £580.00  
Sally Brewer £25.00

### **Cllrs to Discuss proposed budget for 2021-22**

A spreadsheet showing a three-year budget draft had been circulated. The figures were discussed and likely expenditure over the three-year period considered. All Councillors had further reviewed the figures, some small amendments were required, however the budget was accepted subject to these amendments. Given the figures proposed Cllr Smith proposed the precept for 21/22 was not increased and remained at £20000 the same as the previous year. This was seconded by Cllr Smale. All agreed.

### **9) Parish Online**

Cllr Ward reported on an online event he had attended when Parish Online had been demonstrated. Charlton Parish Council had purchased this in the past and while it had been useful to the Neighbourhood Plan, he realised it could be used for several other useful areas. He suggested another Parish Councillor could have access. Cllr Smale agreed to attend an upcoming training course so he was able to help. The Clerk was asked to renew the subscription.

### **10) Green Space Outside 106 & 107 Charlton Road**

Following several concerns raised regarding parking on the green space outside 106 & 107 Charlton Road the Clerk had written to both residents of the properties to ask them to refrain from parking on this area.

Cllr Ward said this piece of ground belonged to Hampshire Highways but was seen as an important open green space within the village.

The Clerk confirmed she had received a telephone call from one resident who had explained several difficulties gaining access to her drive because of the volume of traffic and restricted views. She therefore crossed the piece of land in her vehicle to be able to reverse into her drive. She said it was illegal to reverse onto the road in such close proximity to a roundabout. She also said in an emergency a family member or emergency vehicle may park on this area. Her preference would be for the land to be tarmacked for ease. She did not want parking bollards to be installed. She was very happy to work with the Parish Council to resolve the issue.

Given the land belonged to Hampshire Highways HCC Cllr Brooks agreed to discuss the matter with highways. She asked the Clerk to send her full details. The Clerk will write to the resident to say the matter was being considered.

### **11) Traffic Calming & CFI**

Cllr Smith reported that she had contacted HCC regarding the CFI and the questions that had arisen at the last meeting regarding the white lines and the give way signs on Hatherden Road. She reported that starting the line from Mercia Ave would reduce the costs by £163, however they recommended starting at the village gates but not stopping and starting again at the entrance to Mercia Avenue. This was agreed. Cllr Smith proposed highways be asked to proceed with the edging of the carriage way on Hatherden Rd, to enhance the crossing by the bridge on Charlton Road and complete the informal crossing by the Church. The total cost for these three was £7310 + fees. Cllr Smale proposed up to £10000 be spent as this was the amount set aside in the budget. This was seconded by Cllr Ward and agreed by all Councillors. Cllr Smith will contact HCC and ask them to proceed.

### **12) Village Communications Survey**

Cllr Smith opened the discussion by asking what the Parish Council was looking to achieve by issuing a survey. She said there were several methods of

communication in the village, Facebook, a website, a residents' forum and regular newsletters. Cllr Wylde said the newsletter was posted to every house in the village so this was the best method of communication. Cllr Ward said he did not think many people accessed the website as this was just for Parish Council matters. A community website would only work if a webmaster could take control. Cllr Smith said the Facebook account was used by approximately 300 residents but was open to all. After some discussion it was agreed a survey at this point would not be useful. The matter will be revisited early in 2021.

### **13) Liaison between TVBC & Charlton Leisure**

Cllr Ward reported on a meeting with TVBC which arose following an article in the local newspaper which neither TVBC Linda Lashbrook or the Parish Council knew anything about. In discussions it became clear that the article had been embellished by the newspaper. TVBC have acknowledged Charlton PC will be consulted in anything that is suggested for Charlton Lakes. Cllr Ward will keep lines of communication open.

### **14) Green Space in front of Carters Meadow**

The Clerk confirmed she had purchased the required bin to be fitted at the entrance to Carters Meadow.

Cllr Ward reported on an initiative to change the signs to show Carters Meadow starts further down the road rather than at the junction of the two roads. He is waiting for the Residents Association to provide feedback before any decision can be made. Cllr Smale will follow up when speaking to the estate manager.

Cllr Wylde had provided some suggested tree species to the Estate Manager at Carters Meadow to replant trees to replace those recently felled. The residents were not happy with those suggested and asked for some further ideas. Cllr Wylde said after some more thought he would recommend a Japanese Acer which will provide good colour. Cllr Smale will mention this when communicating with the estate manager and also ask about grinding out the stumps of the felled willow trees.

### **15) Hedging at Goch Way**

At the October meeting the Parish Council agreed they would like to see enhanced planting in at Goch Way. Cllr Ward had contacted TVBC to establish what grants were available and asked how TVBC could assist with the project, he awaits a response. Cllr Wylde has found some hedging plants he believes are suitable. He was asked to put together a proposal of what he believed should be planted for the January meeting. The Clerk will write to Andrew Pilley to establish how this can be achieved.

### **16) Planning**

The following decisions by TVBC were noted – None  
The following applications received- None

### **19) Councillors to provide a report on their areas of responsibility**

**Traffic Liaison** – see previous report on CFI & traffic calming.

**Community Hall Feasibility**- Cllr ward said the advisory group had met and are still discussing potential sites in the village. He hopes that by the January meeting a decision will be made.

**Environment & Rights of Way**– Cllr Wylde had nothing to report

**Community emergency plan** – Cllr Ward has nothing to report.

**Lengthsman scheme**- see details in Clerks Report.

**20)Correspondence-**

The Clerk confirmed she had not received any correspondence other than that already discussed.

**23) Items proposed for future agendas were: -****Green Space at 106/107****Hedging at Peake Way****Cllr responsibilities****February meeting - communication survey**

**AOB)** Cllr Smale said there was a plan for Wed 16<sup>th</sup> Dec to hold a doorstep carol service in the village. The idea is to stand on your doorstep and sing hopefully along with the song on Love Andover Radio- full details will be in the next village newsletter.

There is also a proposal for a pop-up stall in the village each Saturday in December for local business to sell wears, if covid restrictions allow. More details will be published in due course.

Finally, Cllr Bonarius said he had received many positive comments from villagers on the poppies which had been displayed around the village. He thanked those responsible.

**Close of Meeting** – The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021

**The meeting closed at 9.45**