



**CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21st JANUARY 2020**

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

In attendance: Mrs H Bourner – Clerk
4 members of the public

1) Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from TVBC Linda Lashbrook, HCC Mrs Z Brooks & Cllr Morgan who had submitted his resignation due to pressures of work. Cllr Smith formally thanked him for the work he had done on behalf of the Parish Council. The Clerk was asked to arrange for the vacancy to be advertised. Cllr Mills was absent but had made no apologies.

2) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3) Minutes

Cllrs to approve the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th November 2019 as a correct record of proceedings.

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held on 19th November were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4) Public participation

A member of public commented on the agenda item regarding a change to the railings at Carters Meadow, and urged the PC to do this.

Comments were also made about the green area in front of Carters Meadow. Cllr Ward confirmed this area is listed in the Neighbourhood Plan as an open green space. He said the plan is about to be published and all residents will have the opportunity to comment before it is reviewed by an independent examiner.

5) Progress on history board

Cllr Ward reported he had now let a contract with Fitzpatrick Woolmer Design & Publishing Ltd. They would produce a proof before production was agreed. Unless there are any apparent issues this will be built and installed as was agreed at the November meeting.

6) Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on several items as follows: -

Clearance of stream bed

The Clerk confirmed she is awaiting a response from the Environment Agency regarding rebuilding the stream bank and clearing the stream bed.

Village gateway sign

The Village Gateway sign on Goch way has been destroyed by a car. An insurance claim has been submitted. A quotation to replace has been received from HCC Highways. All Cllrs agreed the quotation and asked the Clerk to proceed with both the claim and refitting the sign. The insurance company will be pressed to recover full costs so the Parish Council do not have to meet the policy excess given that the damage incurred was beyond their control.

Footpath cutting priority

Following discussions with HCC countryside access and Cllr Wyld the following 5 footpaths will be given priority for cutting in 2020

728

740

743

754

758

These will be guaranteed one cut in July. All other cuts and clearance will need to be organised by the PC

New Councillor Training

Cllrs Smale, Mulberry & Bonarius will attend a HALC new councillor training course at Eastleigh on 5th Feb 2020

Car Park surface- Collins Close

The Clerk reported that she was contacted over the Christmas break by the resident of no 9 Collins Close regarding poor surfaces in parking bays which had resulted in an accident. Photographs have been and taken shared with TVBC Linda Lashbrook who is working to find out who has responsibility to repair this.

Disabled Parking Tesco

The Clerk confirmed she had written to Tesco some time ago regarding the flooding of disabled parking bays but has not had a response. She was asked to report to Tesco complaint department.

7)HCC & TVBC Report-

Neither Cllr Lashbrook or HCC Mrs Z Brooks were present however Cllr Brooks had sent a report giving details of a current consultation regarding libraries in the county. She also highlighted the need for Hampshire residents to register to be able to use HCC waste recycling centres. Un registered cars arriving at the centres will be charged £5 per visit.

8)Finance -

Cllrs to consider and approve the financial statement for the period 1 November to 31st December 2019

RESOLVED: It was resolved to approve the financial statement for the period 1st November to 31st December 2019 as a correct record of accounts.

Cllrs to approve payments to be made

H Bourner Salary £373.98

HMRC £76.60

H Bourner expenses £14.10

Clive Ward £21.60

St Thomas' Church £76.30

Bulpitt Print £380.00

HALC £342.00

Poppy wreath £25.00

Retrospective payments

H Bourner Salary Dec £388.08

HMRC Dec £76.60

9) Cllr Ward to report on pre application requirements for Charlton Community Centre Initiative

Cllr Ward confirmed that as a result of the pre application for the proposed Charlton Community Centre and following TVBC advice it was agreed car parking was key and a formal car park study should be carried out. Three quotes for this work have been received. Further discussions with The Salto Centre suggested another option to use part of their building as a community hall. Cllr Ward confirmed the whole building and car park is on lease long term from TVBC and they need to discuss this in detail with The Salto Centre before any decisions can be made. He is arranging a meeting with TVBC regarding this, it was therefore agreed to await the outcome of this meeting before a survey is commissioned.

10) Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Ward confirmed the Neighbourhood Plan is about to be circulated by TVBC. Documents will be available both online at <http://www.charltonvillage.org.uk/community/charlton-parish-council-12680/neighbourhood-plan/> in hard copy at the church, the pub, Salto and in the Andover library so all residents have a chance to review and comment.

11) Railings at stream near entrance to Charlies Lake

Cllr Morgan has resigned and The Clerk was asked to contact him and obtain all details regarding the replacement railings for the next meeting.

12) Speeding Charlton Road.

Cllr Mulberry said she had been approached by residents regarding speeding on Charlton Road particularly on a Wednesday evening. She is also aware details have been posted on social media. Each Wednesday there is a car rally at the pub and vehicles have been seen leaving at speed. The Clerk was asked to contact the pub landlord to make him aware and ask him to ask customers to be respectful of locals.

13) Test Valley Association of Town & Parish Councils

Cllr Ward said one item TVATPC were considering in depth was climate change. He also said they were trying to establish issues which affect lots of Parish Councils and to get councils to join together to share ideas. He said that TVATPC members can get one hour free legal advice from HALC.

He also highlighted an initiative regarding developing action plans in rural areas. Events are being held and Councillors are urged to attend. The Clerk will circulate full details.

14) Bridge from Foxcotte Road to Charlton Park

Cllr Ward confirmed there is agreement to build the bridge and finance has been made available. It is hoped that building will start very soon and the bridge could be ready by Easter.

15) Emergency Resilience Plan

Following the resignation of Cllr Morgan, Cllr Mulberry agreed to take on the role of emergency resilience co-ordinator. She will initially work with Cllr Ward.

16) Railing in front of Green Space in front of Carters Meadow

A railing was installed in 2012 and an agreement made between the Parish Council and Carters Meadow management group that the Parish Council would maintain the railing and Carters Meadow would maintain the grass area and river bank. Although the public have a right to access the front piece of land the railing prevents easy access. Cllr Ward proposed the railing is replaced with a gated entrance which would make residents feel like they can use the area which is listed in the Neighbourhood Plan as open green space.

Cllr Wylde expressed concern about the installation of the new railing in haste and suggested a fence should be installed at the boundary of Carters Meadow Land and the public open space. Cllr Smith said she does not believe anything can be changed without discussions between the Parish Council and the Carters Meadow management group in line with the current agreement. Cllr Ward agreed to seek legal advice from HALC about the agreement. It was agreed discussions between the Parish Council and Carters Meadows should begin as soon as possible. A Working Party will be set up led by Cllr Smale once advice is received. The agreement is due to be reviewed in 2022.

17) Zip Wire

Details about this proposal are still awaited from TVBC.

18) Trees & Hedges

Cllr Wylde raised concern about tree and hedge planting in at the Goch Way development. He said although some planting was carried out, when the temporary road was installed trees were removed. Once the temporary road is removed trees and shrubs should be replanted. He said that there had been a previous planting during an enhancement program by the Parish Council and TVBC and he did not believe trees and shrubs had been replanted to reflect this program. Cllr Smith confirmed the replanting was a condition of the planning application. The Clerk will check the conditions.

19) Planning

The Clerk confirmed a new planning committee needed to be agreed following the resignation of Cllr Morgan. This was agreed as Cllr Wylde & Cllr Bonarius. A discussion followed regarding the procedure that should be followed. The Clerk will draw up a simple procedure for discussion at the February meeting.

ii) Cllr Wylde to report on the following planning applications: -

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

An application numbered 19/03043/FULLN, for a Solar Farm at Hatherden was discussed. The Parish Council had not been notified of the application but details had been gleaned from the local press. The Clerk was able to confirm that Penton Grafton had raised no objections to this application. While this was outside Charlton Parish, concerns were raised about the impact on the parish during the build. Particular concern was raised about the delivery of panels by large lorries during construction. The traffic management plan shows traffic will travel via Goch Way and Hatherden Road for an estimated 24 weeks, over 6 days per week, with average movement of 28-43 lorries per day between 08.00 and 18.00 hours. While the Parish Council had no objection to the planning application, they agreed that the times when the deliveries will happen are not acceptable and will create traffic problems. It was agreed acceptable times should be changed to 9.00 and 16.00, also depending on where deliveries come from other routes should be considered. The Clerk was asked to submit a letter regarding the application and a separate letter expressing disappointment that Charlton were not notified of the application and establish what financial compensation can be claimed by the Parish Council for inconvenience and potential damages.

20) Underpass Harrow Way to Charlton Park

Cllr Mulberry and Cllr Wylde have both visited this area and noted some broken glass and empty tin cans which had been thrown over the fence. Concerns were raised that installing a bin would not solve the problem. The Clerk was asked to contact TVBC Lashbrook to ask if TVBC might consider taking some action.

21) Councillors to provide a report on their areas of responsibility

Speedwatch and Traffic Liaison – Cllr Smith confirmed the CFI application has been submitted and a response report is expected. Cllr Smith will contact HCC to highlight a recent fatality near a crossing on Charlton Road. which was not mentioned in the application. Cllr Wylde confirmed he has recharged batteries for the old speed sign but it is still not working properly. It was agreed this should be disposed of if it would not work.

Lengthsman Scheme – The Clerk agreed to contact the lengthsman to establish the current situation with the telephone box renovation and how the scheme should work in the future.

Community Hall Feasibility- Cllr Bonarius & Ward -see full report above.

Residents forum- Cllr Ward -nothing new to report

Environment & Rights of Way– Cllr P Wylde reported that trees on West Way have been removed, Cllr Smith confirmed this was because they were not suitable for the soil. It is hoped they will be replaced. There is a fingerpost missing on path 726 on the eastern side at the Saxon Way end. The Clerk will report. Bridleway 758 needs to be cut back and there is a tree down on bridleway 59. Both are the responsibility of HCC. The Clerk will report. Cllr Wylde also said he has concerns about the safety of the Coffin route where it is very narrow, however HCC have said they are unable to take any action, Cllr Ward said if the path is used regularly this will help.

Communication & Social Media -Cllr Mrs Smith – nothing new to report.

22) Correspondence-

The Clerk highlighted a letter she had received from a resident who had raised concerns regarding trees in Bradwell Close. She had passed details to Cllr Wylde who confirmed the hedge has been cut back.

A letter regarding the plots of land for sale behind Carters Meadow has been posted to homes in the village. Plot B has been sold but plot A is still for sale. Cllr Smith will notify the selling agent that land is designated green space in the Neighbourhood Plan.

23) Items proposed for the next agenda were: -

Climate Change – what will Charlton’s Attitude/Plan be? Just Wild Flowers or more?

Traffic Survey - propose conducting a simple traffic Survey on Hatherden Road (when the weather improves) with the aim of confirming the types of traffic transiting at different times of the day.

Open up discussions around the south east corner to the village (Charlie's lake) to become a conservation area to protect the diverse wildlife that live there

Consultation re illegal encampments

Libraries consultation

Community Hall- outcome of meeting between TVBC and Cllr Ward

Railings at entrance to Charlies Lake- Clerk to confirm details obtained

Close of Meeting – The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 18th February 2020 in the Foxcotte Room, St Thomas' Church.

The meeting closed at 10.10 pm