



**CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

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

In attendance: Mrs H Bourner – Clerk  
HCC Mrs Zilliah Brooks  
0 Members of public

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

**1) Apologies for Absence**

Apologies had been received from TVBC Linda Lashbrook, Cllr C Mills & Cllr J Mulberry.

**2) Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3) Minutes**

Cllrs to approve the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020 as a correct record of proceedings

**Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> September were confirmed as a correct record proposed by Cllr Smale & seconded by Cllr Bonarius.

**4) Public participation**

A member of the public raised a question by letter regarding vehicles parking on land outside 106 & 107 Charlton Road. He felt this was unacceptable as the land was of great amenity to what he described as the centre of the village. He also raised concerns that parking on the land would churn up the grass and mud making an enormous mess. He urged the Parish Council to speak to the owners of the vehicles to stop parking there. The Clerk will write to the residents.

He further commented on the proposal to remove the railings at Carters Meadow and said he fully supported this initiative.

**5) Clerk's Report**

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

**Village gateway sign**

The Clerk confirmed a new sign to replace that stolen from the gateway had been ordered and received. The lengthsman had agreed to fit this. The cost of the new sign was £246.13, as the insurance excess was £250 no claim will be made. Councillors therefore agreed this expenditure.

**Lengthsman**

The Clerk reported work to general strimming etc continues although this will soon not be required as winter approaches. The Lengthsman has also strimmed the area for wildflower planting. The Lengthsman recently contacted the Clerk to say he has found the old Charlton Sign removed from the village gateway. He found it in a den tucked up among the bushes by the road bridge. He said the area appears to be used by groups who are hiding and smoking in there ~~smoking~~. There are some old chairs to sit on and a huge amount of rubbish that needs clearing. He agreed to do this if required, however Cllrs agreed this was really the responsibility of TVBC.

### **New Salary award for Clerks.**

A new salary award has been granted effective from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 with a rise of 37 pence per hour. A further salary step point has been added to implement from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021. This is the final point in this range at £14.42 per hour. Back pay for April to October has been calculated and is shown in payments to be made.

### **Newsletter Invoices**

All but two advertisers in the autumn newsletter invoiced have now paid.

### **Tesco No entry signs**

The letter to Tesco about safety concerns regarding traffic and the no entry signs was passed to letting agent Myddleton & Major who propose no action. They say their client, the freeholder, believes access is available to customers from both sides of the building. They assume Tesco erected the no entry sign. HCC Mrs Brooks agreed to establish if the erection of these signs was a condition of planning when the building became a Tesco store.

### **2021 meeting dates**

Details of proposed dates for meetings in 2021 were circulated and agreed.

### **Sign to Book exchange**

The Clerk confirmed she has put a sign in the BT box book exchange asking people not to leave excess books, CD's & DVD's

### **Planning White Paper Consultation**

The Clerk highlighted the consultation in to the planning White Paper. The closing date for sending comments is 29<sup>th</sup> October. Any Parish Councillors or members of the public wishing to comment can do so by following the link

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/MHCLG-Planning-for-the-Future/>

### **Bench at entrance to Carters Meadow**

Concerns had been raised that this bench was rotten, however Cllr Smale has investigated and found that the bench is solid but could do with rubbing down and re painting. The Clerk will ask the lengthsman to quote to carry out the work.

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

HCC Mrs Z Brooks reported as follows

HCC library service continues to support very vulnerable people who may not be able to visit a branch or access online services through the [Home Library Service](#), and the Good Neighbour Scheme. For those who may not want to spend too much time out and about at the moment, HCC libraries are also offering [a huge range of different ways to enjoy books and activities](#) many of which don't involve browsing the shelves.

The [HantsHelp4Vulnerable helpline](#) remains open seven days a week to assist frail and vulnerable local residents with essential shopping, medication collections and befriending. As of last week it had responded to over 14,700 calls. For some of our older Hampshire residents, there are increased health risks from coronavirus so it's more important than ever to [look after your health and wellbeing](#).

Five new testing sites will open in Hampshire over the next two weeks, making it easier and more convenient for local people to access testing for coronavirus.

The police and HCC are urging residents to obey the rule of six in the run up to Halloween as corona virus cases continue to increase.

Finally, she confirmed the sign at lakeside Close confirming there is no access to the lakes has been repositioned.

## **7) Finance -**

The bank balance at 12 October 2020 was as follows:

Lloyds current £16712.30

Savings £35534.93

Cllrs to consider and approve the financial statement for the period 1 September to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

**RESOLVED:** It was resolved to approve the financial statement for the period 1 September to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 as a correct record of accounts.

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

H Bourner Salary £411.29

HMRC £81.34

H Bourner expenses £18.85

H Bourner back pay £71.80

Phil Wylde Wild flower seeds £9.98

### **Retrospective**

Clive Ward £24.99

Elan City £2624.29

Barry Notley £230.00

St Thomas Church £169.53

Andover Mind £169.53

### **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 will further review the figures with a view to agreeing the budget for 2021/22 at the November Parish Council meeting.

### **To Note**

**The Clerk noted that the** 2nd instalment of precept of £10,000.00 had now been received and that of profits from the village raffle of £508.60 had been banked. These had been shared with St Thomas Church and Andover Mind. The balance of £169.53 would be added to the ringfenced pot for the Community Hall initiative.

### **8) Wildflower planting**

Cllr Ward reported that he and Cllr Wylde have planted some flower seeds on the bed prepared by the lengthsman. Some may germinate before the cold weather sets in. This will be monitored and repeat sowing will take place in the spring.

### **9) Green Space Opposite Royal Oak**

See report in public participation.

### **10) Traffic Calming & CFI**

Cllr Smith reported she had received an email with costs for the possible traffic calming. Four areas had been considered as follows: -

To edge the carriageway from the gated signs on Hatherden Road to the junction with Foxcotte Road

To install bollards at the informal crossing by the bridge on Charlton Road

To install an informal crossing of the road by St Thomas Church

To enhance the crossing on Foxcotte Road near its junction with Hatherden Road.

The first three could be achieved fairly quickly and would cost £7310 plus fees. All Councillors agreed this work should commence as soon as possible. Cllr Smith will complete and return the necessary forms.

The fourth possibility could not be confirmed until a feasibility test had been carried out.

Work to this area will be considered in the new financial year.

### **11) Defibrillator**

Cllr Ward reported that the current custodian of the defibrillator wished to relinquish the task of caring for the machine and a replacement volunteer has been found.

The Clerk said she had been informed the battery in the machine is now out of warranty and it is recommended that this be replaced. The cost of a new battery is £160.00. Furthermore, a replacement set of pads was also required. The Clerk was asked to order both.

### **12) Climate Change Initiative**

Cllr Ward reported on the Greening Campaign. After some discussion it was agreed that for this or any other similar campaign to be successful many members of the Parish need to be involved and the lead on the project needs to be enthusiastic and engage with villagers. Ideas as to how this could happen will be considered over the coming months.

### **13) Hedging at Goch Way**

Cllr Wylde had contacted TVBC regarding the removal of trees and reinstatement of hedges at Goch Way. It had been established that there had been no breach of planning consent and there was nothing further the builders were prepared to do. The Parish Council agreed they would like to see enhanced planting in the area. Cllr Ward agreed to engage with TVBC to establish what grants are available and how TVBC can assist with the project.

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

Cllr Ward has obtained details of the types of bin that can be fitted near the notice board. These can be purchased and fitted by TVBC for £450. Charlton Parish Council will maintain the bin once fitted. The Clerk was asked to place the necessary order

He also 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 put forward a proposal that the railings installed by Carters Meadow and subject to an agreement between the Parish Council and Carters Meadow until 2022, be removed once the agreement expires. This was seconded by Cllr Ward and unanimously accepted by all councillor's present.

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 he would meet with Graham Tyler to discuss this.

### **15) Grant Policy**

The Clerk had circulated a draft policy document for review. This was in response to a suggestion from the internal auditor that one should be available to the public. All Councillors agreed to adopt this document. The Clerk will put a copy on the website.

### **16) Planning**

The following decisions by TVBC were noted –  
20/01942/FULLN- erection of timber outbuilding, 9 Hillside Villas- permission  
20/01800/TPON- Tree works 5 Bede Drive- consent  
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. Cllr Ward is monitoring the effectiveness of the new solar sign.

**Community Hall Feasibility**- Cllr Bonarius & Ward said the first meeting of the steering committee had taken place and all involved were now gathering further information including possible sites for a hall in Charlton Village. The next meeting is planned for November.

**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 received correspondence regarding the sale of high energy drinks to under 16-year olds. It had been established that although it had been proposed to ban this, no laws had been passed. Correspondence had also been received confirming the bridge to Charlton Park opposite Mercia Ave would be fitted on the 26<sup>th</sup> of October. A short road closure would be necessary and residents have been informed.

**23) Items proposed for future agendas were: -**

Village communication survey  
Formal opening of new bridge

**Close of Meeting** – The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2020

**The meeting closed at 9.30**