

The Charltons Parish Council

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“Draft” Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held on Tuesday 27th September 2022 at 7.30pm in The Reading Room, Charlton Mackrell

Councillors Present:

Tamzin Elliott (Chairman)

Bob Adams (Vice-Chairman)

Nick Blackledge

Dennis Elliott

Mike Parsons

In Attendance: D.Cllrs Tony Capozzoli and Charlie Hull, the Clerk and three members of the public.

Public Session

Request for an update on the Section 106 monies outstanding from the development of the eight houses opposite the Fox and Hounds – Cllrs Capozzoli and Hull had nothing further to report but would continue to hasten.

Positive comments were received on the new highways signage and road markings for the speed restrictions and the extension to the speed limit area, however, it was queried why the limit was not reduced to 20mph – await C.Cllr Ruddle comments.

Comments received on Grove’s offer of gifting the designated public space to the PC as part of their proposal to build thirty-five houses on land to the rear of the Fox and Hounds. A resident commented that this would give significant insurance to residents in the area and they hoped that any financial challenges could be overcome.

Reports from County and District Councillors

D.Cllr Capozzoli reported that Lord Jimmy Zouche, The Abbey, Charlton Adam, retired Somerset County Councillor, died on 21st September 2022. The Chairman called for a minute silence.

A significant number of planning officers had left South Somerset District Council (SSDC) and those remaining had a tremendous workload.

D.Cllr Hull concurred that the delays within the planning department were in the main due to a workload/manpower issue. Both D.Cllrs had only six months left in post, at which point the new Somerset Council would officially come into being in April 2023. In the meantime, anything strategic/long term should be directed to C.Cllrs Dean Ruddle and Tim Kerley; anything short term could still be directed to D.Cllrs Capozzoli and Hull.

It was strongly advised for the PC to precept for any work to be done as the new Somerset Council will not have the funds.

Area East Planning Committee were now meeting in person; residents were encouraged to attend to ensure councillors were accountable.

22/79. Apologies for Absence and to consider the reasons given

Council to receive apologies for absence and, if appropriate, to resolve to approve the reasons given.

RESOLVED: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Susie Crang and Alan Crawley.

22/80. Declarations of Interest

Members to declare any interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Local Authority (NALC Model Code of Conduct) adopted May 2022.

(NB this does not preclude any later declarations).

RESOLVED: Cllr T Elliott declared a personal interest at item 22/87 as Director of the current operator of the school bus contract.

22/81. Minutes.

To approve the Minutes of the PC Meeting held on Tuesday 19th July 2022.

RESOLVED: The minutes were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

22/82. Planning.

a. To consider the following planning applications (PA): None received.

b. **PA 21/03124/FUL.** Erection of 35 dwellings on land to the south of the Fox & Hounds.

To discuss Grove's offer to gift the designated public open space along northern boundary of proposed development to the PC.

RESOLVED: Following a full discussion it was agreed to hold an informal familiarisation meeting on site with councillors [and Grove]. The findings will be presented for consideration at the next meeting.

c. South Somerset District Council (SSDC) Decisions:

i. **PA 21/02041/HOU & 21/02042/LBC.** The replacement of doors numbered 1-4 and windows numbered 1-12 and 16-19 at Cedar Lodge High Street Charlton Mackrell Somerton TA11 7AR – **APPROVED.**

22/83. Finance.

a. **Balance of the Council's Bank Account and Bank Reconciliation.**

To report on the Council's Bank Account.

RESOLVED: The Clerk previously circulated the PC Accounts which were received, approved and bank reconciliation signed.

b. Solar Panel for SID. To consider quote for solar panel & mounting kit for the Speed Indicator Device (SID) £449.02 (incl. VAT)

RESOLVED: Approved.

c. Village Car Park Maintenance. To consider quote of £275 to cut hedge/trees in corner of Village Car Park, inaccessible by tractor.

RESOLVED: Cllrs Elliott would carry out the work at no cost to the council with the assistance of Cllr Crang and husband.

d. Parish Clerk Progression. To discuss the award of additional increments on the salary scale in accordance with advice from internal auditor.

RESOLVED: To award the Clerk two additional increments, from 23 to 25, with a further increase in April 2023.

e. **Accounts for payment.**

To review and approve a schedule of items of expenditure (incl. VAT):

Lancaster Parr – written advice on PC as custodian trustee	£125.00
Seltek Warehouse – grit bin	£121.56
CPRE membership renewal	£120.00
WesternWeb Ltd – annual renewal of www.charltons.org.uk	£96.00
WesternWeb Ltd – add London Bridge facility to website	£90.00
Cllr A Crawley – materials for installation of SID	£45.38
Reading Room Hire Jun & Jul 22	£36.00
SALC – Chairman training Jul 22	£30.00
Cllr B Adams - Batteries for CPAD	£22.44

RESOLVED: Items of expenditure approved unanimously.

22/84. Local Community Networks (LCNs) Consultation.

To discuss consultation on the development of LCNs – closing date Monday 17th October 2022.

RESOLVED: It was considered that the favoured option was Proposal A of the three potential boundary proposals, which would be confirmed and submitted following the Chairman's attendance at the next conference on 4th October and the Vice Chairman's attendance at the LCN pop in session on 29 September. *(D.Cllrs Capozzoli and Hull left the meeting at 8.30pm)*

22/85. Community Public Access Defibrillators (CPADs) and Christmas Lights.

To review locations/annual hosting payments and discuss future maintenance of the CPADs in Charlton Adam and Mackrell.

RESOLVED: To include in the precept £200 per annum to service both defibrillators, alternating bi-annually. To increase the hosting payments to the Reading Room and The Old Post Office to from £20 to £40 per annum.

22/86. Reading Room Board of Trustees.

To discuss nomination of PC representative on the Reading Room's Board of Trustees following Peter Moulding's resignation.

RESOLVED: Cllr D Elliott was nominated, which he accepted.

22/87. Bus Stop Options.

To discuss the options for the bus stop in Charlton Adam for school collection/drop offs following the recent closure of the PO and Stores.

RESOLVED: To ask Somerset County Council (SCC) to evaluate the current location and see if it can be improved for the safety of the children or identify a more appropriate/safe location.

22/88. Kingweston Estate Public Rights of Way (RoW)

To raise awareness of unauthorised access/damage on Estate land and straying from the public RoW.

RESOLVED: To include a reminder in the Charltons Village News of the Countryside Code, i.e., please stick to the footpaths and to remind landowners of their responsibilities, both of which can be found on the Parish Website via the link <https://www.thecharltons.org.uk/links.php>

22/89. Mobile Post Office

To discuss possibility of a visiting Post Office (PO) session being set up in The Charltons.

RESOLVED: Cllr Parsons to speak to PO Ltd. regarding options available, following the offer of a two hour session, once a week, at the Reading Room.

The Reading Room kindly offered the use of their premises for the potential visiting PO at no cost for the benefit of the community.

22/90. Request for Highways Signage 'To The Church'

To consider appropriate signage to direct visitors to the church/s.

RESOLVED: Following brief discussion it was agreed unanimously that this was not required.

22/91. Items for Report and Future Business.

- a. Welham Field Tenancy. Cllrs D Elliott and Parsons to carry out an assessment of the condition and security of the field.

Next meeting: to be held on Tuesday 18th October 2022, 7.30pm in The Reading Room, Hillway, Charlton Mackrell.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Signed:

Dated: