

The Charltons Parish Council

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“Draft” Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held on Tuesday 15th November 2022 at 7.30pm in The Reading Room, Charlton Mackrell

Councillors Present:

Tamzin Elliott (Chairman)

Bob Adams (Vice-Chairman)

Alan Crawley

Dennis Elliott

Adam Ware

In Attendance: C.Cllr Dean Ruddle, D.Cllr Tony Capozzoli and D.Cllr Charlie Hull, the Clerk and four members of the public.

Public Session.

No comments.

Reports from County and District Councillors.

C.Cllr Ruddle reported that Somerset County Council (SCC) were currently £40m in deficit. SCC were facing stress on all its services and he would encourage parish councils to consider increasing their precepts as a precaution.

D.Cllr Capozzoli reported that the planning applications for small developments of two/three houses, that have been on hold due to the phosphate issue, will now progress through South Somerset District Council's (SSDC) planning system as Natural England were recommending approval on private treatment plants.

D. Cllr Hull reported that SSDC were also looking to make progress on applications that were five plus years old. Older applications for a larger number of dwellings that had offset phosphate mitigation with fallow land were more likely to be approved.

Somerset Waste Partnership's latest campaign, 'Reduce Week', would run from 21st to 27th November 2022 to encourage residents to waste less and save more, just ahead of Christmas 'wastefest' and around 'spend-all' Black Friday and 'spend-nowt Buy Nothing Day' on 25th November.

22/105. 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: Cllrs Blackledge, Crang and Parsons gave their apologies which were received and approved.

22/106. 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: None.

22/107. Minutes.

To approve the Minutes of the PC Meeting held on Tuesday 18th October 2022.

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

22/108. Planning.

a. To consider the following planning applications (PA):

i. **PA 22/02714/HOU.** Proposed loft conversion, installation of a dormer, erection of a side extension and internal alterations to the existing annexe at Little Orchard, George Street, Charlton Mackrell.

Cllrs explained that planning permission was granted under **PA 91/00514/FUL** for the erection of a double garage, however, permission had not been granted to change the use of the garage into living accommodation, which requires regularising as the site is within the conservation area (CA).

RESOLVED: Although Cllrs would not object in principle to the proposal, they agreed unanimously that a decision could not be made at the meeting until the Heritage Statement was visible on SSDC's website and the application was considered in line with the rules of development within a CA.

ii. **PA 22/02784/COL.** Application for Lawful Development Certificate for the existing use of land as residential garden; existing use of a residential outbuilding; and existing stationing of a static caravan to provide ancillary accommodation at Fields End Farm, Chessels Lane, Charlton Adam.

RESOLVED: The PC agreed unanimously to recommend **APPROVAL** in order to regularise this retrospective application.

b. South Somerset District Council (SSDC) Decisions: None received.

c. **PA 21/03124/FUL.** Erection of 35 dwellings on land to the south of the Fox & Hounds. To form a Working Group (WG) to agree the terms and conditions associated with the offer from Grove to gift the open public space and establish the guidelines as agreed (October minutes item 22/96.d.)

RESOLVED: The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Cllrs Crang, Crawley, D Elliott and Ware would form the WG.

22/109. Bus Stop Options.

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

C.Cllr Ruddle reported that he had met with Andy Barron, SCC Highways, on site and approved the new location opposite the old PO, towards the location of the removed phone kiosk, however, Andy did not have the funds within his budget to paint the white lines.

RESOLVED: Cllr Ruddle to find out cost involved and report back to the PC.

(Cllrs Ruddle, Capozzoli and Hull left the meeting at 8.20pm)

22/110. Finance.

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

To report on the Council's Bank Account.

RESOLVED: The Clerk previously circulated the PC Accounts which were received and approved.

b. **National Association of Local Councils (NALC) E02-22 | 2022-23 National Salary Award.**

To approve Clerk's Salary in accordance with The National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) new pay scales for 2022-23 to be implemented from 1 Apr 2022 and backdated.

RESOLVED: Clerk's new pay scale agreed at SCP 25 and backdated.

c. **Accounts for payment.**

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

Safelincs Paediatric Pads x 2	£210.17
Clerk's back pay 1 Apr 22 to 31 Oct 22	£182.00
Clerk's Expenses	£40.14
Reading Room Hire Sep & Oct 22	£36.00

RESOLVED: Items of expenditure approved unanimously.

22/111. Dates of PC Meetings for 2023

To agree the following dates for PC meetings to be held in 2023:

17th January, 21st February, 21st March, 18th April, 16th May, 20th June, 18th July, 19th September, 17th October and 21st November.

RESOLVED: Dates agreed. Extraordinary meetings would be held as necessary to consider urgent business and planning applications in the months with no ordinary meeting scheduled.

22/112. Charlton Adam Community Public Access Defibrillator (CPAD).

Update on accessibility of the CPAD in Charlton Adam in light of the recent closure of the shop and Post Office.

RESOLVED: Access to the CPAD had improved and would continue to be monitored.

22/113. Mobile Post Office.

Update on possible mobile Post Office session being set up in The Charltons.

RESOLVED: The Chairman reported the PO equipment had been tested for connectivity in the Reading Room, which was successful and was awaiting further information.

22/114. Welham Field Tenancy.

Cllrs D Elliott and Parsons to report on condition and security of the field following site visit.

RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed unanimously to seek the advice of a local Land Agent. The Clerk agreed to check the date for when notice could be given for a possible rent increase.

22/115. Speed Indicator Device (SID) Sharing.

To discuss email from Lydford on Fosse PC seeking interest from other PCs to purchase or share a SID.

RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed unanimously that it would not be possible to share The Charltons SID as it was in constant use between the three locations in the two villages.

22/116. Winter Service – Snow ploughing (South Somerset area) - local support/resilience.

A call is going out to farmers across Somerset this year to support the Council's winter services with snow ploughing duties should conditions become challenging. If you can help, please contact somerset.winter@milestoneinfra.co.uk.

RESOLVED: For circulation within the farming community.

22/117. Items for Report and Future Business.

a. To set the precept for 2023/24. Cllrs to notify the Clerk of any projects or expenditure for consideration when setting the precept at the next meeting in January 2023.

b. Village Car Park. Cllr Adams reported that the field hedge boundary at the village car park needed cutting.

Action: The Clerk agreed to contact Cary Traders.

Next meeting: to be held on Tuesday 17th January 2023, 7.30pm in The Reading Room, Hillway, Charlton Mackrell.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Signed

Dated

Chairman