

# The Charltons Parish Council

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“Draft” Minutes of Parish Council Meeting  
held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023 at 7.30pm in The Reading Room, Charlton Mackrell

## **Councillors Present:**

Tamzin Elliott (Chairman)  
Alan Crawley  
Mike Parsons

Bob Adams (Vice-Chairman)  
Dennis Elliott  
Adam Ware

**In Attendance:** D.Cllr Charlie Hull, the Clerk and six members of the public.

## **Public Session.**

No comments.

## **Reports from County and District Councillors.**

D.Cllr Hull advised that he had only eight working days left in his role as D.Cllr as the new Somerset Council would take over on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023. He would remain committed to village life and interested in anything that affected the parish.

D.Cllr Hull explained the reasons why he had not asked for the new application for the development of 35 houses to the rear of the Fox and Hounds Pub to come before South Somerset District Council's (SSDC) Area East Committee. When the original application for the development of 24 houses was submitted in 2018, after having made his opposition known, he was informed, in no uncertain terms, to abstain from the process in the future due to conflicts of interest. He assumed this involved removing himself from all future SSDC deliberations on the matter, including whether to bring any new or amended applications before committee through the scheme of delegation. Unfortunately, when he was informed that this would not create a conflict of interest, he had exceeded the seven days for consultation/decision by the ward members.

There then followed a frank discussion on the lack of support by the three D.Cllrs regarding this application, for which D.Cllr Hull could only reiterate his apologies. As the PC had yet to see a copy of the Planning Officer's Report, which was still not available on the SSDC website, D.Cllr Hull agreed to ensure the PC had access to a copy.

D.Cllr Hull wished to thank the Parish Council for its hard work and support; the Chairman thanked D.Cllr Hull on behalf of the PC for his time spent on behalf of the parishioners.

## **23/16. 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 and Crang gave their apologies, which were received and approved. C.Cllr Ruddle and D.Cllr Capozzoli also tendered their apologies.

## **23/17. 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.

### **23/18. Minutes.**

To approve the Minutes of the PC Meeting held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023.

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

*(D.Cllr Hull left the meeting at 7.50pm)*

### **23/19. Planning.**

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

b. South Somerset District Council (SSDC) Decisions:

- i. **PA 21/03605/FUL.** Alteration and improvement of the existing poultry house and the erection of 2 No. additional poultry houses on rearing farm land Os 7829 part Common Lane, Keinton Mandeville, TA11 7BA – **APPROVED.**

### **23/20. 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 and approved.

b. **Accounts for payment.**

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

Memorial Playing Field Maintenance Grant	£2,059.50
M Reeves Grounds Maintenance 2022/23	£760.00
Reading Room Routine Maint Grant	£250.00
Reading Room Hosting Defib and Christmas Tree	£40.00
Somerton Library Trust Grant	£200.00
Clerk's Expenses and Allowances	£75.19
SALC Cllr Essentials Trng 6 Feb Inv 2025	£25.00

**RESOLVED:** Items of expenditure approved unanimously.

### **23/21. Transfer of The Charlton Mackrell Playing Field to The Charltons Memorial Community Trust (CMCT)**

To confirm agreement in principle and instruct solicitors to prepare a draft transfer document for approval for the formal transfer of the playing field registered under title number 12031, for which the PC holds the title deeds as Custodian Trustees, to the CMCT as a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) and to discuss costs involved.

**RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed unanimously in favour of transferring the title deeds and would provide the details of the Solicitor to act on behalf of the PC, whose fees would be covered by the CMCT.

### **23/22. The Future of Welham Field**

To consider costs of ongoing ownership vs current income levels and investigate options including selling the land and using the proceeds for the benefit of the community.

**RESOLVED:** Following a full discussion on the limited options available, a Working Group (WG) was set up with Cllrs Adams, D Elliott, Parsons and Ware. The WG would look into all options available and report back to the PC.

### **23/23. Items for Report and Future Business.**

a. Youth Club. Cllr Adams previously circulated the results of the Charltons Young People Users Survey Report carried out by the Youth Club. It was evident that the Club was valued by the young people and was working well.

b. Charlton Mackrell Primary School. Cllr Adams was pleased to report that the School had retained its GOOD Ofsted rating following its inspection in February 2023.

**Next meeting:** to be held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023, 7.30pm in The Reading Room, Hillway, Charlton Mackrell.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed: .....

Dated: .....

DRAFT