

The Charltons Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Rebecca Carter, Portman House, North Barrow, Somerset, BA22 7LZ
Tel: 01963 240226

e-mail: charltonsclerk@outlook.com

<http://www.thecharltons.org.uk>

“Draft” Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held on Tuesday 17th October 2023 at 7.30pm in
The Reading Room, Hillway, Charlton Mackrell

Councillors Present:

Tamzin Elliott (Chairman)
Nick Blackledge
Alan Crawley
Kim Williams

Bob Adams (Vice-Chairman)
Susie Crang
Mike Parsons

In Attendance: Somerset Councillor Dean Ruddle and the Clerk.

Public Session.

None present.

Reports from Somerset Councillors.

Cllr Ruddle reported that the no.54 Taunton to Yeovil bus service was under threat of being cut, which would leave only the no.77 Yeovil to Wells service. No. 54 is the local service that goes through Somerton and provides access for some residents to the hospitals in Yeovil and Taunton. Cutting this route would also affect the new pilot scheme to be rolled out in autumn as part of Somerset’s Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP). The pilot would enable residents to book a seat on one of two small buses to take them into a Somerton bus Hub, from where they could catch the no.77 or 54 bus service. He strongly advised that residents use the no.54 service or they would lose it.

23/78. 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 Dennis Elliott and Adam Ware gave their apologies, which were received and approved.

23/79. 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 Blackledge declared a pecuniary interest at item 23/81/a.ii. as the Agent.

23/80. Minutes.

To approve the Minutes of the PC meeting held on Tuesday 19th September 2023.

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

23/81. Planning.

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

i. **PA 23/01354/HOU & 23/02329/LBC.** Alterations and extension to curtilage outbuilding at Cedar Lodge, High Street, Charlton Adam, TA11 7AR.

Councillors agreed that the proposed alterations are an improvement on the previous application. However, concern was expressed regarding the proximity of the neighbour's tree, which is immediately behind the wall and would request that consideration is given to ensure that the roots would not be damaged during construction.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed by a majority vote to recommend that the applications are **APPROVED**.

ii. **PA 23/02268/HOU.** Erection of replacement garage at Matford Farm, Broadway, Charlton Adam, TA11 7BD. **(Following a brief outline of the application Cllr Blackledge left the meeting at 7.55pm)**

Councillors considered that the replacement garage would not exceed the height of the existing bungalow and would partially share its roofline. The garage would not be visible until you are through the entrance gates to the farm, which is screened by tall trees and hedges.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed unanimously to recommend that the application be **APPROVED**. **(Cllr Blackledge returned to the meeting at 8.05pm)**

iii. **PA 23/01511/FUL.** Creation of a shallow ditch/scrape wetland habitat on the low-lying areas of a field adjacent to the River Cary for the benefit of wildlife, and use of excavated material to create infill on west boundary of the site. Regularisation of Phase 1 Pond already installed. (Part-Retrospective) at The Old Waterworks, Ilchester Road, Charlton Mackrell, TA11 7BH.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed unanimously to recommend that the application be **APPROVED**.

b. Somerset Council Decisions:

i. **PA 23/01839/S19.** S19 application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of approval 23/00930/LBC for Internal reordering, alterations to fenestration and dormers, new canopy. To allow for revisions to drawings (Modern rooflight replaced with conservation unit, double doors to SE elevation replaced with like) at Ford Cottage, West Charlton, Charlton Mackrell, TA11 7AL – **APPROVED**.

ii. **PA 23/01480/HOU & 23/01481/LBC.** Insertion of 2 new windows in the ground floor of the west elevation at West Side Barn, Cary Fitzpaine Road, Charlton Mackrell, BA22 8JB – **APPROVED**.

23/82. 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):

- | | |
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| i. ZOLL AED Plus Defibrillator & cabinet | £1,698.00 |
| ii. Grant to Charltons Memorial Trust towards the cost of detailed plans to redevelop the Community Centre as agreed in February 2023 (item 23/13) | £1,000.00 |
| iii. SALC Affiliation Fee Apr 23 to Mar 24 | £310.11 |
| iv. RBLI Unknown Tommy Statue | £200.00 |
| v. WesternWeb Ltd – domain renewal for 2 yrs wef 29/11/23 | £126.00 |
| vi. SALC Trng – 'Do we need a neighbourhood plan' | £20.00 |
| vii. SALC Trng – 'Code of Conduct' | £25.00 |

RESOLVED: Items of expenditure approved unanimously.

23/83. Village Car Park Improvements

Cllr Adams and Blackledge reported on the recent on site meeting to see what could be done to improve the drainage around the entrance and to improve the drainage and resurface the whole car park.

Quotes awaited to clear the existing drains at the entrance and to lower a section of kerb to allow the excess water to soak away more easily on the grass area.

Drainage and resurfacing of the whole car park would be more difficult and the estimated costs for resurfacing and putting a drain in by the exit from the school were between £5,000 and £10,000. The initial proposal would be to ascertain if the resurfacing would be successful by only resurfacing an area near the entrance with approx. 10 tonnes of material, for which councillors were also awaiting the quote.

RESOLVED: Cllr Blackledge and The Clerk to hasten the quotes to be considered as an agenda item at the next meeting.

23/84. Grounds Maintenance – War Memorial

To discuss improvements to the War Memorial's grounds and costs involved.

Councillors agreed that there was insufficient grass left to be improved by 'feed and weed'. Rotten tree stumps also needed to be removed.

RESOLVED: Cllrs Crawley and Williams agreed to contact Greengage Garden Solutions Ltd. for a quote to landscape.

23/85. Welham Field

To consider quote from Chubb Bulleid to register Welham Field with the Land Registry at an approx. cost of £1,450 (incl VAT).

RESOLVED: APPROVED unanimously.

23/86. Items for Report and Future Business.

- a. PA 21/03124/FUL - Erection of 35 houses on land to the rear of the Fox and Hounds Pub.
Cllr Adams reported that the application may start progressing following a change in the plans to achieve nutrient neutrality through the purchase of approved phosphorus credits rather than through Grove's initial proposed Fallow Management Plan.
- b. Lytes Cary 30mph Speed Limit. Cllr Crawley reported that the new 30mph speed limit had been implemented with restriction signs installed. He would contact the Speed Enforcement Team to agree a suitable site from which the Community Speedwatch Team could operate.
- c. Millenium Pillars. The Clerk agreed to ask a local contractor to cut back the verges around the pillars at the top of Kingweston Road and Ilchester Road.

Next meeting: to be held on Tuesday 21st November 2023, 7.30PM in The Reading Room, Hillway, Charlton Mackrell.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Signed:

Dated: