

# The Charltons Parish Council

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

Tel: 01963 240226

e-mail: [clerk@thecharltons.org.uk](mailto:clerk@thecharltons.org.uk)

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

---

## **“Draft” Minutes of Parish Council Meeting**

held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2025

commencing at 7.30pm in The Reading Room, Charlton Mackrell

### **Councillors Present:**

Adam Ware (Chairman)

Susie Crang

Kim Williams

Mike Parsons (Vice Chairman)

Alan Crawley

**In attendance:** Somerset Councillor Tim Kerley, the Clerk and four members of the public

❖ **Public Question and Comments:** Tamzin Elliott, retired Chairman, was present to thank the retiring Clerk for her fourteen years of service and presented her with a gift on behalf of the parish councillors, past and present, some of whom were in attendance. The Clerk expressed her gratitude and she would miss working with such a genial parish council.

❖ **Reports from Somerset Council (SC):**

Cllr Tim Kerley also thanked the Clerk and agreed with her that this was one of the more ‘enjoyable’ PCs.

Cllr Kerley reported as follows:

Budget. The end of the financial year is always a quiet time with department budgets coming to an end. To address the financial pressures in Childs’ services - support is being given directly to schools in terms of supporting enhanced SEND (special educational needs and disability). This involves new Council funded specialists in schools, as well as some upgrades in infrastructure. Assets sold - C Block in Taunton.

Demolition of Glovers Walk, Yeovil has started. This will be one of the largest urban renewal projects in the country and has great potential for re-development at the 'bottom end' of Yeovil and would be used as a 'green space' until then.

Portfolio Holders. Cllrs have just voted for portfolio holders, committee chairs, etc. Cllr Stephen Page and I will both be on Planning Committee South and are both vice chairs of LCN's (local community networks). I will remain on the Audit Committee, SACRE (Standing Advisory Committee on Religious Education) and vice chair of the Constitution and Governance Committee. I'm also an authority member for DSFRS (Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service), where I am chair of the Audit Committee and vice chair of the Community Safety Committee.

Speed Restrictions. Cllr Kerley agreed to support any proposals for a 20 mph scheme through Charlton Mackrell, if the PC paid for Kier's fees to develop the scheme and the signage. He would speak to Richard Wilkins, Portfolio Holder to find out how to progress this.

Cllr Crawley reported that the Speed Indicator Device (SID) had recorded speeds of 45-48mph along Broadway. The purchase of a second SID would be on the agenda for discussion/approval at the next meeting. It was also suggested that the PC ask if Grove Developers could introduce a voluntary 20mph speed restriction whilst developing the land to the rear of the Fox and Hounds Inn.

***(Cllr Kerley left the meeting at 7.55pm)***

**25/28. Election of the Chairman of the Council and receive his/her Declaration of Acceptance of office:**

To elect a chairman to serve until May 2025. The 2024/25 vice chairman Cllr M Parsons will preside over this agenda item.

**RESOLVED:** One nomination was received for Cllr M Parsons, who was approved unanimously, however, he declined the nomination due to work commitments. After a brief debate, Cllr A Ware was nominated, elected unanimously and duly signed his DAO as Chairman.

The Clerk agreed to forward details of the SALC Chairman Training to Cllrs Crang, Ware and Williams when the date of the next training sessions had been agreed.

**25/29. Election of the Vice Chairman of the Council and receive his/her Declaration of Acceptance of office:**

The Council may choose to elect a vice-chairman to serve until May 2025.

**RESOLVED:** The Chairman received one nomination for Cllr M Parsons who was elected unanimously.

**25/30. Apologies for absence:**

To receive any apologies for absence.

**RESOLVED:** None received.

**25/31. Declarations of Interests:**

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any Pecuniary or Other interests they may have under the Localism Act 2011 and NALC Model Code of Conduct adopted May 2022. (NB this does not preclude any later declarations).

**RESOLVED:** None received.

**25/32. Minutes:**

To approve the Minutes of the PC meeting held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

**RESOLVED:** The minutes were approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

**25/33. Parish Council Vacancies.**

To consider applications received and conduct vote to fill two casual vacancies on the Parish Council by co-option.

**RESOLVED:** No applications received. The Clerk would continue to advertise the two vacancies.

**25/34. Planning.**

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

b. **Somerset Council (SC) Decisions:**

i. **PA 25/00147/S73.** S73 Application to vary Conditions 02 (approved plans), 03 (materials) and 05 (external alterations) to reflect minor changes required to the design and materials and to discharge Conditions 04 (cladding) and 06 (surface water) where details are being provided relating to planning approval 24/00642/HOU; Extension and alterations to property with detached garage building at Pleasant Spot Cottage, Broadacres, Charlton Adam, TA11 7BA – **APPROVED.**

ii. **PA 20/01638/REM.** Reserved Matters application following Outline approval 16/03353/OUT for the erection of 3 No. dwellings on land North East of Ilchester Road, Charlton Mackrell – **REFUSED.**

**25/35. Parish Council Accounts:**

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

To receive the full council accounts and bank reconciliation.

**RESOLVED:** The Clerk previously circulated the PC's Accounts, which were agreed and bank balance at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 of Nat West Current Account £185.56, Nat West Business Reserve

Account £37.64, Lloyds Business Account £1,399.59 and Lloyds Instant Access Account £40,000.00, which were reconciled, approved and signed.

**b. Accounts for payment:**

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

- i. SALC Affiliation fees 25/26 £506.31

**RESOLVED:** All items of expenditure were approved unanimously.

**25/36. Annual Parish Meeting:**

To discuss options/venue/format.

**RESOLVED:** Due to Cllr Armstrong's absence this item would be deferred for consideration in time for the Annual Parish meeting 2026.

**25/37. Items for Report and Future Business.**

a. Improved Signage. Cllrs discussed a resident's letter regarding large vehicles being unable to travel through Charlton Mackrell due to the height restriction of the railway line bridge and requested the PC liaise with SC to install improved signage.

**Action:** The Clerk agreed to write to Berrys Coaches asking for their response to the resident's letter as this was the second incident within six months. The Clerk also agreed to obtain a quote from Tor Signs to replace the 'No Sat Nav' sign to be relocated by the quarry on Primrose Hill.

b. Flooding. Cllrs attended the recent 'flood symposium', at which Sarah Dyke, MP was present. Somerset Rivers Authority were providing grants of up to £30,000 for any project that would help alleviate local flooding. Cllrs discussed the possibility of a grant to repair the culvert by the former Greyhound Inn, Ilchester Road, however, it was agreed that this was the responsibility of SC Highways.

**Action:** The Clerk agreed to hasten SC for a response as to when remedial work would be carried out.

c. Social Media. Following a suggestion from a resident for a designated PC contact to act as a link to the Charltons Pages, it was agreed that Cllr Ware would be the PC 'Social Media Ambassador'.

**Action:** Cllr Ware would initiate the trial link to the Charltons Pages and investigate other Social Media options to help improve PC communication.

d. Cary Fitzpaine Defibrillator. Cllr Williams reported that there did not appear to be any paediatric pads in the CPAD. She had liaised with the relevant authorities who confirmed that the CPAD had not been used and she was currently in discussions with the 'Defib Warehouse' to ascertain whether they were included when purchased.

**Action:** Agenda item for next meeting.

Please notify items to the Clerk at least 24hrs before the meeting.

**Next meeting:** Annual Parish, Annual Parish Council and Ordinary meetings to be held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025, **7.00pm** in The Reading Room, Hillway, Charlton Mackrell.

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

Signed: .....

Dated: .....