



**CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18th MAY 2021**

Present: Cllr J Smith (Chairman), Cllr C Ward (Vice Chairman), Cllr I Smale,, Cllr B Hodgson & Cllr P Wylde.

In attendance: Mrs H Bourner – Clerk
1 Member of public

1) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from TVBC L Lashbrook & PCSO Conor Hill.

2) Election of Chairman

Cllr Ward proposed Cllr Smith become Chairman, this was seconded by Cllr Smale. All in favour. Cllr Smith accepted and signed the necessary declaration.

3) Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr Smith proposed Cllr Ward Vice Chairman; this was seconded by Cllr Wylde. All in favour. Cllr Ward accepted and signed the necessary declaration.

4) Standing Orders, Code of Conduct & Financial procedures & risk assessment

Documents had been circulated to all councillors and were agreed and formally adopted for 2021/22.

5) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

6) Minutes

Cllrs to approve the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th April 2021 as a correct record of proceedings.

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held on 20th April were confirmed as a correct record proposed by Cllr Smith & seconded by Cllr Wylde.

7) Public participation

The member of the public present asked for clarification on two points on the now made Neighbourhood Plan. First, are the appendices part of the Neighbourhood Plan; Cllr Smith confirmed they are. Secondly, the referendum question did not ask directly should the plan be accepted or rejected but asked if it should be accepted for planning matters. Cllr Smith said that in voting for the plan if it was accepted its use will only be for planning matters. (although it does capture Charlton aspirations too!)

8) Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on several items as follows: -

Bench at Carters Meadow

The clerk confirmed the bench has now been fitted.

Letter to Tesco

The Clerk confirmed she had filed a complaint online to the lack of response to her letter, however no response has been received. Cllr Ward has also filed a complaint as he presented a further copy to the store manage but has not had a reply.

Lengthsman work

Strimming work has now started for the current season. Cllr Hodgson will undertake to review work done and what needs doing on a regular basis to ensure funds are spent where most appropriate.

Allotments

The Clerk reported on a telephone call from a gentleman who is purchasing a property in

Carters Meadow enquiring if there were any allotments available in the village. She confirmed this is not the first request received and suggested this was something the Parish Council may like to explore. After discussion, it was concluded that the Parish Council do not own any land to create allotments but there were some available in Upper Drove which was not too far from the village.

Rail and tree work- land at entrance to fishing lakes

The Clerk said the tree surgeon she has used in the past is very busy and could not deal with any tree felling until at least August, possibly later. She noted that there is an advertisement in the Charlton Village news for J King Tree Care 07921 566848 email jking.treecare@gmail.com who could be approached to quote. Cllrs asked the Clerk to try and obtain three quotes. Cllr Wylde is happy to meet contractors onsite as necessary.

9)HCC & TVBC Report-

HCC Cllr Chris Donnelly was not present.

TVBC Cllr L Lashbrook was not present.

10Finance -

The bank balance at 30th April 2021 was as follows:

Lloyds current £18732.03

Savings £35538.52

Cllrs to consider and approve the financial statement for the period 1st April to 30th April 2021.

RESOLVED: It was resolved to approve the financial statement for the period 1st April to 30th April 2021 as a correct record of accounts.

Cllrs to approve payments to be made

H Bourner Salary £499.89

H Bourner expenses £22.30

ICO £35.00

Cllr Ward £33.00 (ink cartridges)

Retrospective

Cllr J Smith £42.00

Barry Notley £240.00

HALC £579.29

Cllr Ward £26.00 (NP notices)

11) Wetherby Gardens

Cllr Wylde reported he had spoken to residents about the overgrown hedge and he has agreed to cut this back using the Parish Council hedge trimmer. The wall is the responsibility of the residents so the Parish Council are unable to carry out any work on this. Cllr Wylde is trying to find someone to remove some of the dead branches falling from the trees which he believes belong to HCC.

Cllr Smale said he has spoken to a resident who has confirmed TVBC planted the trees and installed the further car park which is flooding. The resident said TVBC had recently sent an officer to review this who had promised work will be carried out to the trees and blocked drains. They had a reference for the work which they provided. The Clerk will contact TVBC to establish what work they will carry out and when.

12) Stream bank repairs-land opposite Carters Meadow

Cllr Smith provided details and prices for parking signs, she had found two varieties acrylic signs at £9.70 each or a more robust sign at £22.00 each. After further debate Cllr Smale agreed to do some further research for signs that could be fitted to the posts in place around the green area.

The Clerk said the lengthsman had agreed he will be able to make and fit the necessary railings but as he was away had not been able to complete the quote for the cost

Cllr Ward reported he was awaiting advice from the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust Wiltshire Wildlife Trust as to the best option for repairing the stream banks.

13) Green Space in front of Carters Meadow

Cllr Smale confirmed the Carters Meadow have engaged a contractor to clear the drains and alleviate the flooding issue.

The matter of new signage has been discussed by the Carters Meadow Resident's Association (RA). Neither of the suggested signs were liked. However, as the sign will not be erected on land that belongs to Carters Meadow, it was agreed it did not need the RA approval. Cllr Smale proposed he go back to the Carters Meadow Estate Manager to say the Parish Council would proceed to fit a sign as proposed unless the residents group came up with a suitable alternative.

Finally, the tree stumps will be removed on 4th June.

14) Hedging at Peake Way

Cllr Wylde confirmed he had approached both the Peake Way developer and the maintenance contractor about planting a hedge, similar to the one that was lost when the development was undertaken. He was hopeful that he could get agreement to plant a hedge which would likely be at the PC's expense. He was keen to get them to plant trees on the site as part of the national and local drive to reduce our carbon footprint. He had also tried to make contact with the HCC Arboriculture team to investigate the planting of trees along the hedge line on Goch Way/Peake Way and is waiting for a response.

15) Climate Change

Cllr Smith confirmed she had asked for a Tetra Pak recycling bin to be placed in Charlton. However, TVBC said there were limits on how many bins of this type they could provide as the costs of each bin was £1000. Cllr Smith said she had made further contact with the lead at TVBC recycling reiterating the desire to have a tetra pack recycling bank, making reference to the current government consultation and the proposed changes to kerb side collection not being likely to come into place until 2023. Given climate change is high on the agenda for government this matter will be pursued.

Cllr Ward reported that the resident leading for Climate Change has produced a thought-provoking article for the June edition of Charlton News and highlighted areas for Charlton to focus on.

16) Planning

The following decisions by TVBC were noted – None

The following applications received-

21/01080/FULLN - Single storey rear extension to form enlarged kitchen/dining room; Form new opening to existing rear elevation and single storey front extension to form enlarged entrance hall – 39 Mercia Avenue- No objection

21/01081/FULLN- erect car - port 39 Mercia Avenue- No objections

21/00369/FULLN- dropped kerb to provide disabled access-40 Armstrong Rise- Cllrs Hodgson & Wylde will review and provide a conclusion to all Cllrs in the next few days.

It was noted there has been an application to vary the previously agreed application to build a solar farm at Hatherden Farm, this did not impact on Charlton parish

17) Councillors to provide a report on their areas of responsibility

Traffic Liaison – There has been no confirmation of a date to start the CFI work. Cllr Ward said he had corresponded with the PCSO regarding speeding traffic and the police are considering ways in which they can help. He will try to make contact with the resident who raised concerns to discuss how he might help.

Community Hall Feasibility- The preferred location for a Village/Community Hall is still under discussion with TVBC and the possibility of submitting a second pre application with 2 alternative sites is being discussed. Some visits to other local village/community halls will be carried out to gather ideas on a type of hall that will suit Charlton. Further consultation with villagers will follow.

Environment & Rights of Way– Some path strimming of footpath 727 is taking place. Work to start clearing the restricted byway by the Old Nursery is being considered, coordinating with the Hampshire Countryside Ranger.

Community Emergency Plan – Cllr Ward had nothing to report.

Lengthsman scheme- see Clerk's report

Neighbourhood Plan- It was suggested a printed copy of the plan should be retained by the Parish Council. Cllr Ward will get a quote to obtain one printed copy of the plan for the next meeting.

Charlton Lakes- Cllr Ward reported that a TVBC Management Plan for the lakes is in the early stages of being drawn up which will highlight the vision for Charlton Lakes. A number of residents have volunteered to be involved. In due course it is likely a 'Friends of Charlton Lakes' group will be formed and Charlton will be strongly represented so are views are properly considered. More in due course.

A Charlton Community Litter Pick will take place on 26th June. TVBC will provide equipment and it will be available for the day. They will collect and dispose of any litter collected.

20) Correspondence-

The Clerk confirmed she had received the following correspondence

A letter from TVBC regarding the planning variation to the solar farm at Hatherden.

21) Annual Parish Meeting

After some discussion it was agreed to hold an informal meeting later in the year once COVID restrictions are lifted.

21) Items proposed for future agendas were: -

Tree planting at Peake Way and Goch Way

No parking signs

Close of Meeting –The meeting closed at 9.35pm. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 15th June 2021, 7.45pm, in the main church hall.