



CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17th September 2024 at Charlton
Church Foxcotte Room at 7.45pm**

Present: Cllr C Ward, Cllr I Smale, Cllr N Woods, Cllr P Wylde, Cllr B Hodgson, Cllr Rawlingson,
Borough Councillor Donnelly.
In attendance: E Attwood – Clerk

1. Apologies for Absence – Borough Cllr Lashbrook, Cllr K Wilson

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

3.Minutes - Resolved: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th July 2024 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman of the meeting. Proposed Cllr Smale seconded Cllr Woods. All members agreed.

4. Public participation – None.

5. Clerk's Report

- Action tracker now in google documents.
- Emails sent to Highways with no response were then sent to Cllr Donnelly to chase clearing of drains along Hatherden Road together with realigning the dropped kerbs at the bottom of Carters Meadow. Highways have informed the drains are still awaiting response re the kerb realignment.
- Visit to Rapid Relief team site has taken place.
- Invoices for September newsletter have been sent out.
- Conclusion of Audit, no comments from External Auditor.
- Conclusion of audit now advertised on website.
- The Clerk was to make Cllrs aware that the Parish Council holds balances over the FCSC limit for guarantee with the bank for the current balances.
- Passed on one new client for advertising in newsletter to editor.
- Three quotes arrived for Planning stage of Community Hub to be discussed next month.

6. County Cllr Donnelly – Cllrs Donnelly reported on the following

Community Energy Support

- Lower energy bills could be enjoyed by more people in the future as more communities are given the ability to lead the charge on climate change through greener, more efficient energy initiatives that will reduce carbon emissions and, in turn, lower costs.
- £1.5m boost for people led climate change action | Hampshire County Council (hants.gov.uk)
- An opportunity for Hampshire residents to benefit from competitively priced, high-quality solar panel installation and save on future energy bills is once again available through the 2024 Solar Together scheme.
- Tap into solar power to save on bills and tackle climate change | Hampshire County Council (hants.gov.uk)
- Thousands of Hampshire students have received the results of their hard work towards GCSE, A-levels, T Levels, Technical, Vocational, and Apprenticeship qualifications.

- Hampshire County Council is also renewing its call for parents and carers to prioritise regular school attendance in the new academic year.
- Links to report road issues are here:
- Missing or damaged signs:
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/brokensigns>
- Potholes:
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/potholes>
- Tree/hedge problems:
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/treehedge>
- Flooding/drainage issues:
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/flooding>
- Pavement problems:
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/paving>
- Problems with rights of way:
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/rightsofway/reportaproblem>
- Waiting for budget for next year to be decided
- TVBC and TVAPC Conference on 21st September would include more information from central government about the new planning regulations.

7. Borough Cllr L Lashbrook. The following report was received:

- No update to report on the proposed development on Land at the Goch Way. It is expected that the application will be heard at the Northern Area Planning Committee.
- The Parish Councils application for a path to the play space I at Armstrong Rise is fully supported.
- TVBC currently have a consultation, regarding Council Tax relief. There is still 100% relief for certain households, but the model in use has been unchanged since 2013. A breakdown of the changes and to complete the survey, please visit – testvalley.gov.uk/ctsconsultation by 27th October 2024. The new scheme is designed to make it easier for residents. Please encourage residents to complete the survey, it only takes a few minutes.

8. Finance -

8.1 The bank balance as of 31st August 2024 was as follows:

Bank Reconciliation			
Treasurers			£ 659.84
Business			£ 29,797.46
Fix Term Deposit			£ 25,000.00
Fix Term Deposit			£ 30,000.00
Closing Balance as at 30 June 24			£ 85,457.30

Resolved: Councillors approved the financial statement and payments for 31st August 2024.

8.2 Approval of July/ August 2024 payments.

E Attwood- Clerks Pay	£421.88
HMRC - Clerks tax	£105.40
Memorial Plaque	£13.58
HALC- Communications Course	£72.00
E Attwood Exp	£18.54
P Wylde - Lengthsman	£125.00
E BAY transaction in error (refunded on 1 st Aug)	£4.99
BDO - External Auditor	£252.00
E Attwood Salary	£421.88

Clerks tax - HMRC	£105.40
One.com	£173.80

Approval of September payments to date:

E Attwood Salary	£421.88
Clerks tax - HMRC	£105.40
Bulpitt Print Newsletter	£622.00
Geosphere - Parish Online	£180.00
P Wylde - Lengthsman	£125.00
E Attwood - Exp July/August	£43.04

Resolved Cllrs approved July, August & September 2024 payments to date.

8.3 Conclusion of External Audit. – No comments were made by external auditor and the conclusion of audit has now been advertised on the website.

8.4 Approval to reinvest £25,000 – Resolved: Councillors approved reinvesting this amount for one year.

9. Planning

The following decisions by TVBC were noted –

Update on previous applications

- 24/00559FULLN Land at Goch Way Andover Charlton – Awaiting decision
- 24/01683/FULLN New Street Football Club – Awaiting decision
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10.Councillor Reports

10.1 Traffic Liaison – Nothing to report.

10.2 Environment and Trees Cllr Wylde reported.

- 758 Bridleway has been cut back by Countryside officer and a team of volunteers. It took 72-man hours to cut back. Cllr Ward has written to thank the volunteers.
- Cllr Wylde confirmed there was no end date on his licence.
- Add to next month's agenda to discuss additional volunteers from within Parish, courses to include health and safety and applying for additional equipment through a grant.

10.3 Footpaths & Rights Away - Lengthsman

- It was reported that two stiles had appeared between Peake Way and the path.
- Charlton Road – Vegetation needs to be cut back by the Lengthsman.
- Coffin Route – Vegetation needs cutting back by the Lengthsman.
- Bottom of Enham Lane – Vegetation needs to be cut back by the Lengthsman.
- Diamond Jubilee bench plaque needs a good wash. Cllr Wylde volunteered to do this task.

10.4 – Emergency Resilience – Nothing to report

10.5 Charlton Village Community Association - Forecast of events and future funding/grants process.

- Christmas lights & Fair 30th November 2024
- CVCA meeting at 7.30pm in Royal Oak 18th September 2024

10.6 Book Exchange – Cllr Smale continues to keep the book exchange tidied. Cllrs request unwanted DVDs are not disposed of here.

10.7 Climate Change – TVAPTC have a joint conference with TVBC on Saturday 21st at King's Somborne.

10.8 Communication update – Cllr Wilson has circulated an action tracker for communication. The proposals to improve communication will be discussed at October's meeting.

11 Charlton Community Hub. Cllr Ward reported on the following:

- Terms of Reference will be recirculated for approval next month.
- Three quotes have been received to appoint an architect to be discussed at next month's meeting.

12 Action tracker review – The following was reviewed.

- **Parish Council action tracker** – Cllrs were reminded of outstanding tasks which will be reviewed next month.
- **Armstrong Rise action tracker** – This will be reviewed at the next meeting.

13. Charlton Waterside - Two quotes have been received to reduce conifer hedge, remove dead limb and cutback cherry tree branches, sycamore branches, ash branch, maple trees. Cllrs agreed a third quote was not required.

Resolved: MWU tree services quote has been accepted to carry out the work at £1200 plus VAT.

Hedge in centre of Village opposite Royal Oak– Two quotes have been received to reduce one large hedge and remove 3 Hawthorn trees. Cllrs agreed a third quote was not required.

Resolved: Shane Coles quote has been accepted to carry out the work for £1100 and grind out the tree stumps for £250 plus VAT

14. Tree on unregistered Land at 111 – 114 Charlton – The grant application has now been received. The standing agreement between residents and the PC has been reviewed and will be circulated by Cllr Ward to be approved at next month's meeting.

15. Derelict land at Armstrong Rise – A resident had contacted the Parish Council about the 2-metre strip of land adjoining her property which was overgrown and preventing her from erecting a fence. Cllrs visited the resident and inspected the area but unfortunately Parish Councillors could only offer advice.

16. Correspondence & Meetings. The following items were received.

- E mail from resident requesting to move lifesaving equipment at Charlton lakes so it can be accessed. Cllr Ward has contacted TVBC with this request.
- E mail from residents about lorries accessing the village. The Clerk has advised that a Traffic Regulation Order is required asking for limitations on HGV movement which must be supported by the Police and that an officer must witness a vehicle passing through the area that the restriction applies too. This request is outside the Parish Councils control.
- E mail about Stagecoach withdrawal of bus services. This is outside the PC remit as Stagecoach is a business.
- E mail re parking on the pavement which also has double yellow lines outside the Church at Playgroup drop off and pick up times. It was felt a sign was not the answer.
Resolved: The Clerk write to the play group and ask them to remind parents to park legally and not cause a nuisance as they are preventing access to the footpath.

17. Items proposed for future agendas were:

- Free trees from HCC
- The Burial Ground

18. Date of next meeting: The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 15th October 2024 in the Foxcotte room at St Thomas Church, Charlton.