

Charleton Parish Council.

**Minutes of a Meeting of Charleton Parish Council, held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 in the committee room at Charleton Village Hall at 7 pm.**

Present were:- Cllr. Parkinson (Chairman, presiding) , and Cllrs. Allen, Morgan, Tod and Westlake.

Also present:- Mrs Raymond (Clerk)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Cllr. Julian Brazil (DCC and SHDC).
2. **THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**, held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March, had been circulated prior to the Meeting, were taken as read, approved and signed as correct.
3. **MATTERS ARISING:-**
  - (i) **The Casual Vacancies:-** The Statutory Notices concerning the Casual Vacancies were placed in the Notice Board, with copies sent to the Returning Officer, and as yet no notice has been received requesting an election. Although no official notification has been received that the Parish Council may take the necessary steps to fill the vacancies by co-option, the notification should arrive shortly, and so the Chairman urged the Councillors to take every opportunity to encourage suitable candidates to volunteer to be considered for co-option as soon as possible, so that new Councillors may be appointed without delay.
  - (ii) **Election of Vice-Chairman:-** Following the resignation of Cllr. Smith, a new Vice-Chairman is required. This will be considered at the next Meeting.
  - (iii) **Representatives for Coleridge Association and Saltstone Group:-** The Chairman Cllr Parkinson remains the Council's voting representative to both bodies, and a second representative will be appointed next month.
  - (iv) **Bridge on Footpath 3:-** RoW Officer Ros Davies wrote to say that consideration will be given to the erection of a footbridge over the stream on footpath 2.
  - (v) **Street cleaning:-** Cllr. Allen has been assured that if notification of areas in special need of the attention of the street cleaner is given to SHDC, the cleaner will be instructed to give his attention to that area on his next visit to the village
  - (vi) **Grit supplies:-** The Clerk has requested 3 grit bins from Devon Highways. This request will be considered, but there is a waiting list of a year. Devon Highways will not provide grit for bins which the Parish Council purchases itself.
  - (vii) **Moss on the steps and pavements:-** Cllr. Morgan has pointed out to the street sweeper that moss on the steps and pavement in the Lyte lane area is becoming increasingly dangerous, and will bring the matter to the notice of his superior.
  - (viii) **Continuation of the Link Footpath -** Keith Rennells has told the Chairman that as soon as written permission has been obtained from the landowners, Mr. Fairweather of Frogmore and

C.J.L.Rogers of West Charleton that they will permit the building of a footpath on their land on the north side of the A379, the route will be examined to ascertain the feasibility of a continuation of the Link Footpath from West Charleton towards East Charleton. The Clerk will therefore ask for written assurances from both parties, as at present written agreement has only been given for the route on the south side of the road from C.J.L.Rogers, and a verbal agreement from Mr. Fairweather for the route on the north side of the road.

- (ix) **Listing of the Telephone Kiosks:** English Heritage have refused the Council's request to give listed status to the kiosks.

4. **THE OPEN MEETING:-** The Chairman and Councillors expressed their gratitude to those who came to the Open Meeting and offered suggestions for the future of the village. There were several interesting and innovative suggestions, but there was no request for the formation of a Parish Plan.

The subjects given on the post-it notes which were handed in concerned the following:-

Provision of village green/play area	7
Footpath linking West and East Charleton	6
Affordable housing	5
Youth club/ Activities for youngsters	4
Improvements of access to existing footpaths	3
Safe walking route to Kingsbridge	2
More village events	2
More precise speed checks	2
Better use of dog foul bags	2
Tidal power	1
Graveyard extension	1
Sale of postage stamps in West Charleton	1
Village flowerbeds.	1

All these items are either already in hand, or will be considered as soon as possible by the Parish Council. Cllr. Morgan proposed that the Parish Council should not proceed with a Parish Plan. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Tod, and carried unanimously. The Parish Council will not therefore set up a formal Parish Plan in the foreseeable future.

5. **THE PARISH WEB SITE:-** Cllr. Morgan has devised a list of possible advertisers for the Web Site, and will approach these people as soon as he has a supply of invoices provided by the Clerk. These will be supplied to Cllr. Morgan as soon as possible. The Clerk will inform the Parish Councillors how to add items to the web site themselves, and will find out how to access the hit counter facility.

#### 6. **CORRESPONDENCE:-**

The Clerk will write letters of thanks to the two Councillors, Mr. Smith and Mrs Mottram, whose written resignations have been filed.

Cunningham & Lindsey	Insurance on Living Waters	letter	note & file
SHDC- Kathryn Trant	Minutes of Exec. 4/3/10	12 sheets A4	for circulation
SHDC	Agenda & Minutes 25/3/10	booklet	for circulation
DAPC	Newsletter Mar/Apr	2 sides A4	for circulation
Community Council	Village Green March 2010	booklet	for circulation
DCC Ros Davies	P3 Grant for 2008-10	letter & cheque	note & file
PC Mutton	Police surgery	e-mail	response req.

.....Chairman

The request for financial support for the Coleridge Bus will be considered at the next Meeting.

**7. PLANNING:-** There were no Planning matters to consider.

**7. REPORTS:-**

- (i) **School:-** No formal report was received but it was noted that the rather tattered remains of the art work on the fence in front of the school require some attention.
- (ii) **Village Hall:-** Cllr. Parkinson reported that Mr. Rex Brown has taken up his post as Caretaker of the hall, and has begun carrying out minor improvements. The new lighting is proving very popular, and the overall appearance of the hall has improved. The new Notice Board is soon to be erected. The annual accounts have been prepared, and a copy will be sent to the Parish Council in due course.
- (iii) **Footpaths:-** A P3 grant of £330 has been received, to cover the last two years, and the RoW Officer will look into the possibility of erecting a bridge on Footpath 3. Some posts at the stiles on Footpath 2 are still in need of attention.
- (iv) **Allotments:-** The rents are now due, and the Parish Council has received an invoice for the annual rent from C J L Rogers. The allotments holders met recently at the Ashburton Arms and enjoyed refreshments kindly provided by the landlord. There is now a waiting list of people keen to rent an allotment.
- (v) **Events Committee:-** The recent Treasure Hunt raised £63, and again thanks were due to Ray and Jayne of the Ashburton Arms for refreshments. The winners of the Treasure Hunt were Lesley, Andy and Teresa.

**8. FINANCE:-**

- a) **Statement of accounts:-** There is now some £619 in the Current Account, including the P3 Grant of £330, and £0.66 in the Business Premium Account. The first half of the Precept will be received at the end of April
- b) **A new Signatories Mandate form** has been received, and will be completed and returned to the bank as soon as possible.
- c) **Cheques for approval for payment:-** The following cheques were approved for payment as soon as possible:-  
Cheque no. 100836, £55.00 to F.Raymond for petty cash for the year ended 31/3/10  
Cheque no. 100837, £150.00 to C.J.L.Rogers for annual rent of the allotments.

**9. HIGHWAY AND COMMUNITY MATTERS:-** An advertisement will be inserted in the Gazette inviting tenders for the maintenance of the village flower beds. Cllr. Allen will liaise with SHDC to arrange for the removal of the brambles by the green area at the foot of Church Lane, and the cutting or removal of the escallonia hedge opposite Post Labore, and consideration of its replacement with something more easily maintained.

.....Chairman

**10. MATTERS OF URGENCY:-** None.

**11. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING:-**

- Co- option of new Councillors**
- Election of Vice-Chairman**
- Tenders for maintenance of flowerbeds**
- Web sit advertising.**

**12. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:**

**The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Wednesday** 5<sup>th</sup> May, possibly preceded by a Police Surgery session.**

**The Annual Assembly will be held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May.**

F.R. 3/4/10

Signed as a true and accurate record of the Meeting,

Signature.....

Date.....

.....Chairman