

Charleton Parish Council.

Minutes of a Meeting of Charleton Parish Council, held on Thursday 7th April 2011, at 7 pm., in the Committee Room at the rear of Charleton Village Hall.

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Present were:- Cllr. Graham Allen (Chairman, presiding), Cllr. Anna Westlake, Cllr. Debra Walsh, Cllr. Steve Ashley, and Cllr. Stan Parkinson.

Also present:- Cllr. Julian Brazil (DCC & SHDC), PC Steve Mutton, Mrs Frances Raymond (Clerk), and one member of the public.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:-** Cllr. Clair Tod and Mrs Jeffries (School)
2. **THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** held on 3rd March 2011, had been circulated, were taken as read, approved and signed as correct. The Clerk thanked Cllr. Westlake for taking the Minutes of that Meeting in her absence.
3. **MATTERS ARISING:-**
 - a) **The proposed permissive footpath:-** Written permission has been obtained from Mr. Graham Fairweather for a section of the proposed permissive footpath from West to East Charleton to cross his land on the north side of the road. This means that the footpath will run from Lyte Lane to Daniels Lane, as the last section of Mr. Fairweather's land on the northern side of the road is impractical. The Parish Council is disappointed that there is no possibility of making a virtual footpath along the rest of the way to the garage in East Charleton, but is very grateful to both Mr. Fairweather and Mr. Rogers for making it possible to extend the safe walking route between the two parts of the village. The Chairman will now proceed with the necessary consultations to get the project under way.
 - b) **The green footpath:-** Now that the new hedge has been planted, the green footpath along the foot of the hedge will be raked and cleared, and new grass will be planted in the late summer. The Woodland Trust will be asked about the provision of plastic sheaths to protect the trees from mowing. The hedge will be known as the Jubilee Hedge, and a small plaque will be erected in due course to mark the completion of the work to re-establish the hedge and footpath.
 - c) **Grass cutting:-** DCC will not cut the grassed areas as in previous years, although one of the extra cuts paid for by the Parish Council is still to be done, and propose to carry out only two cuts per season. Since this would result in the grass becoming too long for the contractors equipment to cope with, this is not practicable. The Parish Council will consider paying for 6 cuts, and will hope that DCC will be willing to do another four, making 10 cuts in the year.
4. There then followed a brief break for refreshments.
5. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:-** The member of the public in attendance stated that as a relative newcomer to the parish he was pleased to meet the Councillors, and interested in learning what the Parish Council did.
6. **REPORTS:-**
 - a) **SHDC and DCC:-** Cllr. Brazil apologised for missing the last Meeting, and reported that he could possibly make grant from his share of the locality budget towards the cost of extra grass

.....Chairman

cutting, should the need arise. SHDC wishes to shed responsibility for the maintenance of various open spaces throughout the District, which are used by assorted bodies such as sports clubs, and is currently carrying out a survey to discover what open spaces are being maintained at the expense of the District. Cllr. Parkinson asked if SHDC were introducing a charge for disposing of items at the local recycling facility at Tor Quarry, and was assured that the charges would only be applied to waste presented by professional tradesmen, and not to ordinary domestic waste. It was agreed that the waste disposal services provided by SHDC were extremely good, and much appreciated by residents.

- b) **Police:-** PC Mutton reported that there had been 8 reported crimes, all of a minor nature, reported during the last 12 months, compared to 10 in the previous year. The local force is being restructured due to the financial constraints being experienced at present, but the Neighbourhood Beat Managers will be retained, as well as the PCSOs, who will be having a much higher profile on the beat than formerly. There will be 10 response officers available for Kingsbridge, which is to be retained as a hub to enable response times to be maintained. Seven hundred officers will be shed during the next four years, with compulsory retirement for those having served 30 years, and some three- or four hundred support staff will be lost. The Kingsbridge office is now closed, and an appointment system is in place. Upon hearing that several mirrors along the main road had been broken recently, PC Mutton urged that all incidents, no matter how minor, should be reported
- c) **School:-** No report.
- d) **Village Hall:-** Mrs Theresa Chapman has resigned from the Management Committee, but has agreed to become a Trustee. The new Treasurer is Mr. Tony Corr.
- e) **Church:-** Cllr. Westlake reported that twenty people attended the recent Lent Lunch. This was rather a disappointing number, but the event had been a joint venture between Buckland-tout-Saints and Charleton, and through an oversight had not been publicised on the web site. The new vicar for the benefice was appointed in February, and will take up her post in a few months after working her notice in her previous appointment in Gloucestershire. She is the Reverend Pam Kemp, a mother of four, ordained in 2003, and has previously been a nurse.
- f) **Footpaths:-** Cllr Allen reported that shortly after the new notices were put up at each of the three footpaths commonly used by dog-walkers, warning against dog-fouling, he personally witnessed a local resident allowing her dog to foul the footpath. He reminded her that this was an offence. The offending dog-owner then complained that the Parish Council did not provide dog foul bags, and Cllr. Allen explained that the Parish Council now consider that spending Council Tax money on the purchase of dog foul bags, which in the past had been abused, was not a proper use of public money, and it is the dog-walker's responsibility to come suitably equipped. Cllr. Allen stated that the next time he witnesses a dog-walker committing this offence he will personally report the offender to the appropriate authorities. The following day, the Clerk reported, someone had torn down three of the notices, which were quickly replaced. The Chairman stated that the Parish Council will not tolerate the failure of dog-walkers to clear up after their dogs, and anyone offending in this way, or destroying, defacing or removing the warning notices posted by the Parish Council, will be reported and may be fined.
- g) **Events Committee:-** A written report was received from the retiring Treasurer of the Events Committee, Mr. Ken Ball, which read as follows:- The Charleton Events Committee was formed just over three and a half years ago to raise money for specific causes in the village. Over the last 12 months there has been no activity, mainly due to illness and other commitments. The last event raised £280 split between St. Luke's Hospice and the Coleridge Bus. During 2010, the CEC have donated £500 towards new mood lighting in the village hall, and this year donated £300 towards replanting the bank opposite the old post office. We have no future events currently planned and the retained funds amounts approximately £2000

The Chairman will send a letter of thanks to the Events Committee for their generous donation towards the cost of refurbishing the hedge.

h) Allotments:- Cllr. Allen reported that there have been some changes to plot holders, and there is now a waiting list of three. The new Treasurer is Mr. Steve Hart.

7. PARISH WEB SITE:- Nothing to report.

8. WESTMINSTER VISIT:- Cllr Allen said that this visit will take place on Tuesday 14th June. Six people will travel by train to London on Monday 13th, attend a show, and stay overnight in an hotel. The tour of the Palace of Westminster with Dr. Sarah Wollaston MP will take place on Tuesday 14th June.

9. CORRESPONDENCE:-

<u>From</u>	<u>About</u>	<u>Size/type</u>	<u>Action</u>
SHDC	Election	Poster	Displayed
NALC	Election	Poster	Displayed
SHDC	Good Councillor's Guide	Booklet	Noted
SHDC	Recycling Calendar	Poster	Displayed
SHDC	Election materials		Distributed

For circulation:-

DALC	Newsletter Mar/Apr 2011	2 sides A4	Note
Devon Home Choice	Affordable Housing Options	3 sides A4	Note & file
SHDC	Housing Surgery, Wed. 6th April	2 sides A4	Note
SHDC	Site Allocations Plan	2 sides A4	Note & file
DCC	Transforming Local NHS Services	2 sides A4	Note & file
Sported	Volunteer Mentors	2 sides A4	Note & file
CVS	Training & Events Bulletin	3 sides A4	Note
Clerks & Councils	Clerks & Councils Direct March 2011	Booklet	Note
DCC	Minerals & Waste Development Framework	2 sides A4	Note
DCC	Consultation paper on above	2 sides A4	Note
SHDC	E-Bulletin for Councils	3 sides A4	Note
SHDC	Minutes of Parish Cluster Meeting, 17th Jan	5 sides A4	Note
Coleridge Association	Minutes of Meeting 7th December 2010	2 sides A4	Note
Community Council	Village Green Spring 2011	Booklet	Note
NHS	Newsletter Twentyfourseven	Newspaper	Note
SHDC	Development Plan adopted	Booklet	Note & file
SHDC Laura Payne	Parish News section in SH Magazine	email	Note
SHDC	Rural Services Network news	email	Note
DALC	Notes of meeting 29/3/11	email	Note
Navigus	Budget 2011 changes to planning	email	Note
SHDC	Public Service efficiency update	email	Note
Safety Partnership	Community Partnership Newsletter	8 sides A4	Note
South Hams CVS	Request for co-operation	letter	No response
DCC	Superfast Broadband	email	Note
SH Society	Bulletin March 2011	6 sides A4	note
SHDC	E bulletin	email	note
SHDC	Rural News Digest	email	note
SHDC	Planning decisions & notices	email	note
SHDC	Link path usage results	email	note
Care Direct	Contact details	poster	displayed

Planning

Application 09/0634/11/F, Orchard House, East Charleton

Report

.....Chairman

Application 09/0705/11/F, Charleton Garage, East Charleton

Report

Application 09/0758/11/F, 1 and 2 Home Farm Barns, East Charleton

Discussed

Finance

SHDC	How your money is spent	Booklet	Note & file
Audit Commission	Appointment of Auditor	letter	Note & file
Monitoring Officer	Declarations of Interest	letter	Note & file
DCC	BACS Remittance advice	form	Note & file
SHDC	Grass cutting 2011-12	letter	Response
DALC	Invoice for membership subscription		Response
SHDC	HMRC & PAYE implications for Clerks	letter	Clerk to action

The Chairman was asked by several Councillors to obtain copies of the Parish Map, but no further copies of the Good Councillor's Guide were required.

The Clerk will confirm in writing that the Parish Council wish to have 7 extra cuts of the grass, at a cost of £187.39 plus VAT.

10. PLANNING:-

- a) Recommendations of the Planning Sub-Committee:-** The following recommendations were made, and sent to the Planning Officers concerned:-

Applicant	Mr B Pope
Application No.	09/0634/11/F
Proposal	Householder application for two storey side extension to dwelling
Location	Orchard House, East Charleton TQ7 2AR

Recommendation – No objections

Applicant	Arbordem Ltd
Application No.	09/0705/11/F
Proposal	Advertisement consent for installation of replacement signage
Location	Charleton Garage, East Charleton TQ7 2AP

Recommendation - Charleton Parish Council strongly object because of the impact the additional light pollution will have on the nearby dwellings and night sky. With today's efforts to reduce carbon emissions we feel that this application is not justified. East Charleton is a very small community, a hamlet and with the sufficient lighting the garage has at the moment, it is in perfect harmony with the surrounding countryside. There is no need for fascia lighting above the Texaco logo, and definitely no need for the pump lights, as the down lights will be sufficient. The brightness of the fuel tariff sign is also a concern.

- b) New Application:-** The full Parish Council considered the following Application received recently:-

Applicant	Mr & Mrs G Fairweather
Application No.	09/0758/11/F
Proposal	Variation of condition (2) for planning consent 09/1581/02/F for provision of flue, external boiler and oil tank to each of two barns
Location	1 and 2 Home Farm Barns, East Charleton TQ7 2AR

Recommendation:- No objections.

.....Chairman

11. FINANCE:-

- a) **Annual accounts:-** The Clerk has begun to make up the annual accounts for the year ended 31.3.11. The completed Accounts will be presented for approval at the next Meeting, on 4th May, and will be available at the Annual Assembly on 11th May.
- b) **Cheques for approval for payment:-** The following cheques were approved for payment and duly signed:-
 Cheque no.100845, £40.00 to G. Allen for flowerbed maintenance, March 2011
 Cheque no. 100846, £112.51 to DAPC for annual membership subs., 2010-11
 The Following cheques are noted as having been signed after the March meeting:-
 Cheque no. 100697, £256.35 to F.Raymond for Clerk's salary Jan/Feb/Mar 2011
 Cheque no. 100840, £7.60 to F. Raymond for Petty Cash
 Cheque no 100839, £16.71 to G. Allen for travel expenses
- c) **Grass cutting:-** The Clerk will confirm in writing that the Parish Council will accept the offer of 7 extra cuts in 2011-2012, at a cost of £187.39 plus VAT.
- d) **New PAYE regulations for salaries:-** From this financial year PAYE contributions will have to be paid on the Clerk's salary. The Clerk will attend a training session in Exeter on 14th April for guidance on the implications of the new HMRC regulations.

12. HIGHWAY AND COMMUNITY:-

- a) An advertisement for persons interested in tendering for the contract to maintain the village flowerbeds, informing them to contact the Clerk for a work schedule, will be inserted in the Gazette next week.
- b) The Annual Assembly will take place on Wednesday 11th May. Invitations will be sent to local groups, including the Village Hall Committee, the Bowls Club, the W.I., the Coleridge Bus, the Parochial Church Council and the School, telling the members that the Annual Assembly is an open forum, chaired by the Chairman of the Parish Council, for anyone in the village to speak to the Parish Councillors or to each other, about matters of mutual concern. A laminated poster will be displayed in the A-frame at the foot of Church Lane.
- c) DCC will be reminded that they are contracted to maintain the permissive footpath, which needs weeds removed.
- d) Cllr. Ashley asked Mr Nick Dalton to consider allowing a small plot of land which he owns to be used as an extension to the graveyard.

13. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING:-

Update on footpaths
Annual accounts for approval for audit.
Annual Assembly arrangements

14. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:- WEDNESDAY 4th May 2011

There being no other business, the Meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

F.R. 9/4/11

Signed as a true and accurate record of the Meeting,

Signature..... Date.....

.....Chairman