

Charleton Parish Council.

Minutes of a Meeting of Charleton Parish Council, held on Thursday 6th January 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 Claire Tod, Cllr. Debra Walsh, Cllr. Anna Westlake, Cllr. Steve Ashley, Cllr. Owen Morgan and Cllr. Stan Parkinson.

Also present:- Cllr. Julian Brazil (DCC & SHDC), Cllr. John Baverstock (SHDC), Mrs Alison Jeffery (School) and Mrs Frances Raymond (Clerk).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:- None.

2. THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:- The Meeting scheduled to take place on 2nd December 2010 had to be cancelled, due to the weather, and so the last Meeting was held on 4.11.10. The Minutes of that Meeting had been circulated, were taken as read, approved and signed as correct.

3. MATTERS ARISING:-

a) The Casual Vacancy:- As no suitable candidates for co-option to fill the vacancy have come forward, it was decided that, in line with advice from the Monitoring Officer, a candidate will be sought at the Annual Assembly, prior to which fliers advertising the need for a candidate will be circulated throughout the parish.

b) The green footpath and hedge:- A grant for £900 has been received, thanks to the intervention of Cllr. Brazil. A licence for the Parish Council to become responsible for the planting and maintenance of the new hedge has been obtained, and the work will be done shortly. Mr. Baker said he would start next Monday. The boundary line is 3.5 metres from the kerb. The trees for the new hedge are heeled in awaiting planting. Cllr. Westlake will take photographs before the work is started, and Cllr. Allen will keep an eye on the work.

c) The proposed permissive footpath:- It has been found that the possible route on the northern side of the road is only practicable as far as the end of Daniels Lane, due to the contours of the land from there to East Charleton, so Mr. Halliday will be asked to make a virtual footpath on this stretch. It is regrettable that one landowner refuses to allow the establishment of a permissive footpath across his property on the south side of the road, since this jeopardises the whole scheme, as it prevents the establishment of an off-road, safe walkway between East and West Charleton.

d) Bonfires:- Leaflets containing advice about how to avoid being a nuisance to neighbours when having bonfires were distributed to the Councillors.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:- None.

5. COUNCILLOR BAVERSTOCK addressed the Meeting stating that as Chairman of SHDC, he hoped to visit as many Parish Councils as possible. He said that as a retired police officer, former Parish Councillor of Stokenham, and former Chairman of the Licensing Committee, he was still very keen to continue to serve the community. The next year should prove to be very interesting, with elections in May, and the introduction of the Localism Bill which will enable decisions regarding such matters as the purchase of land to be made by referendum at a much

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more local level. Money may be devolved to Parish Councils to allow them to fund their own grass-cutting, street-cleaning, and other such local issues. Planning decisions should become more simple. The Standards Board is one among many bodies to be abolished. Cllr. Baverstock explained that the Parish Councillors act as the eyes and ears for the District Council, and he thanked them for the work they do. Concerning the development of 100 new houses in Stokenham, which at present has a total of 160 homes, Cllr. Baverstock questioned what provision would be made to improve the A379. A traffic survey had been carried out in February, which would not give an accurate picture of the amount of traffic which would occur during the summer. The proposed development would require extra resources to be provided, and while SWW say that a new or considerably up-graded sewage system would be needed, the Parish Councillors were astonished to hear that Devon Highways have actually said that the hold-ups and queuing which would result from the heavy traffic would be beneficial, serving as an ideal traffic-calming measure. Cllr. Tod pointed out that all traffic along the A379 has to cross New Bridge, built in 1770, and scarcely suitable to cope with present traffic, never mind the increased number of vehicles which further development in Stokenham or any of the villages on the A379 will produce.

Cllr Allen remarked that it was a disgrace that nothing had been done by SHDC to clear the pavements or car parks in Kingsbridge during the recent cold weather, nor to grit any but the major routes. Cllr. Baverstock said that the weather was so cold that it proved unusually difficult for SHDC to cope. Devon County Council holds supplies of road grit, and they are responsible for gritting the roads, but SHDC are responsible for the car-parks and proved unable to cope with the conditions.

6. REPORTS:-

- a) **SHDC and DCC:-** Cllr. Brazil reported that grit bins needed for use in the parish must be purchased by the Parish Council, but the first fill-up will be provided by SHDC. Further supplies of grit will have to be purchased. He remarked that the waste disposal teams are to be congratulated on their efforts during the recent cold weather, and the Parish Councillors agreed. There will be an open meeting in Kingsbridge on Friday 9th January, to discuss the proposal by SHDC to limit parking in much of Kingsbridge to pay and display by putting parking meters on most of the roads in the town. This proposal was without exception deplored by the Parish Councillors. The no. 93 bus does not now run during the winter. The cost of elections imposes such a burden on small parishes that it is now felt that the cost should be met from district funds.
- b) **Police:-** No report.
- c) **School:-** The written report submitted to the meeting detailed the activities at the end of the term, and detailed the many exciting things enjoyed by the children in the run-up to Christmas. The new term has only just started, so there is as yet nothing new to report.
- d) **Village Hall:-** The AGM of the Management Committee has taken place, and it proved impossible to appoint either a new secretary or treasurer, so suitable candidates for each position are being sought.. Revenue during the past year is down by some £1000, and several recent fund-raising events have been poorly attended. As it is hoped to renovate the kitchen to the highest commercial standard, ideas for future events would be welcome. The chairman, Cllr. Allen, suggested consulting other village hall managements for ideas.
- e) **St. Mary's Church:-** Cllr. Tod reported that both the carol service with mince pies and mulled wine, and the Christmas Day service, were well attended. The path had been successfully cleared of snow for these events by some young people of the congregation.

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- f) **Footpaths:-** Nothing to report
- g) **Allotments:-** Work is proceeding as best it can in this season. The AGM of the Allotment Society will be held in March.
- h) **Coleridge Association:-** Nothing to report
- i) **Saltstone Group:-** Nothing to report

7. **PARISH WEB SITE:-** It was suggested by Ian Judge, who set up the web site, that the Charleton article for the Village Voice section of the Gazette be put on the web site. The Clerk will ask Mr. Brown if he would agree to this.

8. DATES OF MEETINGS IN 2011:-

Thu. 3rd February,
 Thu. 3rd March
 Thu. 7th April
 Wed. 4th May (inc. AGM)
 Wed. 11th May (Annual Assembly)
 Thu. 2nd June
 Thu. 7th July
 No Meeting in August.
 Thu. 1st September
 Thu. 6th October
 Thu. 3rd November
 Thu. 1st December.

Meetings of the Planning Sub-Committee will be called as and when required.

9. CORRESPONDENCE:-

<u>from</u>	<u>about</u>	<u>form</u>	<u>action</u>
SHDC	Village Housing Initiative	letter	note & file
SHDC	Village Housing Initiative	booklet	note & file
SHDC	South Hams Magazine	booklet	Note P.17
DCC- Ros Davies	P3 Workshops	5 sides A4	note
CCD	Hallmark scheme	letter & leaflet	note & file
Tor Homes - Claire Crew	Asset Management Appraisal	letter	response req.
DCC- Maurizio d'Alesio	Street Lighting reduction	letter	response req.
SWC	Election pack	package	discuss
SHDC- Elizabeth Tucker	Casual Vacancies		
Devon Air Ambulance	Helipad magazine	booklet	note
D & C Police	Conferences, 16/2 or 15/3	letter	res. Invited
DCRCCN	Junk Mail	booklet	note
CCD	Village Green	booklet	note
SHDC- Cllr Tucker	Parish Cluster Meeting	email	response req.
Simon Wright	Parking Meters	email	response req.
NALC	Clearing Snow & Ice	email- 6 pages	note & file
SHDC	Big Lottery	email- 2 pages	pass to VH Committee
SH CVS	Training Bulletin	email- 6 pages	note
Coleridge Association	Minutes 14/9, Agenda 7/12	email- 6 pages	pass to Reps.
Cllr Baverstock	Note to Coleridge Assoc.	email- 1 page	note
DAPC	Application form, PoW Awards	email-5 pages	consider
Davd Eeles	Bus Route 111	email- 1 page	consider
SHDC- Peter Dale	Red diesel	email- 1 page	note

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TQ Recycling :td	Initial contact	email- 1 page	note
Julian Brazil DCC	Locality Budget Award	2 sides A4	note for response
DCC	BACS notice of grant	1 side A4	note & file
Marie Dill, NALC	Cluster invitation	email- 1sheet	consider
DCC	Emergency management	email- 4 sheets	note & file
NALC	The Localism Bill	email- 9 sheets	note & file
Elizabeth Tucker, SHDC	Electoral Register form	email- 3 sheets	Clerk to respond
Tim Johnson, Coleridge	Letter re next meeting date	email- 1 sheet	response invited
DAPC Cara Stobart	Pre-election briefing	email- 2 sheets	
Glasdon	Product Brochures	bundle	note

Finance

SH CAB	Request for financial support	2 sides A4	consider
SHDC- John Foxworthy	Precept 2011/2012	letter & form	respond & note
SHDC- Robert Harkness	Invoice for additional cutting	letter & invoice	respond & note
Charleton Village Hall	Invoice for hall rent	invoice	respond & note

Planning

App.No 09/2659/10/F	Tideways, Curlew Drive,	Extension to garage
App.No 09/2659/10/F	further info.	
App.No.09/2705/10/F	8 Charleton Way,	Extension & conversion of garage

Cllr. Parkinson questioned the invoice from SHDC for the extra grass cutting, as he thought that there had been fewer cuts than claimed on the invoice, and the Chairman undertook to investigate this further. It was noted that the last time the grass was cut, the contractors did an excellent job, leaving the areas cut very neat and tidy. The extra cuts will be continued in 2011, once the matter of how many extra cuts were actually done last year has been resolved.

10. PLANNING:-

The Planning Sub-Committee had considered the following Applications, and there were no objections.

Applicant: Mr D Giles
 Application No: **09/2659/10/F**
 Proposal: Householder application for extension to existing garage
 Location: Tideways, Curlew Drive, West Charleton TQ7 2AA

Applicant: Mr M Crook
 Application No: **09/2705/10/F**
 Proposal: Householder application for conversion and extension of garage to third bedroom.
 Location: 8 Charleton Way, West Charleton. TQ7 2AN

A letter concerning the alleged unauthorised advertisement, namely a notice board on the fence frontage of 21 Saunders Way was received, advising the Parish Council that the sign is permitted under the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements)(England) Regulations 2007 Schedule 3, Part 1, Class 1., and this sign will be removed when the work has been completed.

11. FINANCE:-

a) Statement of accounts:- There is some £4080 in the current account, including the grant of £900 for the renewal of the hedge. It is hoped that some £2500 will remain at the end of the financial year, to serve as a contingency fund for future needs.

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- b) **The Precept for 2011-12:-** As agreed at the last Meeting, this has been set at £4750, which is an increase of 5% on that of the previous year. The claim form for this amount has been sent.
- c) **Cheques for approval for payment:-** The following cheques were approved for payment and duly signed:-
 - Cheque no. 100687, £40.00 to G. Allen for maintenance, November 2010
 - Cheque no. 100689, £256.55 to F.Raymond for Clerk’s salary, Oct/Nov/Dec 2010
 - Cheque no. 100690, £25.50 to G. Allen for gift to Mr. A. Smith
 - Cheque no. 100691, £155.00 to DCC for licence
 - Cheque no. 100692, £120.00 to VH Management Com. for Hall rent to July 2010
 - Cheque no. 100693, £40.00 to G. Allen for maintenance, December 2010
 The invoice for £178.47 from SHDC for extra grass cutting will be considered for payment at the next Meeting.
- d) **Village Hall Management Committee accounts:-** A copy of these accounts should have been sent to the Parish Council, according to the Constitution of the Management Committee, but this has been overlooked by the Committee as there is at present no Treasurer. It is hoped that in due course a Treasurer will be appointed, and the financial affairs of the Management Committee will be brought up to date.
- e) **Second cheque book:-** It was resolved to supply a second cheque book, to be held by the Chairman for use when the Clerk is unavailable.

12. HIGHWAY AND COMMUNITY:-

- a) **Presentation to Mr. Smith:-** This was due to take place at the December Meeting, but because of the cancellation of that Meeting, took place rather more informally than originally planned, when Cllr. Allen presented Mr. Smith with a gift in recognition of his continuing care of the planted trough at the Living Waters monument.
- b) **Provision of grit bins:-** It was resolved to obtain several suitable bins for the storage of road grit in several locations throughout the parish, including East Charleton, Lyte Lane, Charleton Way, the Village Hall, and Church Lane. These will then be in place should another spell of icy weather take place.
- c) **Burial ground:-** The Clerk has written a letter to the Church warden, Mr. Collins, expressing the concern of the Parish Council about the need an extension to the burial ground, and promising to support any initiatives to obtain suitable land.

13. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING:-

- The permissive footpath to East Charleton**
- Hedge opposite Post Labore**
- Repainting the virtual footpath**

14. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:- Thursday 3rd February 2011

There being no other business, the Meeting closed at 9pm.

F.R. 10/1/11

Signed as a true and accurate record of the Meeting,

Signed.....

Date.....

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