

Charleton Parish Council.

Minutes of a Meeting of Charleton Parish Council, held on Thursday 4th November 2010, 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. Steve Ashley, Cllr. Owen Morgan and Cllr.Stan Parkinson.

Also present:- Cllr.Julian Brazil (DCC & SHDC) and Mrs Frances Raymond (Clerk).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr. Debra Walsh, Cllr. Anna Westlake, PC Steve Mutton and Mr Rex Brown (Press).

2. THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING, held on Thursday 7th October, had been circulated prior to the Meeting, were taken as read, approved, and signed as correct.

3. MATTERS ARISING:-

- a) **The Casual Vacancy:-** Despite the fliers informing village residents of the vacancy having been circulated to every household, there has been no response. The Councillors will continue in their efforts to recruit a suitable candidate for co-option.
- b) **The hedge opposite Post Labore:-** An estimate of the cost of the work has been obtained by the Chairman from Mr. Steve Baker (Tree and Hedge Line). This was for between £700 and £800. A skip will be provided for the material to be removed, and Mr. Baker will be asked to carry out the work as soon as the grant application has been successful.
- c) **The reported failure of buses to stop at Sicklemans Close:-** A rather unsatisfactory reply was received from Devonbus about the failure of buses to stop, stating that the complaint has been passed on to First, the company responsible. As yet no response has been received from First. As it is not a stage stop, prospective passengers should be made aware that they should indicate to the bus driver that they wish the bus to stop. A laminated notice to this effect will be put up in the bus shelter.
- d) **Bonfires:-** The Clerk has obtained a supply of the new leaflets about bonfires, and copies will be circulated to all Councillors.
- e) **Insurance:-** The Clerk was asked to investigate a possible alternative source of insurance cover, but meanwhile has been informed that alternatives are already being investigated by Community First. The result of this is awaited before any further action is taken.
- f) **The proposed permissive footpath to East Charleton:-** There has been no further progress in this matter, due to lack of action By SHDC.
- g) **The graveyard extension:-** Cllr. Tod reported that now that Mr. Harding has retired, there is no vicar responsible for the benefice. Some £120,000 will be needed for repairs to the church tower at Charleton Church, so it is unlikely that the PCC will be in a position to purchase land for an extension to the graveyard. The Parish Council will advise the Churchwarden, Mr. David Collins, that great concern is felt regarding the shortage of space in the current burial grounds, and asking him to find out what it would cost to buy the plot of land at the foot of Church Lane, and stating that if necessary the Parish Council would support any fund-raising efforts, and explore the possibility of obtaining grants towards the cost.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:- No members of the public were present, but a letter was received by the Chairman from Mr. Nigel Harman explaining his concerns as a licence-holder responsible for the

.....Chairman

maintenance of part of the land owned by DCC, above the position of the hedge in question. The Chairman will discuss the matter with Mr. Harman.

5. REPORTS:-

- a) **DCC and SHDC:-** Cllr. Brazil reported that both Councils are carrying out comprehensive spending reviews, and there will be cuts, although details are not yet published. Consultation about the cuts to the budget for cleaning services has been delayed during the absence of Mr. Steve Mason, but will be taking place shortly. The Parish Councillors requested that Cllr. Brazil should investigate the possibility of one of the new cleaning machines being deployed in Charleton from time to time. SHDC is considering site allocations, and while this will not affect Charleton directly, as the nearest proposed site is in Stokenham. The new government is reconsidering the whole matter of the number of new houses to be built. No news has yet been heard of the possibility of Tally Ho running a replacement for the Number 93 bus which is to be cut on Sundays during the winter. Mr. Beesly appears to be sorting out the problems associated with Footpath 2 across his land satisfactorily.
- b) **School:-** The following written report was received by email:-After a well earned summer break, we returned to school in September refreshed to start the Autumn Term. The main staffing structure has stayed the same, with one change, Mrs. Lin Bell who taught French and Languages retired and Mrs Angela Luckhurst (a teacher at West Alvington) has taken on the role of French and Languages in Charleton until March 2011. Our Harvest Service took place on Friday 1st October at St Marys. Parents came along and were treated to an afternoon of songs, hymns, poems and plays by the children. The collection of produce was taken to Tumbly Hill Day Care Centre in Kingsbridge. We had a visit from the Mobile Library Van in which we exchanged 100 books from our Library. Each child was able to visit the van and choose their books. This is a service which the school pays into and is very worthwhile and a great way of keeping the library up to date. We held an Open Afternoon on Monday 11th October when our parents and grandparents were able to come and visit the school, and parents from the local Pre-Schools were invited to come along. Our Year 6 children (9 this year) attended the Junior Life Skills at Quayside Leisure Centre on the 15th October. This was an afternoon spent learning about the wider community with talks by Police, Fire Brigade, St Johns Ambulance, South Hams Council and other organisations. It included a demonstration on how to avoid and what to do in the event of a chip pan fire. Mrs Perkins and Ruth Benton (Early Years Teacher) are in discussion with Treetops Pre-school with a view to having pre-school sessions at Charleton. The sessions will be run by teachers from Treetops in our school hall. We are hoping to start with a Tuesday afternoon session for a maximum of 8 children in January 2011. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 have had 5 weeks of Violin lessons by Susie Trezise, a visiting teacher. Susie also plays in a Folk Band and brought a menagerie of instruments along for the children to play, including a harp, accordion and banjo and Mrs Staniland our Music teacher brought in her cello. The children learnt two songs with the instruments and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. We continue to support Carol Harris in her puppy training for Guide Dogs for the Blind. Carol brought along her current dog Gus, a German Shepherd, to assembly a couple of weeks ago to let us know how he is getting on. We collect used ink cartridges, mobile telephones and stamps which go towards paying for Gus' training. Other fundraising so far this term has included Jeans for Genes Day when the children came to school in their Jeans with donations of £37.12 going to the charity which looks at genetic

disorders in children, and Wear it Pink for Breast Cancer when £56.60 was raised. We held a Pink Fashion Show during our Friday Praise Assembly and had a pink cake sale.

During half term repairs were carried out to part of the roof at the rear of the school as well as some tile replacement on the main building. The work was provided by Devon County Council and will continue to keep us dry for many more years.

It was reported by Cllr Ashley that he has noticed that the external fabric of the school building needs some maintenance work.

- c) **Police:-** No report.
- d) **Church:-** Cllr. Tod reported that 400 people attended the farewell service for Rev. Harding, and 200 attended the farewell meal in the Village Hall. A fuller report will shortly appear on the Web Site.
- e) **Footpaths:-** Cllr. Allen reported that the repairs to the stiles have not yet been done, and that he will approach Mr. Steve Baker to carry out the necessary work.
- f) **Events Committee:-** Nothing to report.
- g) **Village Hall:-** A Quiz Night will be held on 26th November, and the AGM of the management committee will take place on 8th December at 8 pm. Window boxes and pots have kindly been provided by Theresa Lidstone.

6. THE PARISH WEB SITE:- More input from the various village groups is needed, so that Mrs Allen can continue to keep the news section and calendar of the Web Site up-dated. Her email address is sueallen60@yahoo.co.uk

6. YEARLY DIARY:- As noted at the last Meeting, simple list of all annual dates will be kept by the Clerk in the Minutes Book, and available at all Meetings.

7. CORRESPONDENCE:-

SHDC	Courses for landowners	Poster	Display
DevonBus	Failure to stop at Sicklemans Close	email	note
Senior Council for Devon	Newsletter October 2010	booklet	available for circulation
SH CVS	Voluntary Vine	assorted	available for circulation
Stuart Jennings SHDC	Cleansing Services	email	note
DAPC	Insurance costs	email	Initial response made
South Hams Society	Bulletin October 2010	8 sides A4	available for circulation
Tor Homes	Newsletter Autumn 2010	newspaper	available for circulation
E.Newington DCC	Minerals & Waste Planning	letter	note
E.Newington DCC	Minerals & Waste Planning	leaflets	distribute
Kathryn Trant SHDC	Minutes of Exec.Meeting 7/10/10	8 sides A4	available for circulation
DAIA	Alternative Waste Management Plan	email	available for circulation
SHDC	Healthy Active Living- guide to services	booklet	note & file
Clerks & Councils	Clerks & Councils Direct Nov. 2010	booklet	available for circulation
Muriel Chapman	Cllr. Baverstock	email	response required
Dee Bulleid	Request for funding (Coleridge Bus)	email	response required
Michael Saltern SHDC	Village Housing Initiative	letter	note & file

A small laminated notice reminding prospective passengers that this is not a stage stop but a request stop will be put up in the bus shelter and in the notice board.

The Clerk will inform Muriel Chapman that Cllr. Baverstock will be welcome to attend the Meeting in December.

.....Chairman

It was decided that the Parish Council should not make a grant towards the cost of the Coleridge Bus at this time.

9. PLANNING:- None.

10. FINANCE:-

- a) **Statement of accounts:-** The Clerk reported that there is a total of £3706.59 in the Current Account. The VAT reclaimed amounted to £886.62. A list of the expenses likely to be due before the end of the financial year indicated that about £2100 is expected to be paid, so that some £1500 should remain in the account at 31 March 2011.
- b) **Precept 2011:-** In view of the fairly healthy state of the Parish Council’s finances, the Clerk advised that no major increase in the Precept should be made. Cllr. Morgan proposed that a 5% increase be made. This was approved by all the Councillors, and so when the Precept form is returned the sum asked will be £4750
- c) **Cheques for approval for payment:-** The following cheque was approved for payment:-
Cheque no. 100686, £40.00 to G. Allen for flowerbed maintenance, October 2010

11. HIGHWAY AND COMMUNITY:-

- a) A request from two residents, one of whom represented the residents of Curlew Drive, that the 20 mph speed limit area be extended to beyond the end of Curlew Drive was passed to Mr. Halliday, who informed the Parish Council that there was no possibility of implementing such a change at present.
- b) The Clerk will contact the the residents of the Gatehouse with a further request that their hedge be trimmed back where it overhangs the footpath.
- c) Cllr. Morgan reported that he observed the street cleaner recently sweeping the private area in front of the garages on the Lyte Lane estate. The Chairman will report this to Mr. Mason, and suggest that the sweeper be instructed again as to which areas are on his schedule to be cleaned by him. It is felt that the main road should be given priority, and that he should on no account clean in privately-owned areas.

12. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING:-

**The Casual Vacancy
Meeting dates for 2011
The hedge and green footpath opposite Post Labore
The permissive footpath to East Charleton.
Cllr. Baverstock.**

13. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:- Thursday 2nd December 2010

There being no other business, the Meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

F.R. 5/11/10

Signed as a true and accurate record of the Meeting,

Signature.....

Date.....

.....Chairman