

Charleton Parish Council.

Minutes of a Meeting of Charleton Parish Council, held on Thursday 2nd September 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. Steve Ashley, Cllr. Anna Westlake, Cllr Claire Tod, Cllr. Debra Walsh and Cllr. Stan Parkinson.

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:- None.

2. THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING, held on Thursday 1st July, had been circulated prior to the Meeting, were taken as read, the date of the previous Meeting amended to 3rd June, approved, and signed as correct.

3. MATTERS ARISING:-

- a) **Permissive footpath:-** The possible route along the northern side of the road from Lyte Lane to Daniels Lane would be feasible, but a major problem would be encountered with a continuation, as the route then goes uphill steeply, and the exit onto the road would require the building of a sizeable run of steps to reach road level again. After further consideration, the Councillors favoured the northern route, but this would terminate at Daniels Lane and the Parish Council will request the provision of a virtual pavement along the south side of the road from opposite the end of Daniels Lane to the garage. The Chairman will contact Steve Gardner, the RoW officer, and inform him of the Councillors' views.
- b) **The hedge and green footpath opposite the former Post Office:-** Despite enquiries it has proved impossible to ascertain who owns the neglected hedge opposite Post Labore. The Parish Council may obtain a licence to remove this hedge and replace it with suitable hedging plants. Work to remove this hedge would be costly, as it would involve the hire of a digger and driver and the disposal of the debris. Cllr. Brazil has access to a locality budget, and undertook to obtain a grant to pay for this work. The Chairman will obtain estimates, and complete the application for the grant.
- c) **Welcome packs:-** Problems in distribution of such packs made the Councillors reconsider the form in which the information may be made available. The Clerk will list the information obtained to date, and send copies to the Councillors. As they become aware of ant newcomers, the Councillors will supply copies of the information.
- d) **The Casual Vacancy:-** There is still one Casual Vacancy, and efforts will continue to encourage suitable candidates to volunteer for consideration for co-option.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:- None.

5. PARISH WEB SITE UPDATE:- Cllr. Walsh stated that she was very impressed with the web site since Mrs Sue Allen has been up-dating information in the calendar and news sections. Anyone with any news, or any events to add to the calendar is urged to send such information to Mrs Allen. Her email address is suallen60@yahoo.co.uk and her telephone number is 01548 531045

.....Chairman

6. CORRESPONDENCE:-

<u>from</u>	<u>about</u>	<u>type</u>	<u>action</u>
Zurich Ins.	Claim	letter	noted
Zurich Ins.	Claim	cheque	banked
Zurich Ins.	Renewal forms	letter & form	to be completed
SHDC	Stokenham Pilot Scheme	3 sides A4	response req.
SH CVS	The Police Authority	Poster	displayed
SH CVS	Training bulletin	email	consider
Rural Services Community	Newsletter July	email	noted
SHDC	No alcohol bye laws	email	no response req.
SHDC	Minutes of Meeting 22/7/10	10 sides A4	available for circulation
Barclays Bank plc	Customer Agreement	booklet	noted & filed
DCC	Mobile Library Service	letter & timetable	noted- response?
D & C Police	Liaison Meetings	letter & timetable	response req.
RD & E Hospital	Newsletter August	booklet	available for circulation
SHDC	Play area inspection	letter	noted
SHDC	LDF Documents	letter & booklets	available for circulation
DALC	AGM 2010	assorted docs.	consider
DALC	Empowering Communities	3 sides A4	consider
Noneedfornuclear	Commons Early Day Motion	letter & paper	consider
SHDC	Executive Forward Plan	2 sides A4	displayed
Environment Agency	Emergency Planning Session	invitation	response req.
Clerks & Councils	C & C Direct Sep. 2010	booklet	available for circulation
SHDC	South Hams magazine	booklet	available for circulation
SHDC	Harbour Board Annual Report	booklet	available for circulation
DPFA	Newsletter	booklet	available for circulation
SHDC	Agenda & Minutes 9/9/10	booklet	available for circulation
Nat. Housing Federation	Affordable Housing	booklet	available for circulation
Com.Council of Devon	Village Green Sep.2010	booklet	available for circulation

The Parish Councillors were disappointed with the delay in obtaining the insurance money from Zurich via Community First, and the Clerk agreed to investigate whether it would be possible to deal directly with Zurich instead. Should this not be possible, the cheque for the renewal premium which will be prepared, will be sent without further delay, as it was due on 30th August. Next year the renewal will be discussed at the June Meeting.

7. PLANNING:-

The following Notices of Grants of Conditional Planning Permission were received:-

Application number **09/0953/10/F** ,
Householder application for extension and refurbishment of dwelling
20 Compton Road, West Charleton TQ7 2BP

Application number **09/1208/10/F**
Householder application for roof infill over existing rear balcony
Higher Court Barn, West Charleton.

Application number **09/1412/10/F**
Householder application for alterations and extension to dwelling.
21 Saunders Way, West Charleton, TQ7 2BS.

.....Chairman

The Parish Councillors had recommended no objections to each of these applications, but stated that it would be preferable to repeat the existing stone cladding on the east elevation on the new elevation. The grant of CPP did not include this recommendation as a stipulation, and so the Chairman said that he would write to the Planning Officer involved to express the Council's disappointment at his dismissal of this advice.

8. REPORTS:-

- a) **DCC and SHDC:-** Cllr. Brazil reported that little has happened during the summer but now DCC is under pressure as regards finance, and of especial concern will be the expected reduction in street cleaning. Since funding is so tight at both County and District level, the Parish Council may need to consider what works are really needed. DCC is keen to introduce parking meters in Kingsbridge, although Cllr. Brazil would prefer that the residents be given an opportunity by referendum to choose whether to raise revenue by increasing parking charges or Council Tax. The lights in Lyte Lane are still on all night, and Cllr. Brazil will investigate why this is.
- b) **Police:-** No report available
- c) **School:-** No report available
- d) **Village Hall:-** The renovations are continuing, , with the main hall having been repainted, the committee room due to be redecorated, and new kitchen equipment to be obtained shortly. The floor has been repaired where needed.
- e) **Church:-** Application to the Parish Council for a grant towards the grass cutting in the graveyard will be submitted soon. The Chairman congratulated those church members who organised events during the summer to raise funds for the upkeep of the church, and regretted the rather poor attendance.
- f) **Events Committee:-** Cllr. Ashley expressed his disappointment at the lack of support from villagers for those events proposed recently.
- g) **Footpaths:-** Cllr. Allen reported that the work of repairing the stiles has not yet been done, and so he will obtain tenders for the work and proceed with the repairs using the P3 grant money. Some visitors reported that they had felt very threatened by the horses in the field through which Footpath 3 runs, but the Parish Council is unable to do more than offer advice to walkers to arm themselves with umbrellas to ward off the horses. The land-owner has every right to keep stock in his field, but unfortunately these horses, although apparently healthy and adequately cared-for, are a mixed herd of unbroken mares, foals and stallions, are not handled, and are therefore not used to people.
- h) **Allotments:-** Cllr. Allen reported that very good crops have been obtained by many of the allotment holders. Three warning letters have been sent to holders who have not been working their plots. This has led to some renewed activity, but as there are several names on the waiting list for plots, holders must be careful to make full use of their allotments.

9. FINANCE:-

- a) **Statement of accounts:-** The Clerk reported that after taking into account
- b) the cheques to be paid at this Meeting the current account will stand at £843.97. The VAT to be reclaimed will add a further £886.97, making a total of £1730.59. The excess on the insurance claim was £100. The second part of the Precept will be paid in during September.
- c) **Cheque already provisionally approved for payment:-**
Cheque no. 100676, £4911.50 to Michael heath, for repairs to Fountain.

.....Chairman

d) Cheques approved for payment at this Meeting:-

- Cheque no. 100677, £301.86 to Community First, for renewal of insurance
- Cheque no. 100678, ££58.75 to Audit Commission fro annual audit
- Cheque no. 100679, £40.00 to G. Allen for flowerbed maintenance for July and August
- Cheque no. 100680, £256.35 to F. Raymond for Clerk’s salary for Jul/Aug/Sep 2010
- Cheque no. 100681, £49.00 to iJudge Trading Co. for hosting web site.

10. HIGHWAY AND COMMUNITY:-

- a) A letter of thanks has been sent to Mr. Bill Smith for his care of the planting of the trough at the Living Waters fountain. The Parish Councillors resolved unanimously to send a gift to Mr. Smith as well, in some small recognition of his care for this village feature.
- b) Cllr. Walsh said that she had been asked if the litter bin near the fountain could be moved slightly, so that it does not intrude so much on the view of the fountain.
- c) Cllr. Allen suggested that this year no new winter bedding should be provided for the village flowerbeds, and that funds be used for purchasing soil improvement materials and snowdrop bulbs instead. Cllr. Westlake suggested some “dot” plants such as phormiums, heucheras or euonymous plants might add to the appearance. The Parish Council agreed to let Cllr. Allen spend up to £80 as he sees fit.
- d) The street cleaner:- The Chairman now emails the manager to indicate which areas require the attention of the street cleaner. The next area needing attention will be East Charleton.
- e) The overgrown hedge at The Gatehouse need trimming, and so the Clerk will write to the owners requesting that the work be done, but adding that should there be any problem with this, a request may be made for volunteers to assist with the work.
- f) Consumer Focus:- The Chairman met with representatives of this group which has the task of assessing the impact of the closure of village post offices and shops, and was able to give them some information.
- g) The Clerk will write to First National Buses again, to inform them of the complaints received that buses travelling towards Kingsbridge are again failing to stop at the Village Hall, because the visibility of prospective passengers at this stop is very restricted.

11. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING:-

**The Casual Vacancy
Bonfires**

12. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:- Thursday 7th October 2010. A Meeting of the Planning Sub-Committee may be called should it be necessary to consider any Applications.

There being no other business, the Meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

F.R. 4/9/10

Signed as a true and accurate record of the Meeting,

Signature.....

Date.....

.....Chairman