

Charlton Parish Council

Minutes of The Annual Parish Meeting 18th of April 2024 at 7pm

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Present: Chairman Cllr Roger Davies, Vice Chairman Cllr Richard Bentley,
Cllr Helen Hill, Cllr Richard Wallis, Cllr Darren Salmons District Councillor Angie Crump,
County Councillor Elizabeth Eyre, Parish Clerk Wendy Cope.

- 1) Apologies None
- 2) Not present Cllr Wendy Sharpe Cllr Ted Grazier.
- 3) County Councillor's Report Cllr Eyre addressed The Council and five members of the general public who were present. She spoke about the role of The County Council, and about their responsibilities. Nursing Homes; Domiciliary Care; 24hour care in The Community; Transport to school of children; adaptation of disabled people's homes at a cost of £1.25million per day. Also, infrastructure and Highways within The County. Cllr Eyre noted that the area she covered was huge. A member of the public asked her about some specific drains in The Village just downstream of The Canada Bank bridge, which didn't seem to evacuate any water. It is believed that these are road drains from The Dovecote and it was agreed that The Council would investigate the ownership of these drains and then they could be reported to the relevant people. Another member of the public asked about the state of the footpaths and stated that they needed cleaning, The Chairman asked the clerk to report this to Wychavon. A member of the public asked if The Council still had A Footpath Warden? The Chairman stated that yes and that he walked The Footpaths religiously. Cllr Crump advised everyone that it was really easy to report any issues on Wychavon and Worcestershire website especially using what3words.
- 4) District Councillors Cllr Crump addressed The Council and members of the public and reassured them that she was always available to help out with any planning issues. Please could people email her with these as she worked during the day. Cllr Davies also advised that people can make valid comments personally using The Planning Portal on Wychavon's website. Cllr Crump announced that Wychavon Leisure had been given a 2.9 million grant to make their centres carbon neutral. Cllr Crump advised that Wychavon were responsible for refuse and parking and that they had just released a new Bio-diversity Plan. She advised that she had been heavily involved with The River Avon Action Group, they are testing the river water constantly using kits funded by Parish Councils and other bodies including Wychavon, and working closely with Severn Trent and The Environment Agency, and they had enjoyed good publicity. She reported that Severn Trent are working really hard to publicise good practice at home to conserve water for example water butts. A member of the public suggested that it might be an idea for Severn Trent to attend local social events? Cllr Crump said The River Avon Action Group would have a stall at Crophorne Walkabout. Cllr Crump said she would ask them and Severn Trent to take a stall at The Charlton Country Fair. Cllr Davies also advised everyone that sometimes it was important to comment on planning issues outside of The Village Boundary if it affected The Village.
- 5) Cllr Davies reported that the new Vas machine had been installed on Canada Bank, this means that there is one going up the road and one going down. A member of the public noted that the one from the direction of Fladbury was not very efficient. Cllr Davies said The Parish Council could review whether it should be changed, but this would be expensive.

6) Cllr Davies reported that all the street lighting had now been updated to LED and new posts installed, The Council will now update The National Grid and the cost of electricity should reduce.

member of the public complained that one of the new lights was being blocked by a tree. Cllr Davies said he would investigate.

7) Cllr Davies reported The Flood Gauge, was funded at the moment by 50% The Natural Flood Management Project and 50% Parish Council, however in a couple of years' time it maybe that this would end and that the money would have to be found from another source. This would be approximately £800 per year.

8) Cllr Davies reported the Broadband installation was now complete through Openreach, and anyone in The Village could sign up for it.

