

Charlton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting 14th November 2024 at 7.30pm

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Present: Chairman Richard Bentley Vice-Chairman Cllr Darren Salmons, Cllr Roger Davies Cllr Helen Hill, Cllr Richard Wallis, Cllr Wendy Sharpe, County Cllr Elizabeth Eyre, Parish Clerk Wendy Cope.

- 1) Apologies Cllr Ted Grazier, District Cllr Angie Crump
- 2) Not present
- 3) Declaration of interest, None
- 4) Public Session No members of the general public attended.
- 5) Review of minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of The Parish Council Meeting held 12th September 2024 were proposed by Cllr Davies and seconded by Cllr Wallis. Cllr Sharpe asked if a copy with larger print could be supplied to The Chatterry. The Clerk said she would email that to her.

6) County Councillor's Report Cllr Eyre report attached. Cllr Eyre raised the issue of the bad smells on Canada Bank and the wider village which are thought to be when the Evesham Vale Caravan Park pump sewerage from their storage tank. She told The Council she is Liaising with Evesham Vale Caravan Park and hopes to set up a meeting. Cllr Davies reported that the hedge on Canada Bank and that the issue with the blocked gully at the bottom of Canada Bank had not been resolved. Cllr Eyre told him that Highways didn't have any money at the present time. Cllr Davies asked about The Footpath on The Green, Cllr Eyre reported that an overlay would be put on it to build it up, although this would only fix the problem temporarily. Cllr Davies also reported that there was a large build up of silt in The Merrybrook, again Cllr Eyre reiterated that highways had no money.

7) District Councillors Cllr Crump did not attend but sent a report see attached. Cllr Davies reported that the footpaths in The Village still hadn't been cleaned: The Green to The Dovecote, Top Street and Ryden Lane to The Green. The Clerk said she would report these to Client Services. Cllr Davies also reported that people in financial difficulties could apply to Wychavon for help with their heating costs, to see whether they might be able to help.

8) Report on The South Worcestershire Development Plan. Cllr Davies reported more details were required from The Planning Inspectorate and Highways and if these were received on time then it is hoped, this would move to the public hearing stage next March this leading to it being formally adopted by the end of 2025. The Government had told Wychavon that they needed to build just under one thousand houses pa.

9) Report on The WCC Minerals Plan. Cllr Davies reported there was no change on The Minerals Plan.

10) Report from Parish Path Warden, Cropthorne and Charlton Village Hall and Workman Trust/Old School Room. There wasn't a report from The Parish Path Warden, Cllr Bentley said he would speak to him. There wasn't anything to report from Cropthorne Village Hall. Cllr Sharpe reported from The Workman Trust, the heater that was already in situ would be moved to a higher level and the old heaters would be replaced with the same sort as the one to be moved to a higher level. Cllr Davies had been asked if a sign to The Old School Room could be put up. As this would be on private land he had advised that it was a matter for discussion between The Workman Trust and respective landowner.

11) Report of Planning Committee Cllr Davies reported that he and Cllr Hill had attended A Committee Meeting concerning the planning application for Merrybrook Farm W/23/01269/FUL and W/24/00297/FUL Upper Haselor Farm.

* W/23/01269 Merrybrook The Planning Committee passed this, however Cllr Davies felt that the data they had used to calculate surface water run off was out of date, this is a national issue. The Council agreed he should write to The Planning Officer with regard to planning condition 8 and 15 which have been imposed to ensure the development does not exacerbate flood risk , also to ask how they were going to monitor this, suggesting a further flood gauge.

* W/24/00297/FUL Upper Haselor Farm, The Planning Committee passed this, it was pointed out that The Parish Council could not understand that the applicants would be able to adhere to the timing restrictions set for access to the site. The applicants said that they had other premises where they could park their vehicles outside of the restrictions.

12) Finance The Clerk told The Council that the end of year audit was now complete, and all relevant documentation had been posted to The Website. The payments due was presented to The Council. The Clerk appraised The Council of the balance of the bank accounts: Treasurers Account £23,110.47 Bus Account £26,054.41. A meeting of The Finance Committee was arranged for 12th of December 2024 to discuss next year,s budget, bank accounts and interest rates.

13) To receive details of Parish Councillor emails The Clerk reported that she had now taken over the website and would now organise the new emails with parish-online.co.uk. Cllr Sharpe said she would ask in The Village if anyone wanted to take over part of website not containing Parish Council information.

14) Report on Internet Banking The Clerk reported that Cllr Wallis was now an authoriser on Lloyds Bank.

15) Report on Issues affecting The Green Cllr Bentley suggested that a list of volunteers be compiled to help clear silt/weed growth on The Merrybrook. Cllr Sharpe said she would advertise this in the next Newsletter in February, and The Clerk would keep a list. The Clerk was asked to ask The Lengthsman to oil the two new benches.

16) Report on Cemetery Matters The Clerk reported that she had received a request from someone who had been born and raised in The Village to reserve a double plot in The Cemetery for herself and her husband. This was approved. It was noted that Mr. Denning had completed the work he had quoted for to the trees in the cemetery but had missed some of the work discussed. The Clerk said she would ask him to quote for this. The Clerk reminded Cllr Hill and Cllr Bentley about tracing the families of the graves in the cemetery where graves needed renovating. The Clerk was asked to ask The Lengthsman to sweep and clean The Lychgate on a monthly basis. The Clerk said she would investigate the procedure to apply for registration of the land opposite the cemetery.

17) Report on Highways and Footpaths The Clerk reported that the footbridge over The Merrybrook had been reported in April and said she would chase this up with Footpaths at County.

18) To consider an application for public footpath status for paths not on the definitive map Cllr Davies reported that Cllr Bentley was working on enlarging a map.

19) Report on Flooding Issues Cllr Davies reported that there had been a real risk of flooding in October, but thankfully the level had subsided very quickly. Cllr Davies said that he needed to obtain the telephone number of Worcestershire CC Highways so that, if necessary, we could request

barriers to be put up. To close roads. Cllr Davies also reported that around Canada Bank Bridge there was a problem with a build up of silt and other debris, the general advice is to keep things clear.

20) Plants on The Dovecote this has now been completed

21) Reports for information It was noted that Pollution on The River Avon Action Group were still taking samples and readings. It was noted that the fallen leaves on The Green could create a mess so The Clerk was asked to contact Smart Cut to attend to this. The Lengthsman has asked for a new battery for one of The Vas machines this was approved.

22) Correspondence Cllr Davies offered to complete the survey concerning Hackney Carriages and Safeguarding.

23) Items for inclusion/information in the next Agenda Cllr Davies asked The Clerk to invite The New police Officer for The Village to the next Parish Council Meeting.

24) Date of the next Parish Council Meeting Thursday 9th January 2025

Meeting adjourned 9.30pm

Signed/date

