

MINUTES OF CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 2 MAR 23

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL Held on Thursday 2 March 2023 at 7pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Tom Blanden (Chairman), Marion Adkins, Philip Baffour, Liz Garforth-Bles, Christian Olejnik, Lord Suffolk, Philip Thompson, Jenny Walker; M Bromley Gardner (Clerk); Wilts Cllr Elizabeth Threlfall; one member of the public.

1. Apologies. Cllr Hannah Piet.
2. Public Questions/Receipt of Petitions. None.
3. Declarations of Interest. None.
4. Urgent Items at Chair's Discretion. None.
5. Minutes of Last Meeting. The Minutes of the 5 Jan 23 PC meeting were approved.
6. Finance. The account stood at £16,720. Since the last meeting the Kilmorey community fund payment of £617.69 had been received and the £10 payment for defibrillator electricity had been paid to the Village Hall. The following payments were authorized:
 - Chq 556, £720, BTA Structural Design Ltd, for the bus shelter repair design work.
 - 557, £2553.72, Clerk's annual salary.
 - 558, £638.56, HMRC for Clerk's PAYE.
 - 559, £14.86, Clerk's expenses for the year.

With these payments made the balance would be £12,793.
7. Upper Stonehill Substation Enlargement. Elizabeth Threlfall reported that although the Case Officer was trying to find out more detail on the reasons for the expansion there was not yet any news. After debate and by a majority decision the PC had no objection.
8. Item deleted.
9. SID – Chairman's Review. After discussion the decision was for no change to the PC policy on frequency of movement of the SID. The Chairman would get a quote for a dedicated ladder for moving the SID, for the next meeting. Christian Olejnik and Philip Baffour would undergo training to be able to help on the moves – Clerk to send details.

Action: Clerk, Chairman
10. Footpaths at the APM. It was agreed that the Lea Parish Cllr with responsibility for Footpaths would be asked to come to speak at the APM about their footpath improvement group. Words needed in the Chat to encourage walkers to report any footpath problems (Action – Clerk). Liz Garforth-Bles to liaise with the Recreation Center Committee Chairman over a replacement for the footpath map on the Village Hall outer wall; and a copy of the map to be available at the APM.

Action – Liz Garforth-Bles, Clerk
11. Bus Shelter Repair. The Clerk informed the PC that he had gone out to 3 local builders for quotes for the repair but one had declined and nothing had been heard from the other 2. He would follow up with them and consider going out to more builders.

Action: Clerk

Chairman

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12. Book Exchange. The painting had been completed. The Chairman would complete the re-glazing before the APM. Marion Adkins passed on an offer to help from her husband. **Action: Chairman**
13. Best Kept Village Competition. The PC agreed to enter again this year. **Action: Clerk** It was thought that Mon 8 May would be a good day for some clean-up action, with refreshments for those taking part offered at the Village Hall, since it was the Coronation Bank Holiday with an emphasis on volunteering. It was not decided who would run the clean-up.
14. Coronation. The Recreation Centre Committee were organizing an event for the village and parish. The PC agreed to offer up to £500 to support any event. The Chairman mentioned that there would be a 'Ring for the King' on church bells and that Charlton needed more volunteer ringers.
15. APM. The police had agreed to attend and would be allowed on first. Other subjects: Footpaths (Item 10 above), BKV, Finance, Chairman's Report and Wilts Cllr's Report. Marion Adkins would lead on the refreshments and could spend up to £20. **Action: Marion Adkins**
16. CSW Report. A written report by Anne Hodgkins was noted, having been passed to Cllrs before the meeting.
17. Planning. Report on Planning Applications:
- **Considered by the PC since the last meeting:**
 - Upper Stonehill Substation – 4 more transformers – decision at Item 7.
 - **Decided by Wilts Council since the last meeting:**
 - 27 Park Street – resubmission of 22/04831 (approved) with slightly amended roofline. Approved.
 - Yew Tree Cottage – replacement conservatory, timber throughout. Approved.
 - **Not yet decided:** Five Lanes Solar Farm, Land off Pond Lane (BESS), Land at Somerford Farm (BESS), Land at Stonehill (BESS), Purlieus House (removal of agricultural occupancy restriction), Land at Braydon barn conversion.
18. Councillors' Observations/Points for the Next Meeting.
- Review of Clerk's salary, for the next meeting.
 - Where Wessex Water had replaced the sewer pipe in the centre of the village and had reinstated the verge, there was no sign of any grass seed having been spread and the bulbs that were planted there a few years ago were most probably destroyed by the work. Clerk to write to Wessex Water. **Action: Clerk**
15. Dates of Next Meetings. (1 Apr, APM, in the morning), 4 May, 6 Jul, 7 Sep, 2 Nov.

Wilts Cllr Elizabeth Threlfall reported: some police speeding enforcement was now taking place again; Wilts Council were encouraging more recycling (and less recycling contamination) as it saved Council Tax; there had been some re-done landscaping at the BESS site south of Upper Stonehill after much of the original planting had died; Dorset and Wilts Fire and Rescue were working on a fire policy for BESS sites.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Chairman