

## MINUTES OF CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 6 MAR 25

### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL Held on Thursday 6 March 2025 at 7pm in Charlton Church

Present: Cllrs David Rawlings (Chairman), Philip Baffour, Liz Garforth-Bles, Hannah Piet, Philip Thompson, Jenny Walker; M Bromley Gardner (Clerk); one member of the public.

1. Apologies. Cllrs Tom Blanden, Marion Adkins, Lord Suffolk.
2. Public Questions/Receipt of Petitions. None.
3. Declarations of Interest. None.
4. Urgent Items at Chairman's Discretion. None.
5. Minutes of Last Meeting. The Minutes of the PC meeting of 9 Jan 25, having been circulated in advance, were approved and signed. Nothing outstanding.
6. Finance. The following payments were authorized:
  - Chq 587, £2169.96, Michael Bromley Gardner, Clerk salary.
  - 588, £1446.64, HMRC , for Clerk's PAYE.
  - 589, £10.30, Clerk, for expenses.
  - 590, £167.90, PCC of Charlton, 50% of Parish Chat printing costs.
  - 591, £1680, Community Heartbeat Trust, for the Elm Hill defibrillator (after Item 9).

After these payments and the March website hosting fee the balance would be £15,165.89.

Additionally the Clerk mentioned that most probably (this was already happening to other PCs) our bank account would soon be changed by Lloyds Bank to a Community Account with charges - £51 pa plus 7p for BACS payments, 10p for DDs and 50p each for cheques.

7. Planning Application – Lype Fields Farm. The applicant, Mr Reuben Saunders, spoke about his planning application, after which the PC considered it. Decision – no objection. The PC then further considered and decided to Support the application since it would be better for the nearby residents and for the parish to have a working farm based on the barns rather than another use eg Storage and Distribution. **Action: Clerk**
8. Existence Festival. Existence had put in a one-year licence application last year and now another this year, rather than open-ended applications. The PC had had no objection last year, and there had been no trouble last year. The PC decided on no objection. **Action: Clerk**
9. Elm Hill Defib. The MLOF had confirmed they would support this defibrillator plan with a £1500 grant. Two electricians quotes had been received (a 3<sup>rd</sup> had viewed the site but no quote had resulted), for £137.50 and for £120 + VAT. The PC chose the more expensive quote after the Clerk advised that that visit to view the site had given him more confidence. The PC agreed that the project could now go ahead. **Action: Clerk**
10. PC Election 1 May. The Clerk had issued an explanatory email about the nomination procedure. There were no questions.

Chairman

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11. SID Update. The Chairman produced some SID statistics. The highest speeds recorded were worryingly high (102mph!) but the average speeds showed that the SID was achieving reduced general speeds.
12. Emergency Plan. In the PC Chairman's absence there was no report.
13. Community Emergency Hub. In the PC Chairman's absence there was no report.
14. Highways Update. There was nothing new to report on our 2 requested LHFIG issues. Pink Lane around Elm Hill had just been resurfaced; the Clerk had written to thank Highways. A worry about the Noah's Ark junction with the B4040 had been received from a Lee resident – that west-bound cars could not see or be seen by cars waiting at the junction to join the B4040 until an estimated 70 metres away. With the speed limit of 50mph that gave only just over 3 seconds reaction time. The Clerk would report this to Highways. **Action: Clerk**
15. Best Kept Village Competition. The PC agreed to enter the competition again. In his absence the PC Chairman was nominated to organize a clean-up morning. Judging would be in the period 12 May-8 Jun. **Action: Tom Blanden**
16. Annual Parish Meeting. Sat 5 Apr, doors open 10am for 1030 start. Hannah Piet volunteered to organize the coffee and biscuits/cake. We would need to cover the Emergency Hub – Clerk to liaise with Village Hall Chairman. **Action: Hannah Piet, Clerk**
17. Planning. Report on Planning Applications:
- Current applications:
    - o 1 and 2 South Lodges, gas tanks and associated works (deadline 6 Mar).
    - o Lype Fields Farm (Item 7 above).
  - Considered by the PC since the last meeting:
    - o Old Well House, gate and stone pillars at 1.25 metres – no objection.
    - o Bisley House, variation of permission – repositioning of pool and building. No obj.
  - Decided by Wilts Council since the last meeting: (all approved)
    - o Bisley House, replacement garage.
    - o 27 Park St, extension and alterations.
    - o Bisley House, variation of permission – repositioning of pool and building.
    - o Old Well House, gate and stone pillars at 1.25 metres.
    - o Land North of Queen St (NAPC 18 Dec).
  - Not yet decided: Land to East and South of Minety Substation (grid connection cable); 60 Bisley, holiday let Shepherds Hut; Pond Lane BESS cable route Part 1 (B4040 north); Bambury Hill Farm LBC.
18. Councillors' Observations/Points for the Next Meeting. None.
21. Dates of Next Meetings. 15 May, 3 Jul, 4 Sep, 6 Nov.

The meeting closed at 8.32pm.

Chairman