

MINUTES OF CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 11 JAN 22

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Tuesday 11 January 2022 at 7pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Anne Hodgkins (Chair), Marion Adkins, Philip Baffour, Tom Blanden, Philip Thompson, Jenny Walker; M Bromley Gardner (Clerk); Wilts Cllr Elizabeth Threlfall; no member of the public.

1. Apologies. Cllrs Liz Garforth-Bles, Hannah Piet, Lord Andover.
 2. Public Questions/Receipt of Petitions. Nil.
 3. Declarations of Interest. None.
 3. Urgent Items at Chair's Discretion. None.
 5. Minutes of Last Meeting. The Minutes of the 2 Nov 21 PC meeting were approved. The letter to Hd of Planning Wilts Council was outstanding. **Action: Clerk**
 6. Finance. The account stood at £18,002. The following payments were authorized:
 - Chq 524 – £30, WALC for a training course that Anne Hodgkins attended.
 - 525 –£248.18, Charlton PCC, contribution to Chat cost.
 - 526 – £83.95, Tom Blanden for x2 SID replacement batteries.
- The Kilmorey £500 Community Fund payment had been received; there was no inflation addition, curiously after the last year's payment had been £507. China Huaneng Ltd had also been in touch indicating their readiness to send their contribution. **Action: Clerk**
7. Precept Part 1. The Tax Base had increased marginally, so that if the precept remained at the same level a Band D payment would reduce by 15p or 0.36%. The Reserve would be somewhere between c£11000 and c£9500 at the end of this FY; the PC was content with this level.
 8. Community Fund. The position remained that the Community Fund would be focussed on the Book Exchange repairs and fitting-out for the time being.
 9. Book Exchange. Cllr Tom Blanden reported. He did not yet have a quote for the shelving. He estimated that to replace the door with a new one, plus repainting complete, would cost about £1000. The PC agreed that this should go ahead.
 10. Other Spending Ideas.
 - a. Replacement Tree on The Street. Highways had responded positively, although had not yet given final authority; and a rowan tree was available at no cost from a pack of Woodland Trust trees held by Garsdon church. Clerk to progress the plan. **Action: Clerk**
 - b. Wildflower Area. It was decided that this idea was unlikely to affect the coming year's precept. Philip Baffour to investigate further and bring a plan with at least indicative costs to a later PC for future action. **Action: Philip Baffour**
 - c. Repair to War Memorial Garden Wall. Marion Adkins had circulated some photographs of deterioration in the War memorial garden wall and gate. The PC agreed this should be put right and set aside £500. **Action: Clerk**
 - d. An Amount for General Maintenance. It was agreed to set aside £500.

Chairman

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Action: RFO

11. Platinum Jubilee. Marion Adkins outlined an idea put forward by a resident, using a Let's Create Jubilee Fund grant to put on a Performance Event as part of the Platinum Jubilee, in partnership with the Last Baguette Theatre Company. This might be covered by the £600 already earmarked for the Jubilee. Action now: Marion Adkins to speak further to the resident to see if she would lead the project, and to ask her to draft a Chat entry.
12. Precept Part 2 – Decision. Agreed to leave the precept unchanged at £9872.
13. CSW Update. The police were working on process improvements and looking for increased intelligence to enable more targeted enforcement activity. Police enforcement had been in operation concurrently with the CSW team in the village today, resulting in at least one speeder being fined.
14. SID Update. Tom Blanden reported, linking with the CSW report, that he would be sending downloaded data to the police. Following a problem with the batteries not being fully charged given the dark winter days and in the shaded eastern position, he had bought a new pair of batteries. He had sourced these at about half the cost of obtaining them through Evolis (the SID supplier). The PC approved the purchase.
15. APM. To encourage greater attendance, it was agreed to try holding the APM on a Saturday morning, also to use display boards (for appropriate subjects) to make it more attractive. Sat 2 Apr was chosen. Doors open 1030 for coffee and cake before an 11am start. With the next PC meeting on 1 Mar there would be time to finalise plans then, but early thoughts on content included a Recreation Centre report, CSW, the Jubilee, a Community Environmental Plan, improving community communications, and BKV.
16. Planning. Applications considered since the last meeting: Elm Hill Farmhouse, alterations to outbuilding (raise roof 60cms) – no objection. Land on Bullocks Horn Lane, Outline Planning Application for a cattle barn – objections. Charlton Farm (Pink Lane), garden room – no objection. Applications decided by Wilts Council since the last meeting: Homefields, variation of condition on wooden double garage – permitted. Earlier Planning Applications not yet decided: Minety Solar Farm; Five Lanes Solar Farm; Purlieus Farm Battery Storage Facility; Land at Braydon convert barn to dwelling; Charlton Park 3 greenhouses demolition; Beechwood House form agricultural access to paddock; Land South of B4040 beef cattle barns; Conigre House 2-storey rear extension, porch and dormer windows to front.
17. Councillors' Observations/Points for the Next Meeting. Points that had been deliberately left off this agenda to keep the meeting short for covid protection reasons were:
 - Pound – needs a tidy-up? Who owns? Old Minutes book to be checked.
 - PC communication with residents – consideration needed regarding increase.
 - Community Environmental Plan.
18. Dates of Next Meetings. 1 Mar, (2 Apr APM), 10 May (note confirmation of date), 5 Jul, 6 Sep, 1 Nov.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm

Chairman