

MINUTES OF CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 3 NOV 22
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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL
Held on Thursday 3 November 2022 at 7pm in the Village Hall

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

1. Apologies. Cllr Tom Blanden.
2. Public Questions/Receipt of Petitions. Marion Adkins read out the contents of a note of thanks received from Lady Suffolk for the PC's letter of condolence. A member of the public complained about an out-of-date date for today's meeting on the PC website, for which the Chairman and Clerk apologized; he also commented on an aspect of planning application PL/2022/06662, and was advised to send his objection to the Case Officer.
3. Declarations of Interest. At Item 6 Marion Adkins declared an interest as Treasurer of the PCC.
4. Urgent Items at Chair's Discretion. None.
5. Minutes of Last Meeting. The Minutes of the 5 Oct 22 PC meeting were approved.
6. Finance. The account stood at £21,148. The following payments were authorized:
 - Chq 548, £150, Royal British Legion (payment agreed at the last meeting).
 - 549, £1000, PCC, churchyard upkeep.
 - 550, £25, Neil Medland, grass cutting in the War Memorial garden.

With all payments made the balance would be £19,973.

7. Allotments. The Chat notice decided on at the last meeting was due now. Philip Baffour had nothing further to report. **Action: Clerk**
8. 'Warm Spaces'. To start the discussion the Clerk reported on having a brief telephone discussion before the meeting with the PC Chairman on this subject. After discussion, the key conclusions were:
 - that Charlton was too small to provide support systems itself but that the PC needed to know of any resident in trouble over the coming months in order to be able to help them to access the various support systems set up in Wiltshire and notably in Malmesbury;
 - that the PC should place notices in the Chat and on noticeboards to this end and to make people aware of where the help is. **Action: Clerk**
9. Road Safety in Charlton. The Wilts Council Highways Officer who supported the Malmesbury area had declined our invitation to attend a public meeting on traffic (agreed at the last meeting); the PC now decided against holding the public meeting without any Highways expertise and instead to go ahead with the LHFIG submission/s. The Clerk explained that he had had second thoughts about the crossing point over the B4040 to/at the bus stop and the PC accepted this and dropped the actions agreed at the last meeting concerning the crossing. **Action: Clerk**

Chairman

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Additionally the subject of large lorries using the Long Newton lane, a small part of which lay in Charlton parish, was raised and the Clerk undertook to investigate an alleged 'lorry overnight park' along that lane that was increasing the lorry traffic on the lane. **Action: Clerk**

10. Bus Shelter. Update – the surveyor was preparing a specification for Option 4 after which the Clerk would seek quotes from at least 3 builders. **Action: Clerk**

11. Book Exchange. The Clerk reported that he had discussed this with the PC Chairman by telephone and that the proposal now was to engage a professional to complete the repainting. After a couple of questions about the scope of the work the PC agreed. The Clerk would seek quotes, liaising with the PC Chairman, and if timescales were suitable would circulate any received by email for Cllrs' approval. **Action: Clerk**

12. Precept First Look. The RFO produced a draft budget for the year ahead. It projected end-of-year balances for the current year of £12,600 and potentially for 2023/24 of £15,000 if the precept remained the same. The main unknown was the potential cost of the Highways improvements we were going to ask for, if we succeeded in getting them (which itself was an unknown, whether we would get them or not). This caused discussion about the possible precept level, however no decisions were needed now as the decision would be made at the January meeting. **Action: RFO**

13. Planning. Report on Planning Applications:

- **Considered by the PC since the last meeting:**
 - Purlieus House – removal of Agricultural Occupancy restriction. No objection.
 - Braydon Pond Lodge – demolition of existing, replacement dwelling. No objection.
- **Decided by Wilts Council since the last meeting:**
 - 27 Park Street, revised reduced plans. Approved.
 - Yew Tree Cottage, replacement conservatory roof. Refused.
- **Not yet decided:** Five Lanes Solar Farm, Land off Pond Lane (BESS), Land at Somerford Farm (BESS), Land at Stonehill (BESS).
- **Current Planning Applications:**
 - Land at Braydon – conversion of barn to a dwelling. This application was discussed and by a majority was agreed as No Objection but with the same conditions as previously – no commercial or tourism uses. **Action: Clerk**

14. Councillors' Observations/Points for the Next Meeting. The Village Hall AGM was next week and some support would be appreciated.

15. Dates of Next Meetings. 5 Jan, 2 Mar, (1 Apr, APM, in the morning), 4 May, 6 Jul, 7 Sep, 2 Nov.

The meeting closed at 8.38pm.