

**MINUTES OF CHARLTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**  
**Held on Thursday 7 March 2019 at 7.30 pm in Charlton Village Hall**

Present: Cllr Marion Adkins (Chairman), M Bromley Gardner (Clerk); Cllr Toby Sturgis (Wilts Council); and 17 members of the public.

1. Apologies. Parish Cllr Viscount Andover.
2. Wiltshire Council. Cllr Toby Sturgis made a report then answered questions.
3. Ellen Blacker. Ellen Blacker, Health and Welfare Champion for the Malmesbury Community Area, was unable to attend the meeting but sent a written note.
4. Minutes of Last Annual Parish Meeting. The Minutes of the 2018 Annual Parish Meeting had been on the village noticeboards and were available at the back of the Village Hall for members of the public to read before the meeting started; they were proposed and seconded, approved and signed.
5. Chairman's Report. Cllr Marion Adkins reported on behalf of the Parish Council.
  - PC met every 2 months throughout the year, a total of 6 meetings.
  - We started the Council year in May with a full complement of 9 Cllrs, then a vacancy arose and we have authority to co-opt a replacement but have not until now found a volunteer. However we have a volunteer coming forward to the PC meeting later this evening. There are currently 4 Cllrs from the wider Parish outside the village.
  - 25 planning applications in 2018, an unusually large number (11 in 2015, 6 in 2016, 17 in 2017). We only had to object to one aspect of one application, as a result of which that aspect was changed. There is currently no news on whether the 2017 permissions for three 50 MW battery storage systems at the Upper Stonehill electricity substation will go ahead; they are approved but National Grid have not yet decided whether they want them.
  - Precept for 2019/20 – covered under Item 7.
  - All PC agendas, Minutes and end-of-year accounts are published on PC website - website address published in Chat monthly
  - Best Kept Village competition – 1st in the county last year. Won £200 which we are spending on supporting the Recreation Centre's football coaching. Well done everyone including especially Jane Tsabet who led the project.
  - The defibrillator was installed outside the Village Hall this February. I suppose we all hope it will never be needed but if it is – it's there. Covered in more detail at Item 10
  - Traffic and Speeding – at PC request Wilts Council will 'white line' the bend just east of the pub where the verge is narrow to encourage traffic to keep away from the edge. Should happen soon though we don't have a date. Thanks to the CSW team for their work – covered more under Item 9.
  - WW1 commemorative tree planting – good to be able to commemorate the 5 Charlton serviceman deaths at the 100th anniversary of the end of the war.
  - Brickell Legacy – Jenny Walker planted 2nd tranche of bulbs last autumn. We have a small amount of money left for a 3rd and final tranche.

Chairman – signature and date

- The Police CSO John Bordis continues to hold 5-weekly Police Consultation Surgeries in the Village Hall car park, to give everyone an opportunity to discuss issues of concern. Next one – Wed 10 Apr, 2-4pm.
- Neighbourhood Watch – Charlton seems to be omitted from the current NHW website details. Will make contact with them. Meanwhile, all residents can sign up for neighbourhood alert emails at [alert@neighbourhoodalert.co.uk](mailto:alert@neighbourhoodalert.co.uk).

6. Finances. Philip Baffour handed out a detailed summary of the 2018/19 accounts. He forecast an end-of-year balance of £4919.

7. PC Spending Intentions and Precept. Marion Adkins explained that the PC wanted to build the reserves to a figure at which it was able to support improvements in the parish either requested by residents or identified by Cllrs, and outlined PC spending intentions summarised as follows:

• Fixed costs	£3000	
• Defibrillator – replacement fund	£500	
• Grants within the parish	£1900	
• Potential further grant (Village Hall)	£1200	
• SID	£2100	
• Total		£8700

With this potential expenditure and a very small increase in reserves, the PC had set the Precept at £8500, an increase of £1300 and a Band D increase of £5.53.

8. Improving PC Communications with Residents. Anne Hodgkins proposed that we could include more general information in the Chat – there was general agreement. The Clerk explained that without a website we could not have an electronic noticeboard for the parish but we could have a system of information emails, and invited residents to send in their email address to join the list. All information emails would go out to a Blind address list and addresses submitted would never be given without express permission.

9. Traffic. Anne Hodgkins gave a Community Speedwatch update; the headline point was that the CSW recorded about 9% speeders (defined as 36mph or faster), higher than the county average. The Clerk gave a brief update on PC thoughts on a Speed Indicator Device (SID).

10. Defibrillator Report. The Clerk gave a brief report on the newly-arrived defibrillator.

11. Best Kept Village (BKV) Competition. Having won last year we were now in a separate ‘Winner of Winners’ competition for the next 2 years, for which the judging was in July. Jane Tsabet agreed to again organise the clean-up.

12. Recreation Centre Report. Jane Tsabet, the Treasurer, reported. They had a new chair – Helen Sunderland. They had lost Terry Chivers as Caretaker/cleaner after about 12 years (had moved away) and Frenchie Tsabet had taken over. Paul Chivers had rejoined and looks after maintenance of the sports field. Others on the Committee were Sarah Offord and John Thorne from Hankerton. In the past year they had made a profit of £2600 on expenditure of £11285. Two major projects for this year – purchase of a small tractor to tow the mowers; and refurbishment/renewal of the heaters.

13. Any Other Business. James Robbie raised the subject of Broadband Fibre to the Premises.

The Annual Parish Meeting closed at 9.07pm.

Chairman – signature and date