

**Minutes of Charminster Parish Council Meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008 at Charminster Village Hall at 7.30 pm**

**Present:** Mr M Simons, Chairman (MS), Ian Vincent, Vice Chair (IV), Mark Ellis (ME), Dave Gulliford (DG), Keith Beeson (KBee), Peter Hopford (PHo), Mike Ostridge (MO), Jane House (JH) , Claire Horne (CH) and Phil Hanson (PHa). Paula Blizzard (PB) joined the meeting at 19.40.

Sarah East (SE) District Councillor, Fred Horsington (FH) joined the meeting at 20.02.  
Aileen Heckford (AH, Clerk), Tina Davison (TD, minutes)

In attendance 10 members of the public

**Abbreviations:** CPC – Charminster Parish Council  
WDDC – West Dorset District Council  
DCC – Dorset County Council  
PCSO – Police Community Support officer

- 2008/63      **Apologies** were received from Keith Bendall ,Sarah Pilcher (SP), John Peake (JP) County Councillor  
Judith Spurr has resigned from the council for personal reasons with immediate effect. There is thus a councillor vacancy in the North Ward
- 2008/64      **Declaration of interest**  
DG, KBee and PHo declared an interest in item 2008/72f.  
IV declared an interest in item2008/73e.
- 2008/65      **Minutes of the meeting of the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2008.** There has been an issue raised regarding the minute 2008/46. Following a request for advice, Mr Alan Muir (Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer WDDC) has advised the Council that the minutes are a record of decisions made. Verbatim quotes must be entire if they are to be included. No one can recall SE's full comment. It was proposed that a note be made in the minutes that this was part of a sentence and not in full. Agreed all in favour. It was noted that a formal complaint against SE had been rejected by the Standards Authority without investigation.  
PB asked for the issue of 2008/54h to be clarified. The item had already been decided at a prior meeting and thus the minutes were an accurate record. The Chair then signed and dated the minutes as correct.
- 2008/ 66      **Clerks Report** on items from the minutes of 4<sup>th</sup> March not appearing elsewhere on the agenda. The proposal by Magna Housing for development at Pound Close has been withdrawn. Therefore CPCs letter was not sent.
- 2008/67      **Public Discussion Period**  
The Chair adjourned the meeting at 19.44.  
  1. Parking on the grass triangle in Weir View, Charminster - CPC and the police have written to DCC regarding this issue and requested wooden bollards around the area. It is not owned by CPC. CPC to chase up.
  2. Council tax – a 46% increase was noted in CPC precept this year. It was suggested MS write an item for the Pilot outlining the reasons for this increase.
  3. For information, work will commence in the next fortnight on the walls at the end of Redwood and Greenwood House's. (Planning application approved in 2003). The work will take approximately 4 weeks.
  4. Lighting between the cricket pavilion and the village hall in Charlton Down and raising the level of the footpath - CPC are unable to progress this issue as they do not yet own the land.

The chair reconvened the meeting at 19.54.
- 2008/68      **PCSO Sarah Pilcher** sent her apologies, as did PC Sandy Redford. A report was given by a colleague.  
  - School parking - the police had monitored the area for a week and coned the area off. It

was suggested that double yellow lines be used along with time plates, as these could be enforced by traffic wardens.

- North St development parking – PCSO will speak to parkers there. (Also agenda item 2008/72g).
- Thefts – there have been four thefts of plants/ garden equipment and one of livestock.
- DG asked regarding the work to be done on the A37 bridge and the possible effects on East/West Hill. PCSO will take this issue forward.
- Charminster Cross Parking – progress to be checked with SP.

2008/69

**District Councillor's Report**

- SE reported on the progress regarding open spaces at Charlton Down. Section 38 of the Highways Agreement has been signed and Steve Brown of Bellway will speedily progress in order that the S106 process will be hastened and thus the development of the MUGA.
- Changes in the refuse collection day were noted.

2008/70

**County Councillor's Report** – JP sent his apologies. However it is noted that he has requested that the sign at Broken Cross to be repaired but it is possible that the Highways Dept was waiting for the new financial year.

Additionally SUSTRANS is to meet with MS and ME to look at the cycle route between Charlton Down and Charminster.

FH was invited to speak at this stage but had no comment.

2008/71

**Financial Report**

Financial statement presented. There were no costs to agree. It was highlighted that a separate fund would be required for the maintenance of the tennis courts. It was proposed that £1,000 be set aside to maintain the tennis courts. Agreed all in favour.

The Nature Area was not included on the statement but monies are to be spent as per plan and reclaimed VAT to be returned to that fund.

2008/72

**Charminster**

- a) Play areas – The annual inspection is now due. North Street - Safety work to barked area has been undertaken. The original quote for the surface was approximately £12,000. However the insurers would accept a bark surface at approximately £46 per cubic metre which is much cheaper. DG would like to meet the inspector to discuss options. There is no evidence that the climbing frame needs to be condemned and therefore CPC will await inspection. DG is to ask the local children about football. It is hoped the nets could be sponsored. KBee suggested a long term management plan and also for provision of facilities for older children
- b) Parking Charminster Cross – PCSO investigating.
- c) Orchard - a lady has requested to provide a seat here. AH to inform her of standard required.
- d) The Square - AH informed meeting that CPC owns the entire Square up to the north and east walls of the pub. Also Birds Lane. CPC has a responsibility to maintain a safe surface. DG and MS to inspect.
- e) Princes Plot -nothing to report
- f) North Street Traffic Calming –No start date for work yet received from DCC.
- g) North St Developers – complaints regarding parking have been raised with the PCSO. CPC to ask DCC how this may be resolved. Three letters have been received regarding the issue.
- h) Flood Alleviation Scheme – the Environment Agency has been working on the impact of remodelling the bridge. The cost benefit came out in second place close to their preferred scheme. The Listed Building officer is opposing this rebuilding of the bridge as there has been no injury or loss of life. The Environment Agency will come back with a full presentation to the public on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2008.

2008/73

**Charlton Down**

- a) Allotments –. Much work has taken place. MS and AH met with the Allotment Society last week. Lots were drawn for plots (32 allotments). It was suggested that CPC consider CPC felt unable to pay for sheds for allotment holders. Hence it was proposed that the suggested range of sheds provided by CDAS, up to 6'x8', wood coloured and with felt roof be accepted

as the 'approved' shed. Plastic water butts and tool boxes would be permitted. Agreed all in favour. It was agreed at last weeks meeting that AH will arrange the water trough, gates, post and trench. These are all in hand but will take time to progress. A list of deposits paid in 2002 was circulated. It was agreed to refund these deposits. All in favour.

- b) Tennis courts – MS has organised locks, booking sheets and rules. Booking will take place from 4<sup>th</sup> April. Four keys will be held by the shop and two by CPC. Weekly inspections will be required for insurance purposes therefore to be included in the play area inspection list. There is no sign of a club forming yet. Items for Charlton Down website and the Pilot to be prepared. No reply has been received yet from Herrison House regarding parking on their property.
- c) Open Spaces –SE has informed the meeting regarding transfer of the land. AH is meeting with the surveyor at the MUGA on 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Meadfleet are happy with the extension of the toddlers play area at Cedar Road. Debris has been removed by Bellway as requested.
- d) Bus shelters –awaiting DCC details regarding the extension of the footpath.
- e) Orchard –.mulch has been obtained. ME will request more from contractors working on trees in the area.
- f) Wildlife area – 27 large and 200 small trees have been planted on Good Friday by up to 100 helpers. The gateway is in and the seeds ordered. The pond liner is due within the week and volunteers will be needed to help install. PB will set a date for this.

Correspondence has been received regarding court action by Meadfleet against a resident. Meadfleet were ordered to pay costs.

2008/74

**Report of the Burial Committee**

- a) Interments, memorials and graves purchased –none.
- b) Progress on work –strimming and painting will recommence on 17<sup>th</sup> April. The path has been repaired.

2008/75

**Report of the Planning Committee**

**Applications received and recommendations to date-** report received

Consideration of the following planning applications

- a) 1/D/08/000377 – Hintock Hens, Eweleaze, Charminster – erect an agricultural workers dwelling and building to be used as an office/workshop. Objection with comments circulated. Majority in favour.
- b) 1/D/08/000427 - 6 Pound Close Charminster – erect a conservatory. No objection, majority in favour.

2008/76

**Speed Indicator Device** - This is being assessed for repair. CPC has written to Ironman regarding funding for new SID.

2008/77

**Clerical working terms and conditions** –a meeting took place on 18<sup>th</sup> March of finance and General Purposes committee. The proposals of this committee were put to the council. It was proposed by KBee to accept them and seconded by PHa. Agreed all in favour.

2008/78

**Website**

IV informed the meeting that the website was not well used, not tidy and difficult to access. It was agreed that IV go ahead with the structure proposed as long as there were no additional costs. Agreed all in favour.

2008/80

**Change of name of Council** – AH has investigated how this could be undertaken. It will require a public consultation. It was agreed all in favour to undertake a survey through the pilot to suggest a name change to Charminster and Charlton Down Parish Council.

2008/81

**Letter from James Young regarding affordable housing** – It was proposed by KBee that this be deferred for a year in view of the Councils current workload. Agreed all in favour.

2008/82

**Matters for information and items for next Agenda**

Correspondence list circulated. Additionally

- Cocklands Street lighting – 17 lights are planned. There has been one objection to date.
- A letter of support has been received for the pub at Charlton Down.
- DCC are undertaking repairs to the Roundhouse Bridge from 31<sup>st</sup> March – 7<sup>th</sup> April.

- WDDC – design and sustainability plan.
- ‘Gypsies and travellers in Dorset’ course - 14<sup>th</sup> April
- Damage to Higher Charminster notice board – needs repair.

Further information available from the Clerk.

Agenda items for 6<sup>th</sup> May

- Advert in Pilot for Councillor vacancy.
- Parish Plan
- Summer activities for children if CDRA folds.
- Footpath through church flooded. PCC has been approached and we are awaiting a response
- Working party to run green spaces in Charlton Down to be considered.
- Asset register.

2008/83

**Date and time of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2008 at Charlton Down Village Hall, Watts Room. Parish Meeting at 7pm followed by the AGM at 7.30pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 22. 05

Date:

Chairman: