

**Charminster Parish Council**  
**Draft Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2010 at 7.30pm at Charminster Village Hall**

Present: Mark Simons (MS) (Chair), Keith Beeson (KB), Brian Charman (BC), Mark Ellis (ME), Dave Gulliford (DG), Peter Hopford (PHo), Claire Horne (CH), Crayston Lee (CL), Mike Ostridge (MO)

Also present: Sarah Engerran (Clerk), Jill Haynes (JH) (County Councillor), Sarah East (SE) (District Councillor), Fred Horsington (FH) (District Councillor) and 8 members of the public.

2010/001 **Declarations of Interest**

DG declared an interest in 1/D/09/001940 – 4 Brook Close, Charminster  
PHo, KB and DG declared an interest in 2010/011b)  
MS declared an interest in 2010/011 c&d)

2010/002 **To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Ian Vincent, Phil Hanson and Jane House.

2010/003 **To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 1<sup>st</sup> December and 8<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

1<sup>st</sup> December Meeting

ME stated that following DG's statement (2009/153) he had replied that he was surprised at the statement as councillors had been provided with evidence. ME informed the meeting that he had forwarded this amendment to the clerk but she had not included it. The clerk replied that she had not heard this comment during the meeting which is why she had been unable to include it. MS responded that he had not heard the comment either otherwise he would have disputed the statement as he did not believe evidence had been provided. MS asked the other members if they had heard the comment. They had not. MS proposed the minutes stand. A majority was in favour. MS signed and dated the minutes.

8<sup>th</sup> December meeting

A majority was in favour of accepting the minutes. MS signed and dated them.

2010/004 **Matters arising from the above minutes**

1<sup>st</sup> December meeting

2009/157 DG informed the meeting that the planning application for 10 West Hill had been turned down.

2009/155 ME stated that he wished it to be included in these minutes that TM had voted against the notice board being replaced without declaring an interest. He informed members that he would be responding to DG's statement at the next meeting.

2009/165 CL asked if any progress had been made regarding the suggestion of lights from the cricket pavilion to the village hall. MS suggested that this idea be considered along with others for the Open Spaces at a later date. The clerk confirmed she had requested the utility searches.

2009/165 CL stated that the problem of flooding on the C12 in the dips was far worse than the flooding mentioned by ME (Charlton Down to Piddlehinton turnings). MS confirmed that DCC had confirmed that at present the flood alleviation scheme was not included in their schedule of works. JH said she would pursue the matter. MS confirmed that the clerk had received a reply from DCC regarding the flooding between the Charlton Down and Piddlehinton turnings. The problem has been referred to the Asset Management Team.

SE arrived at 7.40pm

2010/005 **Representative of Charlton Down Youth Club – request for funding**

MS welcomed Paula Blizzard (PB) from the Charlton Down Youth Club. PB apologised for no one attending the previous meeting. She confirmed that the Youth Club had been restarted with 3 successful sessions being held so far with 43 young people attending the previous session. PB confirmed that although the Youth Club was planning on doing fund-raising a donation from the Parish Council would be helpful to pay for its insurance. MS asked if a committee had been set up and PB confirmed it had along with a constitution and a bank account.

A majority was in favour of donating £200 as agreed at the previous meeting. ME asked PB if this amount was sufficient to which PB replied it was. MS and KB both stated that the Youth Club was welcome to return in the next financial year and request further funding if required.

**Action: Clerk to organise cheque for Youth Club**

2010/006 **Public Discussion Period**

MS temporarily suspended the meeting at 7.50pm

It was agreed that it would be decided at a subsequent meeting whether or not to enter the Best Kept Village competitions once forms had been received.

It was agreed that the clerk would speak to WDDC to find out if the Litter Pick Days would be running again this year.

**Action: Clerk to speak to WDDC regarding Litter Pick Days**

It was agreed that the clerk would speak to Redwood House regarding the large amount of mess from chalk deposits left outside the village hall by its contractor Pipex.

**Action: Clerk to contact Redwood House**

It was agreed that the request for a notice board to be positioned on Poplar Drive near the path to the Cricket Pitch should be discussed by the NWAAC. It was suggested by another resident that this was unnecessary as people were able to obtain information from the notice board outside the shop.

A resident of Mill Lane requested the Parish Council obtain from WDDC a clear statement detailing what level of responsibility WDDC has for the maintenance of Mill Lane. He has been in discussions with DCC over the last 6 months to see if type 1 hogging material could be delivered and he could spread it out but DCC unwilling to pay for delivery. JH stated that she would look into it as Mill Lane is part of the Safe Route to School. MS proposed that the Parish Council write to DCC to ask it to provide a lorry load of Type 1 material and if it will not, the clerk be authorised to spend £150 to purchase it and arrange delivery. All were in favour. The local resident kindly offered to fill the potholes as necessary.

**Action: Clerk to contact DCC**

The clerk confirmed that negotiations were still ongoing with WDDC regarding the bin outside the shop. The Clerk also confirmed that arrangements were being made to remove the chewing gum from outside the shop.

FH arrived at 8pm

The public discussion period ended at 8.10pm and MS resumed the meeting.

**2010/007 District Councillors Report**

SE confirmed that WDDC has decided to raise its share of the Council Tax by 1% instead of the proposed 2.5%. SE also confirmed that WDDC was to become part of the Southern Cluster during the forthcoming cluster process. The Southern Cluster would be made up of WDDC, Weymouth & Portland and hopefully Purbeck.

**2010/008 County Councillors Report**

JH stated that no decision had yet been finalised as to the percentage rise in its share of the Council Tax. It was thought it may be around 2.9%

**2010/009 Planning Matters**

1/D/09/001940 – 4 Brook Close, Charminster

DG temporarily left the meeting at 8.20pm while the above planning application was discussed. KB explained that he is the only neighbour who would be able to see the extension from their property. KB proposed the Parish Council raise no objection to the plans. A majority was in favour. DG returned to the meeting at 8.23pm.

CA/10/00001 – To fell 1 No. Eucalyptus Tree at 25 North Street. KB explained the tree was quite close to the house and inappropriate for the size of garden. A majority was in favour of the PC raising no objection.

CA/10/00013 – To fell 3 No. Leylandii at Wolfeton Manor. A majority was in favour of the PC raising no objection.

MS explained that planning application 1/D/10/000074 had been sent to us as a neighbouring parish. It was concerning Field Barn in Godmanstone. It was agreed that the clerk would submit a comment stating although the PC had no objection to the plans it was disappointed that some of the materials used differ to the original scheme.

MS informed the meeting that the Planning Consultant for Chestnut Court would be coming to speak at the next meeting in relation to the planning application to waive the requirement for the flats to be purchased by over 55's.

2010/10 **Finance**

- a) Members considered the Financial Statement – appendix 2. MS explained the accounts look highly unusual due the Open Spaces money being in the account at present. It was agreed that the clerk would redesign the way the accounts are shown to show the reserve funds more clearly. It was agreed that if the clerk can find the minutes showing that it had been agreed to purchase litter pickers for Charlton Down she should go ahead and purchase.

**Action: Clerk to investigate litter pickers**

- b) Payments made since the last meeting - appendix 3. No comments were received. KB proposed they be accepted. A majority was in favour.
- c) Audit  
The clerk explained that the issues arising from the audit report had been dealt with at a previous meeting but the audit commission required a minute to be made that the full Council had accepted the final annual return. All were in favour of agreeing that the final annual return for 2008/2009 be approved.

2010/011 **Charminster**

- a) Grass Cutting Contract – appointment of contractor  
The clerk circulated a summary of the quotes received. KB proposed that the contract be awarded to Steve Manuel. DG seconded. A majority was in favour.

**Action: Clerk to issue contract to Steve Manuel**

- b) North Street – Resurfacing and Traffic Calming  
MS informed the meeting that the resurfacing of North Street was due to take place from the 22<sup>nd</sup> March for 2 weeks. Although road closures would be in place, access to properties would be maintained. It was agreed that MS would mention the road closures in the March edition of the Pilot.

**Action: MS to write about road closures in March edition of Pilot**

There was discussion surrounding the different features that should be put in e.g. white lines, road studs etc. It was agreed by a majority that the following should be requested:

- The section all the way between Inn for All Seasons and Slades Farm – buff light coloured surfaced similar to normal anti skid surface i.e. a significant contrast to black tarmac
- A section at Higher Charminster crossroads should have the same buff surface
- Both the above areas should be accessed over a raised stone lip to mark the edge of the different surface.
- No catseyes between Wanchard Lane and Slades Farm but catseyes in the rest of the road
- No white centre lines (initially) should be tried down the whole length of the road
- In the buff surfaced area (Inn for All Seasons to Slades Farm area) there should only be white lines both sides of the road to give the appearance of the road being narrower than it is.
- Broken bollards should be replaced.
- a 20mph speed limit through traffic calmed area regardless of whether it is enforceable.

ME suggested that the possibility of getting traffic on to the C12 is looked at again.

**Action: Clerk to contact Jody Foy regarding the resurfacing**

- c) Salt Bins – Haydon Hill, East Hill and Village Shop (Charminster)  
MS explained that residents of Haydon Hill had written to the clerk requesting salt bins be installed in Haydon Hill Close. The Village Shop had also contacted the clerk asking if it would be possible to have one situated outside the shop as many of the elderly residents had struggled to get to the shop in the recent bad weather. There was discussion surrounding a suitable location for a salt bin in East Hill.

MS proposed that the Parish Council purchase 3 bins initially and liaise with DCC about their locations in Haydon Hill Close, at the top of East Hill and outside the Village Shop.

**Action: Clerk to purchase 3 salt bins and contact DCC regarding their positioning**

- d) Dog Fouling – Request for signs outside school and Mill Lane  
MS explained that requests had been made for signs to be put up but he felt that bins would perhaps be more effective. ME stated that the PC should request normal litter bins that took dog waste as opposed to actual dog bins. It was proposed that the Clerk would request 2 ordinary bins for Weir View and Mill Lane. All were in favour.

**Action: Clerk to contact WDDC regarding bins**

- e) Deterioration of seating area in Mill Lane  
MS explained that the clerk had received a letter from a Charminster resident expressing concern over the deterioration of the seating area in Mill Lane due to cars turning at the bend. It was agreed that SWAAC would look at the issue.

- f) Play Area – North Street  
DG confirmed that the Probation Service would be visiting again soon to pressure wash the equipment and surfaces. They will repaint as necessary w/c 22<sup>nd</sup> March. DG also confirmed that he and KB had carried out some repairs to the see-saw.
- g) Flood Plan  
DG read out an email from the Environment Agency (EA) and confirmed that DG / KB would soon be meeting with the EA at which time the flood plan would hopefully be approved by the EA and could then be brought to full Council for approval. At the meeting information would be obtained on the status of the bridge replacement.

**Action: DG/KB to email date and time of meeting should anyone else wish to attend**

2010/012 **Charlton Down**

- a) Temporary Grounds Maintenance for Open Spaces  
MS explained that a temporary contract for maintaining the Open Spaces was required until a specification could be written and the tendering process completed. MS stated that Dorset Works had quoted £484 per month. BC proposed that the PC obtain a quote from Land Products and appoint the cheaper contractor with a maximum spend of £484 per month. A majority was in favour  
**Action: Clerk to obtain quote from Land Products**
- b) MUGA – to consider quotes received for completing MUGA  
The clerk circulated the summary she had emailed to all members prior to the meeting. It detailed the quotes she had received and some of the companies she had requested quotes from. KB proposed the PC appoint Jifflex as the contractor. BC seconded. All were in favour. ME requested a deadline be put in place for Russell Leisure to find the drawings for the Play area. Clerk to obtain quotes for re-drawing of the plans if necessary.  
**Action: Clerk to obtain quotes for re-drawing of plans**
- c) Purchase of replacement trees for Orchard  
It was proposed the clerk obtain 3 quotes for planting of new trees in the Orchard. A majority was in favour.

**Action: Clerk to obtain 3 quotes for planting of new trees**

2010/013 **Consideration of new sites for housing – request from WDDC**

MS explained that the PC was under no obligation to put forward suggestions regarding sites for new houses. KB proposed no suggestions are put forward. A majority was in favour.

2010/014 **Training Courses**

It was agreed by a majority that the clerk attend “Burials” for clerks on 10<sup>th</sup> Feb and the clerk and MS attend the “Chairs and Clerks” course on 24<sup>th</sup> Feb.

2010/015 **Matters of Information and Interest and items for the next agenda**

DG requested that Cemetery Rates and repairs to headstone be put on the agenda for March meeting. It was agreed that SWAAC would look at whether John Masters needed to trim the hedge around Princes Plot.

MS confirmed the village entrance signs would be installed this week.

MO asked the clerk what the letter from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission had said. The clerk confirmed the CWGC wanted to be reassured that the remains of the war casualties would not be disturbed. It was suggested that a plaque be put on the wall near the graves to mark the fact that war casualties are buried in the location. KB proposed the idea be looked at by NWAAC. A majority was in favour.

The clerk informed the meeting that the quotes she had received to date for redesigning the website had been extremely high. KB and PHo suggested she contact Keir Frances who lives opposite Slades Farm.

MS informed the meeting that he and the Clerk had met with representatives from Redwood House Management Committee at their request. He explained that they are interested in managing the land directly behind Redwood House but MS had explained to them that the initial response was that the PC currently has no plans for the land.

Following comments made by ME regarding how he felt the Chairman meeting Redwood House representatives was inappropriate, MO and MS countered suggesting these comments were out of order. After prompting by KB regarding the appropriate standing order the Chair proposed that ME not be heard as his comments were unhelpful and inflammatory and because of that KB seconded the proposal and members voted that he be excluded from further discussion forthwith. 7 were in favour. ME was against and BC abstained. MS requested ME leave the meeting but he declined so MS had no choice but to terminate the meeting.