

**Charminster Parish Council meeting Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018  
at Charminster Village Hall at 7.00pm**

**Draft Minutes**

**Present:** Mark Simons (Chair) (MS), Carol Matthews (Vice-Chair) (CM), Kenneth Addison (KA), Keith Beeson (KB), Richard East (RE), Mandy Edwards (AE), Susie Pearson (SP), Gill Reese (GR), Peter White (PW), Sandie Woodrow (SW), Tim Yarker (TY), Iain Young (IY)

**In attendance:** Sarah Davies (Acting Clerk), District Councillor Fred Horsington (FH) and 24 members of the public.

2018/001 **Declarations of Interest** – to record declarations of interest in any item on the agenda.  
None declared.

2018/002 **To consider grant of dispensations**  
None received.

2018/003 **To receive apologies for absence**  
Apologies had been received from County Councillor Jill Haynes

2018/004 **To approve the minutes** of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2017  
KB proposed accepting the minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2017 as an accurate record. SW seconded.  
Majority in favour.

2018/005 **Matters arising from the above minutes**  
IY informed the meeting that since the last meeting, the Parish Council's planning committee has responded to a planning application for Willow Cottage, adjacent to Cowden Farm (WD/D/17/002642). The Planning Committee has objected to the application on various planning grounds.

2018/006 **Public Discussion Period**  
MS gave an update on the current situation with the Strawberry Fields planning application. It had been considered by the WDDC Planning Committee at its January meeting, but officers decided they could not make a decision without first visiting the site. This site visit is due to take place on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February. MS explained that the Highways Officer had been on a site visit prior to submitting his response to the application.

Historic England has requested that no decision be made until the additional information it requires has been provided by the developer. This will mean the application will probably not be discussed at the February meeting of the WDDC Planning Committee.

MS suspended the meeting at 7.13pm for the public discussion period.

The Chairman of the Trustees of Wolfeton Riding House informed the meeting he will be opening the Riding House on the day of the Planning Committee site visit to enable officers to see the impact the development would have on the Riding House.

Nigel Kay, Chairman of the Village Hall Trustees informed the meeting that BBC Radio Solent were carrying out an interview at 7am at the Village Hall regarding the proposed development. It was agreed that MS should be in attendance to represent the Parish Council and residents.

Brian Sennett asked the PC if a formal traffic survey has been done at the top of East Hill where the new development would join the road. MS will ask Ian Madgwick (Highways) what data has been collected.

Anna Hall from Cowden Farm spoke about an incident that occurred on Sunday involving two of her horses and a speeding car on the A352 between Cowden and the residential area. She asked the Parish Council to consider supporting a reduction in speed limit along this stretch of road.

There was a very lengthy discussion about the issues affecting this stretch of road and attempts in the past to lower the speed limit / traffic calming proposals on North Street. MS explained that reducing speed limits is a very long and costly exercise as the PC has found out on the C12 and West Hill/East Hill. The PC has been working very hard to move the cycleway forward between Charlton Down and

Charminster which would enable walkers, cyclists and horse-riders to get from Charlton Down to Mill Lane and from there safely access other cycle routes or bridleways. MS explained the scheme has been a slow process due to Rights of Way changes and gaining permission from landowners, not all of whom have wanted the change. Some members of the public expressed concern about the proposed cycleway coming out on to Herrison Road as this also has a speed limit of 60mph.

The meeting resumed at 7.50pm

SW proposed the Parish Council contact Dorset County Council and ask its advice on the reduction of the speed limit from the top of Herrison Road in Charlton Down to the 30mph section on the A352. ME seconded. Majority in favour.

**Action: Clerk to contact Highways**

MS asked that any near misses along this stretch of road be reported to the Parish Council via the Clerk.

2018/007 **District Councillors Report**

TY informed the meeting that the Local Government reorganisation is moving ahead. The new name of the Unitary authority will be Dorset County. It will have 84 elected representatives. A programme manager has been appointed and work streams have been formed to help with the integration of services.

2018/008 **County Councillors Report**

Jill Haynes had circulated a report prior to the meeting.

2018/009 **To consider recommendations from Finance & General Purposes Committee**

KB expressed is concern about the proposed Grievance Policy. It was agreed to defer a decision on this. KA proposed the Parish Council accept the revised versions of the Complaints Policy and Equal Opportunities Policy and copies of these should be published on the Parish Council website. SW seconded. Majority in favour.

KA proposed the Clerk should produce an ongoing matters arising list which will be circulated prior to each Council meeting. The list should be for internal distribution only. At Council meetings, the Clerk will provide a brief summary of items that have been concluded in order to keep the public up to date. KB seconded. Majority in favour.

KA proposed the Parish Council write to its employees and ask if they wish to opt-in or opt-out of a workplace pension scheme. KB seconded. Majority in favour.

KA proposed that as from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018, a completed timesheet must be submitted by all employees on a monthly basis prior to payment being made. Once signed by the Chair, the timesheets will be held by the RFO with the accounts. CM seconded. Majority in favour.

**Action: Clerk and RFO to submit monthly timesheets**

2018/010 **Feedback from Community Hall working party meeting**

MS informed the meeting that the working party had met last week to discuss the notes sent through from Wyatt Homes. It was agreed that the working party should meet once a month on the Tuesday before a PC meeting if there is enough business to discuss. KB proposed the Chair of the working party can invite non-PC members to these meetings if it would be useful to do so. SW seconded. Majority in favour.

2018/011 **SID Costings (Speed Indicator Device)**

CM confirmed that Charminster PC, Cerne Valley PC and Cam Vale PC now all own their own SIDs. The Herrison Road one will have a solar panel fitted as a free trial.

SD will inform the PC insurance company about the new purchase.

**Action: RFO to contact Insurance company**

2018/012 **Charminster First School Forest Schools Scheme – to appeal the PC’s decision.**

MS read out a letter from Suzanne Garner, Headteacher of St Mary’s, requesting the Parish Council reconsider its decision not to give a grant of £850 towards the cost of the school’s Forest School Scheme. She had included more detail of the aims of the Forest School scheme. Member still had

concerns that the cost would be an annual one and the PC already contributes £500 towards the Life Education Van. TY proposed the Parish Council turn down the request. IY seconded. Majority in favour.

**Action: Clerk to contact Suzanne Garner**

2018/013 **To consider the Brought Forward list**

Already discussed.

2018/014 **C12 location signs and to consider complaint regarding speed and hidden dips between Charminster and Herrison Road entrance.**

MS explained that the PC has asked Highways for “hidden dips” signs in the past but Highways did not feel the dips were hidden. MS suggested the road may be safer with double white lines to restrict overtaking. TY proposed the PC request Highways install double white lines in the centre of the road to prevent overtaking. SW seconded. Majority in favour.

**Action: Clerk to contact Highways**

2018/015 **Neighbourhood Plan**

There was a lengthy discussion about the pros and cons of carrying out a neighbourhood plan bearing in mind the situation with the revision of the Local Plan.

TY proposed the Parish Council ask the WDDC Planning Officer to attend a Parish Council meeting to advise the Parish Council on the matter. SW seconded. Majority in favour. 2 abstentions. 1 against.

**Action: Clerk/MS to invite Planning Officer to attend PC meeting**

2018/016 **Finance**

a) Financial Statement

b) Payments to be agreed

KB proposed accepting the financial statement and payments. CM seconded. Majority in favour.

MS signed the bank statements.

2018/017 **Planning Matters**

**WD/D/17/003037 – Replacement of 6 windows and 1 internal door – Forston Clinic**

KA proposed the Parish Council raises no objection to the plans. SW seconded. Majority in favour.

**WD/D/17/003004 – Erection of a first-floor side extension and a 2 storey front extension – 3 Highfield Close**

IY proposed the Parish Council raises no objection to the plans. CM seconded. Majority in favour.

2018/018 **Charminster**

a) Update on progress relating to 20mph zone

No information has been provided on the costs of the 20mph zone. MS to chase up.

b) Skateboard feature for North Street play area

MS has met with the company who built Dorchester skatepark. He suggested members visit Sturminster Newton to view what has been installed there.

c) To review and approve quotes for cemetery works and consider new map of the area being drawn up

MS explained 2 quotes had been received. TY proposed accepting the lower quote of £315 from James Moger. RE seconded. Majority in favour.

d) To approve purchase of new goal nets for Broken Cross

CM proposed spending up to £50 on new goal nets. TY seconded. Majority in favour.

2018/019 **Charlton Down**

a) To review and approve quote for orchard pruning

Still waiting for another quote.

b) Charlton Down commemorative bench donated by the History Group

KA proposed spending up to £400 on the building of a base for the bench and contributing £181.50 towards the cost of the bench. The remainder of the money will come from the History Group. CM seconded. Majority in favour.

c) To consider complaint regarding cars parked dangerously outside the Village Shop

SW explained that the bus driver finds it difficult to manoeuvre near the shop due the parks being parked on the corner of Deverel Road. The Parish Council will contact its Highways Liaison Officer and PCSO Sarah Pilcher for their advice.

**Clerk / CM to contact Highways and PCSO**

d) North Ward vacancy

CM to put the vacancy on Facebook

**Action: CM to advertise vacancy on Facebook**

2018/020 **Matters of Information and Interest and items for next agenda**

South Ward hedges will be cut on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February.

Street lighting in Vicarage Lane – there is no funding for further street lights – any new ones would have to be funded by the Parish Council.

The South Ward tree report has been completed. There are no urgent items, but a lot of maintenance is required.

MS has completed the refurbishment of the Lower Burton footpath sign.

A meeting needs to take place regarding the refurbishment of the North Street Playground.

Item for next agenda – to consider using David Shaw partnership to apply for planning permission for the North Street footpath.

2018/021 **Date of next meeting – 6th March 2018 at Charlton Down Village Hall at 7pm**

The meeting closed at 9.15pm