

# Charminster Parish Council meeting Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2018 at Charminster Village Hall at 7.00pm

## Draft Minutes

Present: Mark Simons (Chair) (MS), Carol Matthews (CM), Gill Reese (GR), Tim Yarker (TY) , Peter White (PW), Sandie Woodrow (SW), Mandy Edwards (ME), and Keith Beeson (KB) minute clerk.

In attendance: District Councillor Fred Horsington (FH) and 2 members of the public.

2018/040 **Declarations of Interest** – to record declarations of interest in any item on the agenda.

Chair noted that he lived within sight of item 2018/018: The Yews.

2018/041 **To consider grant of dispensations**

None received.

2018/042 **To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Councillors Richard East, Susie Pearson and Iain Young, and from County Councillor Jill Haynes.

The Chair advised that he had received the resignation of Councillor Kenneth Addison who was moving shortly to Wiltshire. Councillors noted their thanks for his contribution to the work of the council.

2018/043 **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

SW proposed accepting the minutes of the 27th February 2018 as an accurate record. PW seconded. Approved with one abstention.

2018/044 **Matters arising from the above minutes**

Members noted the matters arising document previously circulated by the acting clerk.

Cycleway:

Chair advised that progress on the cycleway was being held up by landowners on the route who objected to horses using the proposed new bridleway on a private roadway for which the owners are responsible for maintenance. DCC are in on-going discussions with a view to finding a satisfactory resolution.

North Street Footpath:

Chair advised that no progress has been made in appointing anyone to prepare plans for the planning application. It was noted that this was necessary because Highways refused to prepare the plans although it will be the only significant consultee as well as the principle funder. SW suggested that her husband, a qualified highways engineer, may be willing to help.

ACTION: CLERK TO CONTACT SW

Orchards:

The Chair has pruned the Charminster Orchard and trimmed the Charlton Down Orchard where necessary to enable machinery access and to remove dead wood. Quotes will be required for pruning next winter and North Ward will need to review the tree plaques, posts and "ownerships".

ACTION: CLERK TO NOTE AS A LATER AGENDA ITEM

Other:

It was noted that the lifebelt in the nature area was subject to frequent abuse. The tennis court has been found unlocked during a councillor's inspection.

2018/031 **Public Discussion Period**

MS suspended the meeting at 7.15pm for the public discussion period.

The member of the public who had expressed concern about the removal of the footway near the horse field in Charlton Down was advised by the Vice-Chair that was all in order. It is not a footpath but a right of way where a reasonable alternative was available.

A member of the public asked if the Council would support a campaign against the Strawberry Field development. The Chair explained that the council had opposed the scheme and that many members had been active in publicity; current situation is that the scheme has been withdrawn and the Council awaits developments.

The meeting resumed at 7.25pm

2018/046 **District Councillors' Report**

FH informed the meeting that he was unclear as to the exact status of the Strawberry Field planning application and that it was possible that the applicant may continue with this or a similar application through the District Council and/or through the Inspectorate because of non-determination within the statutory time-frame

CLERK TO CLARIFY WITH PLANNING IF POSSIBLE

FH advised that work to determine the new electoral areas for the new council was ongoing.

TY advised that the District Council was involved in the formation of a Housing Trading Company with approximately £4million trading capital to provide housing in areas poorly served by housing associations. The draft business plan anticipated the building of 300-350 homes in a 5-7 year period.

2018/047 **County Councillor's Report**

None received

2018/048 **Finance**

a) Financial Statement b) Payments to be agreed

After inserting £345.51 (March Salary), £751.20 and £753.30 (both Rolls Landscape) to the payments to be agreed document, CM proposed accepting the financial statements and the payments, SW seconded. All in favour.

MS signed the bank statements.

c) Mobile Phone Costs

It was agreed to implement the Acting Clerk's advice that the £35 monthly clerk's "room allowance" be withdrawn with immediate effect and be replaced by the provision of a mobile phone on a business contract. The phone and its number, together with liabilities, would be the Parish Council's.

SW proposed that the council provide a suitable phone on a business contract within a budget of £35 per month, CM seconded. Agreed unanimously. ACTION: CLERK TO NEGOTIATE A CONTRACT

2018/049

**Planning Matters**

a) The Yews, 3 Mill Lane

CM proposed and PW seconded no objection. Carried unanimously.

b) Cerne Barn, Wolfeton

TY proposed and CM seconded no objection. Carried unanimously.

2018/050

**Charminster**

a) 20 mph zone

Whilst expressing concern over the high £10,000 quote from Highways for the cost and process of creating a 20mph zone between Charminster Cross and the C12, TM proposed and KB seconded that the parish council agree to fund the 20mph zone proposed by Dorset Highways. Carried by a majority with 5 votes for, 2 against and one abstention

**ACTION: CLERK TO ADVISE HIGHWAYS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROPOSALS**

The Chair reported that he had received a communication from Planning that the parish could submit schemes for consideration for funding as a result of the planning process: approximately £25K for Charlton Down and £5K for Charminster. Details will be circulated and proposals will be considered at the next ordinary meeting: a December 2018 deadline applies.

**ACTION: CHAIR TO CIRCULATE DETAILS AND CLERK TO NOTE AS AN AGENDA ITEM**

2018/051

**Charlton Down**

a) Vacancy

ME proposed that Ben Lucas, whose personal statement had been circulated, be appointed to fill the current vacancy for a councillor to represent Charlton Down, seconded by CM. Agreed unanimously.

Mr Lucas will be invited to the next meeting when the Acting Clerk can carry out the necessary documentation.

**ACTION: CLERK TO NOTE**

b) Edible Orchard

CM proposed a budget of up to £100 from the Open Spaces Budget for North Ward to spend on plants at its discretion, seconded by SW. Agreed unanimously.

CM welcomed any contribution of soft fruit plants.

c) Nature area and Green.

It was noted that the nature area lacked English Spring Flowers.

CM proposed budget of up to £150 from the Open Spaces Budget for North Ward to spend at its discretion on English Blue Bells and Snowdrops, seconded by SW. Agreed unanimously.

CM welcomed any contribution of primrose plants.

2018/052

**Litter Pick and Equipment**

SW proposed that up to £75 be spent on at least 10 Bag Rings to be divided between the two wards, seconded by CM. Agreed unanimously.

A litter pick was agreed for 21st April starting at CD shop and Charminster Village Hall at 10 am. It was also agreed that the date for future litter picks should be subject to more notice.

- 2018/053 **SID**  
TY proposed that £35 be allocated to the purchase of an additional battery, seconded by SW. Agreed unanimously.  
CM advised that the current Speed Watch Team needed more members, particularly from the Charminster area, particularly in view of the additional work that the planned 20mph zone will involve.
- 2018/054 **Devolution of Assets Survey**  
It was agreed that the survey was not relevant to this parish and that a response was not necessary.
- 2018/055 **Matters of information and interest, and items for the next meeting**  
None
- 2018/056 **Date of next meeting**  
1<sup>st</sup> May2018 at Charlton Down Village Hall, at 7pm

The meeting closed as 8.25.