

**Charminster Parish Council meeting Tuesday 1st November 2022
at Charminster Community Hall at 7pm**

Minutes

Present: Mark Simons (MS) (Chair), Carol Matthews (CM) (Vice-Chair), Keith Beeson (KB), Geri Brown (GB), Peter Dangerfield (PD), Richard East (RE), Susan Frazer (SF), Oliver Greenaway (OG), Julie Jackson (JJ), Louisa Swabey-Payne (LP), Alan Rolls (AR), Richard Wareham (RW), Tim Yarker (TY)

Also in attendance: Sarah Davies (Clerk) and 4 members of the public

MS welcomed everyone to the meeting at 7pm.

2022/241 **Declarations of Interest** – to record declarations of interest in any item on the agenda.
None

2022/242 **To consider grant of dispensations**
None received.

2022/243 **To receive apologies for absence**
None received

2022/244 **To approve the minutes** of the meeting held on 4th October 2022
KB proposed the minutes be approved. RE seconded. Majority in favour. MS signed and dated the minutes.

2022/245 **Matters arising from the above minutes**
No matters arising

2022/246 **Public Discussion Period**

MS suspended the formal part of the meeting at 19.04.

A resident asked about the blocked drains on Wanchard Lane (near the A37). He was advised to report any blocked drains he sees via the Dorset Council online portal and the Clerk asked him to let her know if no action is taken and she will follow it up.

MS resumed the formal part of the meeting at 19.09

2022/247 **Planning Matters**

P/HOU/2022/05849 – Willow Cottage, North Street, Charminster
Erect single side extension with a flat roof terrace. Erect two storey front extension.
Replace all existing windows with powder coated double glazed aluminium.

This application had been sent to the Parish Council for consultation after the agenda had been published. The Clerk had requested an extension of time from the planning officer but had not received a response. As comments are due before the next Parish Council meeting, members agreed to discuss the application.

TY proposed the Parish Council neither supports nor objects to the plans. RE seconded. Majority in favour.

2022/248 Finance

- a) Financial Statement
MS checked the bank statements against the financial statement.
- b) Payments to be agreed
KB proposed accepting the financial statement and all payments. RW seconded. Majority in favour.
- c) Request for donation for back page of The Pilot
The Parish Council had received an invoice for £750 for the back page of the Pilot Magazine and occasional articles inside. RE proposed paying the invoice but requesting that the Community Hall be allowed to advertise in the magazine for free (in line with the Charlton Down Village Hall and Charminster Village Hall adverts that are also free). PD seconded. Majority in favour. 1 abstention
- d) Request from DAPTC to renew membership
CM proposed the Parish Council do not re-join the DAPTC. LP seconded. Majority in favour.

2022/249 Princes Plot Management Plan

Prior to the meeting, members had received a report from Keith Beeson which outlined a possible management plan for Princes Plot. MS reminded members of residents' reactions when grass cutting had taken place in spring a few years ago and wild flowers had been cut down. KB suggested an article be included in the Pilot to explain to residents the reasons behind our actions. Members agreed that until costs had been established, nothing could be agreed in terms of the management plan. However, it was agreed that a winter cut was required as an interim measure. TY proposed spending up to £500 on a winter cut and then the Clerk will establish some costs for the proposed management plan. CM seconded. Majority in favour.

2022/250 Charminster Farm Allotments

Charminster Farm Allotments Association (CFAA) had asked for clarification on several points. Members discussed the points. KB proposed the following and RW seconded. Majority in favour.

- Fencing and gates will be the responsibility of the Parish Council. Sheds will be maintained by plot holders. The water bill will be in the Parish Council's name but paid for by CFAA.
- Grass cutting in the raised bed area will be carried out by the PC. Pathways between plots will be the responsibility of CFAA
- Allotment rental fees will be set by CFAA in conjunction with the PC. Further discussions will be required as to the amount given to the PC.
- Enquiries about the allotments will be to the Clerk and be passed on to CFAA
- CFAA will be able to hire the hall free of charge twice a year for meetings. The same offer will be made to Charlton Down Allotments Society.
- The Clerk is trying to establish if BS3882 (top soil) has been specified in the S106 Agreement.
- The Constitution and Rules of Tenancy Agreement will not be legal documents.

2022/251 Community Hall – outside light

CM proposed spending up to £400 on two outside lights for the community hall that will be operated by push buttons (inside and out). JJ seconded. Majority in favour.

2022/252 Proposal for Youth Club

TY proposed LP invites Kate Parkman (Dorchester Youth and Community Centre) to a Parish Council meeting so she can explain her vision for a youth outreach programme in Charminster. CM seconded. Majority in favour.

2022/253 Changes to proposal for Children's book club

LP explained that there will now be two separate junior book clubs running. One will be under the umbrella of the Charminster Book Club (Book Club Juniors) and be for Under 8's. One session has already taken place and was a great success. The other group will be for Over 9's. The Clerk has asked the person organising this group to submit a proposal so the PC can consider a donation. As yet the Clerk has not received this.

JJ proposed the PC donate £200 to the Under 8's group to pay for hall hire. TY seconded. Majority in favour.

2022/254 Maple Drive hedge

CM proposed the PC accept the quote of £1500 to cut the Maple Drive hedge to approx. 7ft. GB seconded. Majority in favour.

2022/255 Litter Bin for Charminster Farm

The Parish Council had been asked by Blenheims Estate and Asset Management to consider purchasing and installing a litter bin (that accepts dog waste) in Charminster Farm (near the footpath leading to Wanchard Lane). CM proposed the PC spend up to £250 on the purchase and installation and then £5.25 per empty (fortnightly). LP seconded. Majority in favour.

2022/256 Traffic Consultation

Members of the Traffic Consultation working party had met with New MasterPlanning again to walk around the villages. As part of the consultation with residents, New MasterPlanning suggested buying a licence for CommonPlace (a community engagement platform) at a cost of approx. £3,000. CM proposed the PC do not purchase the licence. OG seconded. Majority in favour.

2022/257 Removal of roundabout

CM proposed the PC accept the quote of £250 to dismantle and remove the roundabout. TY seconded. Majority in favour.

2022/258 Broken Cross Screening

CM proposed accepting the quote of £100 to cut back the vegetation along the C12 fence line to enable members to attach the netting to the fence.

2022/259 Meeting locations

The Clerk explained she had received some complaints that the PC are paying to hire Charlton Down Village Hall now that the PC own the Community Hall. Historically the PC had always alternated its meetings to allow residents from both villages to attend easily and these meetings took place in Charlton Down Village Hall and Charminster Village Hall. CM asked the Clerk to ask Charlton Down Village Hall trustees if they will

consider letting us use Toad Hall for free, with the suggestion that every third meeting could be held at Charlton Down.

2022/260 Community Assistance during Winter 2023

The Clerk reported that a meeting had taken place between the Parish Council, St Mary's Church and Charminster Village Hall. The Village Hall committee are keen to provide a coffee lounge + soup lunches. St Mary's are moving their T@SM & 4UP afternoon sessions to the Community Hall for winter. The Clerk explained that there are grants available but both the Clerk and Village Hall Chairman felt that it would be more appropriate to spend some of the money the halls were given during the pandemic. TY proposed donating up to £600 to the T@SM and 4Up group to pay for hall hire and the Clerk and Assistant Clerk will organise the winter coat swap. LP seconded. Majority in favour.

2022/261 Community Flag Pole

KB proposed spending up to £300 on the community flag pole and flag. CM seconded. Majority in favour.

2022/262 Matters of information and items for the next agenda

LP requested that planters for outside the phone box be put on the December agenda.

2022/263 Date of the next meeting

6th December at Charlton Down Village Hall (dependent on Covid cases as meeting room is very small)

There being no further business MS closed the meeting at 20.48