

**Charminster Parish Council meeting Tuesday 7th February 2023
at Charminster Community Hall at 7pm**

Minutes

Present: Mark Simons (MS (Chair), Carol Matthews (CM) (Vice-Chair), Keith Beeson (KB), 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), Dorset Councillor David Taylor and 13 members of the public.

MS welcomed everyone to the meeting at 7.02pm

2023/001 **Declarations of Interest** – to record declarations of interest in any item on the agenda.
None

2023/002 **To consider grant of dispensations**
None received.

2023/003 **To receive apologies for absence**
Apologies had been received from Geri Brown

2023/004 **To approve the minutes** of the meeting held on 6th December 2022
KB proposed the minutes be approved. RW seconded. Majority in favour. MS signed and dated the minutes.

2023/005 **Matters arising from the above minutes**
The Clerk confirmed the raised pavement had been repaired by Dorset Council.

2023/006 **Public Discussion Period**

MS suspended the formal part of the meeting at 7.04pm

Cllr Taylor spoke about an issue affecting a resident of West Hill where trees in the neighbouring garden have been assessed as being diseased and/or dying and posing a potential threat to neighbouring properties. Cllr Taylor requested the Parish Council write to the owners of the trees to request they carry out remedial works. MS resumed the formal part of the meeting to enable members to discuss the request. CM proposed the clerk write to the tree owners. RE seconded. Majority in favour.

MS suspended the formal part of the meeting again at 7.12pm

A resident highlighted the ongoing problem of litter in Wanchard Lane and Drakes Lane. The litter includes empty alcohol bottles. PCSO Sarah Pilcher is aware.

The issue of flooding at the bottom of Church Lane was discussed. MS explained that the Environment Agency had requested the Diocese allow a larger soakaway to be built prior to the new path being installed but the Diocese had refused permission. It was agreed the Clerk will contact the Diocese again and ask them to reconsider their decision and allow a suitable sized soakaway.

The Charminster Fete will be held on Saturday 3rd June and the Pre-School/School fun day will be held on 9th July.

A resident of Charminster Farm spoke about the yellow grit bins that have been installed in Charminster Farm by the management company (Blenheim). It was agreed the Clerk will contact Wyatt Homes and Blenheim to ask them if the bins are permanent and if their positioning and colour have been agreed with Dorset Council.

The problems of sewage along North Street was discussed at length. It was agreed the Clerk will contact Wessex Water again and ask for clarification on the issues and how they will be resolved.

MS resumed the formal part of the meeting at 7.37pm

2023/007 Planning Matters

P/HOU/2023/00030 – 17 Mulberry Gardens

Erect single storey rear extension

RW confirmed he had spoken to neighbours and none had any objections. RW proposed the Parish Council raise no objection to the application. CM seconded. Majority in favour.

P/HOU/2022/07829 – Leapgate Cottage, Old Sherborne Road

Erect barn for indoor swimming pool and conversion of workshop for to home office, home gym and changing room.

TY proposed the Parish Council makes no comment on the application. PD seconded. Majority in favour. 1 against

2023/008 Finance

a) Financial Statement

MS checked the bank statements against the financial statement.

b) Payments to be agreed

MS requested he be reimbursed for the expenditure he incurred fixing the CD swing, Princes Plot information panel and benches totalling £92.20. KB proposed accepting the financial statement and all payments including the additional payment. CM seconded. Majority in favour.

c) Reserves

Deferred to March meeting.

2023/009 Charlton Down Nature Area and Orchard

a) Discuss quotes for repair and refurbishment of pond

This item was discussed at length. Concerns were raised about the type of liner being proposed. It was agreed that CM and RW would obtain additional quotes with some including a concrete or clay lining.

b) Nature Reserve Sign

A Charlton Down resident has kindly offered to repair the sign. RE proposed spending up to £50 on the repairs. RW seconded. Majority in favour.

c) Repair or replacement of picnic table

RW proposed the vandalised table be removed and offered to remove it. RE seconded. Majority in favour.

- d) Pruning of trees in Orchard
Item deferred to another meeting
- e) Replacement stakes and plaques for trees in the orchard
Item deferred to another meeting

2023/010 Millers Orchard

- a) Request for bench in Millers Orchard
- b) Apple Pressing Day

PD and LP agreed to write a proposal for Millers Orchard that would include the pruning of the trees, seating and signage.

2023/011 Princes Plot – Maintenance Contract

TY proposed accepting the proposed quote for the annual work for Princes Plot totalling £1300. The contractor will invoice after each cut.

PD seconded. Majority in favour.

2023/012 Grit Bins

TY proposed purchasing a large grit bin for Soder Lane (£260 + VAT) and repositioning it to the other side of the road to make access easier. The Clerk will speak to Highways about installing a smaller grit bin (£222 + VAT) at the junction of the C12 and East Hill. There will be additional costs for the concrete bases required.

2023/013 Coronation Events

OG proposed spending £60 on prizes for the Decorate your House competition and up to £150 on a plaque to go in front of the flagpole that will commemorate the Coronation. RW seconded. Majority in favour.

2023/014 30mph Speedwatch Team

CM informed the meeting that the 30mph team have been carrying out speedwatch for 10 years and will be stepping down in July, in part due to a lack of new volunteers. TY proposed a vote of thanks to the team for all they have done. A request for new volunteers will be put in the Pilot.

2023/015 Charminster Tree Survey

CM proposed spending up to £2000 on a tree survey. JJ seconded. Majority in favour.

2023/016 March Litter Pick

The litter pick will take place on Sunday 12th March at 10am. LP offered to organise refreshments again and will ask pre-school if they would like to organise a table-top sale. Will be advertised in the March Pilot. **Post meeting update – the litter pick date has changed to 19th March.**

2023/017 Wessex Water – Sewage issues

Discussed earlier in meeting

2023/018 Matters of information and items for the next agenda

RE requested that Charminster allotments be added to the next agenda.

LP proposed spending up to £300 paying a contractor to install the goalposts in the north street play area. OG seconded. Majority in favour.

2023/019 Date of the next meeting

7th March 2023

There being no further business MS closed the meeting at 8.20pm