

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Tuesday 3rd September 2024, 7pm at Charminster Community Hall**

Present:

South Ward:

Mark Simons (MS) Chair
Alan Rolls (AR)
Keith Beeson (KB)
Tim Yarker (TY)
Julie Jackson (JJ)
Oliver Greenaway (OG)
Peter Dangerfield (PD)

North Ward:

Carol Matthews (CM)
Andrew Harris (AH)
Peter Mauger (PM)
Tony Murrell (TM)

In attendance: Michele Harding (Clerk) and 8 members of the public.

24/09-1. Welcome and Chairman's

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, noting a long agenda after two months.

24/09-2. To receive and accept apologies of absence. Sue Frazer, and Cllr David Taylor.

24/09-3. To receive declarations of Interest or consider grants of dispensation. None

24/09-4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd July 2024

Proposed KB Seconded by JJ -Agreed by a majority with abstentions from those not in attendance in July.

24/09-5. Matters arising from the above minutes (for information only). None.

24/09-6. Public Discussion Period- the meeting was suspended for this section.

Resident Concerns:

Parking Issues: A resident from York Close raised concerns about worsening parking problems in the village. The Parish Council explained their limited powers but will contact the PCSO, to explore possible actions and remind residents about considerate parking.

Salt Bins: A resident from Charminster Farm thanked the Parish Council for clarifying the salt bin issue. It remains ongoing, with a risk assessor from the management company to review it.

Commemoration of the Late Queen: A resident suggested planting a tree instead of installing a stone as a memorial to the late Queen.

Considerate Parking Reminder: It was suggested to include a reminder about considerate parking in the October edition of The Pilot.

24/09-7. Finance and General Purposes

i. To confirm the quote to trim and tidy the Charminster Farm Allotments.

A quote had been gathered to do a one off trim of the 6 vacant allotments of £650 plus vat. Also to add the area around the raised beds to a cutting contract until March 25 when all new contracts are to be considered, at a cost of £124 per month plus vat. This would include spraying of the paths. There were concerns raised with spraying which will be considered. Also, that there will only need to be a few cuts until March given the growing season. Cllrs agreed to the one-off cut

Proposed TY Seconded CM all agreed

To cut and collect as and when requested and discuss the spraying options for the paths with the contractor.

Proposed CM Seconded TY motion carried with 1 objection

ii. To consider the quotes to repair/replace the Viking swing at CD.

It was explained that the Viking Swing and bars need to be replaced, and this cannot be delayed much longer. Two quotes have been gathered for this work. Additionally, the Parish Council is considering replacing the equipment and compared the quotes received for both replacement and repair.

The cost of replacing the unit is approx. £12,000. The quote to repair the item is for £6946.81 plus vat, it was agreed to repair the unit and not replace.

Proposed TM Seconded CM 7 For 3 Abstentions motion carried.

iii. To consider the quotes for the path repairs at Charlton Down

TM explained that quotes have been gathered to repair the path from the hall to the cricket ground path with tarmac to make it safer. The quote for £5780 plus vat was agreed. Proposed TM Seconded CM All agreed.

iv. To consider the quote to treat and repaint the Tennis Court

Three quotes were received to clean, treat and paint the tennis courts.

Cllrs accepted the quote for £4158 plus resin binder at £1836 plus vat. This will likely be carried out on the spring. The PC will look to apply for S106 funds to assist with this cost or it will be taken from reserves. Proposed KB seconded JJ All agreed.

v. To consider quotes to repair the goal mouths and goal posts.

Goal Posts- TM reported on the repairs; to treat and paint the goal posts also to ensure they are firmly in place. A quote of £265 was agreed.

Goal Mouths- TM also reported on the spec and quotes received to rotovate and sow the mouths with a rye grass mix. The area will be cordoned off with Heras fencing to protect the area.

The cost of this is £480 plus vat. The PC then suggested that new nets would be needed so a total cost of up to £1100 was agreed to repair this set of goal posts and mouths.

Proposed TM Seconded CM All agreed.

It was suggested that the PC looks at the goal posts in Broken Cross for repairs and maintenance, TM to action.

- a. **Shelter Floor-**An additional quote to consider repairs to the floor after the safety inspection of the shelter at Broken Cross, a quote with 3 options had been received to install either a wooden decked floor, composite decked floor or concrete floor.

The PC supported the concrete floor at a cost of £1580 plus vat.

Proposed CM Seconded TM All agreed

vi. To consider the notes and recommendations from the F & GP meeting in July

Terms of Reference for the F & GP Group: The terms were agreed with an amendment to the procedure for calling meetings. Proposed by KB, seconded by JJ; all agreed.

Policy Adoption: The list of policies prepared by the Clerk was reviewed, with some policies on communication, emergency planning, and public meeting procedures still to be drafted. The Parish Council agreed to adopt all current policies as a block and update them as needed throughout the year. Proposed by CM, seconded by TM; all agreed.

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Staff Costs for the Hall: It was agreed that staff costs for the hall would be covered from the Hall bank account, with all costs to date transferred from the PC account. This arrangement will be revisited at the year-end. Proposed by TY, seconded by JJ; all agreed.

Community Hall Working Group: The group will include the Chair, Vice-Chair, Clerk, and Assistant Clerk to support the day-to-day running of the hall, with major expenditures referred back to the Parish Council for approval. The Terms of Reference for the Community Hall and Staffing Committee were also agreed. Proposed by AH, seconded by CM; all agreed.

vii. To receive the finance reports and carry out bank reconciliation checks

TM carried out the checks, JB commented on the summary reports and noted that the PC finances are in good order.

viii. To approve all payments due and those paid since the last meeting

A list of payments was circulated. Proposed PD, seconded by AH. Approved

24/09-8. Council Property

i. To consider the request for a memorial bench at the Cemetery

The family of a previous memorial bench expressed their desire to install a new bench to replace the broken one and transfer the memorial plaque onto it. The Parish Council promotes the use of recycled benches on Council property, so MS suggested a 50:50 cost-sharing arrangement with the family due to the higher cost of recycled benches. The family agreed to this proposal.

Proposed by CM, seconded by TY; agreed by a majority, with one abstention. The family thanked the Parish Council for their support.

ii. To consider water bowzers for CD

TM reported that, due to the number of flower troughs and trees needing watering in the village, the Parish Council should consider purchasing a water bowser. This suggestion was well received, and TM will gather further information and report back in October.

iii. To consider the next stage of the Jubilee project

TM and CM reported that they have identified a suitable stone. A further meeting will be held to discuss the stones with the contractor and the Duchy have been contacted out of courtesy as this is in memory of the late Queen. This matter will be deferred to the October meeting.

iv. Report from the Allotments Sites

Charlton Down Allotments: Although a compost bin was initially requested, the allotment committee has since decided it is no longer needed. There are repairs needed for the hedges due to holes and damage from thefts last year. Additionally, rubbish at the top part of the allotments needs to be removed.

Charminster Farm Allotments: Due to staff holidays and personnel changes at Wyatts, a meeting is expected within the next 4 weeks to decide on outstanding actions. Following this, a meeting will be held with the allotment committee, represented by TM and the Clerk, to discuss the next steps.

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- v. **To ratify that the cost of the play equipment at Cedar Road was a donation in 2010 and removed from the asset register as it is not maintained by the PC**

The play equipment at Cedar Road, originally purchased by the Parish Council in 2010, this is currently listed on the Parish Council's asset register but is now managed by Meet Fleet. The equipment will be removed from the asset register and recorded as a donation or grant.

Proposed KB

Seconded TM

All agreed.

24/09-9. Planning Matters - to consider any planning applications in circulation.

i- **P/TRT/2024/04171** Proposal: Weeping Willow (T1) - Re-pollard to previous pollard points, Norway Maple (T2) - Re-pollard to previous pollard points, Cherry (T3) - Fell Location: 2A Mill Lane- *now approved*

ii- **P/PAEW/2024/04182** Proposal: Excavate ground to create a support for a slurry bag. Location: Lower Burton Farm, Lower Burton Road from Junction Cokers Frome Road to Junction New Road B3147- *this was noted as prior approval required*

iii- **P/PAEW2/2024/04464** Proposal: Excavate ground to create a support for a slurry bag. Location: Lower Burton Farm, Lower Burton Road from Junction Cokers Frome Road to Junction New Road B3147- *No comments- agreed with 1 abstention*

iv- **P/VOC/2024/03162** - 2A Mill Lane Charminster DT2 9QP- *planning committee on 3rd September.*

v- **WD/D/20/003259** - LAND NORTH OF WANCHARD LANE- *planning committee on 3rd September.*

24/09-10. Matters of correspondence for information or interest

Broken Cross: AR reported that all bindweed has been removed from the new hedge and the roadside of the play area. Dorset Council has cleared the road verge. However, strimming and nettle clearance in the play area, included in the contract, still needs attention. There has also been a request for a cycle area in the play area.

Tree Management at Broken Cross: It was noted that two of the five trees need to be removed to allow more light for the remaining trees. A site meeting will be arranged with South Ward Councillors to assess the necessary work.

Mill Lane Field: PD reported that the field above Mill Lane has been cultivated with ryegrass and will be grazed by sheep.

Community Orchards: PD highlighted the abundance of apples in the community orchards. CM mentioned that due to health and safety concerns, the usual apple pressing days have not been organised for a few years. The Parish Council will discuss the possibility of purchasing an apple scrapper. PD will write an article for The Pilot encouraging the community to pick the apples.

24/09-11. To confirm items for the next Parish Council meeting on 1st October 2024 at Charlton Down hall. TBA

There being no further business MS closed the meeting at 20.27.