

Charlton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting 12th September 2024 at 7.30pm

Clerk to the Council, Wendy Cope 22, Heathfield Road, Norton Evesham

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Present: Chairman Richard Bentley Vice-Chairman Cllr Darren Salmons, Cllr Roger Davies Cllr Helen Hill, Cllr Ted Grazier District Councillor Angie Crump, Parish Clerk Wendy Cope.

- 1) Apologies Cllr Richard Wallis, Cllr Wendy Sharpe, Cllr Elizabeth Eyre
- 2) Not present
- 3) Declaration of interest, None
- 4) Public Session No members of the general public attended. However an email had been received by Cllr Davies by a concerned Parishioner regarding the build-up silt under and on either side of Canada Bank Bridge. Cllr Grazier had cleared this before using an industrial pressure washer, Cllr Davies said he would raise this issue with Cllr Eyre, and Cllr's Davies and Bentley would also speak to the landowners concerned. It was noted that Villagers were clearing the brook under their own volition.
- 5) Review of minutes of previous meeting
The minutes of The Parish Council Meeting held 11th of July 2024 were proposed by Cllr Davies and seconded by Cllr Hill.
- 6) County Councillor's Report Cllr Eyre report attached. Cllr Davies raised the issue of the bad smells on Canada Bank and said he would speak to Cllr Eyre again regarding this issue.
- 7) District Councillors Cllr Crump reported that Cllr Davies, Cllr Hill and herself had attended a committee meeting for planning regarding to Upper Haselor Farm, the two planning applications involved were the B8 which had refused at the end of August 2024 with enforcement now being involved, and an application for the storage of catering vehicles etc which was deferred. Cllr Crump was again asking about the Active Travel initiative, however Cllrs Davies and Bentley reported that the last time this was discussed there were only 3-4 people in The Village who said they needed it. Cllr Crump reported that there were two new District Councillors at Wychavon after bi-elections, Badsey and Aldington was now Conservative and Norton and Harvington was Independent.
- 8) Report on The South Worcestershire Development Plan. Cllr Davies reported SWDP and WCC were providing more information and housing targets had doubled.
- 9) Report on The WCC Minerals Plan. Cllr Davies reported there was no change on The Minerals Plan.
- 10) Report from Parish Path Warden, Cropthorne and Charlton Village Hall and Workman Trust/Old School Room. There wasn't a report from The Parish Path Warden. It was noted that Charlton does not have a representative on The Cropthorne and Charlton Village Hall, Cllr Bentley said he would speak to The Secretary about this. The Clerk reported that she had received an email from The Workman Trust asking if Cllr Sharpe would still be their representative, The Clerk would ask Cllr Sharpe and Cllr Salmons said he volunteered to do so if she declined. Cllr Davies asked The Clerk to contact The Trust regarding the re-siting of the infra-red heater, as it was considered a health and safety issue where it was at the moment

- 11) Report of Planning Committee Cllr Davies reported that he had attended a meeting concerning the planning application for Merryfields W/23/01269/FUL, he reported that this had been deferred whilst The Hampton District Councillors work with the planners on a better design.
- 12) Finance It was agreed that The Finance Committee would meet soon to discuss interest rates on the bank accounts held by The Parish Council. The Clerk presented the payments to the Council and these were proposed by Cllr Salmons and seconded by Cllr Davies.
- 13) To receive details of Parish Councillor emails The Clerk said that after her holiday she would take over the website as it stands now, she would also speak to Cllr Sharpe to define if any of the other bodies within The Parish wanted to either share or separate the current website. Then a decision could be made to move forward, at the same time moving forward with Cllr Wallis to set up the .gov.uk emails for Parish Councillors, in line with government guidelines.
- 14) Report on Bio Diversity The Clerk reported that the clean up operation on The Merrybrook was imminent and that work had started to clear and sow wild flowers on the land opposite The Cemetery.
- 15) Report on Internet Banking The Clerk said that she would ring Lloyds bank when she returned from holiday as there didn't seem to be any progress on Cllr Salmons and Cllr Wallis being added as authorities on the account.
- 16) Report on Cemetery Matters The Clerk reported that she had received a request from E. Hill, from a local family to erect a small plaque in memory of a loved one, even though the ashes had already been scattered. The Council decided to send through a list of prices for services provided by The Cemetery. The Clerk asked The Council what they would like to do concerning the treatment of the trees in The Cemetery. It was decided that they would go with the quote from P. Denning, this was proposed by Cllr Davies and seconded by Cllr Hill. The Clerk asked The Council what they would like to do concerning the quote from Memory Lane concerning the graves in The Cemetery, it was decided to try and trace the families of the graves that needed attention to ask them to pay for the service before pressing ahead, The Clerk was asked to send the quote to Cllr Hill and Cllr Bentley, to see if they could trace the families.
- 17) Report on Highways and Footpaths The Clerk was asked to contact Highways to ask them to finish the work on the Road and footpath on Ryden Lane and The Strand. Whilst also reminding them to cut back the rest of the hedge down Canada Bank and also the gully at the bottom which has roots growing in it.
- 18) To consider an application for public footpath status for paths not on the definitive map Cllr Davies reported that Cllr Bentley was working on enlarging a map.
- 19) Report on Flooding Issues Cllr Davies reported Cllr Grazier could hire an industrial machine to clear parts of The Merrybrook to alleviate the threat of flooding. It was noted that The Environment Agency would deal with the stretch from The Cemetery Bridge to The River Avon. Cllr Grazier reported that Worcestershire County Council for the leaky dams, and that Cllr Grazier would be on hand to give a guided tour for them.
- 20) Land opposite The Cemetery Cllr Davies reported that it was time to make a request to HMLR for formal ownership, probably a possessory title, this land again. This will be dealt with at The November Meeting.
- 21) Planting of Bulbs on The Dovecote The Clerk reported that she had received a request from A parishioner to plant spring bulbs on The Dovecote. The Council agreed that it was a lovely idea and

agreed to donate £50 towards the cost, this was proposed by Cllr Salmons and seconded by Cllr Davies. The Clerk asked that a diagram be supplied demonstrating where the bulbs would be so that she could inform Smart Cut not to mow them down.

21) Reports for information Cllr Crump reported that the pollution on The River Avon is still being monitored. There had been a broken sewer pipe in Crothorne with diagnostic tests showing ecoli, thankfully this had been dealt with very quickly.

22) Items for information Cllrs Bentley and Salmons wish to complete the training course for The Chairman at CALC, The Clerk will organise. The Noticeboards need attention The Clerk will organise.

23) Correspondence None

24) Items for inclusion/information in the next Agenda None

25) Date of the next Parish Council Meeting Thursday 14th of November 2024

Meeting adjourned 9.30pm

Signed/date

