

Charlton Parish Council

Minutes of The Annual Parish Meeting 29th May 2025 at 7.30pm

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Present: Chairman Cllr Richard Bentley, Vice Chairman Cllr Darren Salmons,
Cllr Helen Hill, Cllr Richard Wallis, Cllr Roger Davies, Cllr Wendy Sharpe District Councillor Angie Crump, Clerk Wendy Cope

- 1) Apologies Police
- 2) Not present Cllr Ted Grazier.
- 3) The Chairman Cllr Bentley welcomed everyone to the meeting including two members of the public.
- 4) Cllr Salmons raised the problems with The Merrybrook being silted up, around The Canada Bank Road Bridge. It was noted that this could be tackled by a group of volunteers of which The Clerk holds a list, after the fish spawning season, which ends after the middle of June. A member of The public voiced a concern over the erosion taking place in The Merrybrook. Cllr Davies reported that The Merrybrook through The Village was the responsibility of The Environment Agency, and Cllr Bentley suggested that some measurements could be taken over a period of time, so that a record could be made to supply to The Environment Agency as proof of erosion. Cllr Davies reported that the flood gauge was coming up for renewal with a 30% increase in cost, he said he had questioned this. Cllr Crump advised that an application could be made to Wychavon's Community Prosperity Fund. Cllr Bentley also said he would check with Cllr Grazier that the leaky Dams were being maintained.
- 5) Cllr Davies raised the issue of the new houses being built in Hampton with Cllr Crump, asking her to check that all the planning criteria had been met. He was also concerned about a large cabin that had been left on the verge in Hampton. Cllr Crump said she would speak to The Councillors concerned in Hampton and get back to him.
- 6) Cllr Salmons raised the issue of The Unitary Council Formation. Cllr Crump was able to inform everyone about the two options that Wychavon were proposing:
 - 1) The whole of Worcestershire, which would include both rural and urban areas.
 - 2) North and South Worcestershire dividing many rural areas from urban area.Cllr Crump reported that on Monday 2nd of June 2025 that a public consultation would be launched and she urged everyone to get involved with this as quickly as possible, as there would only be a short period to do so. This would then be put to Government in November, and a decision would be made early next year.
- 7) A member of the public asked The Council when the road repairs in The Village were going to be completed? Cllr Davies was able to answer as he had received an email from Highways recently setting out the schedule for the repairs.
- 8) Mr Hall asked The Council about The Workman Trust, taking over the old website and domain name. It was agreed that The Clerk would look up all the relevant documentation and organise a meeting with herself, Cllr Sharpe, Mr. Hall and Cllr Wallis.

