Charlton Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting 13th March 2025 at 7.30pm
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Present: Chairman Richard Bentley, Cllr Roger Davies, Cllr Helen Hill, Cllr Darren Salmons, Cllr Richard Wallis, County Cllr Elizabeth Eyres, Parish Clerk Wendy Cope.

1) Apologies Cllr Ted Grazier, Cllr Angie Crump
2) Not present Cllr Wendy Sharpe
3) Declaration of interest, None
4) Public Session No members of The Public attended.
5) Review of minutes of previous meeting

The Minutes of The Parish Council Meeting held 9th of January 2025 were proposed by Cllr Davies and seconded by Cllr. Salmons

6) County Councillor's Report Cllr Eyre attended to say a goodbye, as she is stepping down as County Councillor after 25years service. The Clerk had attended a CALC Meeting which was aimed at giving everyone information concerning The New Unitary Council; however, Cllr Eyre had a much more informed version. The new Council is to be A Unitary Council which will replace the existing District and County Councils. Parts of Worcestershire had initially wanted A north and South divide, but this is probably not going to happen, and it will likely be one Unitary Authority for the whole of Worcestershire. After the forming of A Unitary Council in 2028. A strategic Council will then be appointed at some stage to cover 1.5 million people and will be headed up by A Mayor. This will cover Worcestershire plus other Counties yet to be decided. Cllr Eyre said that there is a lot more information to be publicised in the future. Cllr Eyre reported that Highways were going to install an addition to the existing French drain in The Bight to alleviate some of the water runoff, The Clerk was also instructed to order A Grit Bin for that area. Cllr Eyre reported that she had not got any further with dealing with the owner of The Evesham Vale Caravan Park regarding the terrible smells. Cllr Salmons said he would contact Regulatory Services at WCC, and Cllr Bentley said he would contact The Owner. Cllr Davies expressed concerns over The Mineral Plan Development Plan Document which has been delayed Cllr Eyre explained that this was part of The overall Minerals Plan and should run alongside of it. It was agreed that Cllr Davies would liaise with The Chairmen of Fladbury PC and Cropthorne PC and write to Emily Barker at WCC. The Whole Council expressed their gratitude to Cllr Eyre for all the help and support she had given them over the years.

7) District Councillors Cllr Crump did not attend.

8) Report on The South Worcestershire Development Plan. The SWDPR is now currently with the inspector and subject to his Public Examination. It is hoped his report will be available later this year.

9) Report on The WCC Minerals Plan. This was covered in Cllr Eyre's report.

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, Cllr Bentley said he had spoken to him briefly and would do so again. Cropthorne Village Hall had emailed the minutes of their meeting, and The Clerk had circulated them. There wasn't any report from The Workman Trust as Cllr Sharpe did not attend, but The Clerk had received an email from Dr. Diane Dine with questions regarding The Village website. Cllr Davies said he would discuss with her.

11) Report of Planning Committee App/H1840/W/24/3354735 Upper Haselor is ongoing, W/23/01294/FUL the enforcement of the mobile home cannot take place whilst there is a live

planning application and W/24/02444/GPDQ was refused because the building is not an agricultural building and was not last used solely for agricultural purposes. With regards to the enforcement at 1, Top Street W/24/00012/HP regarding The Traffic Management The Council will recommend with the |WDC that sections that sections B,E,F,and G of part 5 had not been covered and that when deliveries to the site were made, then two Banksmen must attend one at the front and one at the back of the vehicle to ensure safety.

12) Finance The Clerk told The Council that Wychavon District Council were giving every Parish Council a donation of £250 to be used for celebrations for VE Day in May they were also forgoing fees for road closures too. Cllr Salmons said he would speak to Julian Hawley and The Licensees of The Gardeners Arms to see how best the money could be spent. All payments were approved.

13) To receive details of Parish Councillor emails The Council agreed that the introduction of the .gov emails and the new website must be a priority now, there were still three Cllrs who hadn't accessed the emails yet. Cllr Wallis offered his help with this if needed and it was agreed that hopefully the emails would be fully operational by the beginning of April 2025, and the website by the end of May.

14) Report on Issues affecting The Green With regards to vehicles on The Green it was agreed that a letter would be written to the residents to remind them that The Council has a duty to protect The Green, it was also agreed that some kind of edging could be placed to discourage people from driving over it. The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with Tom from Smart Cut to ask for his expert opinion. The Council asked The Clerk to instruct The Lengthsman to 1) make sure that all old notices including old planning notices are removed from lampposts and electrical pylons. 2) attend to the renovations to a bench on The Green. 3) clean the white gates at the entrance to The Village and 4) paint the railings opposite The Cemetery white. An Action Plan to clear the silt from The Merrybrook was formed. The Council will let The Clerk know a date for a weekend so that she can alert The Volunteers to clear the silt from Canada Bank Bridge to The Cemetery Bridge. With regards to the leaky dam maintenance Cllr Bentley said he would speak to Cllr. Grazier with regards to speaking to Wendy Bufton about possible funding for this.

15) To consider the replacing of Noticeboards in The Village The Clerk reported that she had found a company in Cropthorne that would be able to do an excellent job with notice boards. It was agreed that one noticeboard would be sufficient going forward, and The Clerk was instructed to obtain a quote for a replacement noticeboard in Ryden Lane and a small noticeboard to be placed in The Lychgate to display fees and terms and conditions.

16)Report on Cemetery Matters The Clerk reported that she had been contacted by a firm of stone masons about the possibility of placing kerbstone a grave in the newer part of The Cemetery. The Council decided that for ease of maintenance that there would be a policy of no kerbstones in the newer part of The Cemetery. The Clerk said she would email the current price list and terms and conditions to all Councillors. The Council also instructed The Clerk to start The Process of obtaining ownership of The Land opposite The Cemetery.

17)Report on Highways and Footpaths nothing to report

18) To consider an application for public footpath status for paths not on the definitive map. nothing to report

19)Report on Flooding Issues nothing to report

20)Reports for information The Council asked The Clerk to email Highways regarding the timeline for. a) the repairs to The Cemetery Bridge after the car crash there b) The road repairs on the road to Jubilee Bridge. Cllr Davies reported on a meeting he had attended. The survey results on services provided by WDC were overall quite good apart from planning. It was noted that housing number requirements will have to be increased. Wychavon are developing a guide for Parish Councillors, and the elections will take place in 2027.

21)Correspondence

22)Items for inclusion/information in the next Agenda

23|)Date of the next Parish Council Meeting Thursday 8th May 2025

Meeting adjourned 9.30pm

Signed/date