Charlton Parish Council

Minutes of The Parish Council Meeting 10th September 2026 7.30pm

in The Old School Room Charlton

Clerk to The Council Wendy Cope

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Present: Cllr Roger Davies, Cllr Helen Hill, Cllr Richard Wallis, Cllr Wendy Sharpe, Parish Clerk Wendy Cope and Charley Martin Lengthsman

Public Forum: Approximately 18 people attended The Meeting the majority of these were concerned about Two Planning Appeals 6014679 land at OS 0101 4544 Cananda Bank Charlton and 6014674 Land at OS 00584545 The Strand Charlton. Cllr Davies as Chair of The Planning Committee explained that The Paish Council would be objecting to both of these planning appeals once again stressing that Charlton is a **Rural Area(2) Category 4 Village Settlement** making it unsustainable for development as we are treated as being in open countryside. However as the applicants had commented that Wychavon had not met their quota for sufficient housing supply, he was going to question this with our District Councillor to establish the current position. The appellants had also attempted to cluster the three villages together i.e. Fladbury, Charlton and Cropthorne. One person challenged Roger about the need for public transport being an issue defining A Category 4 Village; however, Cllr Davies explained that this is defining the village status set out in the SWDP. A member of the public was seen to be recording the meeting, The Clerk asked him to stop because he hadn't asked for permission and because the meeting could become more heated. Another person pointed out the danger of the blind bend on The Strand development leading on to the cemetery bridge where there had been several accidents. A lady questioned how to appeal, on an appeal as she couldn't see how to do this. Cllr Davies was happy to instruct: Go to the original planning application and click on appeals, Scroll down and you will see how to upload your appeal, make sure you input the correct appeal number. The Council was asked about erecting A Christmas Tree on The Green. The Clerk was instructed to explore different ways of achieving this and reporting back. The Council was asked if there was any news on flooding and clearance of The Merrybrook between Cemetery and Jubilee Bridges. Cllr Davies explained that he had liaised with The Environment Agency about contacting The Landowners to ensure proper river clearance was being carried out. He also reported that the leaky dams needed some attention. The Council were asked if The Council could make sure The Willow Tree on The Green was checked to make sure it was ok.

1)**Apologies for absence**: Cllr Ted Grazier. Cllr Emma Kearsey, Cllr Angie Crump and Cllr Richard Bentley

2) **Declarations of Interest:** None

3) **County Councillors Report:** did not attend

4) **District Councillors Report**: did not attend

5) **Cropthorne and Charlton Village Hall:** The Parish Council agreed to donate £500 to help with the restoration of The Tree House on The Sheppey, this was proposed by Cllr Davies and seconded by Cllr Hill

6) No Update on WCC Minerals this is to be deleted from The Agenda for now.

7) It has been reported that the forming of The Unitary Council has been paused by The Government due to legalities. We are not sure how long it is paused for but it may only be temporarily.

8**) Reports from Representative:**

1) The Parish Path Warden's report had been sent to all Councillors.

2) The request for a donation had already been dealt with.

3) Nothing to report from Workman Trust/Old School Room.

9) **The Minutes of The Parish Council Meeting:** dated 9th July 2026 were duly signed.

10) **Co-option of A Parish Councillor:** The Clerk reported that there had been an applicant Andrew Cope and gave The Council his application form. The Whole Council were in favour of his co-option.

11) To receive an update on nasty smells Cllr Sharpe reported that the smell were still happening, The Clerk said she would email Cllr Kearsey about this.

12) **Finance:** The Clerk reported that: the balance of the accounts were: Community Access £33,560.29 and Instant Access £10,195.72.

13) **The Green:** Cllr Davies reported that the planters would need replenishing for The Autumn, which would go over budget, however everyone agreed that they looked really good so it was worth it. A manhole had been damaged by Smart Cut whilst carrying out works but they were repairing it.

14) **Lengthsman Training:** Cllr Davies and Cllr Wallis are confident that they can work out how to operate the VAS Machines and will show The Lengthsman how to do this.

15) **The Cemetery:** The Clerk reported that she had done a huge amount of work on The Inventory of The Cemetery and was confident that she have it all completed by Christmas. She was keen to stress the importance of checking things repeatedly.

16) **Community Owned Assetts:** The Council asked The Clerk to contact Wychavon Estates concerning the land on The Stand opposite The Cemetery to appraise them of the need for a survey at their cost to determine the health of the trees, possible removal of these particularly if any action likely to be required in the short/medium term, and the clearance of all the debris, before The Parish Council can consider taking ownership of it.

17) **The Caravan at The Old Winery**: Cllr Davies reported that comments had been sent to The Planning Inspectorate concerning this

18) **The state of the roads and footpaths:** Various issues in The Village need to be discussed with The County Councillor.

Ryden Lane tree roots on the road and footpath

The Green, Footpath tree roots and an asbestos water main

The Road between The Cemetery Bridge and Jubilee Bridge.

Water running on/off The Bight in wet conditions

Reinstatement of Dragons teeth at the top of Canada Bank

19**) Application for public footpath status of paths not on the definitive path**: no report

on this.

20) **Flooding:** Cllr Davies said there was nothing new to report on flooding.

21) Reports for information:

1) Nothing to report on pollution

2) Website and emails Cllr Wallis is continuing to post all notices.

22) **To receive CALC matters:** Cllr Wallis asked The Clerk to book him onto The Calc training course Intro to Planning.

23)**Correspondence:** Cllr Hill had received an email from A Parishioner concerning the speed limit on Yessel Lane and A Signpost that had been knocked over. Sadley the speed limit will always be an issue, but highways /WCC are always reluctant to reduce these- added to The Agenda mtg with CC and Worcestershire Highways Cllr Wallis told The Council he had already reported the signpost.

24) Items for information/inclusion on the next Agenda none

25) invoices for payment all done

26) Date of The Parish Council Meeting Thursday 12th November 2026

Meeting Concluded 9.30pm