

CHARFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 8th September 2009 commencing 7.30pm in the Sportsman's Lounge, Charfield Memorial Hall, Charfield

PRESENT

Parish Councillors: Mr M Rosher(Chairman),Mr R Hancock, Mr I Kershaw, Mr P Patterson, Mrs Y Lloyd, Mr F Carling, Mrs N Newns, Mr P Birt **Clerk:** Mrs S Bailey **Public:** 2 members of public

8511/09 Apologies for Absence noted & accepted from Mrs S O'Neill, Mr M Cheskin

8512/09 Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda none

8513/09 Approval of Minutes

It was proposed by Mr P Birt and seconded by Mr R Hancock and **resolved** that minutes of meetings held on 14th July & 18th August 2009 are signed as a correct record after minor amendments.

8514/09 Public Participation Two residents from Manor Lane close to the corner grassed area explained the history of the grassed site and were interested to know what plans for mowing & improvements were being made by the Council. It was acknowledged that the situation of mowing by South Glos Council is very poor and needs readdressing. A quote for future maintenance may be forthcoming from the resident.

8515/09 Clerks Report on MATTERS ARISING from Previous Minutes

The hexagonal shelter woodworks are now completed and need to discuss painting and thoughts on graffiti. Mr David Small has become the new Memorial Hall chairman; Tim & Angie Hill are no longer involved. Traffic calming measures in Little Bristol Lane are still being prepared and will not be available for consultation for another two months. The area of untidy shrubbery next to the Safety Testing shop is still untidy despite a letter from the Parish Council to the owner. Cllr Birt to talk to owner.

Action: Cllr Birt

8516/09 Proposed burial ground at Churchend & planning application Councillors received an update from Mr M Rosher on the recent meeting with the archaeological officer from South Glos Council on site. An archaeological survey must be obtained due to age of adjacent church & concerns of either burial or older building remains. Various quotes have been obtained recently which were discussed and a spreadsheet handed out to Councillors with details. It was proposed by Mr P Birt and seconded by Mr P Patterson and **resolved** to appoint Absolute Archaeology to carry out a desktop survey for £470 with a view to spending a further £1900 approximately on trenching & trial excavation works. Although this may appear expensive, it must be remembered that we are being given the land for free, the architect is donating his services for the community, and that the surveys are legal requirements placed on us by South Glos Council. After a decade of searching in vain for burial ground land, it would be a pity not to be able to provide the village with such a facility due to survey and short term financial constraints. The burial ground website is being updated to provide information and a record of the Parish Council's activities to date. The Clerk and chairman will visit Tortworth Estate office later this week to photograph an old title map from 1880 to assess any useful information. The Chairman asked if anyone wished to write a short article for the Gazette describing events and plans so far, but no offers received.

Action: Clerk to instruct arch .survey

Action: Chairman Gazette article?

8517/09 Feedback from streetlighting trial initiatives After three months, a few complaints have been received and the merits of these were discussed at length. A number of shift workers have asked lights to be back on at 5am rather than 5:30-6am. Also the inconsistency of some lights being off whilst others are still on needs addressing – there are still teething problems with South Glos contractors' switching equipment. These issues to be addressed this week with South Glos.

Action Clerk/Chair South Glos lighting mtg this week

8518/09 Play area working group update on toddler area design Mr I Kershaw has obtained two plans & quotes after much chasing although both still have disadvantages and need reassessing. Clerk suggested that Mr M Follet the senior play advisor from South Glos Council is keen to meet and help with plans – agreed to arrange site meeting as soon as possible. Grants have been awarded £2000 from Severn Vale Area Forum and £1000 from Oldbury Power Station – bringing total available to £27,500. Nothing from Cemex yet.... Most quotes are for £32-35,000.

Action: PAWG/Clerk Follet mtg

8519/09 ALCA meeting on Thursday 22nd October It was proposed by Mrs Y Lloyd and seconded by Mr R Hancock and **resolved** to approve the hosting of this event. It is understood that Mr Cheskin has organised refreshments.

Action: Cllr Cheskin refreshments

8520/09 Installation of PC refreshments cupboard in Sportsmans Lounge It was proposed by Mr P Birt and seconded by Mrs N Newns and **resolved** by all to install such a facility up to a value of £70, after notifying the Hall and obtaining approval.

Action: Clerk to install cupboard

8521/09 Manor Lane landscaping It was agreed to await a quote from nearby resident regarding mowing improvements & tidy up work before the site is reassessed for further planting.

8522/09 Autumn Litter Pick banner for £87 It was proposed by Mr P Birt and seconded by Mr R Hancock and **resolved** to authorise purchase of an autumn litter banner for £87. Date will be September 26th – clerk to display posters; Mr M Rosher to provide Gazette photo & few words.

Action Clerk/Chairman

8523/09 Liaisons with planning application appellants It was agreed to postpone this discussion until the attendance of Cllr Cheskin.

8524/09 Lack of interest being received on deposit funds This problem was noted and discussed; it appears to be a common problem everywhere at the moment.

8525/09 Grant request from South Glos Citizens Advice Bureau Clerk to respond that grant will be considered at the next budget meeting in December.

Action :Clerk

8526/09 Renewal of annual membership of Community Action for £30 After a discussion of what benefit is received it was proposed by Mrs N Newns and seconded by Mrs Y Lloyd and **resolved** to renew members hip for a further year whilst assessing the benefit to the Parish.

8527/09 Renewal of annual membership of Avon Wildlife Trust for £42 After much discussion regarding the service recently received during the Phase 1 Habitat Survey provided by AWT, and also the problems of being on the border for the area covered, it was decided to consider becoming members of Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust. Clerk to obtain details for next agenda.

Action: Clerk

8528/09 Expenditure of £35 on replacement office phone/answer machine It was proposed by Mrs N Newns and seconded by Mrs Y Lloyd and **resolved** to approve this expenditure.

8529/09 Return of annual Mazars external accounts audit with no queries This was noted favourably and the Clerk was thanked for her efforts.

8530/09 Clerk attendance SLCC branch meeting Filton 9/10/09-no cost, just mileage It was proposed by Mr M Rosher and seconded by Mr P Patterson and **resolved** to approve Clerk attendance.

8531/09 Correspondence – noted and put in circulation file where necessary

Response from South Glos to planning projector request

Response from South Glos Youth Service Bus provision re: funding

Leaflets for Community Info event Sat 12th Sept 10-12 Olveston Parish Hall-handed out

Complaint from resident regarding proposed traffic calming in Little Bristol Lane

8532/09 Items for Circulation. The following items circulated to Members including:

Periodicals (Fieldwork, Clerk Councils Direct etc)

Newsletters eg ALCA, Rural Parish Matters, Deaf Assoc, Senior Citizens Forum

Sustainable Thornbury talk dates

Cllr Cheskin report from recent ALCA meeting

Notices of meetings & decisions from South Glos Council

8533/09 Planning Applications

The Parish Council trialled the use of a laptop and projector and screen to view planning applications and this was generally seen as a success and could possibly be used in future subject to funding. However we were not able to view all of the following applications due to problems with South Glos Council's software when downloading files.

PT/09/5079/CLE Cosy Farm Swinhay Lane – application for Certificate of Lawfulness for the existing use of the buildings as residential attached to the main dwelling house. After due consideration it was **resolved** to object to this application on the grounds of the development being outside the village boundary. Furthermore, the use of this farm is slowly moving away from its original intention of rural/agricultural dwelling and many applications have been made over the past 10 years often to rectify illegal use here as extra dwellings. This farm/area should not grow into a hamlet of dwellings by default; planning policies should be able to prevent applicants adding extra dwelling space every year. The Parish Council is concerned at the continuous requests for dwelling lawfulness and questions where it will end?

PT09/5132/F Hill House Farm Station Rd – Erection of horse walker structure (retrospective). After due consideration it was **resolved** to object to this application on the grounds of continued concerns that a commercial venture is being installed by stealth. The Council is suspicious of the applicant's motives as yet again another application is made for development here; furthermore it would have been obvious to the owner that permission was needed for this, yet the applicant decided to go ahead and install it without the Parish Council's knowledge, hoping to gain approval later.

PT09/5092/F 11 Horsford Rd- erection of rear conservatory After due consideration Charfield Parish Council **resolved** to make no objection to this application.

8534/09 Planning Decisions – the following permissions were noted

PT09/1095/F 1 Manor Farm Cottages Churchend – alteration to raise height of lower edge and gutter on east elevation of outbuilding (amendment to previously approved scheme PT08/0269/F)

PT09/1097/LB 1 Manor Farm Cottages Churchend – alteration to raise height of lower edge and gutter on east elevation of outbuilding (amendment to previously approved scheme PT08/0262/LB)

8535/09 Reports/Notices of Meetings

Ward Councillor report - none

Charfield Playing Field – Playground Inspection Report from Mrs N Newns & Mr P Birt. After the recent weatherboarding works, it was decided to give the go-ahead once again to Mr J Russell to repaint the hexagonal shelter blue excluding the new wooden area above heads which could be adopted for graffiti art by the youths Next inspection Mr Y Lloyd & Mr R Hancock. Clerk to ask if Cllr Cheskin would like to explain graffiti art adoption to youths? A copy of the report will be sent to Mr J Russell for attention. Clerk also ask Mr Russell where the D shackle/bolts were obtained from

Action: Mr M Cheskin graffiti youths chat

Action: Clerk ask Mr Russels shackles

Charfield Village Hall Management Committee. Latest report in circulation file.

8536/09 Accounts It was proposed by Mrs Y Lloyd and seconded by Mrs N Newns and **resolved** that the following July and August accounts are approved for payment:

Clerk salary & office expenses

Charfield Memorial Hall Mgmt Committee

Maintenance (litter) per week @ £20.00

09/07/09, 16/07/09, 23/07/09, 30/07/09, 06/08/09,13/08/09,20/08/09, 27/08/09

03/09/09 & Use of room 14/07/09, 18/7/09 meetings

South Glos Council Supply & install litter bin

South Glos Council emptying dog bins qrtly charge 1st April to 30th June

2 bins x £3.80 x 13 weeks

HM Revenue Customs Tax & NI payments re: Clerk, April,May,June 09 (cheque already)

Avon Wildlife Trust Phase 1 Habitat Survey

Mazars accounts external audit

Four Seasons Paint & Decorating – hexagonal shelter wood infills

TOTAL £3,603.20

8537/09 Items To Be Raised By Members for future agenda or minor points

Mr I Kershaw has raised £500 so far for charity doing a half marathon

Mr R Hancock asked who should organize the Remembrance Day parade –need to ask at the Church

Mr F Carling offered his resignation to the Chairman due to family illness – he was thanked for his contributions

This concluded the business of the meeting, which closed at approximately 9:45 pm.

Ongoing Matters; Manor Lane Landscaping, File Storage of Deeds (action Mr M Rosher)

Registration of The Pound, New Burial Ground,

Streetlighting Reduction, Toddler play area revamp

Chairman

13th October 2009