

CHARFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 8th April 2008 commencing 7.30pm in the Sportsman's Lounge, Charfield Memorial Hall, Charfield

PRESENT

Parish Councillors: Mrs N Newns (Chair), Mrs C Parton, Mr F Carling, Mr M Rosher, Mr I Kershaw, Mr P Birt, Mr R Hancock

Clerk: Mrs S Bailey **Public:** Ms LJ Gillespie(Gazette), Mr J Russell (Memorial Hall), Mr J Acton, Mrs Y Andrewartha

8097/08 Apologies for Absence Mr P Ashford, Mrs Y Lloyd, Mrs S O'Neill

8098/08 Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda none

8099/08 Approval of Minutes

It was proposed by Mr M Rosher and seconded by Mrs C Parton and **resolved** that minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 11th March are signed as a correct record after a minor amendment.

8100/08 Public Participation Mrs Y Andrewartha from Churchend explained that local residents do not wish to see any relaxation in the hours of the coating plant as requested in the current planning application and suggested that there should be no compromise as anything agreed was likely to be breached, as is currently.

8101/08 Clerks Report on MATTERS ARISING from Previous Minutes Clerk discussed Charfield Green with Merlin Housing, who considered that the poor state of no.9 was not a cause for concern due to no other complaints. Damage to senior swing panels has been reported to police but nothing heard back despite names of vandals given. Past copies of Chadra are now on the website with much thanks to technical expertise of Mr M Rosher. Mr P Birt noted that Manor Farm appeared to be converting into dwellings despite no planning permission – clerk to further clarify.

8102/08 Quarry planning applications Mr J Acton explained his questions to Cemex regarding the current application to relax hours of the coating plant, and highlighted concerns that their agent has consistently failed to respond to simple questions. There are concerns that the application is ambiguous in many respects and not specific regarding details. The Parish Council had previously suggested a compromise in hours in respect of the need for a business to operate in emergencies. However the lack of co-operation from the quarry has produced a feeling of mistrust and frustration, and a lack of confidence that any compromise reached could be monitored effectively. It was therefore proposed by Mrs N Newns and seconded by Mr M Rosher and **resolved** to object strongly to this application, for the above reasons and to note in the reply to South Glos that the original objections still stand. It was also agreed that Mr J Acton should attend the meeting if possible, should the application be called in to committee. Thanks was conveyed to Mr J Acton for his strenuous efforts on this subject.

8103/08 Update on burial ground investigations Mr P Birt gave highlights of the recent informative and positive meeting with Peter Mitchell and some discussions of 'green' burials. Robert Moreton has given permission for scrub clearance to go ahead (with no liability to Tortworth Estate) and has confirmed that his solicitor will act for both parties on land transfer negotiations for maximum £700 + vat. It was proposed by Mr M Rosher and seconded by Mrs N Newns and **resolved** to proceed with solicitor at this cost. It was also proposed by Mr P Birt and seconded by Mr M Rosher and **resolved** to agree to Leyhill prisoners carrying out scrub clearance asap for a day's cost of £125. Once area is clear/visible and an outline plan obtained from solicitor, then we may proceed to draw up plans for obtaining outline planning permission (after land transfer is complete).

8104/08 Manor Lane landscaping The glass/perspex panel has been vandalised in the centre of the noticeboard – Mr M Rosher kindly offered to measure & replace if possible. The map draft from Signet Signs was not acceptable, and attempts to improve it need to be made at a working group meeting.

8105/08 Location of (ex Manor Lane) metal bench Following an informal site discussion prior to this meeting, clerk to contact Memorial Hall Committee to ascertain reaction to proposed location of immediately behind Hall & boulders

8106/08 Attendance at Parish Charter Working Group 15th April at Winterbourne Clerk cannot attend this meeting at which S.Glos planning letter will be discussed – Mr M Rosher will try to attend.

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8107/08 S.Glos Planning letter request – following much discussion, it was decided to respond to the letter stating that the Parish Council finds it impossible to comply with many of the Planning Office requests due to lack of resources in Parish Councils & the resultant need for extra meetings to comply with their requests for shorter consultation times.

8108/08 Spring Clean weekend The weekend of 26th/27th April was agreed for a village clean-up. Clerk to make posters, inform school & brownies/scouts, organise with S.Glos & distribute rota to Councillors.

8109/08 Revised budget as resolved at March meeting regarding earmarked play equipment funds; it was proposed by Mrs C Parton and seconded by Mr P Birt and **resolved** to accept the revised budget as presented.

8110/08 Year End Accounts 2007/8 sent with agendas – it was proposed by Mrs N Newns and seconded by Mrs C Parton and **resolved** to accept the accounts as presented.

8111/08 Correspondence none

8112/08 Items for Circulation. The following items circulated to Members including:

- Audit Commission appointment of Mazars as external auditor from 2008 to 2012
- To note forthcoming consultation on new planning document S.Glos
- S.Glos letter ‘changes to parking enforcements’
- Community Action Sustainable Communities Conference Thursday 26th June 9:30 – 3:30 Filton
- Various journals(Fieldwork, Field inTrust, etc...)
- S.Glos Council Plan 2008-2011
- Notices of meetings & decisions from South Glos Council
- CPRE Calor Village of Year competition details
- S Glos renewable energy grants leaflets
- Standards Committee Annual report

8113/08 Planning Applications

- PT08/0653/F 17 Hawthorn Close . Conversion of existing garage and erection of single storey side extension to provide additional living accommodation. After due consideration it was **resolved** to raise no objection
- PT08/0729/RVC Wickwar Quarry Variation of Condition 17 attached to planning permission N8670 to allow for the operation of the coating plant for a 24 hour period for a maximum of 60 days in a calendar year. After due consideration it was **resolved** to object to this application see ‘quarry’ item above.
- PT08/0850/CLE Cosy Farm Swinhay Lane. Application for Certificate of Lawfulness for continued occupation of dwelling house. Charfield Parish Council continues to object to this application due to development outside of the village envelope. There is still no evidence that permission has ever been granted for residential occupation of the ancillary farm buildings. Citing unlawful prior occupation as a reason for continued occupation is an unsavoury method of obtaining planning permission and should not be encouraged. To approve this application would set a precedent of unitary authorities approving illegal habitation which hereto was outside of planning laws

8114/08 Planning Decisions – the following decisions were noted

- Permit - PT08/0213/F Charfield CP School - Erection of single storey link corridor with new entrance lobby
 - Permit – PT07/3422/F Hill House Farm, Station Rd. Conversion of existing barn to form indoor riding arena. Construction of stables to facilitate change of use of land from agriculture to the keeping of horses. (Conditions...)
- This decision is noted however the Council wishes to write to the Dev. West Committee to complain that it makes a mockery of the democratic process of consulting Parish Councils when its views were not taken into account at all and many resident complaints were blatantly disregarded.

8115/08 Reports/Notices of Meetings

Nothing of note from Ward Councillor other than Oliver Mann (S.Glos) is being chased for his open spaces plan promised 6months ago.

Charfield Playing Field - Playground Inspection Report from Mrs C Parton & Mr R Hancock. A copy of the report to be supplied to Mr Russell for attention to any defects. Next inspection Mr P Birt & Mr P Ashford. Play Area Working Group to meet next week to ascertain priorities before identifying funding sources.

Charfield Village Hall Management Committee. Previous report in circulation file. Mr I Kershaw noted that the Committee hopes to make a short surplus for the full financial year. Also a new secretary and vice-chair are needed. The next Cemex Liaison Group meeting is on Tuesday 22nd April, however, Mrs C Parton cannot attend.

8116/08 Accounts It was proposed by Mrs C Parton and seconded by Mr P Birt and **resolved** that the following are approved for payment:

Clerk salary and office expenses

Charfield Memorial Hall Maintenance (litter) per week

20/03/08, 27/03/08, 04/04/08

Use of room 11/03/08 full meeting

S.Glos Council Dog bin emptying 1st Jan to 31st Mar 2 bins at £3.45 per week x13=£89.70 + vat

ALCA annual subscription

S.Glos Council Grounds maintenance Manor Lane April 07 to March 08 £80.97 + vat

Community Action Annual membership renewal

TOTAL £1458.26

8117/08 Items To Be Raised By Members for future agenda or minor points

The Clerk highlighted the Parish Annual Meeting and talk by SITA on May 6th & explained that she will also now be Clerk to Oldbury -Upon-Severn Parish Council for 4 hrs per week.

Mr R Hancock noted graffiti inside the bus shelter and wondered what remover S.Glos uses – clerk to find out.

Mr P Birt highlighted the recent railway embankment works near Appletrees, and also explained a parishioner's concern at rear householder/farmland activities on Woodlands Rd – thought to be a private farmland matter.

Mr M Rosher offered to paint the container in the Memorial Hall car park.

Mrs N Newns invited nominations for the post of chairman for the next year to be decided at the next meeting

This concluded the business of the meeting, which closed at approximately 9:50 pm.

Ongoing Matters

Manor Lane Landscaping

Quarry planning applications & Hill House Farm/ Little Bristol Lane flats

File Storage of Deeds & Registration of The Pound
New Burial Ground

Chairman

13th May 2008