

CHARFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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

PRESENT

Parish Councillors: Mr M Rosher (Chairman), Mr F Carling, , Mr I Kershaw, Mr P Birt, Mr R Hancock, Mrs Y Lloyd
Clerk: Mrs S Bailey **Public:** County Cllr S O'Neill(until 8.30pm), Mr O Jenkins (South Glos)

8171/08 Apologies for Absence Mr P Ashford, Mrs N Newns, Mrs C Parton

8172/08 Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda none

8173/08 Approval of Minutes

It was proposed by Mr R Hancock and seconded by Mr I Kershaw and **resolved** that minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 10th June are signed as a correct record after a minor amendment.

8174/08 Public Participation

Mrs S O'Neill spoke regarding removal of telephone boxes in Charfield and that it was difficult to justify an argument to keep them with so few calls made – however the Falfield call box deserved support due to 727 calls in past year and providing a community service for prisoners.

Little Bristol Lane flats should be determined by Inspector in September amidst much local objection. A discussion followed on a S106 agreement; if the development were approved then the Parish Council would want to see the S106 funds appropriated for specific village projects and be consulted as to final use.

Regarding the Cemex Coating Plant Appeal – we are waiting to see if the application will go to July Dev. West Control Committee agenda papers later this week.

8175/08 Clerks Report on MATTERS ARISING from Previous Minutes Nothing to report

8176/08 Streetlighting Reduction Possibilities Mr O Jenkins (Highway Maintenance Manager for South Glos Council) gave an overview of the way his department operates regarding streetlighting. A recent new policy has introduced some subtle changes to operations eg. design works for new developments need to be signed off first so that maintenance is reduced in future, and not upgrading to the higher BS standard when the current system is adequate. Regarding reducing light usage, some switching trials with control gear (eg. dimming and/or turning off at midnight) have taken place but guidelines are quite strict regarding trial areas eg urban areas must be considered carefully due to worries about rising crime, personal attacks or burglaries. The general policy is towards reduction of light and power usage (£1.2 million spent on streetlighting per annum in South Glos) and a specification is currently being written on the possibilities of trials. This will be presented to executive council to be signed off before being implemented. Switching gear is generally quite cheap, about £40 a column, and the payback is reasonable. Wattage levels vary with location. Dimming gear is very expensive due to the mechanisms needed. Solar panels are not suitable as they have a greater than normal carbon footprint due to high manufacturing costs and shorter life. Mr Jenkins stressed that local support and Parish Council leadership is needed before any trial could commence and that he was very open to suggestions. The Parish Council requested a map of streetlamps in the area so that the area's lighting needs could be analysed and a proposal considered before the Parish is consulted. Lights on traffic crossings are dealt with by a different department who are just commencing LED upgrades in order to reduce costs and brightness. He would pass on the request for the Primary School traffic lights in Charfield to be part time since they are rarely used outside school hours.

8177/08 Appointment of Representatives Charfield Memorial Hall & Playing Field Management Committee; Mr I Kershaw has agreed to represent the Parish Council for a further year.

8178/08 Quarry planning applications No further communication received other than a Cemex Liason Group Meeting on Thursday at Wickwar.

8179/08 Findings of Play Area Working Group (CPC PAWG) Mr M Rosher explained his report on the toddlers area which was distributed to Members with agendas. The whole play area does need assessing but it too large an issue to tackle in one go and so needs to be broken down into manageable chunks hence the assessment of the toddler area first. It was agreed to incorporate the slightly larger toddler area into a new design in order to allow for new guidelines on safety fall areas and to encompass a wider range of equipment. This would almost double the area to 10m x16m (from 5m x 16m) and not encroach upon the playing field area. It was agreed that the Clerk obtain 3 quotes for the area including a

range of new equipment, fencing, and safety surface, which can then be analysed for suitability before fundraising can commence.

8180/08 Update on burial ground investigations Quotation and feedback not yet received from Manor Garden Maintenance regarding well cover and scrub clearance in field at Churchend. Two more days clearance by Leyhill prisoners have uncovered yet more stone wall. Clerk to check on other days' clearance planned. Clerk to also ask farmer Steve Ball if he would like to cut the field for silage or use for temporary grazing. No news from solicitor regarding land transfer – Clerk to chase. It was proposed by Mr I Kershaw and seconded by Mr P Birt and **resolved** to approve upgrading website hosting package to accommodate new burial ground website for an approximate cost of £13.

8181/08 Manor Lane noticeboard/map Chadra met last week and discussed the new streetmap draft. Councillors discussed their proposed changes and added further amendments - Clerk to resubmit with changes for a further proof.

8182/08 80th anniversary of train crash anniversary The possibility of marking this event was discussed but declined - Clerk to put details of the disaster on the website with links to further information

8183/08 Wessex Water sewer works proposals for Memorial Hall car park Upgrading of local sewer pipes will necessitate digging up some of the car park and felling 3 of the conifers by the WC's. Although the decisions on day to day matters such as this are with the Memorial Hall Committee, the Parish Council has no objection but would like to see all 5 and not just 3 of the conifers felled and then replaced with 2 semi- mature trees, and suitable hooped fencing erected. Clerk to liaise with Tim Hill & Wessex Water.

8184/08 Consultation by BT to remove payphones in South Glos (2 in Charfield) It is very difficult to make an argument to keep the payphones in Little Bristol Lane and outside the Post Office with calls of 1 & 4 recorded in 12 months. However Councillors were happy to support the retention of the payphone at Falfield on the A38 which saw 727 calls in 12 months. Clerk to reply.

8185/08 Annual playground inspection by John Hicks Associates – put into circulation file and to be discussed at next meeting.

8186/08 Consultation for road safety improvements outside Tortworth School B4509 Proposals and plans were discussed. Initial thoughts of Councillors are that the concept of safety improvements is very encouraging however the extra road markings and signage does not really go far enough to alleviate the problems faced by motorists when trying to turn into the school across oncoming traffic. Although fortunately fatalities are not great, many shunts are seen here; that lack of injuries means that it is not considered an accident blackspot and does not warrant more funding. Clerk to respond.

8187/08 Grant application from Alzheimer's Society Clerk to reply that the application will be considered along with all of the other grants at the annual budget meeting in December.

8188/08 SGlos Fly Tipping Strategy Consultation by 8th August No comments received. Safer & Stronger Community Groups are understood to be following up closely on fly tipping and wish to know of incidents.

8189/08 Approval of 1st quarter budget Deferred until next meeting for extra papers to be copied.

8190/08 Correspondence none received

8191/08 Items for Circulation. The following items circulated to Members including:

- Community Action magazine
- ALCA newsletter
- Green Community Buildings Meeting Report by S.Glos
- Periodicals ie Clerks & Councils Direct, The Clerk, Countryside Voice
- Notices of meetings & decisions from South Glos Council

8192/08 Planning Applications

PT08/1854/F 42 Lincroft Wotton Rd Erection of first floor extension. Alterations to roofline to include 1no front and 2no rear dormers to include rear veranda and front Juliet balcony to form additional living accommodation,. After due consideration it was **resolved** not to object to this application.

8193/08 Planning Decisions The following permissions were noted:

PT08/1170/F 7 Cotswold House Newtown Erection of two storey side extension to provide additional living accommodation and garage Erection of rear conservatory. Resubmission of PT08/0256/F
PT07/3536/F 9 Wotton Rd Erection of 1no.dwelling, access and associated works (Conditions- landscaping details, roofing & external facing materials to be approved, off street parking to be built before occupation, drainage & soil survey to be approved, no extra windows in east & west elevations).
PT08/1216/O Springside 2 Wotton Rd Erection of 1no. dwelling (outline) with access & layout to be determined (amendment to previous outline application relating to revised access)

8194/08 Reports/Notices of Meetings

Ward Councillor report – see Public Participation above

Charfield Playing Field –Playground Inspection Report from Mrs Y Lloyd. Next report Mr I Kershaw & Mr P Birt. A copy to be forwarded to Mr J Russell for any attention.

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

Safer Stronger Community Groups. Mrs Y Lloyd attended the last meeting which concentrated on fly tipping, litter and lack of support given to Eastwood Park prisoners on leaving. Attendees were 1 from Charfield, 2 from Falfield, 1 from Tortworth, and 5 police officers.

8195/08 Accounts It was proposed by Mrs Y Lloyd and seconded by Mr P Birt and **resolved** that the following are approved for payment:

Clerk salary and office expenses

Memorial Hall Committee

Maintenance (litter)per week @ £20.00 05/06/08, 12/06/08,19/06/08, 26/06/08,03/7/08

Use of room 10/6/08 full meetings

John Hicks & Associates – annual playground inspection

SLCC cemetery mgmt course September Taunton

£100 non member & £85 for member =

(clerk awarded bursary for £76 for above training fee)

Also to note £9 received from Odlbury Parish Council for telephone contribution

TOTAL

£989.17

8196/08 Items To Be Raised By Members for future agenda or minor points

Garages at Little Bristol Close have had rubbish and glass turned out – Clerk to investigate

The recycling bin at the Railway Tavern is not well advertised – Clerk to contact SITA to discuss poster for website and putting a flyer in local binbags.

Following a car incident at Little Bristol Lane/Woodlands Rd entrance when the gate with Hawthorn Close was opened – the issue of who holds gate keys was raised – Clerk to put on next agenda for discussion

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

Ongoing Matters

Manor Lane Landscaping

Quarry planning applications & Little Bristol Lane flats

File Storage of Deeds & Registration of The Pound

New Burial Ground

Chairman

9th September 2008