

CHARFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 11th November 2008 commencing 7.30pm in the Sportsman's Lounge, Charfield Memorial Hall, Charfield

PRESENT

Parish Councillors: Mr M Rosher (Chairman), Mr I Kershaw, Mr P Birt, Mr R Hancock (from 7:50), Mr P Ashford, Mrs N Newns, Mrs C Parton, Mrs Y Lloyd **Clerk:** Mrs S Bailey **Public:** Mr T Hill, Mr J Russell (both Memorial Hall), Mr J Acton, 2 parishioners, Land Agent from Davies James & 2 Wessex Water representatives

8267/08 Apologies for Absence noted & accepted from Mrs S O'Neill, Mr F Carling

8268/08 Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda none

8269/08 Approval of Minutes

It was proposed by Mr P Birt and seconded by Mrs C Parton and **resolved** that minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 14th October signed as a correct record. It was proposed by Mrs Y Lloyd and seconded by Mrs N newns and **resolved** that minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 29th October signed as a correct record after minor amendments.

(Mr P Ashford left the room for 10 minutes to move car)

8270/08 Public Participation

Mr & Mrs Cloke highlighted their concerns about the way their recent planning application for 53 Underhill Road was objected to, and claimed that the Council were unduly influenced by a neighbour Mr Luff. This was strongly denied by Council and a detailed discussion ensued with Mr Cloke explaining about his plans. The Chairman advised Mr Cloke to contact South Glos Council who were dealing with the application.

Mr Clark & Mr Bown from Wessex Water addressed the Council with their plans for a major project upgrading the sewers in Durham Rd to Little Bristol Lane across the Memorial Hall car park. This will entail various road closures over the next few months. Concerns were highlighted regarding access and traffic although the need for the works was appreciated. The Land Agent working on behalf of the Memorial Hall stressed that compensation details would be worked out afterwards.

Mr T Hill explained that South Glos rural youth workers had now secured funding to run a 10 week course from January and 2 sessions before Christmas; CRB checks awaited before commencement.

8271/08 Clerks Report on MATTERS ARISING from Previous Minutes

Climbing handle on SMP play equipment has been replaced and step repair kit is still awaited.

No response yet on streetlamp turn-off enquiries – possibly leave on back burner till lighter Spring nights.

Only one tentative enquiry about footpaths warden vacancy.

8272/08 Response to Cemex Quarry extension application A 20 page document was forwarded to all Councillors prior to the meeting as a basis for discussion on expanding on the objection letter sent to South Glos Council in October. Mr J Acton outlined developments and discussions over the past month with Cemex agents. After failing to provide answers for 18 months they were very keen to provide them at the end of last week and today they have agreed to install noise measuring equipment at Churchend. After much discussion regarding the acoustic & wildlife benefits of a soil mound, the quarrying proximity to Wickwar and to Churchend, the Section 106 road agreements needed, the water discharge through Charfield brook and the buffer zone needed to Churchend residents, it was proposed by Mr P Ashford and seconded by Mr P Birt and **resolved** to adopt Mr J Acton's suggestions and for the Clerk to forward the detailed response to South Glos Council as its formal objection to the quarry extension application. Mr J Acton was thanked for his considerable effort in producing this document.

8273/08 Youth questions Councillors discussed the list of questions from the youths at the previous meeting and asked the Clerk to respond. Although it was very pleasing to see the youths at the meeting it must be stressed that any changes that can be made may take time to implement due mainly to cost. Furthermore the clubs and societies available in the village such as cricket, tennis, football, scouts etc should be highlighted to them.

Skatepark extension – unfortunately space does not exist to install more skateboard facilities due to space required for legal freefalling requirements and usage of the surrounding area by others such as tennis & cricket clubs. There is a large skate park not too far away this side of Yate.

A youth club -Mr T Hill (Chairman of Memorial Hall) has been negotiating with South Glos Council and has just been informed that two workers have now been funded to provide sessions in Charfield. Should commence before Xmas.
Better youth shelter – unfortunately given the structure of the existing hexagonal shelter (and continued vandalism)it would not be possible to enclose this, or practical from a visibility perspective – a new youth shelter would cost in the region of £15 to 20,000.

Football wall - there may be a possibility for a shared boundary wall between the new tennis court and the grass area by the skateboard park. Clerk to investigate possibility with Tennis club.

Permanent football nets – this is unfortunately not practical due to the use of the area by other clubs at other times for example the cricket club. Joining the football club would enable more net practice.

Update Information for youths – the Charfield Parish Council website is available for all village information. Views on extra inclusions are welcome

Toilet facilities – Clerk has asked the Memorial Hall to keep the facilities open for as long as possible. Continued vandalism and misuse however means that they must close at dusk.

Bike dirt jumps – the area behind the large slide is considered too small for bicycle jumping and unfortunately the whole allotted play area of a small village does not have the space to accommodate this type of request. Again there are facilities near Yate and also near Wotton for bmx/dirt bike jumping.

Tarmac skate park repairs – after close inspection the very small dents in the tarmac are not considered serious enough to warrant re-tarmac, especially given other demands on the play area budget

8274/08 Manor Lane landscaping/access footpath South Glos will provide a grass cutting quotation for more frequent mowing however stressed that it would be much more expensive and encouraged us to find a ‘local’ with a mower. Clerk to investigate the insurance liability of employing someone to mow and whether paying them expenses rather than remuneration would be appropriate.

8275/08 Changes to S.Glos Parish Charter agreements Councillors had no comments after viewing it in circulation file

(Mr M Rosher left the room for 5 minutes)

8276/08 Adoption of Model Publication Scheme After inspecting documents in the circulation file it was proposed by Mr P Ashford and seconded by Mrs Y Lloyd and **resolved** that the ICO Model Publication Scheme should be adopted in its entirety. A copy of the completed information sheet will be posted on the Parish Council website.

8277/08 Update on proposed burial ground Churchend The burial consultation mailshot has now been delivered by Councillors and Clerk to all properties in the Parish with the exception of a few properties with dangerous dogs loose in the grounds. The public consultation meeting will be on Wednesday 19th November at the Memorial Hall and it is hoped for a good turnout to gauge public requirements for design/layout and other cemetery ideas. A rough idea of timescales for its development might be useful. Employing an architect will be the next step after ascertaining public feedback.

8278/08 Sign for key holders of Woodlands rd gate/Hawthorn Close Mr P Ashford will obtain a quote for sign and backing plate.

8279/08 New toddler play area Clerk has obtained quotes & ideas from SMP, Sutcliffe Play & Wicksteed. Councillors analysed all quotes which appear to be between £31 - £37,000 – although all need further analysis and some changes. This is enough basis upon which to apply for grants. Mr I Kershaw offered to look at the list of initial grant funders. BBC Children in Need and Renishaw may also provide funding opportunities.

Mr P Ashford left the meeting

8280/08 Improvements to bus shelters A quote has been obtained from South Glos Council to masonry paint the shelter near the school for £145 and to wash/clean & paint the shelter by the Post Office for £280 and provide a timber bench inside it for another £190. It was proposed by Mr P Birt and seconded by Mrs C Parton and **resolved** to authorise these works.

8281/08 Consultation on Making & Enforcement of Byelaws responses by 20th November No comments after being offered to Councillors in the circulation file

8282/08 Consultation for Changes to the Model Code of Conduct by 24th December Details put into circulation file with comments to be discussed at December meeting.

8283/08 Response to land enquiry regarding allotments A response from Davis James land agent for Mr Fewes has indicated that the land is not for sale but for a rent of up to 20 years. As the land has previously been up for auction, Clerk to clarify whether the land is for sale or not, and what rent would be acceptable.

Clerk & any public left the room during the following discussion

8284/08 Approval of delayed NALC salary review for Clerks & backdated to April 1st (+24p per hr) It was proposed by Mr P Birt and seconded by Mr R Hancock and **resolved** to approve these NALC recommendations for clerks
Clerk & any public returned to the room

8285/08 Correspondence Noted and put into circulation folder where necessary

Gypsy & Traveller development plan preferred options workshops – various dates & locations & consultation on
Gypsy & Traveller Development Plan ends Jan 29 – put on December agenda & circulation file
Avon Wildlife Trust AGM Sunday 23rd Nov 2.15pm
South Glos Voluntary Sector Forum meeting Wed 19th Nov Emersons Green
Four Towns Vale Link Community Transport meeting Thursday 25th Nov Thornbury 7.30pm
South Glos budget consultation respond by 12th Dec – put on next agenda & in circulation file
SLCC AGM & meeting Minchinhampton golf club Friday 5th December – Clerk authorised to attend

8286/08 Items for Circulation. The following items circulated to Members including:

ALCA newsletter
Periodicals (CPRE, Rural & Parish Matters, etc etc)
Notices of meetings & decisions from South Glos Council
Childrens Playlink Opportunities & Prices letter
Changes to Sort-It centres info sheet

8287/08 Planning Applications

PT08/2946/F Hill House Farm – Demolition of existing garage and erection of new building to provide home gym and storage After due consideration it was **resolved** to object to this application on the basis that councillors are concerned that developments at this property are becoming incompatible with domestic use. Charfield Parish Council has noticed a number of applications recently from this same property and is concerned that attempts are being made to render the building suitable for commercial uses by attempting to apply for a number of smaller seemingly inconsequential changes yet when viewed as a whole, the development appears to resemble more of a commercial setting.

8288/08 Planning Decisions none

8289/08 Reports/Notices of Meetings

Ward Councillor report – none available

Charfield Playing Field – Playground Inspection Report from Mrs Y Lloyd & Mr M Rosher. Report copy to be forwarded to Mr J Russell for any attention. Mr J Russell to be asked for a quote to replace toddler tower climbing ramp with new marine ply & logs and stain. Also to provide quote to replace hexagonal shelter seats which have rotted with new planking (using seat mold). Clerk still awaiting to hear back from SMP wet pour contractor. Next inspection Mrs C Parton & Mr P Birt

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

Mrs C Parton attended a Foundation Room meeting and reported that grants are still being given out to children and that fundraising will commence soon for enlarging the facilities.

Mrs Y Lloyd reported that the next Safer Stronger Communities Group meeting is 2nd December in the Memorial Hall.

8290/08 Accounts It was proposed by Mr P Birt and seconded by Mrs Y Lloyd and **resolved** that the following are approved for payment:

Clerk salary & office expenses

Charfield Memorial Hall Mgmt Committee

Maintenance (litter)per week @ £20.00 16/10/08, 23/10/08, 30/10/08, 06/11/08,

Use of room 14/10/08,29/10/08 meetings

Tailor Made Office Supplies Toner Cartridge

Royal British Legion Poppy Day Appeal Remembrance Day wreath

HM Revenue Clerk tax & NI payments for first two quarters of FY08

Mr J Russell play equipment repairs

TOTAL

£1134.44

11th November 2008 922

Revenue - Donation received from Chadra towards Manor Lane for £277.23

8291/08 Items To Be Raised By Members for future agenda or minor points

Enforcement needs to be chased regarding the fence (failed Planning Appeal) at 110 Manor Lane

The Bollards appear to have been removed from Old Charfield Hill – Clerk to investigate

Mrs C Parton announced her resignation effective next February – she was thanked for her contributions. Clerk to ascertain copy date in January for advertising for prospective Councillors.

This concluded the business of the meeting, which closed at approximately 11 pm.

Ongoing Matters

Manor Lane Landscaping

Quarry planning applications

File Storage of Deeds & Registration of The Pound

New Burial Ground

Chairman

9th December 2008