

CHARFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 14th October 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 7:45), Mr P Ashford, Mrs N Newns, Mrs C Parton, Mr F Carling **Clerk:** Mrs S Bailey **Public:** Mr T Hill, Mr C Wadsworth & Mr J Russell (all Memorial Hall), ten other members of public

8232/08 Apologies for Absence noted & accepted from Mrs Y Lloyd & Mrs S O'Neill

8233/08 Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda none

8234/08 Approval of Minutes

It was proposed by Mr P Ashford and seconded by Mr P Birt and **resolved** that minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 9th September are signed as a correct record.

8235/08 Public Participation

Two prospective nursery owners had brought along sketches to show Councillors their ideas for access onto Manor Lane and these were given to Councillors for later discussion. Detailed application plans could not be drawn up until access ideas were firmer.

Six youths from the village highlighted their concerns about youth provision and the problem areas as they understood namely:

- Extension to skatepark is desirable
- A youth club wanted which is run by trained youth workers & not village parents
- Better youth shelter which can provide shelter from rain
- A football wall/also for some graffiti and permanent football nets wanted
- Keep youth posted on the site activities on Little Bristol Lane corner
- Keep toilet facilities open for longer
- Would like to see dirt jumps for bicycles
- Repairs needed to skate park tarmac due to dents & ruts

Councillors thanked the boys for attending – very encouraging to see them – and would consider their requests.

Mrs Andrewartha expressed concerns at the quarry application for extension and warned that the impact on Churchend residents would be significant. Many of the wider planning criteria and guidelines have not been met and the application should be refused on various grounds. If a compromise had to be negotiated then a significantly lower level of extraction should be demanded.

Mr T Hill (Memorial Hall Committee Chairman) mentioned the problems of youths playing on homemade bicycle ramps in the play area and leaving them there. Mr M Rosher responded that the Clerk had sought advice from the insurance company who advised that the PC could be sued for negligence in case of an accident and therefore this could not be permitted. Mr Hill also reported that negotiations were continuing with South Glos on the provision of a youth club. Mr C Wadsworth brought up the subject of motor bikes on the play area – the youths suggested CCTV cameras inside the Hall windows rather than outside where they could be hit.

8236/08 Clerks Report on MATTERS ARISING from Previous Minutes

Most concrete streetlamps have been replaced due to concrete fatigue apart from some in Berkeley Close – these would be done next year. No news or proposals yet regarding street lighting reduction from South Glos.

Response received from South Glos regarding Section 106 agreements and the lack of consultation with the parish when forming them. This was circulated to Members and the lesson is noted for the PC to stress requirements if a S106 were to be included.

Wessex Water have been sending more documents regarding excavations in the car park for sewer works – but no start dates yet or trial pits have appeared. No redress negotiations until works are completed it seems.

South Glos have now provided quotes for bus shelter improvements and repairs (after agenda was produced)

Sure Start bus have approved their details to go on PC website

Land at Little Bristol Lane is up for sale again despite the PC attempts to contact Mr Fewes for possible allotments site.

Clerk will forward letter again (via agent?) to be passed to Mr Fewes inviting him to discuss allotment possibilities.

8237/08 Response to Quarry Application Extension Mr J Acton noted an anonymous article in Chadra recently

regarding the quarry plans & objections appearing to be from the Parish council however Mrs Andrewartha professed to having written it but editor had missed the author. Mr J Acton gave a summary of his findings regarding the recent application by Cemex. Very little has changed from the previous application apart from the proposed extraction area being within the Preferred Area and some shelter belt provision. In particular much noise data was still missing from tables despite it being requested over 12 months ago. Mr Acton noted correspondence with Neil Higgs from South Glos regarding noise measuring facilities at Churchend and is unhappy with his response. Councillors were greatly in favour of the Clerk writing to Mr Higgs to reinforce the fact that Mr Acton is acting on behalf of the Parish Council and that the provision of accurate noise data is vital since the proposed extraction will be closer to Churchend than to any residents at Wickwar. Due to Planning response time constraints it is not possible for the PC to instruct its own noise trials. After much discussion of the detail of the extension plans it was proposed by Mr P Ashford and seconded by Mrs C Parton and **resolved** to write to South Glos objecting in principal to the extension plans on grounds of highways and traffic, landscape, residential amenities and character of Churchend, & drainage. Details to this objection will follow in November after the next PC meeting and hopefully more data to be supplied which is missing from application. Finally Mr Acton explained thoughts from the Cemex Liaison Group meeting last week whereby Cemex appeared to be under the impression that the existing S106 agreement might be enough and that a re-assessment was not needed. We need to be vigilant on this aspect due to the many changes over the years since the old S106 was decided but not enacted. The Parish Council thanked Mr Acton again for his time and dedication to the quarry application.

8238/08 Manor Lane landscaping/access footpath A successful planting session took place in sunshine last Friday for daffodil planting with primary school children & Councillors – excess bulbs & compost have been donated to the school grounds.

Much discussion followed as to the likelihood of an access path across Manor Lane corner – clerk to inform prospective nursery owners of PC suggestions regarding a green tarmac diagonal path near the Willow Tree which might be leased by them but maintained at their expense, but also stress that an official comment cannot be made until a planning application is received.

A grass cutting quotation was obtained from Manor Garden Maintenance but was not competitive with current South Glos contract. Clerk to enquire as to possibility of improved performance from current contract.

8239/08 Grant application from new Charfield Rainbows (young Brownies) group After the Clerk had read out the application letter, it was proposed by Mr P Ashford and seconded by Mr P Birt and **resolved** to award a contingency grant of £100 to the new Rainbows group in consideration of the service it is providing to the young children in the village.

8240/08 Adoption of Model Publication Scheme A copy of documents is available for Councillors to inspect in the circulation file. Clerk to complete the forms and to be discussed at next agenda

8241/08 Update on proposed burial ground Churchend & authorize burial admin CD purchase for £14 It was proposed by Mrs C Parton and seconded by Mr P Birt and **resolved** to purchase the CD which is being passed amongst Councillors in the circulation file. Mr M Rosher and the Clerk updated the Council on a recent training day at Taunton run by SLCC and Ins. of Cemetery & Crematoria Mgmt. Many topics were covered in a lot of detail. An ecological survey of the site may be a Planning requirement – Clerk to check with South Glos. A recent working group was held amongst Councillors and the consensus is that the Council needs to formulate ideas on the type of cemetery required (traditional/modern/green etc and style) before the ideas are put out to parishioners for consultation. Another working group will be held on Wed 29th October.

8242/08 Website package upgrade It was proposed by Mr P Birt and seconded by Mrs C Parton and **resolved** to upgrade the website package for £44 plus vat which can also accommodate hosting the burial website soon.

8243/08 New Pharmacy White Paper After much discussion regarding the problems of doctors losing their dispensing rights if they are near a pharmacy and the effect on outlying villagers' obtaining prescriptions it was felt that this was not a Parish Council issue but ought to be responded to as individuals.

8244/08 Key Holders of Woodlands rd gate to Hawthorn Close All key holders had been contacted and were happy to have their house number displayed on a small sign by the gate as a key holder in case of emergency. Clerk to investigate prices for sign.

8245/08 Use of ramps & unauthorised items in play area and its implications The Clerk contacted insurers who state that once the problem has been brought to the attention of the Parish Council then the PC can be shown to be negligent if

it fails to show diligence in acting & trying to remove the problem. Case law obtained from a solicitor friend of the chairman also backs up this advice. Therefore the PC cannot allow any items to be brought onto and left in the play area.

8246/08 New toddler play area Clerk has obtained quotes & ideas from SMP, Sutcliffe Play & Wicksteed. Councillors will need to decide on ideas and plans in order to commence fund raising as soon as possible. Ideas available for inspection/discussion at 7pm before November meeting.

8247/08 Consultation on Making & Enforcement of Byelaws responses by 20th November – passed amongst Councillors via circulation file and will be on next agenda.

8248/08 Changes to Regional Spatial Strategy for S.West by 17th October No comments after document had been circulated.

8249/08 Parish & Clerks Town Forum Standards Committee 21 Nov Kingswood It was proposed by Mrs N Newns and seconded by Mrs C Parton and **resolved** that the Clerk attend

8250/08 Wreath purchase for Remembrance Day It was proposed by Mr P Ashford and seconded by Mrs C Parton and **resolved** to authorise this purchase for a maximum of £35. Wreath delivery to Mr P Birt.

8251/08 Resignation of Mrs J O'Connor Beach as volunteer footpaths warden This was noted and Council asked that a thank you letter be sent to Mrs O'Connor Beach thanking her for years of dedication to the care of footpaths in the Parish. A note to be inserted in the next Chandra and also on the website.

8252/08 First 7 months budget Copies were sent to Councillors with agendas. It was proposed by Mr I Kershaw and seconded by Mrs C Parton and **resolved** that the budget be accepted as presented.

8253/08 Correspondence Noted and put into circulation folder

Adoption of affordable housing supplementary planning document available on line
S.Glos planning letter - Amendments to permitted development regime for householders

8254/08 Items for Circulation. The following items circulated to Members including:

ALCA newsletter & model publication scheme details
Periodicals (Avon Wildlife Trust etc)
Notices of meetings & decisions from South Glos Council
Adoption document of S.Glos Statement of Community Involvement
Draft revisions to South Glos Parish Charter Agreements (to be put on agenda for November)
S.Glos Joint Waste Strategy

8255/08 Planning Applications

PT08/2575/F Pemberley Lodge Churchend – Erection of two storey side extension to provide additional living accommodation. After due consideration it was **resolved** not to object to this application.
PT07/0573/F Wickwar Quarry – extension of existing limestone quarry through progressive extraction in a northwards direction and associated planting and landscaping. Dealt with separately above.

8256/08 Planning Decisions The following decisions were noted:

Permit - PT08/2305/TRE Oak Tree House Underhill Rd Works to reduce oak tree covered by S.Glos Tree Pres. 1968
Refuse - PT08/2167/F 2 Severn Close Erection of front boundary fence – out of keeping with character
Appeal Dismissed – PT07/3354/F 110 Manor Lane. Replacement of 7/8ft high beech hedge with 6ft high lattice fence.
Permit – PT08/2463/F Upper Green Farm Little Bristol Lane – Erection of detached garage and office

8257/08 Reports/Notices of Meetings

Ward Councillor report – none available

Charfield Playing Field –Playground inspection report from Mr R Hancock & Mr P Ashford. Report copy to be forwarded to Mr J Russell for any attention. The chains on the junior swings are worn – Mr J Russell to repair top links. The coloured wet pour surface is splitting at the bottom of the SMP equipment – Clerk to photograph and check guarantee. Next report Mrs Y Lloyd & Mr M Rosher.

Charfield Village Hall Management Committee. Previous report in circulation file along with full year accounts to end March 08.

8258/08 Accounts It was proposed by Mr P Ashford 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 ..11/09/08, 18/09/08, 25/09/08, 02/10/08, 09/10/08

Use of room 09/09/08 25/09/08 meetings

Avon Wildlife Trust Member ship renewal

Charfield Memorial Hall Management Committee Community Grant as per Minute 8002/07

Grant towards updating gents toilets and replacement of chairs in main hall

Signet Signs map for noticeboard Manor Lane

HM Prison Leyhill Churchend burial ground clearance works 4 & half days

South Glos Council Dog bin emptying

1/4/08 to 30/09/08 = £3.65 per bin x 2 bins x 26 weeks

SLCC cemetery admin CD

Mr M Rosher mileage & car parking charge for cemetery training at Taunton 30/9/08

Mr M Rosher website package upgrade

Mr J Russell play equipt repairs & noticeboard

Mrs J Holloway Rainbows Group grant donation from Contingency

TOTAL £5,230.67

8259/08 Items To Be Raised By Members for future agenda or minor points

Overgrown hedge at bottom of Underhill Rd – Council has already been notified

Central networks have knocked down a fence near the brook when making access & not replaced– Clerk to investigate

Bus shelter repairs to go on next agenda for discussion and decision

Road accident sign at Tortworth needs to be removed – at least 6 months old?

Mr R Hancock noted that the rail worker vans at Little Bristol Lane corner were not longer causing any problems.

This concluded the business of the meeting, which closed at approximately 10:25 pm.

Ongoing Matters

Manor Lane Landscaping

Quarry planning applications

File Storage of Deeds & Registration of The Pound

New Burial Ground

Chairman

11th November 2008