

CHARLETON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
followed by the
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Charleton Village Hall, West Charleton
Thursday 6th April 2017 at 6.00pm

OPEN FORUM – Three members of the public attended –

Complaints were made about parking near the school on the A379. A discussion took place around the need for speed to be reduced whilst maintaining safety. It was agreed that the possibility of extending the white line nearer to the school. It was agreed Highways be contacted.

PRESENT: B. Rogers, J. Bignell, S. Page

In attendance: Cllr. J. Brazil, Cllr. R. Foss, S. Winstanley (clerk in attendance)

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – Cllr. R. Foss –

- The Joint Local Plan has been produced and comments can now be made.
- Government Grant has been cut and cut again and efforts are being made to try and raise funds in other ways.
- SHDC are trying to overcome the problem of 'right to buy' which makes affordable housing irrelevant to some extent.
- At the moment the only way to raise funds is through parking charges or Council Tax.
- A question was asked about why the top car park above Tesco does not permit residents to use their permits.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – Cllr. J. Brazil

- Council Tax went up by 5%, 2% + 3% for adult social care.
- There are issues with schools funding formula. Devon receives £290 per pupil, which is half the national average and due to an overspend of £2 million in special educational needs budget, an additional £33 will be deducted from the grant for each pupil. The light at the end of the tunnel is that Devon MPs have said that they will vote against the Government in the new proposals.
- Highways – at a meeting on Wednesday a representation will be made that the road surface on A381 at Halwell is unacceptable for an A road.
- Road maintenance has been changed to Skanska. It is to be hoped that the level of maintenance will be carried out properly.

POLICE REPORT – No report

1. APOLOGIES – J. Gordon, C. Cross, R. Sanders

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING held on 2nd March 2017

It was proposed seconded and **resolved** that the Chair should sign the Minutes as a true and correct record.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST-

Members are invited to declare any personal or disclosable pecuniary interests, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting.

J. Bignell declared a personal interest in App No. 1030/17/HHO

4. CLERK'S REPORT - The Clerk at Kingsbridge Town Council has invited Charleton to attend an informal meeting with representative of other nearby Parishes to discuss the possibility of a joint Neighbourhood Plan. B. Rogers would like to attend.

5. FINANCIAL MATTERS

1. To approve payment of the following cheques:
 - 136 - £231.89 - S. Winstanley (Mar)
 - 137 - £126.04 – DALC subscription
 - 138 - £80.00 – Greenspace (Mar)
2. Cash at bank – £11,985.19 (including £900 Locality Grant and £126.93 VAT rebate)

6. CHAIR'S REPORT – J. Gordon

This report covers the period April 2016 – April 2017.

It has been a busy and productive year for the council and much has been attempted but, not all were achieved. Nonetheless, the successes are numerous and are worth noting for the record. 2016 saw the completion of a number of projects, notably:

- The refurbishment of the red telephone box in West Charleton.
- The installation of 2 Defibrillators; one into the telephone box at West Charleton, and the other at Ashby's filling station at East Charleton.
- First Aid and Defibrillator training at the village hall.

On-going village maintenance projects were continued; they included:

- Weeding and tidying of the flower beds.
- Refurbishment of 'Living Waters'.
- New signposts at 'The Marsh'.
- Grass cutting.
- Drain clearing (East Charleton) after flooding.

The council spent a lot of time and effort in pursuing measures that might slow down speeding traffic through the village, and a number of 'Traffic Calming' measures were employed. These included 'Speed Watch' and the 'Road Narrowing' project, outside the school. The road narrowing appears to have been a partial success, and has also added to the parking for pick-up and drop-off outside the school. However, Speed Watch was less successful due to lack of community support to provide the 3/4 person teams. It is worth commenting that while the Speed Watch was manned there was a noticeable slowing effect on traffic passing through the village.

The Parish council requested District and County support in resolving the speeding traffic problem and it was the County Council that provided funds for the Road Narrowing.

After much discussion, we have been able to establish that it is possible for the Parish to purchase a Reactive Speed Sign or Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) which will cost around £3000 from Parish funds, and we continue to pursue the possibility to establish a mini-roundabout at the bottom of Lyte Lane.

Keeping the village tidy and looking respectable became a problem when community support for working parties dried up. The Council was forced to use Council funds to contract 'professionals' to do the grass-cutting and weeding.

Other Activities include:

- Support to the village Church and community through the grant of funds for the churchyard upkeep, and for the annual fete. Interaction with the Devon Air Ambulance to try to find sites in or around the village to allow rapid emergency medical support and recovery after dark.

7. PLANNING & PLANNING MATTERS:

To consider: **1030/17/HHO – 10 Saunders Way, TQ7 2BS**

Proposed balcony on front elevation, extension at first floor over the existing garage and alterations to the existing parking
Following discussion it was **resolved** to recommend support

8. TO DISCUSS HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE/DRAINS/ROAD WARDEN SCHEME

- As above. The Road Warden Scheme has proved meaningless particularly because Road Wardens are not covered for personal injury insurance whilst carrying out tasks.

9. TO DISCUSS PARKING OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL

As above

CORRESPONDENCE: None

11. COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS –

Village Hall – B. Rogers – New kitchen has been fitted.

Footpaths – C. Cross – No report.

Events - B. Rogers – Fete meeting 9 people attended but there is insufficient support to hold the fete.

Church - S. Page – No report

Defibrillator checks – No report

**12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING in Charleton Village Hall – 11th May 2017 at 6.30pm
Annual Parish Council Meeting**

Signed
Chair

ACTION POINTS

Clerk	To contact Highways re. parking outside the school
Members	To arrange defibrillator training