

**Charminster Parish Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2010 at 7.30pm at Charlton Down Village Hall**

Present: Mark Simons (MS) (Chair), Tony Mackle (TM) (Vice-Chair), Keith Beeson (KB), Brian Charman (BC), Mark Ellis (ME), Dave Gulliford (DG), Phil Hanson (PHa), Peter Hopford (PHo), Jane House (JH), Crayston Lee (CL), Mike Ostridge (MO), Ian Vincent (IV)

Also present: Sarah Engerran (Clerk), Sarah East (SE) (District Councillor), Fred Horsington (FH) (District Councillor) and 5 members of the public.

2010/017 **Declarations of Interest**

DG declared an interest in 2010/027

ME declared an interest in 2010/026

2010/018 **To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Claire Horne and Jill Haynes

2010/019 **To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2010**

KB proposed the minutes be accepted. DG seconded. Majority in favour.

2010/020 **Matters arising from the above minutes**

ME apologised for the comments he made at the meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2010.

The clerk confirmed the following:

- A new bin for outside the school and Mill Lane had been arranged.
- The bin near the school crossing would be moved back from the pavement on to the grass.
- The bin outside the shop in Charlton Down would be emptied 3 times per week to see if this stops the bin from overflowing.
- 3 litter pickers have been purchased for use in Charlton Down (as agreed at March 2008 meeting)
- Ian Vincent has updated the Charminster.info website. Clerk to meet a website designer on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March.
- One item not included in correspondence received. Letter from Blanchards Bailey informing us the final figure for the 106 monies is actually slightly higher than WDDC's estimate. A cheque for £2,372.70 will be sent shortly.

2010/021 **Public Discussion Period**

MS temporarily suspended the meeting at 7.40pm. Sarah East arrived at 7.40pm

MS introduced Claire Williams from Tiddlywinks Toddler Group in Charminster. Claire explained that since the Parish Council's donation a year ago the number of parents attending the group has steadily increased although sometimes the group struggles to pay the hall rental charges of £12 per week. It has been unsuccessful in its application for the Car Boot Grant. The annual insurance is due soon at a cost of £70 and new toys are required. It was agreed that as the item was not on the agenda no financial decision could be made so the item will be put on the agenda for the next meeting. It was agreed that it should be considered at the same time as donations to other local groups.

The website was discussed and the possibility of the Parish Council linking in with the [www.charltondown.info](http://www.charltondown.info) website. IV explained that this was not really possible due to very specific regulations relating to government and local government websites.

The North Street road closures were discussed. MS explained that Dorset County Council have put in place a diversion that does not involve Herrison Road. However, it was agreed that although locals will no doubt use Herrison Road as an alternative route there was nothing the Parish Council could do to prevent this. MS explained that the road would be open during weekends and evenings.

Mill Lane – there was discussion regarding where liability would lie if the Parish Council carried out works on the road. A decision on this was to be made during the formal part of the meeting.

Environment Agency Meeting – DG confirmed that English Heritage has objected to the Grade 2 listed bridge being altered. DG confirmed this matter was being pursued.

The public discussion period ended at 8.05pm and MS resumed the meeting.

2010/022 **District Councillors Report**

FH informed the meeting that the swimming pool was on track for completion in 2011.

Purbeck District Council has pulled out of the Clustering Scheme.

The plans for the Charles Street Site will be going to committee in July.

ME asked FH if the new library planned for Charles Street will offer free ½ hr parking as is currently available. FH to find out and report back.

2010/023 **Planning Matters**

1/D/09/002020 – Trees for Rent Ltd, Wolfeton Eweleaze Road, Charminster  
Retain building for Christmas Tree packaging/potting and distribution.  
PHo proposed the council raise no objections. DG seconded. Majority in favour.

1/D/10/000214 – Forston House, Forston  
Agricultural Store

BC proposed the council raise no objections. IV seconded. Majority in favour.

2010/024 **Finance**

a) Members considered the Financial Statement – appendix 2. MS explained that although £211,599 was showing under Open Spaces money, £20,000 of that amount had in fact been allocated to the MUGA project at the previous meeting.  
KB proposed the Financial Statement be accepted. MO seconded. All in favour.  
ME requested that a spreadsheet be circulated detailing the £10,000 expenditure on the Nature Area.

**Action: Clerk to circulate spreadsheet**

b) Payments made since the last meeting - appendix 3. PHo asked what the payments for HMRC were for. The clerk explained they were in relation to NI contributions and tax. PHo proposed they be accepted. DG seconded. All in favour.

2010/205 **Recommendations from F&GP – appendix 4**

KB informed members he had met with Peter Woods, the Internal Auditor and reviewed the internal audit process. PW had praised the clerk saying the accounts are being kept in good order.

a) KB proposed that the MUGA contract be fully managed by the clerk, Chair and Vice-Chair within a budget maximum of the contract value + 20% on the condition the specification remains unchanged. PHo seconded. All in favour.  
b) KB proposed that NWAAC and the Clerk prepare a profile of capital expenditure to enable the Parish Council to look at longer term investment of the Open Spaces Money to maximise interest rates. PHo seconded. All in favour.

**MO to put on agenda for next NWAAC meeting**

c) KB proposed that all motions are supported by a Proposer and a Seconder and their names be recorded in the minutes. IV seconded. All in favour.

2010/026 **Recommendations from North Ward Amenities Advisory Committee**

a) CL proposed up to £1,500 is spent on purchase and installation of a new notice board for outside the Charlton Down Shop. The board should match the existing one which is a specific product so although best value should be obtained by the clerk, 3 quotes are not necessary. KB seconded. All in favour.

**Action: Clerk to purchase new notice board**

b) BC proposed the Parish Council write to the School Transport Department and request it considers the safety implications of the school by stopping opposite Herrison Cottages. ME seconded. Majority in favour.

**Action: Clerk to write to School Transport Department**

c) KB proposed that in principle the Open Spaces money be placed in two separate accounts. A current account with a cheque book and a PO savings account. ME seconded. Majority in favour.

2010/027 **Recommendations from South Ward Amenities Advisory Committee**

a) DG explained that 61 headstones in the cemetery are loose and repairs are required under Health and Safety. The clerk explained that only 2 companies had provided quotes despite others being asked. DG stated that Keith Pritchard had quoted £2,100 and proposed the Parish Council ask Keith Pritchard to carry out the repairs up to a limit of £2,500. CL seconded. Majority in favour. It was agreed that the headstones on the Open Spaces land in Charlton Down should also be inspected.

**Action: Clerk to authorise Keith Pritchard**

b) DG explained that there are approx 100 redundant metal grave markers in the Cemetery Shed that Keith Pritchard had suggested may be worth between £5 and £15. KB proposed the Parish Council should dispose of them at the best price it can get which includes the Clerk asking for a valuation from Dukes and checking eBay. PH seconded. Majority in favour.

**Action: Clerk to contact Dukes and investigate prices on eBay**

c) DG proposed asking John Masters to trim the hedge at Princes Plot for a maximum cost of £100. KB seconded. Majority in favour.

**Action: Clerk to authorise John Masters**

d) MS explained that the developers of Haydon Hill had provided £15,000 in lieu of public open space. The money was held by WDDC and was to be used for providing amenities for the village. It was unclear if this included bus shelters. DG proposed the Parish Council write to WDDC to enquire what the money can be spent on. KB seconded. Majority in favour.

**Action: Clerk to write to WDDC**

- e) DG proposed the Parish Council write to DCC Highways to ask what opportunities there are for planting trees (preferably native) along North Street. KB seconded. Majority in favour.

**Action: Clerk to write to DCC**

DG explained quotes had been obtained for installing tanalised timber posts near the seating area in Mill Lane (to prevent cars from turning there). It was agreed to obtain prices for alternatives materials including plastic and oak and discuss at the next meeting.

**Action: Clerk to obtain quotes**

DG proposed that under Health and Safety £75 be spent to repair the hole in the fence at the North Street Play area and £185 to repair the hole in the fence at the Broken Cross Play area. PHo seconded. Majority in favour.

**Action: Clerk to arrange for the work to be done**

- 2010/028 After members considered two quotes, BC proposed Grassby's repair the broken headstone of Herbert Cornick at a cost of £377 + VAT. ME seconded. Majority in favour.

**Action: Clerk to authorise Grassbys**

- 2010/029 Charlton Down

- a) MS proposed that both Charminster and Charlton Down take part in the West Dorset Spring Clean on 24<sup>th</sup> April. KB seconded. Majority in favour. MS to mention in the Pilot.
- b) MO proposed that due to the MUGA construction work scheduled to take place soon and issued including unsatisfactory bus shelters Charminster and Charlton Down do not take part in the Village of the Year award this year. PHa seconded. Majority in favour.
- c) MS explained he had amended the drawings for the Cedar Road Play Area. He has included sufficient room for a bench. MS circulated the revised drawings to all members. ME proposed the revised drawings be submitted. MO seconded. Majority in favour. KB proposed the Parish Council pay the appropriate planning fees as the money will be reimbursed by BT. TM seconded. Majority in favour.

**Action: Clerk to submit planning application**

- 2010/030 Charminster

- a) Scarecrow Event

DG explained that Claire Horne had spoken to Ian Donnelly and the school would be keen to take part in the event but may need a donation towards the materials. DG proposed to go ahead in principle with the event and for PHa to liaise with the Fete committee. A sum of £150 is donated to the school and £50 to the pre-school if they want to take part. PHo seconded. Majority in favour.

Mill Lane – Resurfacing (from earlier in meeting)

MS declared an interest in Mill Lane.

KB proposed up to £200 is spent on Mendip Type 1. The Parish Council will ask the PMU to use it to fill potholes. BC seconded. Majority in favour.

**Action: Clerk to contact PMU**

- 2010/031 Matters of Information and Interest and items for the next agenda.

PHa asked if progress had been made regarding the yellow lines at Charminster Cross. The clerk explained that the school crossing patrol department had not yet visited the site and there was no news from DCC.

**Action: Clerk to send chaser letter to school crossing patrol department.**

JH informed members that during her recent playground inspection she had found several used condoms near the play equipment. DG said that PCSO Pilcher was aware of the problem and it was agreed that members should monitor the situation.

KB requested that footpaths be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

KB requested that the Parish Council should at some time try to liaise with local businesses that operate in the Parish with a view to finding out if there are any ways in which the Parish Council can assist them.

MS informed members that he had retrieved the Alley Bridge footpath sign from the river. JH informed members that the Right of Way notice board was in need of repair. Clerk to obtain quotes. The footpath sign in Wanchard Lane, near Neil Bailey's house also needs repairing.

**Action: Clerk to obtain quotes and contact Rights of Way officer**

ME requested that NWWAC consider the derelict fence that runs along Herrison Road from the Cricket Pitch up towards the junction with Sherren Avenue.

There being no other business MS declared the meeting closed at 9.45pm.