

**CHARLTON HORETHORNE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 22 January 2018 in the Village Hall**

**Present:** Michael Hutchings (Chairperson), Tim Daniel, Trevor Gill, Geoff McHugh and Ann Reeder.

**Also present:** District and County Councillor William Wallace and PCSO John Winfield (from 19:43)

**Clerk:** Zöe Godden

17 members of the public were present at the start of the meeting.

**The meeting started at 19:30.**

1. To receive any apologies.

Apologies had been received from District Councillor Hayward Burt.

2. Public Open Session - to consider any matters raised by members of the public. The Chairperson will also invite members of the public to contribute during the meeting on appropriate matters.

Comments from members of the public in relation to fly tipping, a quote for Village Green maintenance and housing developments in Milborne Port were noted.

3. Members' declaration of interests

There were no declarations of interest.

4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 27 November 2017

**RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to approve the minutes as presented.**

5. To consider matters arising from the minutes:

- a. To hear feedback from a meeting regarding South Somerset Community Accessible Transport and consider a request for financial support from the Parish Council to maintain the service.

It was **agreed** that the Parish Council did not wish to give financial support to SSCAT at this time.

- b. To note SSDC's installation of a compound at the car park of the Kings Arms where residents were able to leave their used Christmas trees for free disposal.

**Noted.** Ann Reeder reported that SSDC would be providing chippings from Christmas tree shredding for use on the path from Water Lane to the Millennium Green.

**19:42** – PCSO John Winfield arrived at the meeting.

**PCSO John Winfield** reported issues with cold calling in Charlton Horethorne and other villages nearby. This had been dealt with but PCSO Winfield said that any future cold calling should be reported to the Police immediately, either directly to him or via the 101 number. PCSO Winfield also reported that thieves were targeting sheds and outbuildings, which should be secured, and asked members of the public to record the registration numbers of any suspicious vehicles and report these to the Police.

**19:55** – PCSO John Winfield left the meeting

5. Matters arising – continued:

Tim Daniel had reported the two areas where potholes were a problem, in Daws Lane/Maperton Road and in Cowpath Lane, to County Highways. These had been brought to the Council's attention at the last meeting. County Highways had not considered Daws Lane/Maperton Road to require attention at this time. The junction of Cowpath Lane and the B3145 had been patched and white lines were due to be repainted here. Potholes further up Cowpath Lane would be addressed in the 2019-20 financial year. County Highways had said they would consider jetting drains at the junction of Violet Lane and North Road and on the B3145. SSDC's street sweeper had been seen in the village earlier in the day.

**District and County Councillor William Wallace** reported that SCC needed to make savings of £13 million from this year's budget and that departments such as Highways and Waste would lose out to

the statutory functions including Schools and Adult Social Care. William said that the saving should be achieved, and looked forward to the new Business Rates funding from 2020,(the County had missed out on being a business rate retention pilot).

William said that he and District Councillor Hayward Burt were aware of the proposed cessation of the Speed Indicator Device Scheme and that he would take this up with John Woodman, SCC's portfolio holder for Highways.

Finally, William reported that he and Hayward Burt were not in favour of the changes to the ward boundaries proposed by the Boundary Commission. Charlton Horethorne would be grouped in a ward with Milborne Port and Henstridge, while some smaller Parishes were being moved out of the Blackmore Vale ward completely.

20.10 – William Wallace left the meeting

6. Council Matters, including implementation of the Community Plan
  - a. To receive reports from members on their areas of responsibilities, specifically in relation to the Community Plan, if any, and to agree timescales for the relevant policies

**Broadband Speeds** – Ann Reeder reported that Gigaclear, the company chosen to provide faster broadband as part of the Connecting Devon and Somerset project, had sub-contracted to a joint venture including Carillion, the company that had gone into liquidation this month. Ann would report to a future meeting with any developments.

7. Financial Matters
  - a. To approve the cash book and bank reconciliation for the period to 24 December 2017.

**RESOLVED: The Cash Book and Bank Reconciliation for the period to 24 December 2017, as verified by Tim Daniel, were approved and signed by the Chairperson.**

- b. To approve the following accounts for payment and two signatories for cheques:-

Zöe Godden	Salary & expenses December 2017 & January 2018	£ 332.20
HMRC	Income tax re Z Godden Dec 2017 & Jan 2018	£ 48.40
Henstridge Parish Council	11% contribution to the Clerk's SLCC membership - 2018/19	£ 21.30
Lifestyle Landscapes	Village Green and Stowell seat maintenance & repairs to paving at Village Green	£1153.98

**RESOLVED: The above accounts were approved for payment, having been checked by Trevor Gill before the meeting. Michael Hutchings and Tim Daniel, were agreed as cheque signatories.**

- c. To approve the quarter three budget vs spend sheet.

**RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to approve the quarter three budget sheet as presented.**

- d. To agree the budget and precept request for 2018-19, including decisions on grant requests and quotes for Village Green and Stowell seat maintenance

**RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to approve the grant requests as presented.**

Ann Reeder noted that all grant requests had been awarded in full, as per the application forms received.

Members discussed the quotes for maintenance to the Village Green and Stowell seat area at length. All three quotes were based on the same specifications. All members agreed that they were happy with the quality of the work carried out by Lifestyle Landscapes in recent years and said that they understood that Lifestyle Landscapes had incurred additional costs for disposal of waste. However, a quote had been received from SSDC that was £285.59 lower than the Lifestyle Landscapes quote. There was a discussion about the merits of supporting a local business set against the Council's duty to obtain best value for council tax payers.

**Action Parish Clerk**

**20:17** – The Chairperson allowed a public open session to allow members of the public to speak.

**20:21** – The public open session was brought to an end.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and agreed by four votes to one to accept the quote from SSDC for maintenance to the Village Green and Stowell seat area.

*Action Parish Clerk*

Michael Hutchings asked Ann Reeder to speak about the Local Council Award Scheme as the draft budget included an amount of £100 for this activity. Ann explained that the award scheme demonstrated the competence of Parish Councils who had successfully completed the process. Ann said that this could be an advantage when applying for grant funding as the award would differentiate Charlton Horethorne from other parishes without the award. Ann said that the award scheme was similar to the Hallmark scheme for Village Halls. Trevor Gill added that he felt the award would give credibility to the Council's decisions and would recognise the achievements the Council had made already. Geoff McHugh noted that very few Town and Parish Councils in Somerset had achieved the award and said that a lot of the Clerk's time would be needed to prepare the paperwork.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and agreed to apply for the Local Council Award Scheme. Three votes for; Two against.

*Action Parish Clerk*

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and unanimously agreed to approve the 2018-19 budget and precept request as presented.

*Action Parish Clerk*

Ann Reeder reminded members that we had sought public input before preparing the budgets in this and the previous two financial years. She suggested that the 2019-20 budget setting activity should have more involvement from members of the public and that this could take the form of a more structured budget consultation in October 2018. This would ensure that the Council knew public feeling on any potential increase to the precept and how additional funds could be used to improve the Parish.

- e. Any other financial matters.

There were no other financial matters to discuss.

8. Correspondence

- a. Somerset County Council – Notification of intention to terminate the Speed Indicator Device Programme – to agree how to respond and to agree that the Parish Council should apply to Avon and Somerset Police's Road Safety Fund to cover the cost of any supporting activities.

Members **agreed** that they supported the continuation of the SID scheme and that, in the first instance, methods for SCC continuing the scheme should be explored.

Tim Daniel explained that the Community Speedwatch (CSW) Group wanted to apply to Avon and Somerset Police's Road Safety Fund in order to address the impact of the reported cessation of the SID scheme. As the parish CSW Group did not have a constitution or a bank account, the Parish Council was being asked to apply for the grant and to receive and administer the funds for a replacement SID or similar device.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and agreed that the Parish Council would apply for the Road Safety Grant and receive and administer any funds awarded.

*Action Parish Clerk*

- b. South Somerset District Council – Invitation to comment on new ward boundary proposals

It was **agreed** that Michael Hutchings would draft a response for members to discuss and submit at the next meeting.

- c. Avon & Somerset Police – Notification of a Partners and Communities Together (PACT) meeting taking place on Tuesday 20 February from 7 to 9pm at Ansford Academy.

**Noted.**

9. Planning

- a. To report any relevant planning decisions made by SSDC: (TG)

- i. 17/04070/LBC – Church View, 643 High Street, Charlton Horethorne. DT9 4NL – Replacement windows at the front and rear of the dwelling – Refused  
Trevor Gill explained that the windows referred to in this application were particular to Charlton Horethorne and their historic value had been highlighted by the Conservation Officer.
- b. To note that the Parish Council decided it was unnecessary to convene a special meeting to consider two planning applications and made comments as follows:
  - i. 17/04616/FUL – 1 Blackford Way, North Road, Charlton Horethorne. DT9 4NS – Erection of a single storey rear porch extension – **RESPONSE:** We have visited the applicant and neighbours. There are no objections. Parish Councillors have discussed the application verbally and by email. They are unanimous in their support.
  - ii. 17/04715/FUL & 17/04716/LBC – The Manor, Horse Lane, Charlton Horethorne. DT9 4NL - The carrying out of various internal and external alterations to The Manor and outbuilding, demolition of outbuildings, erection of replacement outbuildings to form additional living accommodation, ancillary annexe/guest accommodation and garaging, the erection of an extension to The Manor which links through to proposed outbuildings/additional residential accommodation, alterations to boundary wall and formation of canopy to create covered courtyard (Revised Application) – **RESPONSE:** The applicant has been consulted. All immediate neighbours have been informed. There are no objections. Parish Councillors have discussed this verbally and by email. They are unanimous in their support, as they were when the previous application was discussed in depth at a recent PC Meeting.

**Noted.**

Trevor Gill reported that Historic England was still objecting to the proposed changes to The Manor, specifically to internal remodelling, the scale of alterations to outbuildings and the glazed dome. As a result, SSDC's decision would be deferred for two to three weeks.

**21:58** – The Chairperson allowed a public open session to allow members of the public to speak.

**21:03** – The public open session was brought to an end.

10. Items of Report / Future Business

No items of report or future business were raised.

11. Public Open Session - to consider any matters raised by members of the public.

Comments from members of the public relating to the Local Council Award Scheme and precept request were noted.

12. Date of Next Meeting: 26 February 2018

**The meeting ended at 21:10.**



Zöe Godden  
Parish Clerk