

Annual Report 2016-17

Charlton Horethorne Parish Council

www.charltonhorethornepc.org.uk



Parish Council meetings

Nine meetings of the Parish Council took place in 2016 - 7. Attendance by the public averaged 19 residents, peaking at 24. Meetings were also attended by the two District and County Councillors, the Police Community Support Officer and his Beat Manager. Councillors have been professionally supported throughout the year by part-time Parish Clerk, Zöe Godden. Issues raised in public open session and taken up by the Parish Council included broadband coverage and speed, a broken stile and gate, dog fouling, drains, footpaths, overgrown foliage, parking, signs, speeding, traditional finger post restoration and an unadopted road.

Annual Parish Meeting

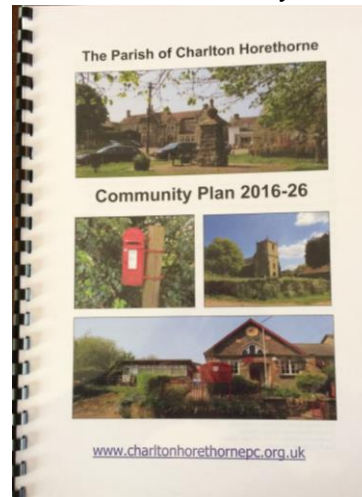
The Annual Parish Meeting took place on Sunday 7 May, attended by 41 people.

Angela Kerr, Chief Executive Officer of the Citizens Advice South Somerset (recipient of a Parish Council grant) outlined the services that are provided and the changing need to which they respond. Newly elected district councillor, Hayward Burt, was introduced. Table based discussions took place on topics for the further implementation of the Community Plan. Policies considered included additional facilities for sport, young children and teenagers; potential need for allotments, small workshops and offices and a design guide.



Charlton Horethorne Community Plan

The Parish Council approved 26 policies to form the Community Plan in July 2016.



This had been produced in just ten months by a working group of nine residents (of whom three were parish councillors), supported by a South Somerset District Council grant and officer. 60% of the questionnaires were completed,

a high rate of return, and almost as many housing needs surveys. Both the Community Plan and the findings from the housing needs survey inform the work of the Parish Council.

Planning

The Lead Member for planning and the Chair routinely consulted applicants and neighbours about planning applications. Feedback was sent to SSDC's Area East Committee. Two briefings by agents for potential developers were attended by parish councillors regarding possible sites. Feedback was given at Parish Council meetings. Both agents have been briefed about the Community Plan policies and encouraged to hold public meetings, ideally before a planning application is made.

Affordable homes

A public meeting on 12 March gave overwhelming support to the idea of a Community Land Trust to build affordable homes. The first steering group meeting took place on 27 April.

Street scene

Parish Councillors held two sessions to tidy up the street scene, cleaning signs and clearing trouble spots. Grit boxes have been cleaned and filled. We arranged for SSDC to collect Christmas trees from the village for shredding.

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Grants awarded in the 2017-8 budget

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|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Millennium Green Trust | £1200 |
| Village Hall running costs | £400 |
| Parish Church grounds maintenance | £385 |
| Stowell Church grass cutting | £250 |
| Waterhouses' restoration* | £180 |
| Parish magazine | £50 |
| South Somerset Citizens Advice | £50 |

*grant from the Community Plan balance

A health and wellbeing grant from our County Councillor funded four local walks' leaflets. One from SSSC will help repair waterhouses.

Parish Council Website

A Government grant enabled us to set up www.charltonhorethornepc.org.uk and buy IT equipment for the Parish Council's sole use.

Consultation

The Parish Council responded to consultations on rural housing, on the historic environment and on hate crime. Parish Councillors took part in training on planning and the community infrastructure levy and attended regional and county meetings for local councils.

Road safety

County Highways have helped with road safety, including Speed Indicator Devices and road narrows signs. Work is underway to extend the 30 mph zone. Support was given to Stowell residents to install a viewing mirror on the Mount Lane junction. Community Speed Watch was formed with the support of the police. Trained volunteers hold regular speed watch sessions.

Parish Councillors (names, lead roles and contact details below; from left to right in the photo)



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|---|---|
| Michael Hutchings Local economy | mbh@dircon.co.uk 07768 105777 |
| Tim Daniel Parish liaison, traffic and road safety | timdaniel.chpc@btinternet.com 01963 220378 or 07903 240082 |
| Ann Reeder External liaison | ann.reeder.chpc@btinternet.com 01963 220378 or 07903 964812 |
| Trevor Gill Planning | trevorgillpc@btinternet.com 01963 220767 |
| Geoff McHugh Community Plan | mchugh_hill@hotmail.com 01963 220044 or 07711 089094 |

Dates of Parish Council meetings in 2017-8 in Charlton Horethorne Village Hall from 7.30 pm

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| Monday 22 May - Council Annual Meeting | Monday 22 January 2018* |
| Monday 10 July | Monday 26 February |
| Monday 4 September | Monday 9 April |
| Monday 16 October | Monday 21 May – Council Annual Meeting |
| Monday 27 November – guest speaker: Sue Mountstevens, Police & Crime Commissioner | (*January meeting has been moved from 15 to 22 to enable a pantomime dress rehearsal) |

Annual Parish Meeting 2018: Sunday 29 April with guest speaker: David Warburton MP

Meeting agendas, minutes, Community Plan, budget, grants: www.charltonhorethornepc.org.uk

Zöe Godden, Parish Clerk (part-time): clerk@charltonhorethorne.org.uk or 07340 113045

Mailing list for notification of meetings, Parish Council matters etc: timdaniel.chpc@btinternet.com