

## CHARLTON HORETHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

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### MINUTES

#### **Charlton Horethorne Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Charlton Horethorne on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 7.30pm.**

An opportunity for members of the electorate of the Parish to speak took place at 7.30 and concluded at 7.37. Items covered included: - Kings Arms Hotel and reports that information included in the refusal report issued by Somerset Council were inaccurate. Concerns expressed that the road sign at the crossroads towards Milborne Port Road is damaged.

- 1. Present:** - Cllr archer, Cllr Lynch, Cllr Pipe, Cllr Thornaham, Cllr McHugh
- 2. In attendance:** - Cllr Hayward Burt, Cllr Nicola Clark, Ann Lee Parish Clerk and 30 residents.
- 3. Apologies for Absence.** To **RECEIVE AND APPROVE** apologies for absence including reasons given (Local Government Act 1972 s85 (1) **Bill Closs**
- 4. Declarations of Interest.** (Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any Pecuniary or Other interests they may have under the Localism Act 2011 and the Council's Code of Conduct). **Cllr Archer declared an interest in Harvest Lane and The Kings Arm Hotel. Cllr Lynch registered his interest in the Harvest Lane Application.**
- 5. To APPROVE as a correct record the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on Monday 23 June 2025.** (Local Government Act 1972 Sch 12). **Proposed as an accurate record by Cllr Archer, seconded by Cllr Lynch and unanimously carried**
- 6. To APPROVE as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 7 July 2025.** (Local Government Act 1972 Sch 12). **Proposed as accurate by Cllr Archer, seconded by Cllr Lynch and unanimously carried.**

Minute item	Action	Responsibility
<b>21.10.24 10c</b> <b>9.12.24</b>	To RECEIVE progress report regarding access to the land near Charwell field for the public and consider the feasibility of grant applications for any work required vs community benefit. Grant applications are possible from Health Grant funds from the Unitary Authority. Cllr Archer has previously written twice to the Council to seek verification of land transfer but not received a reply. He stated that he will pursue this. <b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Cllr Archer</b>          <b>Agenda item</b>

#### **7. Reports**

**a To receive any police notifications.** Cllr Archer stated that the reports received were not relevant to the parish or neighbouring area.

**b To receive Unitary Councillor September 2025 reports from Cllr Nicola Clark and Cllr Hayward Burt.**

**Household Recycling Centres.** Cllr Burt and Cllr Clark jointly reported that Somerset Council continues to engage with Dorset Council regarding the impact of the new booking and charging system at Dorset's Household Recycling Centres (HRCs), particularly Sherborne and Shaftesbury, which are the nearest sites for many residents in the Blackmoor Vale division. Dorset Council has confirmed its decision to implement a booking system at four of its ten HRCs—Sherborne, Shaftesbury, Dorchester, and Wimborne. This move is intended to manage

operational costs and reduce cross-border waste inputs, which Dorset estimates cost approximately £60,000 per site annually. Data from Dorset indicates that 22% of waste received at Sherborne originates from Somerset residents. Dorset's justification for the booking system is twofold:

- To reduce the disposal, handling and treatment costs associated for out of county waste.
- To achieve operational savings by discouraging non-resident use (commercial use)

In discussions between the Waste Service Officers at Somerset Council and Dorset officers, Dorset has expressed a willingness to explore options that would allow continued access for Somerset residents. These include:

- A financial contribution from Somerset to support the operation of the affected sites.
- Should Somerset Council at any time in the future implement a booking system, an undertaking to consider a reciprocal booking arrangement.
- A similar arrangement exists between Hampshire and Dorset, where Hampshire operates a booking system and receives financial contributions from Dorset Council.

Somerset Council is continuing to monitor the situation and assess the operational and contractual implications of any potential contribution or system changes. Further updates will be provided as discussions progress.

### Planning Backlog

Cllr Burt and Clark both acknowledged the planning backlog since Monday 28<sup>th</sup> July and stated they had not received further updates from the council and that this is proving challenging for residents and Parishes. They will inform the PC if there is any further information.

**Police presence.** Both Cllrs expressed their disappointment that Amanda Ware will remain in Yeovil and not return to her post locally. Cllr Burt reported that there have been several garden machinery burglaries in the local area involving three people using a van.

### 8. Planning

- a) **To receive an update on the 23/02275/Hybrid following application refusal by Somerset Council:** Cllr McHugh reported that the application had been refused on the 28<sup>th</sup> August. He referred to the decision notice letter to the appellant which cited 7 reasons for refusal. The appellant has 6 months to lodge an appeal.

- b) **To consider new Planning Applications:** Cllr Lynch outline the following applications.

Application Number	Proposal	Applicant details	Planning Officer
<b>Number:</b> 25/02121/TCA  <b>Notification</b> <b>Only for work to trees</b>	<b>Location:</b> Charlton Horethorne House Water Lane Charlton Horethorne Sherborne Dorset DT9 4NX <b>Proposal:</b> To reduce the canopy radial spread of No.1 Walnut tree	<b>Applicant:</b> Willis	<b>Ben Parkinson (Tree Officer)</b> ben.parkinson@somerset.gov.uk

	radially by 4 metres, reduce main stems of No. 1 Chanticleer Pear tree by 2 metres, trim house side quadrant of No. 1 Horse Chestnut tree to replicate historical reduction, reduce overextended limb of No. 1 Lime tree by 4 metres and remove dead wood and dying section of a Silver Birch group due to ongoing basal decay within a Conservation Area.		
<b>25/01714/HOU</b>  <b>19 August deadline</b>	<b>Location</b> Bumble Cottage, Maperton Road Charlton Horethorne, Sherborne Dorset DT9 4N <b>Proposal</b> Single storey flat roofed extension to front of property	<b>Mr and Mrs Gilbert</b>	<b>Sophie Murray (Graduate Planning Officer)</b> <b>sophie.murray@somerset.gov.uk</b> <b>Currently awaiting decision</b>

**c) To note recent SSDC Planning Decisions: Cllr Lynch** noted all the current applications that are awaiting decision from the Planning Officers.

<b>Application number</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Applicant details</b>	<b>Decision</b>
<b>24/02967/FUL</b>	<b>Location:</b> Barn At Golden Valley Farm Green Lane Charlton Horethorne Sherborne Dorset <b>Proposal:</b> Conversion and extension of an agricultural barn to form one residential unit, and ancillary works	<b>Applicant:</b> Hopkins Estates Ltd	Awaiting decision
<b>25/00085/FUL</b> <b>PP 13543904</b>	<b>Location:</b> Kings Arms Hotel <b>Proposal:</b> Conversion of Rear 2 Storey previous extension to No. 2 Two-Bedroom Flats and Change of Use of two-Bedroom Barn Conversion from Ancillary use to an independent dwelling. To construct a Detached New Build 2 Storey Dwelling to the rear of the site. Demolish outbuilding and erect car port.	<b>Applicant:</b> Mr and Mrs Lethbridge	Awaiting decision
<b>Application Type:</b> <b>Full Application</b> <b>Application Number:</b> <b>24/02972/FUL</b>  .	<b>Location:</b> Golden Valley Farm Water Lane Charlton Horethorne Sherborne Dorset DT9 4NX  <b>Proposal:</b> Conversion of 3 agricultural barns into 3 dwellings, demolition of a 4 <sup>th</sup> agricultural barn to allow for the erection of a 4th dwelling with existing access from Water Lane and creation of a new access from Daw's Lane and ancillary works	<b>Applicant:</b> Hopkins Estates Ltd	Awaiting decision
<b>24/01564/FUL</b> <b>24/02846/S73</b>  <b>Deadline extended until 21 January 25.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Slait Cottages Sigwells Sherbourne  <b>Proposal:</b> Demolish agricultural buildings and the erection of detached two storey dwelling	<b>Applicant:</b> Mr And Mrs Bazzard	Awaiting decision Approved for 5 dwellings
<b>Full Application Number:</b> <b>25/01410/FUL</b>	<b>Proposal:</b> Erection of 4no. dwellings in place of existing barns with Class Q Approval. <b>Location:</b> Dragon Manor Farm Stowell Lane Charlton Horethorne Sherborne Dorset DT9 4PD	<b>Applicant:</b> Mr Andrew Clark	Awaiting decision.
<b>23/02502/FUL</b>	<b>Location</b> Land At Ciderhouse, Farm Sigwells Sherborne Dorset DT9 4LN		<b>Awaiting decision</b>

	<b>Proposal</b> change of use and conversion of an agricultural building (originally built as an airfield fire station) for use as a single private dwelling, with associated curtilage and the erection of a garage No case officer assigned to application 9/12/24		
<b>25/01541/HOU</b>	<b>Location</b> St Georges Cottage Stowell Lane Charlton Horethorne Sherborne DT94PD <b>Proposal</b> The erection of a detached garage, single storey front porch, single storey rear extension and rear balcony	<b>Mr Purcell</b>	<b>Approved</b>

## 8 Finance

A) To **note** Receipts and Payments made with matched bank reconciliation for August 2025. **Cllrs noted payments made and examined the bank statements.** The Clerk reported that the Business Reserve held £3,624.74 and the Current Account held £21,807.73. This leaves **Available funds of £25,432.47.**

B) To **approve** payments for September 2025. The Clerk presented the following schedule indicating that available funds **post the September payment would be £24,884.49**

### Payment schedule September 2025

Payee	Particulars	Amount
STAFF (A Lee)	SALARY August	£158.22
STAFF (A Lee)	SALARY September	£158.22
PHONE /Home Working (A Lee)	August	£36.00
TRAVEL (A Lee)	September	£14.34
PHONE /Home Working (A Lee)	September	£36.00
HMRC	PAYE August	£39.60
Village Hall	Hire	£33.60
Milbourne Computing	Domain Change	£72.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£547.98</b>

- d) To **approve** previously submitted grant application for lychgate roof renovation following receipt of quotes. **Cllr Archer. Cllr Archer proposed a contribution in line with the previous application of £600. This was seconded by Cllr Lynch and unanimously carried.**
- e) To **approve** request for a donation of **£30** contribution towards Somerset Art Works **Cllr Archer. Cllrs collected refused this application on this occasion.**
- f) To **approve** a request for a **£200** donation towards the Village Fireworks event. **Proposed by Cllr Archer, seconded by Cllr Pipe, unanimously agreed.**

## 10 Council Matters

- a) To **agree** to proceed with the refurbishment plans for the Village Notice Board, **Cllr Lynch. Proposed by Cllr Lynch and seconded by Cllr Archer and unanimously carried.**
- b) To **note** the Highway safety defects document that provides evidence of activity relevant to the Parish **Cllr Archer.** Safety repairs pertinent to the parish that had been completed were noted.
- c) To **agree** to complete the Parish Preparedness survey and submit to Somerset Council by the 19<sup>th</sup> September **Cllr Archer.** Details of the survey

were discussed. Action Cllr Archer to complete and submit on behalf of the PC.

- d) To **respond** to concerns to deny access to recycling in Dorset by Somerset residents, especially Sherborne **Cllr Pipe**. Cllr Pipe reported that resident within the parish were expressing their disappointment in the decision made by Dorset. He added practical & environmental harms including:

**Longer, unnecessary car trips.** WRAP says HWRC networks should be planned by drive-time (≈20 mins urban / 30 mins rural), not administrative lines. Postcode bans force many border residents to exceed these travel times, adding congestion, emissions and time costs for no environmental gain.

**Higher fly-tipping risks.** England already saw 1.15 million fly-tip incidents in 2023/24 (DEFRA 2024) any extra barriers (distance, hassle, charges) risk nudging marginal behaviour the wrong way. The government explicitly removed DIY-waste charges at HWRCs to reduce disincentives and improve consistency—postcode bans pull the other way (DEFRA 2023).

**Network fragility.** When a nearby site closes for maintenance, queues spike or there's a local incident, a rigid "residents-only" rule prevents people using the nearest open facility, hurting service resilience and road safety (queuing at sub-optimal sites). WRAP guidance and council operations evidence favour flexible, demand-managed access (e.g., booking) over blunt residency gates (LGA 2022) **Cllr Hayward assured Cllrs that he will take these comments forward and share the residents concern with Somerset Council to assist negotiations with Dorset Council.**

- e) To **respond** to Somerset's local transport plan **Cllr Archer**. **Cllr McHugh stated that the plan needs to properly integrate with Local Plan. He made the following comments which fellow Cllrs endorsed:-**

- Highways policies and standards shouldn't be compromised when new Planning Applications are considered, particularly with regard to road safety issues for residential developments. This is a potential issue given the increasing pressure for the County to meet Government housing targets.
- LTP and planning decisions need to recognise the cumulative effect on congestion/safety of multiple residential developments in rural areas (ie not just assess the impact of each individual application independently)
- The need to support the pilot schemes to re-categorise roads as access only, so they don't appear on Satnav routes, to stop lorries using inappropriate country roads. Cllrs agreed to offer to be a pilot site for this scheme (Blackford Road)
- Somerset is primarily a rural county; rural areas must not take third place in the LTP development process behind primary and local service centres. Specific small village issues and policies must be addressed, for example villages on B roads that don't want street lighting but do want traffic calming measures.
- The LTP needs to think more creatively about what county-wide, co-ordinated, low-cost rural transport policies can be implemented, eg car share schemes, call a cab.
- The LTP should explain how fast internet and better mobile coverage could change travel patterns in rural areas.

f) To **update** progress with the Abri Sale of property. **Cllr Archer. Cllr Archer reported that this item remains ongoing.**

g) To **agree** to progress the existing Community Plan review vs a Neighbourhood plan **Cllr Archer**

Cllr Archer reminded the PC that residents (previous meeting) were in favour of revising the community plan. All residents present (28) unanimously indicated they were in favour of supporting the revision of the 2016 plan to extend its usefulness to reflect the impact of Somerset Councils Local Plan with provision to expand it to a Neighbourhood plan in the future if profitable. Cllr Archer **proposed that Cllrs agree to review of the current Community Plan by May 2026 making minor amendments, taking steps to secure a grant to support its development and set up a working group with volunteers by October 2025. This was seconded by Cllr Lynch and unanimously agreed by all Cllrs. ACTION: Cllr Archer to lead this activity.**

h) To **receive** an update from the LCN **Cllr Archer**. Cllr Archer referred to the minutes of the LCN AGM minutes reported that the LCN were creating a working group to separately address issues relating to planning matters, including local and national policy concerns.

i) To **note** any further progress with Charwell Fields **Cllr Archer**. Cllr Archer stated that there were no further updates and that Landlords are continuing to be sensitively approached **Ongoing**

j) To **receive** the Council's current Risk Assessment and Management document amendments. **Cllr Pipe**. Cllr Pipe proposed the adoption of the revised risk document, this was seconded by Cllr Thornham and unanimously agreed. **Cllr Pipe asked the Clerk to include this as a standing item in future to ensure risks are reviewed in accordance with calendar within the document.**

k) To **agree Items for the next meeting:**

- Progress on the Community Plan project including grant access and working group schedule, work plan and volunteers secured
- Progress with Abri complaint
- Provision for budget plan

9. **Date of Next meeting** – The next proposed dates for the Parish Council meeting will be held on the **30<sup>th</sup> November 2025**. All items for inclusion on the agenda and all items to be listed under issues arising from previous meetings must be received by the Clerk by **9.00am 20th November 2025**

**Ann Lee Parish Clerk**