

Charmouth Parish Council

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MINUTES OF THE PLAYING FIELD, CEMETERY AND STREET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 6:30PM ON TUESDAY 30th AUGUST 2022

In attendance: Cllrs Jane Bremner, Andrew Lightfoot, Katie Moore, Peter Noel, Martin Sayers and the Deputy Clerk, Melissa Kirkby

PCS24.22 PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS

No public in attendance.

PCS25.22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none.

PCS26.22. DISPENSATIONS

None received.

PCS27.22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

PCS28.23 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Playing Field, Cemetery and Street Management Committee held on the 28th June 2022 were agreed as a correct record and signed.

PCS29.24 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

At the previous meeting councillors had asked what the meaning of the Parish Council shield. The Chair read an email from the Clerk stating that she had been told the castle relates to when Charmouth was owned by Forde Abbey and it's Abbots were Charmouth's Lords for 400 years. The boat relates to when the Danes landed at Charmouth and fought a fierce battle, hence the red for the amount of blood shed.

PCS30.22 PROGRESS REPORTS

a. Highways Issues

The Chair spoke about the ongoing issue of the weeds on the A35 roundabout. These have now been cleared and there is ongoing discussion between National Highways and John Calder regarding ragwort on the A35. The Council is kept updated as Mr Calder copies us in the emails to them.

b. Footpaths

The Chair reported that the Deputy Clerk had contacted Dorset Council about having additional signs pointing out the route of the new footpath to Lyme Regis, but no reply has been received yet. The public are also not being directed properly from the Lyme Regis start of the footpath. The Deputy Clerk will chase for a response.

c. New Playground sign (Zurich recommendation) - draft for approval

The members were happy with the new sign draft for the playground equipment area. However, after discussion they thought there should in future be an additional sign pointing out that dogs were allowed to be walked along the route of the footpath across the playing field if on a lead. The sign should be located at the starting point of the footpath where it enters the playing field and make clear the actual route of the footpath.

PCS31.22 HAZARD & INCIDENT REPORT

The Chair reported that there had been an incident where the Air Ambulance had not been able to use the Playing Field as a landing site because the gates had been blocked by a vehicle which stopped the land ambulance gaining access. A new sign has now been fitted to the gates

PCS32.22 DISCUSSION ITEMS / TO BE NOTED

a. Environment Group Notes

i. Replacement of dead sapling trees and additional planting

The Chair explained that a number of the newly planted trees had died. Cllr Lightfoot had seen an advert for free trees to replace them but once transport had been organised, they had been taken by others. He asked that provision be made of some extra equipment to facilitate easier watering arrangements. This would entail a trolley, suitable water containers and positioning of a large water butt by the bowling green pavilion. The Chair confirmed that the Council already owned a trolley for use during a flood but the Flood Warden was happy for it to be used to help with watering. It was agreed to use the existing trolley and for Cllr Lightfoot to liaise with the Clerk for access to the Pavilion.

ii. Review of Information Plaques

The Chair reported that the Clerk is liaising with Dorset Council to establish responsibility and to find out where the original artwork is for the existing information plaque.

It was agreed that there should be a plaque of the same style at the playing field. The members requested that a quote be obtained for a stone cairn in keeping with the one at the foreshore. It was agreed that the Environment Group should draft the information plaque and that there would be potentially three cairns for information plaques.

b. Changes to Notice Board in Lower Sea Lane

The Chair explained that Cllr Leah had an idea of reviewing the information board at Lower Sea Lane. Possibly dividing about how things are arranged:

1. permanent things such as the bus time table and maybe a map with the location of library, bus stops
2. one off village social events
3. ongoing / regular village social events

The members agreed they liked this idea and suggested the Office Administrator implement a trial.

c. Maintenance of St Andrews Drive

The Chair explained that during the SW In Bloom preparations, Cllrs had cleared the weeds from the private road which is the responsibility of Anchor Housing. This was because kerbs were covered in very tall weeds and looked really bad. Cllr Lightfoot requested that the Council write to Anchor Housing requesting that they maintain the road to a better standard. It was agreed that the Chair would draft a letter to them.

d. Worn playground equipment

The Chair reported that the bottom part of the ramp on the wooden climbing frame had rotted and was repaired by the staff. The piece of equipment is very old and the members agreed that funding should be put aside for replacement in the not-too-distant future. Currently there is £5468 in the dedicated playground reserve but the members asked that more be added for next year's budgets.

e. Barrs Lane repairs

The members had discussed the potholes at the lower part of Barrs Lane. Although privately owned the lane is mostly used by people visiting the playground. Therefore, it is in the residents' interest for the Council to enable repairs. A quote had been received of £540.00 + VAT. This would be for two people for the day. To scrape off what humps have appeared and fill in holes using excess material from scraping. Then to compact back down using a hired in vibrating roller. The best time to do this would be late October or November when the area is wet again allowing the material to bind together when damp. Cllr Noel had spoken to the landowner who seemed willing to help contribute to the cost. It was agreed that the work should be done and agreed that approval of the quote should be referred to the Finance Committee.

PCS33.22 CORRESPONDENCE

a. Fitness class application

An application had been received to hold 2 x 1hr classes a week at the playing field. The classes will be early morning with the intention of being gone by 9.00am. She is a fully insured Level 3 personal trainer. To note only, permission given by Deputy Clerk

b. Complaint received about the A35 roundabout

A complaint was received from Steve Molloy. He said "the roundabout at the top of the Charmouth by pass in Dorset is so overgrown as to make it dangerous. There are 5 roads coming onto the roundabout and the height of the vegetation means you cannot see vehicles negotiating the roundabout until too late. I understand the local parish council has also complained but nothing done! Re-wilding is important but this reduces vision and is DANGEROUS."

The Office Administrator reported the complaint to National Highways but the roundabout was being cleared anyway.

c. Request received for a memorial tree in the playing field

The Chair reported that a request had been received from a lady to plant a memorial tree in the playing field. Whilst being sympathetic to the applicant the members felt that if any tree planted as a memorial ever needed cutting back or felling then inevitable there would be upset caused. It would also be hard to refuse any future applications and this would lead to future problems. The members agreed that it was best not to allow any new memorial trees in the playing field.

The meeting closed at 7.26 pm.

Signed

Dated

Referred to Finance Committee

PCS32.22 (d) Worn Play Ground Equipment

PCS32.22 (e) Barrs Lane

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