

CHARSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting Held on Monday, 11th March 2024

Present: Councillors Pedgrift (Chair), Haird, Moor, Laird and Pam Hembra (Parish Clerk)

Members of the Public: 3

		Action
1.	Apologies and Approval of Absence	
	Councillors Sharp, McArthur and Youngman - approved	
2.	Declarations of Interest	
	None	
3.	Approval of Minutes of the Minutes held on 22nd January and 12th February 2024	
	Minutes were approved and signed by Councillor Pedgrift	
4.	Progress Reports for Information or Matters Arising	
	<p>Thanks were given to the Flood Action Group for distributing sand bags during the recent flooding.</p> <p>The Queen's Canopy – after the concern from the public the oak trees are to be moved inwards and spaced out further along the field. Mr Fane will also make some space for off road parking for the school which was greatly appreciated.</p> <p>ESPA Conference – The Chair and Clerk attended and found very useful.</p> <p>Thermal Camera Booking – 14 properties were photographed and copies forwarded to the home owners along with helpful information which had been sent to us by the Thermal Camera Team at Suffolk Council. We also reported our findings back to SC.</p> <p>Community Energy Fund – a meeting took place in the Village Hall on Friday, 8th March and was well attended. A show of interest was needed to go on to the next stage and a small group of villagers will complete the grant form in the hope of obtaining £40,000 for a feasibility study.</p> <p>Drainage on the new development – The Chair contacted Suffolk Council and an Enforcement Officer came out on 1st March. The Drainage Team will be coming back with the Enforcement Officer on 17th April.</p>	

<p>5.</p>	<p>Points from the public – A chance for the public to raise matters of relevant interest.</p> <p>Active Travel Woodbridge are proposing changes in South Woodbridge - including junction improvements, traffic calming and footway widening with the aim to create a 2km low traffic route through Sandy Lane, California, Old Barrack Road, Bullards Lane and Bilney Road.</p> <p>A survey is being undertaken and it is suggested that anyone regularly driving to Woodbridge should look at the plans and if necessary complete the survey.</p> <p>Further details and the survey on this will be forwarded to the Chair to send out.</p>	<p>Chair</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Reports County Council (full report available on request)</p> <p>District Council (full report available on request)</p> <p>Recreation Ground</p> <p>Village Hall</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Charsfield Flood Action Group Report attached below.</p> <p>An early warning system is needed.</p> <p>Bealings are setting up a company with the intention of doing a lot of the work themselves.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p>Road Safety</p>	
	<p>8.1 Road Safety Plan – 66 responses have been received. The closing date for completion of the survey is 31st March. Councillors Haird and Pedgrift and Simon Rixon will meet on 15th March to discuss the data analysis.</p> <p>8.2 Partnership Road Safety Forum Meetings The Chair attended the last meeting and forwarded her notes to councillors.</p> <p>SpeedWatch has started up again in the village and the Neighbourhood Enforcement Officers have been attending at busy times.</p> <p>The Chair is unable to attend the Partnership Meeting by Zoom on 9th September and is asking for someone to take her place.</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p>Planning:</p>	
	<p>The Three Horseshoes Public House – Councillor Moor and David Wolfe both spoke at the planning meeting and the vote was 5 to 3 against the application</p>	

	<p>but the Chair of East Suffolk Planning agreed to a site meeting which will be on 21st March – the Chair and David Wolfe will be allowed to attend but cannot speak.</p> <p>Planning Application DC/24/0645/VOC – Variation of Condition for demolition of Rose Villa, Monewden Road – the PC have no objections.</p>					
10.	Finance					
	10.1 To authorise payments as listed below:					
	Date	Detail	Ref	Power	Amount	
	29/01/2024	Cartridge Save	Bank Transfer	LGA 1972 s.111	£38.65	
	19/02/2024	A Ward (kiosk)	Bank Transfer	LA 1972 SS133	£39.25	
	19/02/2024	SALC (training)	Bank Transfer	LGA 1972 s.111	£61.20	
	19/02/2024	Penny Lane Computers	Bank Transfer	LGA 1972 s.111	£74.99	
	19/02/2024	Communities Together	Bank Transfer	LGA 1972 s.145	£105.00	
	<p>10.2 Bank Balance as at 29th February 2024 –</p> <p>– current account: £7,902.11</p> <p>– savings account: £6,011.10</p> <p>10.3 To note receipt of income as listed:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Communities Together Grant £500.00</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Remains of Previous Over Sixties Club fund £261.50</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Interest on Deposit Account £11.10</p> <p>10.4 Bank reconciliations were agreed and signed</p> <p>10.5 The Chair asked if she could purchase a software package to convert documents to .pdfs. This was agreed.</p>					
11.	Village Hall Insurance					
	<p>As from 2025 the Parish Council will only pay for the insurance of the buildings and ask the Village Hall Management Committee to pay for the contents. This was proposed by Councillor Laird and seconded by Councillor Haird. Clerk to pay the insurance and also to contact the Village Hall Management Committee.</p>					Clerk
12.	Emergency Plan					
	Meeting on Tuesday, 19 th March at 2 pm. Chair to download new template.					Chair
13.	Charsfield Together					
	A few items were discussed as ideas for future events for the village such as a Beetle Drive, bingo, a barbecue possibly with a live band or a picnic. To be discussed further.					
14.	Tree Warden					
	We now have three Tree Wardens - Graeme Sagar, Steve Moor and Graham Pettingale. There is a course at Ufford Community Hall on Community Trees and Woodland for Wildlife on Saturday, 11 th May 2024 at a cost of £20 which the Parish Council would pay for.					Chair

15.	Councillor Training	
	Councillor Haird is now booked in for the full course.	
16.	CIL Funding Report – to ratify end of year accounts	
	The Chair proposed we accept the CIL Report which details our receipt of £4,706.70 in CIL funding from East Suffolk. Nothing has been spent to date. Councillor Moor seconded this proposal.	
17.	Devolution Offer to Suffolk	
	The Government Devolution offer to Suffolk will be launched by SCC on 18 th March and a public survey issued on that day. It was stressed that this is a very important event which will affect the way Suffolk is governed and financed in the future and people are encouraged to participate	Chair
18.	Telephone Kiosk	
	A new grant application has been made to the Heritage Fund by UEA and if forthcoming they will be in a position to fund the photoboards for display in the kiosk.	
19.	Village Historian Update	
	John Fox is helping an A level student which a project on the village.	
20.	Date of Next Meetings	
	<p style="text-align: center;"> Tuesday, 7th May 2024 to include Annual Parish Meeting Monday, 22nd July 2024 Monday, 23rd September Monday, 25th November 2024 </p>	
	The meeting closed at 8:50 pm.	

CFAG Report to PC Meeting 11/3/24

Liaison with Agencies and S19 Report Input

Since the previous report we have continued to complete the data collection exercise but have yet to commence collation and analysis. The headlines remain as before i.e. 25 homes flooded inside many people moved out and still out. We have had no contact since January report from the S19 Report team at SCC (Ellie Beecroft et al). We still do not have a name for the responsible officer with whom we can start liaison. We will attempt to discuss this situation with Ellie again as it is really hampering the creation of our input and we don't want to waste effort by doing things they will ignore. Equally we do not want to be late to the party.

Environment Agency Liaison for Potsford Brook Monitoring and Catchment Area Modelling.

I have attached the report received from the EA following their site visit on the 23rd January. Basically reluctant to support any gauges where we need them and recommended upstream of the village and opposite Chapel Hall. Also help is limited to obtaining licences where need and not financial. I have responded and then received a more helpful reply. (We will need some financial help if we are to ever provide a really useful remote monitoring facility.)

“I also need to consider the bigger picture of how this new data, if I have understood it correctly, could be used as a potential new community flood warning, which would link into the village emergency plan. Who is the best person for me to speak to at Charsfield Parish Council please about the Charsfield Community Emergency Plan? “

Flood Watch and Web Site

Further to last month Garry and Viviane have been working hard on improving our web site and we have a draft in production. It's really awaiting content.

The portal has been affected by the EA lack of help regarding telematic data such as rainfall and Brook levels. I have set up a private weather station which will be used to stream rainfall data and provide historic data to be used for prediction. (It was quite useful during the recent heavy rainfall as we were able to directly correlate rainfall level and intensity to Brook height at Church Road Bridge. That should appear on the portal soon.

Steve Moor 11/3/24