

CHARSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting Held on Monday, 24th September 2024

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

Members of the Public: 7
Benjamin Gulliford and Andrew Burgess from CATS

		Action
	Welcome to Sally Crone our new co-opted Councillor	
	<p>Presentation by CATS – Community Transport – Andrew Burgess and Benjamin Gulliford</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CATS started in Leiston and surrounding area, mainly with volunteers taking people to hospitals etc. - Now minibuses, Connecting Communities (minibus service with paid drivers) on behalf of SCC, pick up and drop from bus stops. - Three different services, Charsfield in west area. - South bus based in Woodbridge but not supposed to come up this far. - Big bus east of Campsea Ashe goes up to Southwold. - East Suffolk – Katch minibus service, Campsea, Wickham Market to Framlingham. Six days a week apart from Bank Holidays. Would not get to Charsfield until after school times. Subsidised by SCC – fares competitive. Some services do not run Mondays and Wednesdays. - Charsfield – possible ad hoc or a special day for specific journey. - Run something like a Good Neighbours Scheme reliant on volunteers. - If a need can be proved can put forward a submission. - All buses wheelchair accessible. - Approximate times, depending on travellers. - Payment cash or card on bus - Keep pushing – demonstrate a demand - Contacts for other villages to CATS (Clerk to send details) <p>Service up for renewal in April 2026</p> <p>Suggested we attended attendance at Community Partnership Meetings</p>	
1.	Apologies and Approval of Absence	
	Councillors Moor and Youngman - approved	
2.	Declarations of Interest	
	None	
3.	Approval of Minutes of the Minutes held on 29th July 2024	

	Minutes were approved and signed by Councillor Pedgrift	
4.	Progress Reports for Information or Matters Arising	
	<p>Hartog Harris have assured the parish council that the Blythe Meadow Development surface water drainage system has been adopted by Highways.</p> <p>Construction Management Plan our suggested amendments overruled by East Suffolk Council.</p> <p>Cycle Race – big thank you to Councillors Rixon and Moor and to Ian Miller for helping with bunting. A good turnout of support on the day.</p>	
5.	<p>Points from the public – A chance for the public to raise matters of relevant interest.</p> <p>Queen’s Canopy – Mr Fane may not go ahead with the project. Need to retrieve Queen’s tree and plaque gifted by ESC. Councillor Haird to investigate.</p> <p>Complaint about very fast driver near school.</p>	
6.	<p>Reports</p> <p>County Council (full report available on request)</p> <p>District Council (full report available on request)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental Impact Strategy plants seeds for addressing climate and biodiversity emergencies - New strategy to encourage tree planting across East Suffolk - Council to consider transformation of recycling services <p>Ease the Squeeze on Cost of Living</p> <p>Recreation Ground - Chair resigning – looking for a new chair</p> <p>Village Hall</p>	
7.	<p>Community Energy Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applied in April for funding which has been accepted. - Three consultants have tendered for the project. - 5-6 local land owners have volunteered land - To be run by a community benefit company offering shares in asset, need 50% from members of public. - Anyone who invests in project will get guaranteed 5% return on investment and reduced electricity. - Electricity goes into the grid but company buys it back cheaper than individuals or possible direct local supply. - Tom Daly, Tim Wilson – keen to have a local model. - Other option is storage (shipping containers full of batteries). - Big issue is getting grid connection. Feasibility study should cover this. - Feasibility study should take two to three months but results a month later. 	

	- Do we need to apply for planning?	
8.	<p>Charsfield Flood Action Group</p> <p>Meeting with PC and CFAG – draft copy of actions from report considered unsatisfactory. Several immediate actions highlighted by meeting on 9th May not included. Parish Council to write to LFA.</p> <p>Local flood warnings for Rivers Lark and Deben not available for Charsfield.</p> <p>Steve Moor will be selling sandbags from his property on 12th October 2024 Information will be on village website and email.</p>	
9.	<p>Potsford Brook Water Quality Report – Peter Clitheroe River Deben and tributaries pollution sampling results - SEPTEMBER 2024 Following is a summary of the results from the sampling undertaken in early September.</p> <p>You will note that Charsfield gets particular mention in regard to phosphate levels which appear to be reduced, possibly by the commissioning of a recently installed phosphate stripping system. E.coli colony counts are still very high, emphasised by the fact that there had been no flow in the brook for some weeks. The Deben group recently ran a Volunteer Workshop in Ufford and you may have seen the recent ITV Anglia coverage of our work. For those who missed it, below is the link to YouTube footage.</p> <p>https://youtu.be/Zn00xuV-RkU</p> <p>Full report available on request.</p>	
10.	<p>Road Safety</p> <p>10.1 Road Safety Plan – Councillors Pedgrift & Rixon met with Josh White Community Liaison Engineer, SCC Highways to discuss parking at the school and resultant problems. Highways unable to fund any improvements. Parish Council to pursue leaflet for school bags urging parents to park in village hall car park, plus competition to design a road safety sign for erection in two properties adjacent to school (as part of Road Safety Week 17th-23rd November)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing actions on Road Safety Survey outcomes: - Agreed to purchase 250 hi vis armbands for free distribution. - Investigate SCC self-help exercise to cut back some of the foliage to open up the signs. - 20 mph through the village – suggestion to be put to the village - ‘Charsfield’ sign at village entrance on Church Road has been damaged again. Report to ESC with a request to have “Please Drive Carefully” 	

	<p>added.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The temporary Road Closed sign at the junction of Church Road and B1078 is seriously impeding visibility. Report urgently to SCC Highways. <p>10.2 Partnership Road Safety Forum Meeting 9th September – Councillor Rixon to take over from Councillor Pedgrift for attendance at these meetings and as SAVID representative.</p>																
11.	Planning:																
	<p>Planning Planning Application DC/24/2715/FUL - Land West of Home Farm, Chimers Lane, Hoo, Suffolk</p> <p>Building Control have said it would be classed as a new build because there is a steel beam above the timber frame and the timber frame will be tied to the steel. Everything else remains the same. PC not to comment.</p>																
12.	Finance																
	12.1 To authorise payments as listed below:																
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Detail</th> <th>Ref</th> <th>Power</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>22/07/2024</td> <td>SALC Audit</td> <td>Bank Transfer</td> <td>LGA 1972 s.111</td> <td>£212.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23/08/2024</td> <td>One Stop Promotions (Bunting)</td> <td>Bank Transfer</td> <td></td> <td>£261.34</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Date	Detail	Ref	Power	Amount	22/07/2024	SALC Audit	Bank Transfer	LGA 1972 s.111	£212.40	23/08/2024	One Stop Promotions (Bunting)	Bank Transfer		£261.34	
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	12.2 To note receipt of income as listed: East Suffolk Council £250.00 Grant towards Round Britain Bike Ride																
	12.3 Bank Balances as at 31 st August 2024 – current account: £4,852.93 – savings account: £16,070.12																
	12.4 Bank reconciliations were agreed and signed																
13.	Standing Orders – to be reviewed																
	Proposed by Councillor Pedgrift and seconded by Councillor Haird.																
14.	Model Publication Scheme to be Reviewed																
	Deferred to next meeting (November 2024)																
15.	Risk Assessment – to be reviewed																
	Proposed by Councillor Pedgrift and seconded by Councillor Rixon. Councillor Moor has asked if someone else would take responsibility for this going forward.																
16.	Emergency Plan																

	Deferred until S19 Report	
17.	Training	
	Councillor Rixon to undertake new councillor training Part 2 and Councillor Crone to undertake Code of Conduct Training	
18.	CIL Funding £7,131	
19.	Telephone Kiosk Opening and Akenfield Celebrations	
	This will take place on 19 th October. A programme of events is being drawn up. Councillor Moor volunteered to take charge of catering. All Councillors are requested to make themselves available to help and support this event	
20.	Parish Councillors Photographs and Profiles	
	Would like to have individual photos on the website and a small profile. Need someone to take photos. All Councillors to write a short profile of themselves.	
21.	Parish Clerk Vacancy	
	As the Clerk intends to resign at the end of the PC year (May 2025) it was felt necessary to begin to advertise the position.	
22.	Village Historian Update from John Fox	
	<p>Three significant enquiries over the past few months from people with Charsfield ancestors, as follows:</p> <p>22.1 Fletcher - bricklayers in Charsfield since later 1700s. I have enhanced my previous research and will put up a display board near the gravestone of Amos Fletcher (d. 1846) who has perhaps the most interesting headstone inscription of any in the churchyard.</p> <p>22.2 Leech/Leggett - again from later 1700s, with trades of blacksmith, wheelwright, thatcher and farmer. A descendant, whose last Charsfield-based relative was Fanny Leech (b 1799), is visiting the village in early October and, having viewed our website, is keen to see Historia Caresfelda.</p> <p>22.3 Taylor - from 1700s, and a very common surname in the village through the 1800s. Many were baptists. Need to do more research here.</p> <p>Have also done some preparatory work towards providing a clearer map of St Peter's gravestones based on the surveys of Ella Groves (1983) and Margaret Elliott (1990).</p>	
	Date of Next Meetings	
	<p>Monday, 25th November 2024</p> <p>Monday, 20th January 2025</p> <p>Monday, 17th March 2025</p>	

	The meeting closed at 9:10 pm.	
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