

## CHARFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Budget Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2018 commencing at 7.30pm in the Sportsman's Lounge, Memorial Hall, Charfield

### PRESENT

**Parish Councillors:** Mr. M. Rosher (Chairman), Mr. M. Cheskin (Vice Chairman), Mrs. J. Law, Mrs. V. Roberts, Mrs. N. Newns, Mr. T. Parker and Mr. A. Threlfall

**Clerk:** Mrs. Paula Evans

**Public:** 3 members of the public were present.

### 11161/18 To note Apologies for Absence and Acceptance of Reasons

Apologies were received and noted from Mr. R. Rawlings and Mr. P. Garside.

### 11162/18 To receive Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda

Cllr. Threlfall declared a personal, non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 11 and would not take part in discussions.

### 11163/18 Public Participation

The members of public present addressed the Parish Council regarding the forthcoming 2018 Remembrance Day services which would commemorate one hundred of the cessation of WWI. A small group of parishioners (approximately 20) would like to 'wool-bomb' certain areas of the parish (including some verges) with knitted poppies and were seeking clarification on what permissions may or may not be needed. The knitted poppies would only stay in-situ for approximately one week. The Parish Council had no opinion on the matter. To assist, the Clerk will contact SGC to seek advice regarding the placing of poppies on the verges.

Clerk

A member of the public addressed the Parish Council regarding the resurrection of the village Brownie Group. The member of public is currently undertaking training and was hoping to re-open the Group in the Spring of 2018. With the current level of adult assistance, the Group would be able to take a maximum of thirty four children. The Parish Council confirmed they would be happy to entertain a grant request later in the year and were planning a contingency within the 2018/19 S.137 budget.

### 11164/18 To receive Up-to-Date Receipts & Payments Account – as at 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018

The Clerk presented the Receipts & Payments Account as at 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 which was noted.

### 11165/18 To review Financial Regulations & Standing Orders

The Clerk confirmed that there had been no significant or statutory changes to Financial Regulations or Standing Orders. It was therefore proposed by Cllr. Cheskin, seconded by Cllr. Roberts and **resolved** that the current Regulations and Orders remain in place. **All Agreed**

### 11166/18 To appoint an Independent Internal Auditor for 2017/18 Accounts

It was proposed by Cllr. Rosher, seconded by Cllr. Law and **resolved** that Mrs. N. Morton be appointed as Charfield Parish Council's Independent Internal Auditor for the 2017/18 Annual Return. **All Agreed.**

### 11167/18 To note that no capping of T&PC Precepts for a further three years

It was noted that the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement for 2018/19 has confirmed that the Government would be deferring the setting of referendum principles for town and parish councils for 3 years subject to them taking all available steps to mitigate the need for council tax increases across the sector and the government seeing clear evidence of restraint.

### 11168/18 To note information from SGC regarding Council Tax Support Grant

The Clerk reported that SGC had confirmed that Charfield Parish Council would receive £457 in financial year 2018/19 as payment for the Local Council Tax Support Grant. This would be paid in two instalments with the precept. This figure was a reduction of £320 on the previous

financial year.

**11169/18 To approve the Burial Ground Budget Required for 2018/19**

Following discussions, it was proposed by Cllr. Rosher, seconded by Cllr. Cheskin and **resolved** that the 2018/19 Budget figure would be set at £2,000 to accommodate wall repairs. **All Agreed.**

**11170/18 To review/approve Burial Ground Fees for 2018/19**

The Clerk reported that the Charfield Burial Ground Fees continue to be generally in line with other Burial Grounds. Following discussions regarding the potential to increase the memorial permit charges, it was agreed to keep all the fees at the existing levels and review again for 2019/20. **All Agreed.**

**11171/18 To agree financial support for the Memorial Hall 2018/19**

Cllr. Threlfall took no part in the discussions. It was proposed by Cllr. Roberts, seconded by Cllr. Newns and **resolved** to grant the Memorial Hall £6,000 through the Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1976 S.19 (3). **All Agreed.**

**11172/18 To agree financial support for Youth Group 2018/19**

Cllr. Cheskin reported that both the younger and older Youth Groups are well attended and continue to grow. It was proposed by Cllr. Newns, seconded by Cllr. Roberts and **resolved** to increase the financial support for the Youth Group to £8,000 for 2018/19. **All Agreed.**

**11173/18 To note contract from SGC for Streetcare Services**

SGC had advised the Parish Council that the cost for these charges will be £1,824.72 for financial year 2018/19. This is an increase on 2.7% on last year. The charges include for amenity grass cutting - £1,271.81; mulching of shrub beds - £71.91; dog bin collection (2) - £481.00. The Clerk advised that a request had been made for an additional dog bin to be located on Churchend Lane. The Clerk was asked to investigate the cost implications for this additional bin.

Clerk

**11174/18 To approve Grant Applications for 2018/19**

The Clerk reported that five applications had been received. Following discussions, the Parish Council approved the following grants under the Local Government Act 1972 S.137:-

Charfield Memory Group (Dementia Connections) - £500 – annual room hire.  
Friends of Charfield Primary School - £500 – contribution towards outdoor wooden gazebo.  
Memorial Hall Committee - £300 – support for annual village fete.  
Memorial Hall Committee - £700 – seasonal planting around Hall.  
Friends of St. James the Less - £2,400 – contribution towards renovation/enhancement projects.  
Total = £4,400

It was proposed by Cllr. Cheskin, seconded by Cllr. Rosher and **resolved** that the Parish Council would budget £6,000 for S.137 Grants which could accommodate any late Grant Applications). **All Agreed.**

**11175/18 To approve Budget and set Precept for 2018/19**

The Parish Councillors reviewed the proposed Budget spreadsheet line by line. The Parish Council considered additional items such as the purchase of a community defibrillator, a replacement Parish Council notice board, financial implications of the new General Data Protection Regulations which come into force in May 2018, as well as the additional pressure of the new housing developments coming on-line. Following extensive discussions it was proposed by Cllr. Cheskin, seconded Cllr. Rosher and **resolved** to budget for £62,000 for 2018/19, this being an increase of £6,300 on the previous year and an 11.3% increase. This figure would be commended to the full Parish Council meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018 for approval.

**11176/18 Minor Items Raised by Members for future Agenda.**

Nothing reported.

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*This concluded the business of the meeting which closed at approximately 9.55pm.  
Next meeting of full council is Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 7:30pm.*

Chairman

9<sup>th</sup> January 2018

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