

MINUTES

**Minutes of Charing Parish Council Meeting
held on Tuesday 9th January 2024
at 7.30pm. Top Room Charing Parish Hall.**

Dawne Austen
Parish Clerk

1.	Apologies for absence. Chair Cllr C Prinn; & The RFO
2.	In attendance.Vice chairs Cllr D Bennett & Cllr C. Bain-Smith Cllrs D Gudge; J Strike; T. Hayward; T Reed; S. Woodbridge;C Allen; J White & the clerk.
3.	Two minutes silence for ex councillor Elizabeth Ellen And Harold Trill was observed.
4.	To receive any declarations of interest from Members. Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by Charing Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the localism Act 2011. Cllr T Reed re item no 7.6
5.	Public Participation Session This provides an opportunity for members of the public to raise questions about and comment on items on the agenda. Time for this session is limited to 10 minutes (divided by the number of participants) no members of the public present.
6.	Minutes of previous meeting: These were agreed and signed .
7.	Matters Arising:
7.1	KCC Highways re speed sign : The sign which was in the Ashford Road by the Farm Shop was removed by Highways back in the summer for repair, unfortunately due to the age they cannot obtain spare parts. The council have been informed that if we wish to have it replaced then we will have to pay the costs which is around £8000 .
7.2	Co- option of council vacancies: Co-option interviews will take place in February date to be arranged.
7.3	Bus Shelter School Road :It was agreed to keep the position of the Bus Stop in the same place as it is now . The council were asked if we wanted to turn it around.
7.4	CCTV:Phase one should be installed at the end of February dates to be confirmed.
7.5	Post Office:The clerk will contact Cllr Bell to arrange talks with the library re the possibility of have a Post Office within the Library.
7.6	Grant application from CDLHS: A grant for £50 was agreed by councillors .
8.	Finance:
8.1	The following accounts were approved:

09/01/2024	Payee Name	Details	Amount Paid
		Nat West Bank	
DD	Ashford Borough Council	Rates Cemetery DEC	£71.00
DD	Peninsula	PR Law firm Staff DEC	£114.59
DD	Initial	Hall Contract 11/12/2023- 10-01-2024	£58.88

DD	Initial	Hall Contract 11/01/2024- 10-02-2024	£58.88
Card	Express Cleaners	Toilet Rolls	£110.16
DD	Business Stream	Water period Sept-Dec Public Toilets	£221.78
DD	Nat West	Bank Charges	£13.93
Card	British Telecom	Clerks Telephone	£237.50
Card	Bookmakers	Christmas drinks	£112.00
Card	Wagon and Horses	Christmas dinner	£211.50
			£1,210.22
		Unity Trust Bank	
974466878	Countrywide	Grass Cutting Dec	£1,268.82
7064620	Triple 9 Services	Various Village Maintenance	£773.00
131331483	Street Wise	Traffic survey	£1,140.00
22718260	N Beal	Bins and Cleaning toilets Nov	£333.30
253732795	Ashford Web Service	Broken links to committee pages	£40.00
93727744	Viking	Supplies for admin-Councillor	£83.48
223933861	M.J.Buck	Repair wall at Market Place (Ins)	£3,070.00
18425951	PHS	Black bags	£48.02
541515676	KALC	Training JM Internal Controls	£36.00
20442413	PPL-PRS	Music Licence	£154.80
871929922	Mission Brass (D Gudge)	Christmas lights	£100.00
82393001	N Oliver	Father Christmas outfit	£50.00
9870854	KALC	4 Councillors Guide	£16.16
			£7,113.58
		Staff Costs	
Nov	Payee/NIC Unity Bank	Nov	£2,432.19
Nov	Nest Pension Card	Nov	644.09
Nov	Bank Transfer Unity Bank	Bank Transfer Unity Bank	£6,755.53
Dec	Payee/NIC Unity Bank	Dec	£1,434.87
Dec	Nest Pension Card	Dec	457.44
Dec	Bank Transfer Unity Bank	Bank Transfer Unity Bank	£4,822.51
			£16,546.63
		Nat West Bank/ Unity Trust Bank	
		VAT Refund OCT	£6,692.82
		Hall Hire	£200.00
		Bank interest	£1,057.29

		Cemetery	£3,360.00
	Quiz-Supper-donation	Christmas Lights	£1,110.00
			£12,420.11

9.	Planning:
9.1	PA/2023/2098 Beechwood, Canterbury Road Charing: Garden storage outbuilding (unanimous)(recommend support)
10.	Correspondence
10.1	Mr K Foster:All councillors discussed the points of the correspondence regarding changing the name of the parish council to Charing & Charing Heath .The clerk will speak with KALC & ABC to the process that would need to be undertaken step by step.
11.	Information:
11.1	It was agreed to look into changing the locks on the noticeboards as information is being placed in them without permission from the council and legal council paperwork being removed.
11.2	Harold Trill will be missed within the village ,over the years he has been instrumental in recording hundreds of events within the parish which is all part of Charings history .Harold was a great supporter of village activities.
11.3	Cllr White has contacted the Community Partnership re the tubs and window boxes at the railway station and about. Any grants available .
	There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm