

The Charltons Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 21st April 2026 commencing at 7.30pm in The Reading Room, Charlton Mackrell.

Councillors Present: Councillors Joe Woollorton (Chairman), Susie Crang, Karen Rowland and Kim Williams.

Somerset Councillor Tim Kerley.

Parish Clerk: Tony Jay

In attendance: Three members of the public.

Public speaking.

Members of the public asked questions about the arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting. Please see minute 26/55 for further information.

Somerset Councillors Tim Kerley gave the Somerset Councillor report.

Somerset Council officers have managed to reduce the 2026-27 budget deficit from £100 million to £50 million. This includes £13 million saved from the social care budget. This should reduce the need for further devolution of assets and services to town and parish councils.

16,332 pot holes have been repaired since January, which is four times as many as in the same period in 2025. Some of the repairs are temporary fixes, which will receive permanent repairs later.

Somerset Council will be spending £5 million on 'sprucing up' the county. This includes the cleaning of road signs and more pothole work.

£1 million has been granted to improvement work on the Strawberry Line.

The Slinky bus service pilot has been a great success in trials. This will be rolled out firstly to towns and then to villages, eventually becoming county wide.

£15 million has been spent on the Octagon Theatre in Yeovil.

There will be 250 new special needs officers working in schools over the next three years, which will mean that more children with special needs can be educated in their local schools.

The first new council housing development in Somerset for a generation is now in this parish.

26/47 To elect a Chairman of the Parish Council.

Signed _____ Chairman Date _____

It was resolved to elect Councillor Joe Woollorton as Parish Council Chairman.

26/48 To receive any apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Councillor Alan Crawley.

Somerset Councillor Stephen Page was unable to attend the meeting.

26/49 To receive declarations of interests:

There were no declarations of interest.

26/50 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 17th March 2026.

It was resolved to approve the minutes as being a correct record of the meeting.

26/51 To comment on the following planning application.

26/00331/LBC. Manor Farm, Mill Lane, Charlton Mackrell TA11 7BQ. Listed building consent for the conversion and extension of the existing Waggon Barn to create a single dwelling, including change of use of part of the adjacent field from agricultural to residential use.

It was resolved not to comment on this planning application.

26/52 To consider the Parish Council's response to the planning committee reforms consultation.

It was resolved not to comment on this consultation.

26/53 To review and approve the Parish Council's asset register.

It was resolved to approve the asset register.

26/54 To receive an update from the Transport and Highways Working Group including the noting of the working group meeting minutes.

A parish survey will be conducted to obtain parishioners opinions for and against changes to speed limits in the parish and speed mitigation options.

Cllr. Susie Crang attended a recent LCN transport and highways group meeting where it was confirmed that there would be no LCN funding available towards speed limit changes, or other traffic calming measures.

26/55 To finalise the arrangements for the Annual Parish Assembly to be held on Friday 8th May.

Signed _____ Chairman Date _____

The starting time for the Annual Parish Assembly will be 7pm. Light refreshments will be served including a finger buffet. The bar will be open.

The Parish Council Chairman will present his annual report, followed by the Parish Clerk presenting his financial report.

Local organisations will then be invited to give short presentations, after which there will be a question and answer session for parishioners.

The meeting will conclude on or before 9pm.

26/56 To receive the Speed Indicator Device report.

The Speed Indicator Device figures between 17th March and 20th April 2026 were noted.

Kingweston Road, Charlton Mackrell.

There was an average of 1,648 vehicles per day (inbound) and 1,501 vehicles per day (outbound).

Inbound – 80% of vehicles complied with the speed limit. 13% travelled at between 31 – 35mph. 5% between 36 – 40mph. 1% between 41 – 45% and 1% over 46mph.

Outbound – 56% of vehicles complied with the speed limit. 27% travelled at between 31 – 35mph. 12% between 36 – 40mph. 3% between 41 – 45% and 1% over 46mph.

Broadway

There was an average of 287 vehicles per day (inbound) and 285 vehicles per day (outbound).

Inbound – 89% of vehicles complied with the speed limit. 7% travelled at between 31 – 35mph. 3% between 36 – 40mph. 1% between 41 – 45% and 0% over 46mph.

Outbound – 80% of vehicles complied with the speed limit. 13% travelled at between 31 – 35mph. 5% between 36 – 40mph. 1% between 41 – 45% and 1% over 46mph.

26/57 To approve the following non-statutory payments. The payment of statutory payments was approved in minute 26/5 of the January 2026 parish council meeting.

Payee	Details	Net £	VAT £	Total £
Anthony Jay	Clerk's expenses April	93.68	0.00	93.68

Signed _____ Chairman Date _____

Memorial Community Trust	Annual Grant	3000.00	0.00	3000.00
Youth Club	Annual Grant	7000.00	0.00	7000.00
Somerton Library	Annual Grant	300.00	0.00	300.00
Citizens Advice	Annual Grant	200.00	0.00	200.00
Royal British Legion	Annual Grant	800.00	0.00	800.00
SALC	Annual membership fee	420.91	73.87	494.78
ICO	Data protection registration fee – Reimbursement to Parish Clerk	52.00	0.00	52.00
Rebecca Carter	Outstanding back pay	34.84	0.00	34.84
SALC	Councillor training	25.00	0.00	25.00
Jon Legge	Items for repairs to posts	23.55	0.00	23.55
	Total	11159.98	73.87	11223.85

It was resolved to approve the non-statutory payments.

26/58

To receive councillor and clerk reports.

Councillor Susie Crang attended the open day at the new Grove development and was impressed with the development. The developers would like to maintain close liaison with the parish council.

A parishioner had notified the Clerk of that a pile of stones had been left at a stile on a public footpath. The Clerk has spoken to the landowner who confirmed that he had left the stones as a public safety measure as the path had turned into a quagmire at the gate, and he was concerned that users of the path may slip and fall.

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 19th May 2026. This will be the Annual Parish Council meeting.

End of minutes.

Signed _____ Chairman Date _____