

Notes from Charlcombe Parish Annual Meeting

Held on Wednesday 17th May 2023 at 7.00pm

At Lansdown and Langridge Village Hall

Present:

Charlcombe Parish Council Chair Councillor Hilary Macklin, Vice-Chair Councillor Kate Bravin, Councillors Stewart Chorley, Toby Jones, Donald MacIntyre and Julian Nash and Clerk Mrs Kerr

Paul Rankin - Chair of Larkhall Football Club

Keith Weller - Cotswold Voluntary Parish Warden

8 Members of the public

Apologies:

Councillor Rippin

Councillor Macklin welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Councillors.

Councillor Macklin gave an overview of the Parish Council's activities in the last year, which included replacement of three of the parish council noticeboards and improvements to the steps on the footpath behind St Marys Church in Charlcombe.

Two councillors had retired at the May election and they were thanked for their service. The election had been uncontested, and Councillor Nash had since been co-opted to the parish council.

Councillor Bravin spoke about actions that the parish council had taken regarding the dangers at the Lansdown Lane/Lansdown Road junction. An assessment of the junction is in the B&NES plans for 2023/24 and the parish council will be following this up.

The Parish Council website provides information for residents and Councillors are keen to hear the views of residents via email or in-person at meetings.

Minute books from 1894 when the Parish Council was created were on display as was information from The Cotswold Wardens.

Paul Rankin spoke about the Larkhall Football Club at Plain Ham, which was established in 1914. They have plans to upgrade the ground and floodlights to enable them to make more use of the facilities. They are looking to create more of a community hub and the site is already used by several other groups such as Bath Pétanque.

Keith Weller explained that the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty is now known as the Cotswold National Landscape. He is a Voluntary Warden in Avon Valley District and the Charlcombe Voluntary Parish Warden. The parish has 7 miles of roads and 20 miles of footpaths, which are walked 3-4 times a year by the parish wardens, who report issues that need attention. A new circular path is being created around the racecourse which will be accessible for mobility scooters.

Councillor Macklin opened the meeting for items from Charlcombe residents.

Item raised from the floor:

Concern on the overgrown verge at the top of Lansdown Lane

The Parish Council was thanked for raising concerns about the Lansdown Lane/Lansdown Road junction with B&NES. The junction is becoming more hazardous for residents as increasingly Lansdown Lane was being used as a rat run. The view was expressed that traffic lights would be the fairest solution, but that the most likely outcome in the short term was a change to the speed limit.

It was highlighted that there is poor visibility at the top of Lansdown Lane due to the overgrown verge on the righthand side. The Parish Council was asked to request that B&NES trim the verge. It was noted that any resident can report such issues using 'Fix My Street'.

Councillor Macklin drew the meeting to a close, thanking everyone for their contributions and reiterating that the parish council was there to represent the views of residents.