



**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**  
**FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2022**  
**WAR MEMORIAL HALL, CHARLBURY AT 6.30PM**  
**MINUTES**

**Present:** Town Cllrs: Liz Reason, Gareth Epps, Janet Burroughs, Frances Mortimer, Claire Wilding, Dan Raymond-Barker, Tony Merry, Tim Crisp, County Cllr Liz Leffman, District Cllr Andy Graham,  
**Town Clerk:** Lisa Wilkinson, 72 members of public

**Apologies** were received from Cllr Gary Harrison, Cllr Peter Kenrick, Cllr James Styring and Nicolette Lethbridge.

**1. Welcome:**

Members of the public were welcomed with refreshments and had a chance to look at displays on work undertaken in the last year by the town council, county and district councils and different organisations within Charlbury:

- Charlbury Bowls Club
- Charlbury Churches Together
- Charlbury Wildlife Society
- Charlbury Cubs and Scouts
- Christine Elliott – Wildflowers
- Charlbury Art Society
- Cornerstone
- Charlbury Medical Centre Patient Group
- ATIC/Dementia Friendly Charlbury

Town Council displays consisted of:

- Consultation on the Traffic Regulation Order
- Information gathering on the Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Plan
- Borrow the council e-bike
- Volunteering for Town Proud

**2. Introduction from Liz Reason, Chair of Charlbury Town Council**

Liz Reason opened the meeting by introducing the councillors and asking residents to read the Annual Report and the new town council strategy which highlight the work that has been undertaken since the council was elected last May, building on achievements of previous councils. The chair thanked Roger Clarke for his loyal service for 42 years as town clerk. Councillors then introduced themselves and explained their primary interests in council work.

**3. Wychwood Forest Trust**

Roger Newman gave a talk on butterflies in the garden and how to survey them.

**4. Charlbury Wildlife Society:**

Flora Gregory gave a talk on hedgehogs in the garden and how to encourage them.



**5. Honorary Citizen Awards presentation:**

The chair presented four residents of Charlbury with an honoured citizen award. These residents have carried out a huge amount of voluntary work over many years. The awards for 2021 (not presented last year due to Covid) were presented to:

- Leah Fowler
- Alan Fraser
- Joan Belshaw

The award for 2022 was presented to Hugh Belshaw.

**6. Windrush Bike Project**

Kath Cochrane gave a talk on how cycling helps towards the climate emergency.

**7. Micro-Hydro turbine presentation**

Cllr Tim Crisp gave a short presentation on the possibility of installing a micro hydro-turbine on the sluice at Mill Field. The TC has just been awarded a grant of £39,000 for a feasibility study for this project.

**8. Charlbury Medical Centre Patient Group**

The Patient Group talked about its work over the last year.

**9. To elect representative for the Charlbury Conservation Advisory Committee**

Nicolette Lethbridge was nominated and voted in as the representative for the CCAC for a further term.

**10. Questions to Councillors and the Chairs of the Charities & Trusts**

Concern over lack of social housing in the town and the increase in second homes and Air B&B properties. Liz Leffman replied that unfortunately the County Council has no information on which houses are second homes. It also has no power to prevent this happening.

- Suggestion about enabling/encouraging cycling to nearby towns. Councillors explained they are in the early stages of producing a Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) which should improve cycling and walking around the town. Andy Graham talked about his work with the Village Travel Network with Woodstock, Bladon and surrounding villages and Liz Leffman mentioned that the County Council is starting to look at the possibility of implementing 'quiet lanes'. Quiet Lanes are minor rural roads or networks of minor rural roads appropriate for shared use by walkers, cyclists, horse riders and other vehicles.
- Are councillor surgeries to be re-implemented? This has always been the plan and will be discussed at the next town council meeting

There being no further questions, the chair thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was closed.

Meeting closed: 8.50pm

Signed .....

Date .....