

Great Chart with Singleton Parish Council

Founded in December 1894



Stronger Communities Committee held on Monday 25th September 2023 at 4:45pm in the Parish Office **MINUTES**

PRESENT: Cllrs Alexander, Y Barker, Wiffen.

ALSO PRESENT: Paula Cowperthwaite (Deputy Clerk).

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Sullivan, Gathern.

2. Declarations of Interest

To hear declarations of interest, relating to

2.1. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None

2.2. Other Significant Interests

None

2.3. Other Interests

Cllr Alexander – Item 4.1, 4.3

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The committee resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11th July 2023 as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr Alexander	Seconded: Cllr Y Barker	Vote for: 3
Against: 0	Abstain: 0	Motion carried

4. Community Fridge project

4.1. Six-month review

A discussion was held on how the project has been running over the past six months. It was noted that there has been a noticeable increase in donations over the last couple of months, and that less people are taking more than they need to – although this is largely due to the system of putting a small amount out each day rather than loading an entire delivery into the fridge.

Due to a change in circumstances for Cllr Alexander, the option of having Fareshare orders delivered will be investigated, with Cllr Alexander providing a second delivery wherever possible. This could possibly be topped up with occasional Costco type orders if the bulk purchasing makes it value for money. There has been a request from the village hall trustees to remove 'clutter' from the floor in the fridge area, this includes the A Board, cardboard collection and compost bin. These will be removed, and posters and information added to the

noticeboard next to the fridge. The request to install gravity drop dispensers was also turned down to avoid food being deliberately or accidentally left on the floor.

4.2. Rotas

The previous rota no longer works as people's commitments have changed with the start of the new school year. There is a strong need for more volunteers. There is already a plea in the newsletter due to be delivered shortly, and messages will be posted to social media and also leaflets left at the fridge site. A meeting will take place separately to design some regular social media messaging.

A list of jobs needed to be completed was drawn up and further details will be added to this ready to be communicated to any potential volunteers.

Current volunteers do not have capacity to travel to venues in the evenings to pick up free or low cost food, but this will be an advertised role for new volunteers.

4.3. Budgets

A discussion was started on what the committee as a whole will need over the next financial year. It was agreed that a better storage fridge should be sourced, which is upright and frost free. Additional purchases will be for organising food in the storage area such as shallow, see through boxes.

A possible fridge to be placed in a CMO building, but not run by the parish council.

A potential budget of £12K was discussed but this will depend on any carry over from the current year and a further meeting will take place to discuss in more detail.

All members were asked to monitor any potential grant funding opportunities.

5. Parish Awards

It was agreed that the introduction of a parish awards scheme was a good idea and will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

6. Date and venue of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be confirmed at a later date.

The meeting closed at 19:00pm.

Signed as a true record by;

Cllr Katrina Alexander _____

Date: _____