

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Child Okeford Parish Council held on Monday 03 July 2017 in the Community Centre at 7.00 pm

293 **Attendance and approval of Apologies for Absence**

Present: Councillors: Rudd (Chairman), Giles (Vice Chair); Jespersen; Baird; Blake; Chetwode; Hepburn; Smith; Holdeman

In attendance: Debra Holland (Parish Clerk), Alan Blundell (Footpaths Officer). There were eight members of the public present.

To receive apologies for absence: There were no apologies for absence.

294 **To receive declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest

295 **Confirm Minutes of the previous meeting held on 05 June 2017**

The minutes were approved as a correct record

Proposed: Cllr Rudd

Seconded: Cllr Baird

296 **To discuss matters arising from previous minutes**

Minute 283 There was a clarification to the Saxon planning application to ensure it was fully known that it referred to only one home being proposed.

Minute 289 COPC website. Cllr Hepburn advised that the application had been submitted to claim funds to support the Clerk with the website. There may be between £500 - £1000 available and the claim had been submitted in time for the next deadline of 17 July 2017 for consideration.

Cllr Jespersen wished for the date the Clerk is to be trained in the uploading of Council related documents to the website to be recorded, which is 10 July 2017.

Whilst on the topic of the website, Cllr Jespersen suggested that a meeting for the parishioners should be organised to enable them to make suggestions of how they felt the website should look.

ACTION: Cllr Jespersen to make an entry in The Hill magazine to advertise the date and time of this gathering.

291(a) Steam Fair tickets. The Parish Council was provided with a number of tickets to distribute as it felt appropriate. Some were offered for the silent auction at the Hey Day Committee event and some were offered to the Church fete. As there were still some tickets left it was **RESOLVED** to provide the leftover tickets to the School fete.

292 Matters of Interest. A gap had appeared in the hedge on the boundary between a resident and the Community Centre car park. Cllr Rudd advised that he had spoken to the resident and they had assured him that the necessary steps would be taken to close it.

297 **Councillor Reports**

The District Councillor Report had previously been circulated but in short:

Fire Risk Review Strategy – Following the recent tragedy in London at the Grenfell Tower block, DCC (in consultation with the Fire Service) is responding to Government directives to provide information outlining which buildings may be covered with metal-faced cladding and also ensuring that current risk assessments, site management and building operations are in place.

A350 and C13 Improvements – Two public consultation events were held in June in order for comments to be submitted in relation to the proposed suite of improvements between Blandford and Shaftesbury.

Local Government re-organisation – If a decision is made before the summer recess to support a move to unitary government, a revised timetable for the process will be required.

Durweston Bridge Repairs – It was previously agreed to delay these works until the A350 works are completed. However they will need to happen in the summer of 2018 and are expected to take four months.

Forthcoming Hambledon Division Meeting – This meeting will be on 19 July at Pimperne Village Hall at 6.30 pm to 8.30 p.m. Speaker Paul Leivers, covering the topic of joining up the services and activities with local agencies in Blandford.

A meeting is also scheduled on 06 October at Durweston Village Hall at 6.30 pm – 8.30 pm with guest speaker Simon Hoare MP.

298 **Public Participation**

A member of the public raised the fact that it is difficult for some to know how to contact the Clerk and asked Cllr Jespersen if she would be able to outline the role of the Clerk and to add contact details in The Hill when she produced her report covering the minutes in brief.

ACTION: Cllr Jespersen to add a standard reminder of how to contact the Clerk at the bottom of future reports in The Hill.

The Footpaths Officer remarked that he had seen a number of notices on the ground in The Hollow advertising the fact that resurfacing works were due to start and that there may be disruption to traffic flow.

A new resident to the village wanted to convey how much she had enjoyed the Hey Day event.

299 **Footpaths**

The Footpaths Officer reported that he was in receipt of a notification of available funding that could be accessed to aid community project ideas. With this in mind he made the suggestion that the end of Legal Lane could benefit from repairs as it floods so a culvert and resurfacing would be good. The Footpaths Officer offered to write a proposal covering the areas that would benefit from improvements with additional funding and send it to the Clerk. The end of Legal Lane to Gold Hill is a permissive path and also a 'route to school' so would be good if it had an improved surface.

Proposal: Footpaths Officer to provide report to Clerk and to Cllr Smith in order for him to use the information as the basis to submit an application for funding on behalf of the Parish Council.

Proposed: Cllr Giles

Seconded: Cllr Jespersen

The Footpaths Officer also advised that the gate is still broken at South Fields Lane (east and west) and suggests that two gates need to be installed instead. The landowner has been approached in the past but the problem still exists.

ACTION: Footpaths Officer to provide a letter outlining the details to the Clerk to be forwarded to the Landowner on behalf of the Parish Council.

300 **Trees**

(a) 2/2017/0960/CATREE Hawthorn Cottage, Gold Hill - Cllr Chetwode left the meeting as he perceived there was an interest in this item, however he was recalled as it transpired no discussion was necessary in relation to his application; the information was by way of a progress report.

(b) 2/2017/0961/CATREE Beech Cottage, The Hollow – Noted

(c) 2/2017/1047/TPTREE Joiners High Street, Child Okeford – T1 Silver Birch, remove tree due to rot at base

ACTION: Clerk to contact Tree Officer to remind them that there has been a lot of activity lately for Joiners and that this area had previously been the subject of discussions and a plan agreed. Clerk to seek confirmation that the existing plan is still being adhered to.

ACTION: Clerk to check Planning Dept each week and send the Tree applications via email to Members as they arise as routine practice.

301

Finance

(a) To approve the payment schedule. The payments schedule this month featured a higher than usual value due to the extra costs involved with time required to produce the end of year accounts and deal with the queries generated by the internal auditor and the fact that all payments leaving the bank are detailed. The bill from Dorset County Council was also included for the traffic monitoring tubes – Approved.

Proposed: Cllr Rudd

Seconded: Cllr Giles

(b) To minute the value of the payment schedule - £2,775.59

Proposed: Cllr Rudd

Seconded: Cllr Giles

(c) To receive the bank statement and monthly accounts - Noted

(d) Review values for Asset Register – Agreed

(e) Consider quote for railings

A quotation for railings was provided to the Clerk and opened. A discussion followed and it was agreed to accept the quotation as a 'direct award' on the basis of the specialised nature of the work and would be funded from general reserves.

Proposed: Cllr Rudd

Seconded: Cllr Giles

ACTION: Clerk to write to contractor to confirm if installation cost is included in the price.

(f) Consider request from contractor

A proposal to consider a review of the rate charged to the Parish Council by the contractor for cleaning the village furniture, signs, bus stop etc was considered and an uplift was agreed. It is to be publically recognised that the Parish Council is appreciative of the reliability and flexibility provided by this contractor and their quality of work.

Proposed: Cllr Rudd

Seconded: Cllr Jespersen

(g) Royal British Legion

The value of a wreath for presentation at Remembrance Day was discussed and it was agreed to pay up to £20.

ACTION: Clerk to place order and add to payment schedule for September's Meeting.

302

Working Groups and Councillor Responsibilities

To Choose a representative from the Parish Council for the Village Hall.

It was agreed to nominate Cllr Holdeman as the Village Hall Liaison Officer

Proposed: Cllr Jespersen

Seconded: Cllr Baird

303

Traffic Survey – Results

Cllr Hepburn explained how the data was captured and analysed. The reports had previously been circulated to Members. Cllr Hepburn then went on to say that based on the gleaned data, Dorset Highways has agreed there is an issue. The recommendation is for one mobile SID (speed indicator device) to be used at six week intervals, managed by volunteer groups; the Speedwatch Group should be approached. There is a free consultation from Dorset Highways available.

The Chairman and the Members thanked Cllr Hepburn for all his efforts in taking the lead on this project and providing the village with valued data that can now be used as a weighted argument for the basis in traffic calming measures.

Cllr Jespersen suggested that it would be a good idea for Dorset Highways to come and explain what the costs are and what the various pieces of equipment are used for.

It was also suggested that the Speedwatch Group should provide any data it holds in order to feed into any meeting Dorset Highways arranged for parishioners.

Proposal: To formerly engage with Dorset Highways and for Cllr Hepburn to research funding resources.

Proposed: Cllr Rudd

Seconded: Cllr Giles

ACTION: Cllr Hepburn to contact Dorset Highways to arrange visit/talk

ACTION: Cllr Smith to forward data from Speedwatch Group to feed into the Dorset Highways visit.

Cllr Hepburn also advised that he had been in contact with the Clerk of a neighbouring parish to enquire how much the gates that are that are now sited upon entry to many villages and how to register our interest.

ACTION: Cllr Hepburn to report back when he has the figures.

304 **Welcome Day**

The Chairman suspended the meeting briefly to allow input from a representative from The Hill magazine to comment on whether this event is still intended to be tied into the 50th anniversary event of the magazine. It was confirmed that The Hill no longer intends to have a joint event with the Welcome Day, however The Hill would still welcome the opportunity have a stall at the Welcome Day event.

The meeting resumed.

It was agreed to organise this event in October instead of September as in previous years.

ACTION: Clerk to contact the bookings secretary for the Village Hall to check availability for a date for any Sunday morning in October.

305 **Parish Council Community Centre Notice Board**

This item was transferred to the Trust agenda for discussion.

306 **Correspondence & Information**

(a) Seafarers UK – Merchant Navy Day – Noted but no action to be taken.

(b) Salisbury Museum – Annual Festival of Archaeology 22 and 23 July 2017 - Noted

(c) Dorset County Council – health & footpaths – noted and covered by Footpaths Officer

307 **Matters of Interest**

Cllr Holdeman remarked on how much the hedges belonging to residents have overgrown and wanted to appeal to them to cut back extraneous foliage whilst being mindful about disposing of the debris via bonfires due to the nuisance the smoke causes to others.

Cllr Giles reported that the Hey Day event was a rip-roaring success and whilst the final figures are not yet available, indications are that they will be very favourable.

Cllr Smith advised that the final finger posts are now available and that he would prefer to be in receipt of the draft minutes a little earlier than the programme established by the new Clerk.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

Signed Date:.....

Please note that the foregoing do not become minutes until approved by Council and signed to that effect by the Presiding Chairman at the next meeting