

Iwerne Courtney & Stepleton Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 18^h January 2023

Venue: St Mary's Church, Shroton

Present: Cllr Hewitt (Presiding Chairman), Cllr Barrett, Cllr Christmas, Cllr Gibson Fleming, Cllr Gredley

In attendance: Cllr Somper, 4 members of the public, the Clerk David Green

Agenda Item	Discussion Points	Council Action
1. Apologies	Cllr Sullivan.	
2. Declaration of Interests	No relevant interests were declared.	
3. Minutes of Previous Meeting	The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21 st December 2022 having been previously circulated, were agreed and duly signed by the presiding Chairman, proposed by Cllr Gredley and seconded by Cllr Christmas.	
4. Chairman's Update/ announcements	Cllr Hewitt as acting Chairman, welcomed David Green as the new Clerk and on behalf of the whole Parish Council, thanked Cllr Sullivan for all his work as 'acting' Clerk.	
5. Matters Arising from previous minutes	There were no specific matters arising from the December 2022 minutes.	
6. Democratic Period: a. Dorset Councillor Somper b. Public & Parish Council	<p>a. Unitary Councillor: Cllr Somper had sent in a lengthy report which was taken as read</p> <p>Cllr Somper reported that she had had provided assistance at the Fontmell Magna Warm Space event held in the Village Hall. This had involved providing hot lunches for 25 people drawn from the village & surrounding areas and afternoon tea for village children involving art & craft activities.</p> <p>The Dorset Council budget is going through a rigorous scrutiny process and will be voted on by the full Council on 14th February. The Council Tax rise will be capped at a 2% increase, less than the maximum national increase of 3%. There will be a 2% increase in funding for Adult Social Care and overall savings have been made without cutting services.</p>	

	<p>b. Members of the public:</p> <p>A parishioner had contacted the head of Dorset Highways who had advised that 'extensive pothole repairs' had been carried out in the last year. The parishioner suggested that Dorset Council use a system of crushing the existing road surface to provide a base for a new road surface which is around 1/3 of the cost of conventional surfacing. It was noted that local potholes were invariably filled by the cheapest method possible, involving a tar & gravel mix, colloquially known as 'dot and dab' which is very ineffective and often requires re-repair within two weeks particularly in winter. It was commented that Telegraph Street, Fairfield, New Lane and Bessells Lane were all in poor condition. It was noted that very heavy commercial traffic, including milk tankers use Bessells Lane to access Park Farm. The overall situation gives a poor impression of villages to visitors and tourists as well as being very hazardous for residents.</p> <p>A parishioner had reported 14 potholes over 4 cms deep. The impression had been given by Dorset Council that road repairs were not a priority. The parishioner commented that filling in is not a long-term solution and requested the support of the Parish Council in raising the profile of the issue with Dorset Council and also asked if the parish website could include a direct link to the road maintenance reporting tool.</p> <p>Another parishioner reported that last year Dorset Council has advised that parish roads were in an 'acceptable' condition. It was suggested that it would be better to save money by making proper permanent repairs rather than constant patching. It was noted that there had been 5 incidents of shredded tyres and a damaged wheel in the last year.</p> <p>Cllr Somper agreed that there was a serious issue that had an economic cost as well as an obvious safety issue and would be prepared to route a formal request to the Portfolio Holder and the Head of Highways.</p> <p>A blocked culvert along Bessells Lane was reported.</p>	
<p>7. Correspondence</p>	<p>Emails received by the Clerk for statutory matters and council business are sent onto the Council by the Clerk and itemised for discussion at the next council meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Clerk's email round for the period 21/12/2022 – 18/01/2023 was acknowledged by council members at this meeting. b. Cllr Hewitt noted that the Flood zone now appears to incorporate large areas of the Iwerne Valley. The Clerk was asked to obtain a current flood zone analysis from the Environment Agency. c. The PC agreed that the clerks 'Red Ink' annotated agenda was helpful. 	<p>Clerk to write to the Environment Agency re Iwerne Valley Flood information</p>

<p>8. Parish Council Representatives</p>	<p>Parish Council Representatives – Councillors to advise on areas of representation as appropriate or discuss matters pertinent to representative role:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Play Area Report Cllr Hewett reported that the play area was faring well. b. Parish Footpaths and Bridleways Cllr Hewitt is still awaiting new 'Waymarkers' from DC Ranger Services to replace originals. Cllr Barrett reported that a stile step is loose at Dorothys Leap. c. Parish Council Website Development Councillor Barrett has some photos to send to Aubergine including a view of Hambledon for the landing page. d. Dorset Council Highways Cllr Gredley has scheduled a meeting with the Community Highways Officer for 31st January when a tour of the area will be made. Cllr Gredley felt that the CHO had relatively little influence on the planning of road repairs and proposed that the PC formally request to see Dorset Council's resurfacing schedule in relation to Parish roads. The was seconded by Cllr Christmas. e. The Glebe matters & Glebe trees (inc. Parish Trees) Not discussed at this meeting f. A350/C13 Community Action Group (CAG) Not discussed at this meeting g. DAPTC Change of auditor to BDO LLP for 2022-2023 noted 	<p>Cllr Gibson Fleming deal with the stile issue</p> <p>Cllr Barrett to send photos to Aubergine</p> <p>Clerk to write to Cllr Somper re a formal request to see the re-surfacing schedule in relation to Parish roads</p>
<p>9 . Parish Council Projects</p>	<p>Village Projects</p> <p>Village Traffic Calming Project – Cllr Hewitt noted that the PC had attempted to engage with the community concerning this issue in the past but had not received widespread backing for the idea. Basically, if it is considered that speed is a hazard on village roads the PC needs to be notified. It was suggested that a notice be placed in the 'Shroton Lines' .</p> <hr/>	

<p>10. Finance Matters</p>	<p>a. l) Payment to the Clerk for computer software refresh expense of £45.00 – approved li) Payment to the DAPTC for Clerks conference attendance 19/10/2022 £ 45.00 – approved. Proposed: Cllr Hewitt, seconded Cllr Gredley.</p> <p>b. Standing Order for the Clerks wages & office allowance of £ 270 net agreed. Cheque to be signed for same amount as a contingency plan if the Standing Order is not initiated by month end. Proposed: Cllr Hewitt, seconded Cllr Gredley.</p> <p>c. Banking mandate changes not yet completed. Online banking application deferred until situation clarified.</p> <p>d. Replacement of Public Notice board by the Cross bus stop proposal.</p> <p>A resident had proposed replacing the dilapidated noticeboard with a replacement from Greenbarnes (AF30) at a cost of £ 839.82 inc VAT and had offered to fund up to £ 400 of this cost. Cllr Sullivan had proposed that this cost should be met by 2/3 PC funding (£466 net) and 1/3 PCC (£234 net). It was noted that the resident has offered to collect this from the supplier. Proposed Cllr Barrett, seconded Cllr Christmas.</p> <p>Cllr Hewitt noted that the noticeboard at the Post Office has broken glass and consideration should be given to its replacement.</p> <p>e. Precept confirmation for 2023/24 – the precept request has been made & confirmed.</p>	<p>Cheque for £45.00</p> <p>Cheque for £ 45.00</p> <p>Standing Order for £ 270 payable from 28th January 2023. Cheque for £ 270 signed as a contingency – to be crossed through if not required.</p> <p>Clerk to pursue bank for an update</p> <p>Clerk to place order with supplier following clarification of requirements with Cllr Sullivan</p>
<p>11. Planning Matters</p>	<p>a. P/HOU/2022/06573 Location: 3 Newfield New Field Lane Shroton Blandford Forum DT11 8PZ</p> <p>Dorset Councils REFUSAL of this application was noted</p> <p>b. Application No: P/TRC/2023/00019 Location: 5 Courtney Close Shroton Blandford Forum DT11 8RD Proposal: T1 - Oak - Fell. Tree application noted.</p>	
<p>12. Other Matters for next meeting</p>	<p>a. Post Office Noticeboard replacement.</p>	

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The presiding Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7:50 pm

The date of the next Parish Council meeting is 15th March 2023 venue to be confirmed

Presiding Chairman Date.....
Iwerne Courtney & Stepleton Parish Council

SP 20/10/22