

Clerk to the Council:

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Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Thorncombe Village Hall on Tuesday 3rd March 2020 commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr's J Higgs (Chairman), A Hiscock, D Marsh M Stead and P Basham

In Attendance:-The Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe), Cllr Christopher and six members of the public.

140	Apologies Nil
141	Declarations of Interest Cllr M Stead – declared an interest in relation to the former telephone box as it is on his land.
142	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on the 4 th February 2020 were accepted as a true record, and were signed by the chairman.
143	Matters Arising Cllr M Stead had been unable to fully investigate the leak problem at the shop because the owner of the flat had been away. Cllr A Hiscock provided a short report regarding the meeting he had attended with Dorset Council regarding the Local Plan. A new plan is required because of the Unitary authority, which needs to replace the present district council local plans. He was pleased to report that climate emergency is being taken into account with the emerging plan. Most future developments will take place on the edge of the towns as development in the villages is generally non sustainable.
144	Democratic Period A member of the public was pleased that the former BT telephone box had been adopted and felt that the parish should be asked for ideas of how it could be used in the future. The Annual Parish meeting could be used for this

	<p>Concerns were expressed as to whether we were receiving value for money for some of the highway works being undertaken. It had taken a great deal of time and effort to get someone to look at a drain problem in Chard Street. The first inspection had been useless, however since then someone had inspected the drain and had stated that the drain had in fact collapsed.</p> <p>The first parish council surgery had taken place the previous day and had resulted in nine people approaching Councillor Marsh. The biggest concerns were over potholes. The point however was made in relation to flooding that landowners are responsible for surface water that comes off their land. It was agreed that a landowner would be approached and asked if he could deal with the problem.</p> <p>There had been a question regarding the possible closure of the church graveyard and who would take over responsibility. The clerk explained the legislation around the item. The PCC are required to give the parish council notice of the closure; and the parish council then has six months to decide if it wishes to take the responsibility on; otherwise responsibility goes to Dorset Council.</p> <p>There was a question regarding Gribb View (Magna Housing) and how local people are allocated a house under the S106 arrangements. Housing should go in the first instance to people who qualify as local people providing they meet the criteria for that dwelling. The area is then extended. It was felt that it would be useful to get the housing associations to attend the parish meeting to provide more information on the process.</p>
145	<p>Dorset Councillors Report Cllr Christopher had explored the Devon Road Warden scheme and agreed it was a very good scheme and worthy of being looked into further. He then provided a number of examples of planning decisions made by the Dorset planning committee. The council tax will be increased because of the need to cover social care items. He was asked to provide the name of our highways officer so that we can discuss the speed indicator device restriction.</p>
146	<p>Account for Payment: Following accounts were agreed for payment: Dorset Community Transport £2,000, Thorncombe Magazine 35.40, Clerk's expenses £76.08. Salaries £202.20.</p>
147	<p>Financial Update The financial update, which had been circulated prior to the meeting was agreed. The bank reconciliation stood at £14098.70 as at 28/2/20</p>
148	<p>Annual internal Review and Risk Assessment The Council agreed that they were happy with the present internal audit checks and that the risk assessment did not need any changes to it at present.</p>
149	<p>Highways and Rights of Way There had been a great deal of stones and other items on the roads around the village following the recent storms. Reference was made to the section of path to the playfield which it would seem is not registered. The clerk is dealing with this item through our solicitors.</p>
150	<p>Former Telephone Box</p>

	<p>The equipment has now been removed and the document signed; therefore it is now formally adopted by the parish council. It has been confirmed that planning permission will be required to change its location at for a change of use. The public will be asked for their views on possible use. Care will have to be taken in moving the box.</p>
151	<p>Annual Parish Meeting This will be on the 5th May at 7.30pm. The Annual Council meeting will follow this meeting.</p>
152	<p>Councillors and Representatives Reports Bus Services: Cllr Marsh attended the February Hawkchurch meeting, which had a positive response with more usage from Hawkchurch to Axminster. The bus will be extended to the railway station in the new timetable. He then informed the meeting that we will need to reapply to Tatworth Parish Council for funding in the next financial year. Community Shop: The leak problem will be investigated Village Hall: A few events are planned for the future Playfield: The fence is broken and will require repair. There are now seven members on the committee. Neighbourhood Watch: A number of garages have been broken into and property stolen. There has been a suspicious white 4by4 in the area.</p>
153	<p>Planning Applications WD/D/20/000296 Old Vicarage, Chard Street. Fell tree and treat stump of a Red Oak causing subsidence to property. Support.</p>
153	<p>Determinations and Withdrawals WD/D/19/002554 April Cottage, Holditch: Remodelling of study to form WC. Approved</p>
154	<p>Correspondence A request had been received from Burton Bradstock Parish Council to loan SID. This was agreed. They were willing to pay but it was agreed that a donation should be made. The clerk would contact the clerk of Burton Bradstock with the chairman's contact details so that she can make the arrangements with him. They will need to collect and return the equipment.</p> <p>Dorset CPRE, West Dorset Group AGM will be held at the new Charminster Community Hall on Saturday 28th March commencing at 10.15am. Sadly, due to other commitments, no one was available to attend.</p> <p>Char Valley are holding a Climate & Environment Emergency seminar at Whitchurch Canonorum Village Hall on Saturday 21st March from 1-6pm. Cllr P Basham stated that he hopes to attend.</p>
155	<p>Next Meeting: Meeting closed at 9pm</p> <p>Tuesday 7th April 2020 at 7.30pm</p>

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Signed Chairman

Date