

**Clerk to the Council:**

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**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.30pm in the Thorncombe Village Hall**

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

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

Draft until Approved

<b>711</b>	<b>Apologies</b> No apologies received
<b>712</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> No Declarations were made
<b>713</b>	<b>Minutes</b> The minutes of the meeting held on the 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2023, having been previously distributed; were agreed as a true record; and were then signed by the chairman.
<b>714</b>	<b>Matters Arising</b> The water problems in Fore Street had been resolved. It had been determined that the person asking for free travel for a young person travelling to school was not eligible
<b>715</b>	<b>Monthly Surgery</b> The following points had been raised: <i>Arrangements for Coronation. Proposed dinner on the Sunday and sponsored walk on the Monday</i> <i>A mirror is required at Birdsmoor Gate. Council are not permitted to place a mirror beside the highway.</i> <i>Solar Panel purchases. The purchase of solar panels is down to individuals</i> <i>Dog bins. There are already 9 bins in the parish</i> <i>Speeding problems. There is actually only the national speeding limit in the parish</i>

<b>716</b>	<b>Democratic Period</b> Clarification was requested on the documents required for the cutting of the cemetery grass and hedges. This was clarified by the clerk.
<b>717</b>	<b>Accounts for Payment</b> Resolved to ratify the following payments: J Higgs £20.00, Mr Higgins £84.48 and J Vanderwolfe £78.40.
<b>718</b>	<b>Financial Update</b> The finance update was approved. Financial assets as at 5 <sup>th</sup> March stood at £16,491.01. The Vat return had been done and the pension declaration made. The clerk was given power to act to deal with an outstanding debt if necessary.
<b>719</b>	<b>Dorset Councillor's Report</b> A report had been circulated and was duly noted
<b>720</b>	<b>Dorset Modification Order path T761</b> It was agreed to deal with this items at the next meeting so that members could visit the path and form an opinion on the proposed amended status.
<b>721</b>	<b>Bus Services</b> Cllr Marsh had received a letter from Tim Christian, the Commercial Manager of Dorset Community Transport in which he showed concerns about the low number of passengers using the service to Bridport. He also felt that neighbouring parishes should contribute towards the subsidy of services.
<b>722</b>	<b>Rights of Way</b> Our new ROW officer recorded that he had spent some time with the Dorset ROW officer. A number of repairs and renewals have taken place In the parish, however some of the bigger problems are often delayed trying to get hold of landowners. It was hoped that a bridge near to the Squirrel Inn would be replaced in the next financial year. A vote of thanks was recorded for the many years of service undertaken by Nigel Higgins, the former ROW officer.
<b>723</b>	<b>Police</b> A report by our Community Police Officer had been circulated.
<b>724</b>	<b>Village Hall</b> Some decorating of the interior of the hall is being undertaken at present. A bench in memory of Vivienne and John Dalziel is at present in the hall and will be located in the car park.
<b>725</b>	<b>Playfield</b> The clerk informed the meeting that it was a legal requirement to inspect all equipment in the playfield at least on a weekly basis. It was agreed that members

	would attend a short course to ensure that the inspections were being carried out to a specific standard
<b>726</b>	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p><b>P/VOC/2023/00665 Chapel Thach, Holditch:</b> Amended plans for alteration of garage to provide annex accommodation. <b>Members supported this application.</b></p> <p><b>P/VOC/2023/00946 Chard Junction Quarry:</b> Variation of condition 3 to extend restoration of the site period until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024. <b>Members supported this application</b></p>
<b>727</b>	<p><b>Closing of Meeting</b></p> <p>The chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.15pm</p>
<b>728</b>	<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm</p>

Signed ..... Chairman

Date .....