

Clerk to the Council:

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Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Thorncombe Village Hall on Tuesday 3rd September 2019 commencing at 7.30pm

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

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

Draft until Approved

057	Apologies An apology was received, and accepted from Cllr D Marsh due to sickness.
058	Declarations of Interest No Declarations of Interest were made
059	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on the 2 nd July were accepted as a true record, however it was discovered that the minute numbering system was incorrect; therefore a new copy of the minutes would be circulated.
060	Matters Arising Cllr Hiscock had attended the planning session training and had found it useful. Concerns raised that we had not been informed about the Dorset Local Plan review.
061	Democratic Period A point was made that whilst some of the village had telephone fibre optic cables, this was not the case throughout the parish. A parishioner stated that Thornford, a small village near Yeovil had a number of new kissing gates apparently provided by Dorset Council. Generally felt that we should also be offered this sort of facility if required. The chairman of the Thorncombe Community Shop stated that the costings for the work to be undertaken on the exterior of the shop would now be far more than originally anticipated. The Council had kindly offered to provide a grant of £100 and she wondered if it would be possible for that to be increased. It was agreed that she would forward the estimate of works to the clerk who would then investigate if some additional funds could be made available from this year's budget or whether it needed to be budgeted for in next year's precept.

062	<p>Dorset Councillors Report</p> <p>Councillor Christopher informed the meeting that he has spent much time over the last few weeks in meetings. He was now allocated to the Economic Advisory Panel. He took up the point about broadband and stated that Cllr Gary Suttle was the portfolio councillor responsible for this. Dorset Council had allocated £4 million to improve broadband in rural areas including business use. He suggested writing to Cllr Gary Suttle (Swanage) and the Leader of Dorset Council stating that some of this funding should be allocated to the Marshwood Vale area. Councillor is the chairman of the planning committee. There is a planning application for 500 houses at Crossways. The West Dorset area has a land supply shortage for housing which makes such applications difficult to oppose. The council is spending a great deal of money on child care facilities, much of which has to be dealt with outside of the county, therefore there is an effort to provide better facilities within the county for the future. The pothole repair machine has recently been in Thorncombe. Councillors stated that they will reserve their opinion on this machine until it is seen how long the repairs last. Concerns were raised to him about the fact that we were missed off the consultation list as far as the Local Plan was concerned. There were further concerns expressed to him about the planning portal.</p>
063	<p>Account for Payment: Following accounts were ratified for payment: I Pick Up £14.20, B.K. Atyeo £80.00, Dial a Grass Cut £340.00 and salaries £201.80.</p>
064	<p>Financial Update</p> <p>The financial update, which had been circulated prior to the meeting was agreed. The bank reconciliation stood at £13,661.29.</p>
065	<p>Highways and Rights of Way</p> <p>Some of the verge cutting had been missed by the contractors whilst undertaking the recent cuts in the parish, possibly because the equipment had become faulty. There had been little work undertaken on the Broom bridge project and there were concerns as to whether it will be finished by the deadline set by the arranged road closures.</p> <p>Mr Higgins had met with the Senior Ranger. Whilst this had been a useful meeting a number of the items promised had yet to be supplied. A number of stile will be replaced but this can only be done if the land owner permits it. There have been a number of paths obstructed by crops, some of which had not been put right within the legal timeframe of 14 days.</p> <p>It was felt that the recent public enquiry had gone well. There had been some questions on law following the meeting which had delayed the Inspector being able to make her report. It was hoped that the report would soon be published.</p>
066	<p>Councillors and Representatives Reports</p> <p>Bus Services: Mrs Marsh reported that having attended the Tatworth and Forton Funding evening they had kindly agreed to provide a grant of £400. There had also been a donation from a parishioner of £400. This will take the bus fund to £3921.</p> <p>Community Shop: The meeting was informed that the shop had made a small profit</p>

	<p>Community Car Service: The co-ordinator had not received any requests recently but understood that some people were approaching drivers direct.</p> <p>Village Hall: The revenue was holding its own. There had been concerns that revenue would fall due to the playgroup ceasing, however other groups had replaced that revenue.</p> <p>Playing Field: Some equipment has been taken away because it had become dangerous. A quiz night at the club would hopefully provide some funding. The installation of CCTV is to go ahead.</p> <p>School: First complete year under a management partnership with Marshwood School and Acton MAT had been very successful Miss Smith and Mr Owen had developed a broad and balanced curriculum with the Acorn Academy Trust providing additional support and advice in early years and special educational needs The reduction in the number of pupils had resulted in the reduction of classes from three to two. However it was felt that the pupils had benefited from an enhanced curriculum with successful SAT's results being the proof of the pupil's achievements. Little Pips and After School Club had provided additional care for those parents who had requested it and there is now an established activities timetable for pupils to choose from in the after school club. There have been some additional pupils joining the school and the school aims to drive up standards and provide the best possible environment for both pupils and staff.</p> <p>Other Reports: The Speed Indicator Device (SID) is in place and will remain for six weeks.</p> <p>Lengthsman: Some items are outstanding but the chairman has had difficulty getting hold of the Lengthsman.</p>
067	<p>Planning Applications No planning applications had recently been received</p>
068	<p>Determinations and Withdrawals The application at the Old Dairy, dealt with at the July meeting, was withdrawn from the register on the 18th July.</p>
069	<p>Correspondence Nil</p>
070	<p>Matters of Urgency The chairman stated that he wished the council to review the 2014 Thorncombe Parish plan at the October meeting</p>
071	<p>Next Meeting:</p> <p>The next meeting will be on Tuesday 1st October at 7.30pm</p> <p>The meeting closed at 8.54 pm</p>

Signed ----- Chairman

Date -----