

Clerk to the Council:

J.F. Vanderwolfe Chartered MCIPD

Mr

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**Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Thorncombe Village Hall on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2015 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllr's R Arnold (Chairman), S Dunford, S Welford, J Higgs, R Peacock, M Stead and N Higgins

**In Attendance:-** The Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe) , Cllr D Turner (Dorset County Council), Cllr M Robinson (West Dorset District Council), PCSO and six members of the public.

<b>1153</b>	<b>Apologies</b> An apology was received from Cllr P Gordon (meeting) .Resolved to accept this apology.
<b>1154</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct</b> No Declarations were made
<b>1155</b>	<b>Minutes</b> The minutes of the meeting held on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2015 were adopted as a true record; and were signed by the chairman.
<b>1156</b>	<b>Matters Arising</b> The clerk was asked if he had received the information promised by the chairman of the playing field committee (1145). He replied that none of the information had been provided. It was confirmed that Cllr Turner had received the gateway information (1147).
<b>1157</b>	<b>Police Report</b>

	<p>There had been a theft of Velux windows from the building site at Marshwood. The police had subsequently provided the contractors with advice regarding on-site security. The point was made that if you see something suspicious you can ring 999. There had been some criminal damage to vehicles and street furniture in Thorncombe recently. Parking on pavement problems were being monitored. The police had been monitoring the speed of vehicles through Marshwood and also looking for drivers using mobile phones and not wearing their seat belts.</p>
<b>1158</b>	<p><b>Democratic Period</b></p> <p>The point was made that in 1972 there had been a great number of candidates hopefully of becoming councillors on Thorncombe Parish Council. There was a request that council meeting dates be placed in the parish magazine. There had been a comprehensive article in the magazine regarding the forthcoming election, however, the clerk agreed to visit the Community shop on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March to provide any advice to anyone wishing to stand for the council and to check application paperwork. There was a general discussion regarding communication of council events. Cllr S Welford asked why the shop were not present to present a report. The clerk stated that the chairman had been invited, but had been unable to attend. Unfortunately our council representative was not present this evening. Cllr S Dunford asked the county councillor if any progress had been made regarding Goughs Barton. The county councillor stated he would look into this.</p>
<b>1159</b>	<p><b>County and District Reports</b></p> <p><b>County:</b> Although some additional funds had been obtained from the Government for road repairs there was still a major shortfall in the budget. The nine councils in Dorset were working together for the future. There is still a question as to whether this would eventually lead to a Unitary authority. Cllr Turner was now the chairman of the Environment Overview Committee.</p> <p><b>District:</b> Following the recent public meeting regarding the neighbourhood Plan the other three councils (Upper Marshwood, Hawkchurch and Netherbury) had decided to move forward without Thorncombe. The new Affordable homes at Marshwood should be ready to be occupied by the end of this month (March). The WDDC Council tax would increase by 1.9% from the 1<sup>st</sup> April. West Dorset, North Dorset and Weymouth/Portland had now merged together, and would be served by one Chief Executive. The head of parking was being called to a scrutiny meeting to explain why there are so many problems with the newly installed parking meters in car parks.</p>
<b>1160</b>	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan</b></p> <p>The clerk stated that he had been disappointed at the comments made by some councillors at the public meeting when they had intimated that very little information had been provided to them at council meetings regarding Neighbourhood Planning. He felt that this had not been the case, and that it had given a negative view of the council. It was agreed that another meeting would be held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm. It was hoped that a small steering group could be formed to look into the viability of having a neighbourhood plan or not.</p>
<b>1161</b>	<p><b>Highway Reports</b></p>

	Mr Frampton stated that there are still a number of drainage problems in the parish. Notification had been received of a road closure at Headstock. No requests had been received for the lengthsman.
<b>1162</b>	<p><b>Councillors' Reports</b></p> <p><b>Rights of Way:</b> Letter received from Dorset CC regarding footpath 60. The County were to have a meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> March at which they were recommending that the diversion order at Westford Mill be abandoned due to objections and lack of budget resources. It was agreed by the meeting that this was totally unacceptable. The path had been closed for over 10 years and the highway authority were failing in their legal duty. Clerk to send a strong letter with a copy to the West Dorset Ramblers and Tatworth &amp; Forton Parish Council.</p> <p><b>Car Service:</b> The service is working well and has been advertised in the parish magazine.</p> <p><b>Playing Field:</b> Some quotations have been received for works to equipment and it is hoped that the playing field will reopen by Easter. Cllr Peacock will investigate why the information promised to the clerk has not been provided.</p> <p><b>Gateway:</b> Site meeting arranged on the 18<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm</p>
<b>1163</b>	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p>a) <b>Payments:</b> The following accounts were agreed for payment: J Vanderwolfe £58.07 (1211), Information Commissioner £35.00 (1212), J Higgs (1213).</p> <p>b) <b>Risk Assessment:</b> Agreed that the Council had examined any additional risks during the year and had found that, as far as is practicably possible, risks had been identified, and the Council was satisfied that it had taken all necessary action to protect the council and its assets.</p>
<b>1164</b>	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p>No applications to deal with</p>
<b>1165</b>	<p><b>Election Information</b></p> <p>Councillors had been circulated with the application papers for the election. The important thing to remember is that the deadline for receipt by the Returning Officer of applications is 4pm on the 9<sup>th</sup> April. It is a good idea not to leave it until the last minute in case there are any problems with the application. The clerk will be at the shop on the morning of the 28<sup>th</sup> March to assist anyone with their forms or provide information to anyone interested in becoming a parish councillor.</p>
<b>1166</b>	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>Nil</p>
<b>1167</b>	<p><b>Meetings</b></p> <p>The next Council meeting will be on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April.</p> <p>The May meeting cannot be held on the first Tuesday in the month because of the elections; and will be on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May. The Annual Parish Meeting will be on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. There will <b>not</b> be a meeting in June.</p>

