

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 2nd September 2014 commencing at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr's R Arnold (Chairman), S Dunford, S Welford, J Higgs, 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), two police officers and seven members of the public.

1054	Apologies An apology was received from Cllr's R Peacock (meeting) and P Gordon (meeting). Resolved to accept these apologies.
1055	Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct None received
1056	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on the 1 st July 2014 were adopted as a true record and were signed by the chairman.
1057	Matters Arising Nil
1058	Police & Neighbourhood Watch 8.6% less crime in area than previous year, 7 less burglaries. Amount of criminal damage down. Theft is down but violent crime is up by 2 incidents. Theft from farm

	<p>buildings up by 6 incidents. Between April and September there had been 4 reported crimes in Thorncombe. Someone had stolen the traffic lights from Marshwood. Warned to be aware of bogus police officer telephone calls which get people to transfer their money into a new account; never to be seen again.</p>
1059	<p>Democratic Period</p> <p>There was a question regarding what will now happen following the recent rights of way meeting to establish the correct route of footpath 48. It was understood that the route of the path would be put out to consultation, however, if anyone objects then the process will be subject to possible heavy delay because an inspector would need to be appointed to arbitrate on the matter.</p>
1060	<p>County and District Councillor's Reports</p> <p>County: There is a boundary review taking place for councillor areas.</p> <p>District: There would appear to be staffing problems in the planning department resulting in the delay in processing planning applications. There are a number of changes to Section 106 agreements taking place in relation to affordable housing which should simplify the system and speed the process up. The cabinet will be looking at possible charges being passed on to parish and town councils for electoral services. Clerk expressed concerns that parishes and towns need to know about the amounts prior to budget setting. Village shop doing well with possibility of early repayment of loan.</p>
1061	<p>Highways</p> <p>A tree that fell down across Holditch Lane had been removed within two hours. A ditch in Holditch is full of greenery following recent hedge cutting operations. It was understood that some additional digging equipment is being purchased by Dorset Highways. The water at Stonelake is still not going through the pipe and there are concerns that this will cause problems in the winter. Drains continue to be blocked on the county border near to Broom Cross. The drain at Headstock Cross remains blocked. Work is due to commence shortly on the railway line at Broom Crossing to assist with flood prevention.</p>
1062	<p>Councillors' Report</p> <p>Playing Field: The clerk had received the ROSPA report which he presented to Cllr Stead. Some of the items on the report have already been dealt with. Cllr Higgins reported that three bags of litter had been picked up from the field recently.</p> <p>ROW: It was hoped that a gentleman from DCC was going to attend this evening to discuss a part payment scheme for grass cutting on footpaths and bridleways. It was understood that they were looking to the parish council to pay half towards the cutting of paths next year. It was suggested that it might be easier if DCC paid the half to the parish council and our parish lengthsman then undertook the work. This would be looked into. The handrail at the dungeon had been done but 25 other reports have been made to PROW.</p> <p>Website: There had been some problems with Mr Lloyd our webmaster which the clerk was trying to sort out. He would provide a full report at the next meeting.</p> <p>Transport: There is a possibility of some improved bus service to Chard through Somerset County Council. Cllr J Higgs reported that we would be receiving a one-off grant of £300 to set up the new car service which will be called Thorncombe Community Cars. A meeting is being held with present drivers and hopefully to recruit new volunteers to assist with the scheme.</p>

1063	<p>Finance Accounts for payment: Playsafety £114 (1194) & G&J Landscapes £912 (1195). Resolved to pay these accounts. Internal Audit Report: Mr D Knowles had undertaken the report as Mrs Abbott was off sick. He reported that he had examined the books and found everything to be satisfactory. The clerk reported that the External Auditors had contacted him with a few questions regarding the accounts, and whilst it had been anticipated that the accounts would have been returned for this meeting they have not yet been returned.</p>
1064	<p>Planning WD/D/14/001980 Higher Farm, Thorncombe. Importation of inert waste to facilitate agricultural land improvement. No objection Determinations: Holway Cottage, Venn Hill, Synderford: Erection of new shed and oil tank. Approved</p>
1065	<p>Neighbourhood Plan The clerk had circulated a short report regarding the merits of Thorncombe joining forces with Upper Marshwood Vale and Netherbury to produce a Neighbourhood Plan, After some discussion it was Resolved in principle that Thorncombe would join forces with Upper Marshwood Vale and Netherbury to produce a Neighbourhood Plan.</p>
1066	<p>Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 The clerk had circulated the document prior to the meeting. He explained that the council could no longer refuse the public or press recording the meeting. Special arrangements would need to be made to accommodate anyone who did not wish to be filmed. There are some exceptions to recording, including meetings held In part two. There are also additional rights to access to decisions made by officers under delegated powers.</p>
1067	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. DALC Summer Newsletter II. Registration for voting –new rules requiring each individual to register rather than held of household III. Letter of thanks for Bridport CAB IV. Letter of thanks from Thorncombe Swimming Pool V. Letter of thanks from Thorncombe First Responders
1068	<p>Next Meeting Tuesday 7th October at 7.30pm</p>