

Clerk to the Council:

J.F. Vanderwolfe FILCM, Chartered MCIPD

Mr

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Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Thorncombe Village Hall on Tuesday 2nd Februar 2016 at 7.30pm

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

In Attendance:-The Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe), Cllr J Sewell (West Dorset District Council) and 10 members of the public.

Draft until Approved

102	Apologies No apologies received
103	Declarations of Interests Cllr N Higgins declared a personal interest in the complaint against a councillor. Cllr C Sowerbutts declared a Declarable Pecuniary Interest in the planning application for the Solar Farm and would leave the meeting prior to any discussions taking place.
104	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on the 5 th January 2016 were adopted as a true record; and were signed by the chairman
105	Matters Arising Cllr J Higgs reported, in relation to minute 100, that the shed had now been purchased and that it would be erected as soon as possible.

<p>106</p>	<p>Democratic Period</p> <p>A parishioner was concerned that work had been carried out on his land without his authority. He stated that he understood that Cllr N Higgins was claiming that the land was not in Mr Cunningham’s ownership, however Mr Cunningham insisted that the land in question was registered as his. There was then a discussion regarding this item.</p> <p>There were concerns expressed about the possible cuts to bus services that only had a one or two day per week frequency. Although the Thursday bus to Axminster was often full this does not seem to make a difference in the plan to cut the service. A meeting was being organised by Cllr Rebecca Knox (DCC) to discuss the proposed cuts, and alternative transport options. It was understood that this meeting would be held on the 19th February at a venue still to be decided.</p> <p>There was a question regarding drainage problems at Holditch. It was understood that some work had taken place, however other works required might be beyond the lengthsman’s capabilities, and therefore Dorset Highways would need to deal with it.</p> <p>Mr Frost informed the meeting that WDDC has asked him to modify his recent planning application for the Thorncombe Farm House.</p> <p>Cllr S Welford was concerned that her request to add an item about First Responders had not been included on the agenda. The clerk explained that the agenda was his responsibility and that after discussion with the chairman it was felt that as the request had not come from the organisation, but as a response to a parishioner’s raised concern, it was not appropriate to add it as an agenda item. Cllr J Higgs, responding on behalf of Thorncombe First Responders, outlined the problem, which was that on occasions the ambulance HQ in Exeter had directed First Responders to locations outside the parish, including Chard. He made the point that it was up to the individual responder to make a decision as to whether they felt able and willing to respond to an incident outside the parish. He did not feel that there was any need for the parish council to take any action about this</p>
<p>107</p>	<p>Neighbourhood Watch</p> <p>It was understood that some tools had been stolen from a van in Drimpton.</p>
<p>108</p>	<p>Bus Services</p> <p>Concerns had already been expressed in the democratic period about the proposed cuts to bus services which would leave Thorncombe without any bus services. It was felt that it was unfair that people living in rural areas were disadvantaged as far as public transport was concerned compared to people living in urban areas. Agreed that Cllr’s D Marsh and S Welford would attend the transport meeting on the 19th February. A bus does run through Laymore every two hours connecting Taunton and</p>

	Yeovil, and it was felt that possibly a community car scheme could make a connection with these services/
109	District Report The WDDC Local Plan had now been agreed and a copy was distributed to the meeting. A petition to change the way in which WDDC was organised would go to a referendum. The council were looking into the way that their leisure centres are being run.
110	Planning a) WD/D/15/001863 Land East of Sadborow Lane, Thorncombe. Amended application to Solar Farm. The Council felt that little improvement had been made and that the earlier decision not to support still stood. b) WD/TP/16/00013 St Mary's Church, Thorncombe: Re-pollard Limes, fell Lime, remove growth, raise crown on Wellintonia and raise crown to 3m on a Lime. Support c) WD/D/15/002967 Newhouse Farm, Holditch Court: Internal alterations, insert door south elevation and repair window in west elevation. Support d) Determinations: WD/TP/15/00398 Manor Farm, Holditch. Reduce crown. Refused. WD/D/15/002711 Woodland Workshop, Holditch Lane: Treehouse. Approved. WD/D/15/002701 Forge Cottage, High Street, Thorncombe. Garden Room. Approved. WD/D/15/002793 Green View, Winsham. Extension. Approved.
111	Finances The following accounts were approved for payment: A Dowell £80.00, N Higgins £477.09, Society of Clerks £88.00, Darren Strawbridge £456.00 & Argos £209.99. The budget v actual for the period April to January was agreed. Grants: Agreed that this item would be referred back to the Finance Committee.
112	Highways The lengthsman had undertaken a number of tasks within the parish over the last few weeks. It was agreed that an inspection visit of highway issues be undertaken as soon as possible. Clerk to contact Cllr Turner. Cllr N Higgins informed the meeting that the red fingerpost at Hewood was now back in position, having been repaired. Anti-slip treds are being supplied.
113	Councillors' Reports Playing Field: Fence had been repaired and a clean-up day organised for March 12. A sponsored cycle race will take place on the 21 st March to the Bottle Inn. The grass cutting contract would be looked at by the Finance Committee. Cllr D Arnold had redone the lease which would now be for a 6 year period with a £5 rent. It was understood that outside of the actual field, the council did not own any other assets connected to the playing field.
114	Correspondence Letters from both the Village Hall Committee and St Mary's PCC stating that they did not wish to give permission for residential parking in their respective car parks.

115	Motion that the Council went into part two under the Local Government, Admission to Meetings Act 1960 because the next item was dealing with a complaint against and elected member. On-going to the vote the motion was carried, with one councillor voting against.
116	Next Meeting: Thursday 1 st March 2016 at 7.30pm