

Clerk to the Council:

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Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Thorncombe Village Hall on Tuesday 1st October 2019 commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr's J Higgs (Chairman), M Stead, A Hiscock, D Marsh and P Basham
In Attendance:-The Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe), Cllr S Christopher (Dorset Council) and five members of the public.

Draft until Approved

072	Apologies Nil
073	Declarations of Interest No Declarations of Interest were made
074	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on the 3 rd September 2019 were adopted as a true record; and were signed by the chairman.
075	Matters Arising It was noted that correspondence had been received informing the council that a number of phone boxes were proposed for disconnection in Dorset, which included the one in Thorncombe. There is an Adopt a Phone Box Scheme available. The item will be listed on the November agenda.
076	Democratic Period It was noted that a decision was still awaited on the public footpath inquiry. A parishioner noted that the council was going to discuss the parish plan this evening and commented that maybe there was a need to inform the public more about what the councils does in the hope of stirring some interest. Agreed that a councillor would prepare an article for the next magazine. A parishioner was concerned about a culvert that gets blocked at Gribb Farm. Councillor Christopher agreed to deal with this item

	A question was asked about any response to questions raised about a possible diversion of a path on the edge of the parish. Cllr Christopher stated that he is in discussions with the Dorset legal department on this matter.
077	<p>Dorset Councillors Report</p> <p>.Councillor Christopher provided the clerk with a pictorial list of portfolio holders of the Dorset Council. The Mount Joy site at Bridport is to be redeveloped into retirement homes. He stated the council’s concerns over degradation in the Weymouth area. The 30mph speed limit at Chideock had been extended on the Axminster side on a trial basis following a number of road incidents. There was a call for building site land in order to meet the area housing need targets. He informed the meeting that the majority of the charge leveled on owners of private water site tests was for the charges passed on to the council by the laboratory testing the water supply. Affordable housing was being provided in both Mosterton and Broadwindsor. Cllr Marsh asked if any of the promised funding for improved public transport would be used for rural service in Dorset. Cllr Christopher was unable to provide an answer at this time.</p>
078	<p>Account for Payment: Following accounts were ratified for payment: HMRC Vat £80.96, Salaries £212.70, Dial a Grass Cut £390.00, HMRC PAYE £406.40</p>
079	<p>Financial Update</p> <p>The financial update, which had been circulated prior to the meeting was agreed. The bank reconciliation stood at £13,804.85. This included £800 paid into the bus fund. All accounts due to the council had now been received and the second half of the precept should now be in the bank.</p>
080	<p>Highways and Rights of Way</p> <p>There had been a flooding problem at Headstock Road which had been cleared by the parish Lengthsman. Cllr Basham had cleaned signs and had put up a number of the dog poo signs. There had been a problem with the village tap. Whilst SW Water had examined it the problem still remained. The chairman would email details to Cllr Christopher for him to deal with.</p> <p>There was now a gap at Broom Crossing bridge whilst the new one is put into place.</p>
081	<p>Councillors’ and Representatives Reports</p> <p>Bus Services: New timetable now on display. The service 802 school bus can be used by the public, but of course only runs on school days. The fare to Lyme Regis is £3.50 single, and £5.00 for a day return. There is a need for a new bus notice board.</p> <p>Community Shop: The shop presently closes at 2pm on a Tuesday due to a shortage of volunteers. The finances of the shop are presently reasonable. An email had been sent out yesterday stating that instead of using wood for the external improvements they wished to use concrete. There were concerns that this might require planning permission. As the details had come too late for the agenda the item could not be further discussed at this meeting.</p>

	<p>Playfield: Following the safety inspection the children's swings had been removed. The frames for a replacement would cost £820, of which £148 had been raised at a recent quiz night. Agreed this item would be placed on the November agenda.</p> <p>Flood Warden: Sandbags are available in the store if required. A notice will be displayed informing parishioners how they can obtain the key to the store in an emergency</p>
082	<p>Planning Applications No planning applications had been received for this meeting.</p>
083	<p>Determinations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2 Westford Cottages, Chard Junction: Erection of a garage. Approved ● Manor Farm, Holditch. Erect agricultural building. Approved ● Woodland Workshop, Holditch: Erect 2 holiday units raised on stilts. Approved
084	<p>Review of the Thorncombe Plan The chairman informed the meeting that councillors had met to examine this document and felt that it should in future be reviewed on an annual basis. Cllr Hiscock now had an electronic version and this could be placed on the website. The principle points were</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The parish plan had been issued in 2014 and there have been a number of changes over the preceding five years. ● The housing and development section was now really out of date. There is no development boundary in the parish therefore additional housing will be minimal. ● In relation to utilities this has been covered with the internet development mainly in place. Energy sources have been examined. ● Footpath issues are regularly dealt with ● Storm water problems are under control ● Emergency situations can be dealt with using the APE grid system
085	<p>Climate Emergency It was proposed by Cllr Marsh, seconded by Cllr Hiscock that Thorncombe Parish Council declares a Climate Emergency and does all in its power to reverse this situation. All members were agreed.</p>
086	<p>Correspondence The chairman had received a letter from a parishioner, who amongst other things was concerned about the way in which the council dealt with grants. At present a grant application is dealt with as and when it is requested. It was agreed that the way in which grants are dealt with will be an agenda item for November and that the system will be subject to review.</p>
087	<p>Matters of Urgency Nil</p>
088	<p>Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on Tuesday 5th November 2019 at 7.30pm</p>

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Signed ----- Chairman

Date -----