

Clerk to the Council:

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Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the Tuesday 1st March 2022 at the Thorncombe Community Centre, commencing at 7.30pm

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

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

Draft until Approved

491	<p>Apologies An apology had been received from Cllr M Stead due to having been called out to work. Agreed to accept this apology.</p>
492	<p>Declarations of Interest There were no Declarations of Interest made at this stage of the meeting</p>
493	<p>Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on the 1st February 2022, having been previously circulated, were agreed as a true record.</p>
494	<p>Matters Arising Cllr D Marsh reported that he had investigated the solar panel offer being offered between Eon and Dorset Council and found it to be worth pursuing. This was noted.</p>
495	<p>Democratic Period The chairman informed the meeting that he had run the surgery in the Community shop yesterday. A parishioner had voiced concerns about the state of the roads in the area and had been informed that there were a number of scheduled works to be undertaken in the parish. Concerns had been conveyed regarding a large amount of vegetation on the footpath by Yawlings. This matter was being dealt with by a Footpath Warden. Cllr P Basham volunteered to run the April surgery.</p> <p>Cllr Basham spoke about the implications of the power cut on the community shop and that it had been suggested that a generator be purchased. Someone had suggested</p>

	<p>that the parish council might provide some financial assistance. It was agreed that more information was required and that a formal request with costings would need to be made for consideration. There was a discussion regarding the fact that BT were planning to discontinue digital telephones. If this was the case there was a need for a backup plan. Cllr A Hiscock stated that he had dealt with the transfer of phone networks in a previous job, and therefore agreed to look into the options and report back.</p> <p>A parishioner spoke about the state of the roads near to Forde Abbey stating that she had been informed that the big problem was the number of springs in the area. It was however understood that the road was due to receive some major works in the future.</p> <p>A resident complained about the unsightly appearance of the former telephone box whilst it was being refurbished. Whilst she was assured that this was a temporary thing, and that it would be completely refurbished, she requested that it be removed until that work was due to take place.</p> <p>A resident spoke in relation to the Magdalen Bungalow planning application which had been dealt with at the February council meeting. He stated that although he was a neighbour of the application he had not received any notification, although did state that a notice had been displayed on site. He also stated that he felt there were a number of inaccurate statements within the application and that the plan was incorrect. He noted that our planning committee had visited the site and was surprised that the council had agreed to support the application. He felt that there would be major problems with soakaway if Dorset Council were of a mind to pass the application. Cllr Hiscock explained that whilst this council had supported the application it would be down to Dorset Council to determine the application. Any problems with items such as soakaways would be dealt with by the Building Control Section. It might well be that Dorset Council would impose conditions on the application. He also informed the resident that the parish council only has a short timeframe to examine the planning application and make a response. He made the point that residents have the right to convey their concerns relating to this application to Dorset Council via their planning portal.</p> <p>A number of residents spoke against the planning application to extend the quarry at Westford Park. They made the point that the previous application had been refused by Dorset Council. This application had received a support from South Somerset District Council in relation to the provision of mineral extraction. A gentleman went on to explain that some residents had paid for a report to be prepared by a Quarry expert. The point was made that if this application was passed it would open up the valley and that it would be seen by all around. He made the point that this was in an AONB area. A resident who lived very close to the intended extension of the quarry stated that there would be continuous noise and disruption for the life of the quarry. She felt that this was unacceptable. Members of the public noted that the parish council had supported the last application but urged them not to support this application.</p>
496	<p>Dorset Council Report Cllr S Christopher had circulated a report to members prior to the meeting which was duly noted. He was concerned about the growing amount of fly tipping being found</p>

	within the Marshwood Vale. He had spoken with our local MP regarding resilience measures for such events as power cuts and the vulnerability of rural isolated areas.
497	Accounts for Payment Resolved to ratify the following payments: Society of local Clerks £100.
498	Financial Update The finance update was approved. Financial assets as of the 28 th February stood at £19,183.33.
499	Queen's Platinum Jubilee Commemorations The chairman informed the meeting that special commemorative mugs were being made by a local potter at cost price. It was agreed that the Parish Council would fund this. There would be a Jubilee event at the Sports and Social Club and a Street Party in the Church Car Park. Resolved to earmark £1,000 towards this historic event
500	Playfield The planned concert mentioned last month would now, it was understood, be held on the 22 nd and not the 9 th April as previous advertised. There would be a clean-up day in April.
501	Bus Services Concerns that passenger numbers are down on the service 19 to Chard. The WATAG recent meeting had voiced concerns regarding the future of bus services from 2023. The Government £180m promised for bus services was for the whole of the country.
502	Community Shop The shop are thinking of having an extractor fan. More information to follow. Members agreed that they be permitted to have one.
503	Allotments Some fly tipping on the edge of the allotment site
504	DAPTC Various newsletter and circulars had been received by members and were noted.
505	School Catherine Davis, Chair of the school governors informed the council (via email) that the autumn 21 term started with 41 on the roll, and ended with 46. The spring term commenced with 44. Mr Rourke has assumed Acting Head responsibilities alongside his role as improvement lead for the Acorn Multi Academy Trust. Mrs Rice continues as Executive Head. Admissions from September look promising. The nursery provision, known as Little Acorns, is likely to be extended from three to five days a week. The School has welcomed visits by the Open the Book team and other parishioners offering enrichment opportunities. The children participated at events at St Mary's Church. One Governor stood down last September; and two Governors were appointed in October.
506	Neighbourhood Watch It was understood that a vehicle had been broken into at Stonebarrow.

507	<p>Community Car Service Service continues to operate in an effective manner.</p>
508	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>a). P/FUL/2022/00109 Chard Junction Quarry, Westford Park, Thorncombe: Temporary planning permission for an extension to Chard Junction Quarry at Westford Park Farm for the winning and working of approximately 830,000 tonnes of sand and gravel with progressive restoration to agriculture and nature conservation, inclusive of a new internal haul road and the retention of the existing mineral processing facilities for a period of seven years</p> <p>Resolved to defer this item until further information and a site visit had been made.</p> <p>b) P/MPO/2022/01124 2-18 (even) Tansee Hill, Thorncombe: Application to modify the Section 106 agreement dated 1/5/92 The meeting noted this application but agreed not to comment</p> <p>/PABA2/2022/01064 Manor Farm, Holditch: Form a vehicular access for agricultural use Resolved to support this application because it would improve access</p> <p>d) P/FUI/2021/04331 & P/IBC/2021/04332 Coggans Farm. Lower Holditch: Partial demolition and conversion of existing agricultural building into function room. Demolition of storage barn and stables and replacement with 5 bedroom accommodation for holiday let (amended plans)</p> <p>Resolved that the previous comments opposing this application had not changed; therefore unable to support</p>
509	<p>Devolved Services and Boundary Changes</p> <p>Cllr Christopher stated that there was a move to merge some of the small parish councils on the outskirts of Bridport into Bridport.</p>
510	<p>Annual Parish Meeting</p> <p>It was hoped to have this meeting at the Thorncombe Sports and Social Club. The chairman would liaise with Cllr Stead regarding a suitable date.</p>
511	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9.22pm</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 5th April 2022 at 7.30pm</p>

Signed ----- Chairman

Date -----