

Clerk to the Council:

Mr J.F. Vanderwolfe FILCM, Chartered MCIPD
Newenham
5 Halletts Way
Axminster
EX13 5NB
☐ 01297 34444
johnvw@tiscali.co.uk

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Thorncombe Village Hall on Tuesday 5th December 2017.

Present: Cllr's R Arnold (Chairman), J Higgs, S Dunford, S Welford and R Peacock

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

Draft until Approved

380	<p>Apologies</p> <p>An apology was received from Cllr N Higgins due to flooding in his house. Resolved to accept this apology. An apology was noted from Cllr D Turner (Dorset County Council).</p> <p>It was noted that Cllr C Sowerbutts had resigned from the Council due to working away during the week. The district council would be informed with a view to the position being legally advertised in the new year.</p>
381	<p>Declarations of Interests</p> <p>There were no Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct made at this stage of the meeting.</p>
382	<p>Minutes</p> <p>The minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 3rd October 2017 were adopted as a true record; and were signed by the chairman.</p>
383	<p>Finance and General Purposes Meeting</p> <p>The minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Meeting held on the 22nd November 2017 were adopted as a true record, and were signed by the chairman.</p>
384	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>It was felt that the recommendation from the F&GP committee regarding the distribution of grants (FO54) needed some clarification. It was agreed that notice would be given that organisations requesting a grant could be provided with an</p>

	<p>application form on request, but that the Citizen's Advice would receive the £100 grant.</p> <p>The No Smoking signs were now displayed in the bus shelter.</p> <p>A complaint had been received from a member of the public who had stated that he had struck his head against the fingerpost sign pointing to the church carpark. This sign had been provided by the church, but had been erected by Cllr Higgins acting for the PCC. The clerk had requested him to dismantle the sign, which Cllr Higgins had duly done.</p>
385	<p>Democratic Period</p> <p>A number of questions were asked regarding the proposed budget for 2018/19. It was explained that the tax base rate for Thorncombe has not been released from WDDC and that they would not be providing the Government grant for the forthcoming year.</p> <p>Concerns expressed regarding the fact that no notice had been displayed at the village hall to inform the public that the November meeting had been cancelled. The notice had however been displayed on the notice board and website.</p> <p>Concerns that no update had been provided regarding the diversion at Yawlings.</p> <p>The footbridge at Buddlewall has been removed; and will be replaced with a new bridge</p>
386	<p>Budget and Precept</p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr J Higgs, seconded by Cllr S Welford that the budget for 2018/19 be set at £21,449 and that the Precept Demand from WDDC be set at £10,000. This motion was passed.</p>
387	<p>County and District Report</p> <p>Cllr Sewell informed the meeting that the Secretary of State was mindful to accept the recommendation that there would be two Unitary Authorities for the county of Dorset. The district council were looking at the services provided by the planning department. It had been discovered that the level of service being given in general was not to the standard that should be expected.</p>
388	<p>Highways, Lengthsman and Rights of Way</p> <p>The Lengthsman had undertaken a number of tasks since the previous meeting</p>
389	<p>Accounts for Payment</p> <p>The following accounts were agreed for payment: HMRC £386.40 (1326), Darren Strawbridge £48.00 (1327), Thorncombe Village Hall £22.00 (1328) & Dial a Grass £60.00 (1329).</p>
390	<p>Councillors' Reports</p> <p>Bus Service: It was understood that Tatworth and Forton were going to put £500 in their budget for bus services. Whilst there would be a grant for bus services from Community Transport this year that will not be possible next year.</p>

	<p>Train services: Concerns expressed that the proposed revised Exeter to Waterloo timetable from December 2018 has a number of trains not calling at either Woking or Clapham Junction. Woking has the bus link to Heathrow Airport and Clapham Junction is useful for Gatwick and many other destinations.</p> <p>Community Car Service: Very busy at present</p> <p>Community Shop: Turnover is similar to last year with some fund raising taking place. A voucher is being distributed to every household in the parish in a neffort to boost revenue of the shop. The position of finance officer of the shop was now vacant</p> <p>Playfield: The AGM had taken place on the 18th November, which had resulted in there now being six committee members. The carol concert on the 20th December funds will be distributed between the playfield and the village Christmas Lights fund. There is a need to replace one of the goal posts.</p> <p>Website: Mr Sowebutts has kindly agreed to continue to service the website for the immediate future, however a replacement person is required.</p> <p>School: One of the teachers has resigned and there are concerns regarding future funding due to the reduction in pupil numbers.</p> <p>DAPTC: Cllr Welford provided an interesting report. The AGM had been well attended with four resolutions being put forward from parishes. Concerns about the present legislation on Parish Polls that permits a very small number of people to cause a poll, which must be paid for by the parish or town council. This had recently happened in Chideock. There had been a great deal of discussion at the recent group meeting regarding the impact of unitary authority on parish and town councils. Whilst the town councils were being consulted there seems to be little chance for input from the parish councils. Whilst the CEO of DAPTC attends the meetings arranged to discuss possible arrangements for the new authority she does not have a vote.</p>
391	<p>Planning</p> <p>a) Planning Applications There were no applications to be dealt with</p> <p>b) Determinations WD/D/17/002021 2 Holway Cottage, Synderford: Internal/external alterations: Approved WD/D/17/001916/7 5 High Street. Re-roof shed. Approved WD/D/17/001874. Old Crown, Fore Street: Replace garage door. Approved</p>
392	<p>Correspondence The chairman had received correspondence form the former treasurer of the Community shop which agreed he would forward to elected members and the clerk for their reference.</p>
393	<p>Matters of Urgency There were no matters to deal with</p>
394	<p>Next Meeting: Tuesday 6th February 2018</p>

Signed ----- Chairman

Date -----