

Clerk to the Council:

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Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held at the Thorncombe Village Hall on Tuesday 6th May 2014 commencing at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr's R Arnold (Chairman), S Dunford, J Higgs, S Welford, R Peacock, N Higgins, M Stead and P Gordon.

In Attendance:- The Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe) , Cllr D Turner (Dorset County Council), Cllr M Robinson (West Dorset District Council) and 11 members of the public.

1011	<p>Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman Cllr R Arnold was elected as chairman for the ensuing year. He signed his Declaration of Acceptance of office; witnessed by the Proper Officer.</p> <p>There were two nominations for Vice-chairman, Cllr P Gordon and Cllr J Higgs. Cllr J Higgs was duly elected as Vice-chairman for the ensuing year.</p>
1012	<p>Apologies Nil</p>
1013	<p>Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct Cllr S Dunford declared a pecuniary interest in Planning Application WD/D/14/000918/LBC as it was declared on his Declarations of Interest Form; and it was his application. He would leave the room prior to any discussions taking place on this application.</p>

1014	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on the 1 st April 2014 were adopted as a true record.
1015	Matters Arising The landrover, reported as having been stolen (minute 1001): had been found. It was hoped that copies of the new Parish Plan would be available at the Annual Parish meeting at the end of the month.
1016	Police & Neighbourhood Watch Concerns that people need to be careful walking in the woods because at this time of year owls will attack if they think that their young are in danger. There had been sightings of a car with a welsh sticker in the area that had aroused some suspicion.
1017	Democratic Period A parishioner raised concerns in relation to Planning Application WD/D/14/000705, which was a retrospective application for a replacement barn at Magdalen Farm. The applicant also spoke about the application, stating that he had believed that the proposal was within permitted rights, but had been informed by the Enforcement Officer that planning permission would be required. It was pointed out to the resident that, with certain exceptions, retrospective planning was not illegal. The parishioner felt that the application should be called in by the district councillor; however Cllr Robinson explained that a good planning reason had to be given, and indeed accepted, for the application to be dealt with by the committee rather than by delegated authority. It was understood that the circle on the signpost at Heywood was missing. Footpath 44 needed attention. Fire service were willing to attend a meeting to discuss home safety.
1018	County and District Councillor's Reports Cllr Turner made reference to the recent inspection of highways that had taken place, which had resulted in a snagging list been produced. Cllr Robinson informed the meeting that the Affordable Housing application at Marshwood had now been approved. He also informed the meeting that only people with genuine connections with the parish would in future be considered for housing allocations. The planning section is looking at introducing software that will improve the scale of planning applications. Improvements had recently been introduced to the planning portal; with training being made available from June. The scrutiny committee were looking at the way in which Section 106 agreements are processed. At present there are a number of different versions, and they are taking up to 12 months' to get sorted; which is unacceptable.
1019	Election of Committees and Chairman Finance: To consist of Councillors R Arnold (Chairman), R Peacock, J Higgs and s Welford. Planning: To consist of Councillors N Higgins (Chairman), R Peacock, M Stead and P Gordon. Allotments and Cemetery: J Higgs, S Dunford, R Peacock and S Welford. Public Rights of Way: R Peacock and N Higgins Highways: Mr Frampton, Cllr J Higgs and Cllr M Stead

	<p>Amenities: Cllr's M Stead, R Arnold & N Higgins Village Hall: M Stead Blackdown Trust: Cllr J Higgs Playing Field: Cllr M Stead Public Transport: Cllr S Welford Website: Graham Lloyd Emergency: M Stead, R Peacock, P Gordon, S Welford & J Higgs DAPTC: Cllr R Peacock SOLCC: The Clerk CAB: Cllr R Arnold Community Shop: Cllr's P Gordon & S Welford Neighbourhood Watch: Cllr M Stead</p>
1020	<p>Highway Report Items had been listed for attention following recent highways inspection. A finger post reported had been recorded as being closed even though the problem had not been rectified. The lengthsman had recently undertaken some work in the parish Traffic calming: slow sign in place but no information yet regarding the speed count or gateway design.</p>
1021	<p>Councillors' Reports Rights of Way: County would look at the diversion order for footpaths 37, 38 and 103 on the 15th May. Gate near sewage works needs attention.</p>
1022	<p>Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Following accounts resolved to be paid B) Annual Accounts: Resolved to adopt the Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2014; subject to audit. C) Annual Governance Statement: The document had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting with a request to read it prior to the meeting. Resolved that, in the opinion of the elected members of the council, they had done all in their power to ensure adequate governance during the year. D) Notice of Audit: The meeting noted that the statutory notice would be on display on the Council's principle notice board by the 28th May 2014. The date for the accounts to be with BDO LLP is the 7th July 2014 E) Receipt of first half of precept: First half (£4121) of precept demand and LCTS Grant of £199, had been received. RFO voiced his concern that he understood that WDDC were possibly not going to pass the LCTS grant on to local councils next year; even though the Government was requesting principle councils to do so. F) Grass Cutting Specification: RFO was concerned that he had still not received this even though the grass cutting season was well underway.
1023	<p>Planning WD/D/14/000705 Magdalen Farm- replacement barn and roof over feeding area. Retrospective application. Resolved to support</p>

	<p>WD/D/14/000918 1 High Street, Thorncombe: Internal alterations. Resolved to support. <i>Note Cllr S Dunford not present for this application having declared a pecuniary interest.</i></p> <p>Determinations</p> <p>WD/D/14/000491 Chaffleigh Farm Bungalow, Laymore. Agricultural bungalow and garage with removal of condition 2. Approved</p> <p>WD/D/14/000535 Thorncombe Farm. Withdrawn from register</p>
1024	<p>Parish Plan</p> <p>At the printers and hopefully ready for the Annual Parish Meeting</p>
1025	<p>Annual Parish Meeting</p> <p>The clerk confirmed that there would be speakers on highways, Neighbourhood Plan, Fire Safety in the Home and Community Transport</p>
1026	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>I. Dorset Wildlife Trust meeting in Dorchester 17th May</p> <p>II. CPRE Newsletter</p> <p>III. Parish Newsletter</p>
1027	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 3rd June 2014 at 7.30pm</p>