

Clerk to the Council:

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Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Thorncombe Village Hall on Tuesday 4th February 2020 commencing at 7.30pm

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

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

124	Apologies Nil
125	Declarations of Interest Cllr J Higgs. Personal interest in a payment being made to him.
126	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on the 3 rd December 2019 were accepted as a true record, and were signed by the chairman.
127	Matters Arising The revised grant form had been circulated. Agreed that some additional information relating to climate change would be added. The form would then be distributed.
128	Democratic Period Some damage to the community shop caused by a water leak would be investigated by Cllr M Stead. The shop would produce a calendar for 2021. Suggested that a picture of the new surgery to be held by the council in the shop could be the feature for one of the months A drain in Chard Street had been reported on the 19 th December but had still not been dealt with There was a question regarding the status of the telephone box which the Council wished to adopt and then possibly move. The clerk would investigate this.

	<p>There was a question regarding the diversion of a footpath near Yawlings. No update had been received</p> <p>A parishioner kindly handed over copies of the sewage maps for the parish to the council.</p>
129	<p>Dorset Councillors Report</p> <p>Cllr Christopher stated that he was concerned about further cuts in bus services. He felt that it was time for us to make a case for rural Dorset. A number of planning enforcement issues had been dealt with in West Dorset. There was a question from Cllr Marsh regarding the proposal that he sent regarding road wardens. This follows a very successful scheme across the border in Devon. The school bus had been cancelled on the 21st January because of ice on the roads. The chairman then outlined to Cllr Christopher the problems he had encountered with our speed indicator system (SID). He had been informed that we could not use it in Thorncombe because there was only the national speed limit of 60mph in the village.</p>
130	<p>Account for Payment: Following accounts were agreed for payment: Dial a Grass Cut £80.00, J Higgs £20.00, Darren Strawbridge £150.00, Society Local Clerks £100.00, HMRC PAYE £415.20, Thorncombe Community Shop £200.00 SW Allotment Association £10.00, Dorset Community Transport £2,000.00 and salaries £403.80.</p>
131	<p>Financial Update</p> <p>The financial update, which had been circulated prior to the meeting was agreed. The bank reconciliation stood at £15,937.50 as of the 27th January 2020.</p>
132	<p>Request for Funding from BAVLAP</p> <p>Cllr Marsh informed the meeting that he found the meetings of BAVLAP useful. The group had been formed in 2008 and covered the town of Beaminster and its surrounding villages, and the area in the west to Thorncombe, and Eversholt in the east. It also went up to Halstock and down to Mapperton. It received reports from the police, transport organisations, environmental groups and the Dorset Association of Local Councils. Amongst its many achievements was the funding for the dementia café in the community shop. Agreed that the council would provide an annual subscription to this group of £100.</p>
133	<p>Grants</p> <p>Agreed that the grants form, together with the guidelines, would be placed on the website, with paper copies being held in the shop. The clerk would prepare a poster for display and also submit an article to the magazine. Councillors would be provided with a copy via email which they could distribute as necessary. The closing date for applications would be the 1st June 2020.</p>
134	<p>Highways and Rights of Way</p> <p>Objections had been received on the order to divert the footpaths 37/38/103, therefore the order has not been determined. The inspector will now deal with this by means of written submissions. Concerns were expressed that it would seem that no one had registered a small piece of land that was vital for access to the playing</p>

	<p>field, which was owned by the parish council. The clerk would involve our solicitors in getting this area registered with Land Registry.</p> <p>Following complaints of stiles and bridges being slippery Mr Higgins had placed slip pads on most of them, however they were no longer available so he suggested using special paint. This was agreed. Stiles on footpaths 28 and 26 are to be replaced with gates. He was concerned that the path through Westward Mills had now been unusable for 20 years. He felt this was unacceptable. The division of the path by Yawlings remains unresolved after 15 years.</p> <p>More problems with fly tipping between Gardener's Farm and Buddlewall.</p>
135	<p>Councillors and Representatives Reports</p> <p>Bus Services: The Wednesday Plus bus is showing a 55-60% use, whilst service 14 to Chard has an average loading of 80%, however the loadings for the Thursday service to Axminster are averaging less than 50%. This is concerning as there seems to be a drop in passengers from Hawkchurch. Cllr Marsh will attend the Hawkchurch meeting on the 18th February and raise this issue in the democratic period.</p> <p>Community Shop: It is hoped to have the annual figures for the shop at the next meeting.</p> <p>Village Hall: The rollers and curtains have been repaired</p> <p>Playfield: Six committee members turned up to the meeting on the 12th January. The AGM is on the 9th March. The proposal for the installation of CCTV has been postponed as vandalism seems to be on the decrease.</p> <p>School: A very detailed school report was read out and is attached to the minutes</p>
136	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>WD/D/19/003024 Winsham Bridge, Winsham: Repairs to stone work and replacement of stone rip-rap river bed through arch with stone gabion. Agreed that this is vital works and should be supported.</p>
137	<p>Determinations and Withdrawals</p> <p>Nil</p>
138	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Letter from the Community Shop thanking the council for granting them £200 for repairs.</p>
123	<p>Next Meeting:</p> <p>Meeting closed at 9.10pm</p> <p>Tuesday 3rd March 2020 at 7.30pm</p>

Signed ----- Chairman

Date -----