

Clerk to the Council:

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Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the Tuesday 6th December 2022 at 7.30pm in the Thorncombe Village Hall

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

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

Draft until Approved

667	Apologies No apologies received
668	Declarations of Interest No Declarations were made
669	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on the 1 st November 2022, having been previously distributed; were agreed as a true record; and were then signed by the chairman.
670	Matters Arising No items raised
671	Monthly Surgery A parishioner had suggested that the parish council could invest in a solar farm or encourage members of the parish to do so. Members of the council felt that whilst this might be a good idea they did not think the parish council should become involved. A number of footpath issues had been discussed. Agreed that Cllr Marsh would lead the February meeting. Problems with fly tipping were once again highlighted. It was noted that Dorset Council will only remove such items from the highway and not from private land.
672	Democratic Period It was noted that there will be an Eco Fair on the 16 th February.

	<p>Seven trees are being planted at the Thorncombe Sports and Social Club. The chairman and Dorset Councillor would be invited to plant one of them each.</p> <p>There was an offer from the Thorncombe Environment Group to cut the grass in the cemetery twice a year and to also possibly cut the hedge. The chairman thanked them for this offer, and it would be accepted providing adequate insurance and certification for machinery was in place.</p> <p>The lantern parade had been a super event; enjoyed by all.</p>
673	<p>Accounts for Payment Resolved to ratify the following payments: Community Shop £100, Thorncombe Keep Fit £200.00, St Mary's PCC £500.00, Bridport Citizen Advice £100.00, Christmas Lanterns £90.00 and Vat File £4.99.</p>
674	<p>Financial Update The finance update was approved. Total financial assets as 30th November 2022 were £21,329.14</p>
675	<p>Budget and Precept 2023/24 Resolved that the budget for 2023/24 would be set at £24,910. The precept demand would be £10,875, an increase of £435; being an increase of 4.17%. The Band D charge for 2023/24 will be £34.06 per year; which is an increase of £1.75.</p>
676	<p>Dorset Councillor's Report Councillor S Christopher had circulated his report prior to the meeting. He spoke about a meeting that he had attended regarding rights of way, which he hoped would improve communications in the future. He also reported that both Ray Bryant and Giles Nicholson would be willing to meet and discuss issues with the council in the new year.</p>
677	<p>Playfield The chairman and clerk had attended a meeting of the Playfield Committee. Sadly, despite 21 days' notice having been given the meeting failed to reach it quorum. Another meeting was subsequently called and it was agreed that the group would ask the parish council to take back the running of the playfield from the 1st April 2023.</p> <p>Cllr M Stead asked a question regarding the trustees of the playfield Association and whether they had been informed of this decision. The clerk stated that this was the responsibility of the association and not the council. The council were the legal owners of the land, and if the association was disbanded the operation of the field would come back to the council. Agreed to note the letter and that the council would be responsibility from the 1st April 2023</p>
678	<p>Bus Services All buses are under review. An invoice for the £2k contribution for the running of buses would shortly be sent to the clerk, and was agreed for payment.</p>
679	<p>Community Shop Shop continues to operate to a small profit.</p>

680	<p>Former Telephone Box Cllr Hiscock reported that the door had now been secured to the former telephone box. Agreed a formal opening would take place in the spring.</p>
681	<p>DAPTC Cllr A Hiscock had attended the AGM and had found it to be a very productive meeting. DAPTC were working hard in establishing a better working relationship between Dorset Council and the parish and town councils.</p>
682	<p>Allotments The hedge has been cut.</p>
683	<p>Rights of Way Correspondence had been received that day from Dorset Council which would be circulated. It was agreed that a named person rather than an organisation needed to be recruited. This was, amongst other things, for insurance purposes. Agreed that this would be an item for the February agenda.</p>
684	<p>Police The police officer is hoping to be in the shop again at the end of January 2023.</p>
685	<p>Environmental Meeting Cllr D Marsh had attended this zoom meeting. Few homes in West Dorset have solar panels. There is a big push towards the use of electric cars.</p>
686	<p>Planning</p> <p>P/VOC/2022/07322 Hooks Barn, Saddle Street: Change of use of barn to holiday accommodation with variation of condition restriction of use of property as a dwelling: Original condition should be imposed because additional dwelling not sustainable. Thorncombe Council cannot see any change in circumstances to alter that decision; therefore unable to support</p> <p>P/HOu/2022/05918 Shearing Cross Cottage, Easthay Lane: Ancillary accommodation : Council notes this application</p> <p>P/Hou/2022/07267 Bony Green Farm, Shedrick Hill: First floor extension Council supports this application</p>

	p/HOU/2022/07290 Valley View, Easthay Lane: Demolish existing conservatory, erect single storey side and rear extension and replacement of windows and roof tiles: Council supports this application
687	Closing of Meeting The chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.10pm
688	Next Meeting The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 7 th February 2023 at 7.30pm.

Signed ----- Chairman

Date -----