

Clerk to the Council:

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Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Thorncombe Village Hall on Tuesday 7th February 2017 commencing at 8pm

Present: Cllr's R Arnold (Chairman), J Higgs, S Dunford, S Welford, R Peacock, D Marsh, N Higgins, C Sowerbutts and M Stead

In Attendance:-The Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe), Cllr D Turner (Dorset County Council) and 10 members of the public

Draft until Approved

258	Apologies Apologies had been received from Cllr S Welford (away), which was accepted. An email was received after the meeting from Cllr J Sewell stating she was unwell.
259	Declarations of Interests Cllr R Peacock declared a pecuniary interest in planning application WD/D/17/000047 Herridge Farm, as the owner. He would leave the room. Cllr R Arnold declared a personal interest in the same application as a near neighbour and personal friend of the applicant
260	Minutes

	The minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 3 rd January 2017 were adopted as a true record. The Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee of the same date were also adopted as a true record
261	Matters Arising Cllr N Higgins stated that he had contacted Dorset Fire and Rescue on a number of occasions requesting information on the location of fire hydrants in the parish; but to date had received no response. A letter of thanks had been received from Mrs Moreland in respect of the highways work recently carried out at Goughs Barton.
262	Democratic Period It was reported that there were a number of public rights of way problems. At Holditch Manor a gate is difficult to open and a manhole cover is in a poor and dangerous state of repair near Newhouse Farm
263	County Council Report An application for the two Unitary authorities in Dorset would now be sent to the Secretary of State. The Local Plan was up for review. An email had been circulated that afternoon providing an update on the Super Broadband situation. There were still some dwellings within the village unable to get any broadband connection at present. The chairman stated that he was going to contact BT regarding the poor service being provided in Thorncombe
264	Councillors' Reports <i>Community Shop:</i> At a recent meeting of the shop committee it had been reported that there had been some financial improvements. <i>Playfield:</i> The AGM had been held on the 7 th December. Two committee members had stepped down; but one new member had been recruited. Works to be undertaken on the fence and goal posts in the near future. <i>Lengthsman:</i> Quite a lot of work undertaken recently. <i>Amenities:</i> Cllr M Stead would try and get some sandbags from the County Council, failing that he would ask the clerk to purchase some. <i>Website:</i> There had been some operating problems with the system which had resulted in recent items not being displayed, however it was hoped that this had now been sorted. <i>Broadband:</i> Whilst this item had been covered extensively in the County Councillor's report earlier in the meeting there were concerns about the performance of BY Openreach. A number of contractors had been brought in who had then cut through existing telephone cables whilst attempting to lay cables. <i>Neighbourhood Watch:</i> There had been a prowler in the area of the bus stop the previous Sunday. <i>Community Car Scheme:</i> More volunteer drivers are required <i>Bus Services:</i> There had been some more donations towards the bus services and we are awaiting the match funding of £530 by Dorset County Council. Some changes likely on bus services and operators connected to the provision of school transport services from April. <i>Spring Clean:</i> Cllr N Higgins would once again have a spring clean litter picking day in April.

265	<p>Finance</p> <p>A) Accounts for payment: Resolved to pay the following account: D Strawbridge £950.00 (1295).</p> <p>B) Financial Update: The financial updated was agreed</p>
266	<p>Planning</p> <p>a) WD/D/16/002566 Yawlings Farm, Holditch: Conversion of agricultural barn to holiday let two bedroom house. Support</p> <p>b) WD/D/16/002709 Lower Holditch Farm: Modernisation and alteration to farmhouse, cottage and outbuildings. Support</p> <p>c) WD/D/17/000047 Herridge Farm, Headstock Road, South Chard: Demolition of existing timber frame bungalow and replacement by rendered block bungalow without compliance of Condition 1 of WD/D/15/81 to allow amendments to approved scheme. Support</p> <p>d) WD/D/17/000022 11 Tansee Hill, Thorncombe : Single storey rear extension: Support</p>
267	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Best Kept Village Competition: The chairman stated that it would be good if someone co-ordinated an application from Thorncombe</p>
268	<p>Items of Urgency</p> <p>No items</p>
269	<p>Next Meeting:</p> <p>Tuesday 7th March 2017 at 7.30pm</p>

Signed Chairman

Date