

Clerk to the Council:

J.F. Vanderwolfe FILCM, Chartered MCIPD

Mr

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Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Thorncombe Village Hall on Tuesday 7th June 2016 commencing at 7.30pm

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

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

Draft until Approved

162	Apologies There were no apologies as all were present
163	Declarations of Interests There were no Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct at this stage of the meeting.
164	Minutes The minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on the 3 rd May 2016 were adopted as a true record, and were signed by the chairman
165	Matters Arising The clerk confirmed that a letter had been sent to WDDC complaining about the withdrawal of the discretionary rent relief for the Thorncombe Sports and Social

	Club. Although to date no reply had been received it was understood that the club would now receive the relief, and that it would be reviewed in three years.
166	Police and Neighbourhood Watch No report
167	Democratic Period Concerns were expressed that footpath 55 and 56 which crosses the Forde Abbey Estate had not been reinstated within the legal time limit after the planting of crops. There were also questions regarding what progress was being made regarding the diversion of footpath 48 (Yawlings). Cllr D Turner agreed to look into both matters. A parishioner expressed his concerns about the withdrawal of public transport in rural areas that has an adverse effect on the elderly or those who are unable to drive for health reasons. He was informed that the Thursday bus service to Axminster had been retained for the time being.
168	County and District Council Report Talks are ongoing in relation to the shaping of Dorset for the future which could come into being in two years' time. Dorset have been having talks with Wiltshire who are a new Unitary authority. It is likely that the number of councillors would be reduced from the present 330 to around 90, making significant savings. Our district councillor spoke about dog bins, stating that there were no funds to provide additional ones, however Cllr S Welford stated that the request was to relocate some of them and not to provide more of them. Talks are underway between Dorset and Wiltshire Fire authorities with a view to a possible merger. Stephen Hill, the new WDDC Strategic Director had spoken at the recent DAPTC meeting. Their next meeting will be on the 1 st September.
169	Finance a) The following accounts were agreed for payment: Thorncombe PCC £250.00 (1267), Playing Field Association £100.00(1268), BAVLAP £50.00 (1269), Bridport & District CAB £100.00 (1270). b) Annual Governance Statement was agreed for the year ending 31 st March 2016 having been circulated prior to the meeting. c) The Accounting Statement for the year ending 31 st March 2016 was adopted, having been circulated prior to the meeting.
170	Bus Services Service 688 to Axminster will continue as it has a subsidy from Devon County Council. There is matched funding for service 14. There will be an article on bus services in the next edition of Beneath the Vale and funds will be raised for the bus services at the breakfast club.
171	Highways and Lengthsman A gully at Horseshoe Lane needs urgent attention and will be reported by Cllr M Stead. There had been no requests for the services of the parish lengthsman since the last meeting.
172	Councillors' Reports

	<p>ROW: Some attention needed to paths at Johnson’s Wood and Sadborow. The diversion of the path at Westford is still being looked into.</p> <p>Amenities: The Council agreed that it would have no objection to the sighting of the new Broadband cabinet by the bus shelter</p> <p>Playing Field: The small children’s slide had been repaired and the association was awaiting the annual ROSPA report. Concerns that animals were to be kept in a field next to the pay area</p> <p>Car Service: The service continues to be well used, however whilst drivers have passes to park in hospital car parks in Dorset they do not at present have the same arrangement for Somerset</p> <p>Community Shop: Cllr Welford is looking into the feasibility of having solar panels on the shop roof. The clerk explained that at present a town or parish council does not have the authority to sell power to the National Grid</p>
173	<p>Correspondence Nil</p>
174	<p>Next Meeting: Tuesday 4th July 2016 at 7.30pm</p>