

**Clerk to the Council:**

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**Minutes of the Virtual Council Meeting held on the 2nd June 2020, commencing at 7pm**

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

**In Attendance:-**The Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe) and Cllr S Christopher (Dorset Council).

Draft until Approved

<b>156</b>	<b>Apologies</b> No apologies received.
<b>157</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> Cllr A Hiscock-Pecuniary Interest in WD/D/20/000842 and 843 Forde Abbey as he works for the applicant. Cllr D Marsh- Personal interest in applications for grants as he is a member of the Playfield Committee who are applying for a grant
<b>158</b>	<b>Minutes</b> The minutes of the meeting held on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2020 were accepted as a true record, and were signed by the chairman.
<b>159</b>	<b>Matters Arising</b> The chairman wished thanks to be placed on record to Keri Kilworthy and her helpers on the Covid19 Working Party. It was noted that the minutes had been adjusted regarding the S106. Further noted that there would not be a Parishioners meeting In 2020, but that it was hoped that when some sort of people gathering was possible that a meeting could take place.
<b>160</b>	<b>Democratic Period.</b> Cllr D Marsh stated that some parishioners were questioning why the playfield could not be open to young people. As a result of this enquiry he had contacted the Somerset Playing Fields Association, who had confirmed that they should remain closed at present.

<b>161</b>	<b>Covid 19 Working Party</b> The group had collected shopping for residents unable to go out and shop themselves, and had collected medical items and prescriptions. A grant of £400 had been obtained. Agreed that some funds should go to enable the foodbank to continue.
<b>162</b>	<b>Dorset Councillors Report</b> Councillor S Christopher had circulated a report to members prior to the meeting, which was noted. He had asked the Dorset Finance Officer to look into the request to possibly have a lower interest rate on the Community shop loan.
<b>163</b>	<b>Account for Payment:</b> Following accounts were agreed for payment: Thorncombe VH £22.00, BAVLAP £100.00, Information Commissioner £35.00, Dorset Council £10,498.67, HMRC £404.00, Dial Grass Cut £170.00, Came & Co £734.43.
<b>164</b>	<b>Financial Update</b> Two sets of financial updates had been circulated prior to the meeting, a spreadsheet up to the end of the previous financial year, which ended on the 31 <sup>st</sup> March, and a spreadsheet showing income and expenditure up to the end of May. A balance sheet as of the 1 <sup>st</sup> June was also sent out showing the current financial assets to be £17,483.53. It was noted that the fixed assets had been increased by £1 to £146,747 to take into account the purchase of the former telephone box. There was a question regarding the asset value of the War Memorial, which was explained. The reports were accepted
<b>165</b>	<b>Annual Governance Statement</b> Members had been circulated with this document prior to the meeting. It was resolved that all items had been complied with to a satisfactory level during the year
<b>166</b>	<b>Annual Accounts for Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020</b> The document had been circulated prior to the meeting and was adopted.
<b>167</b>	<b>Internal Audit Report</b> The report had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted that there were no comments to be considered by the council. The report was adopted
<b>168</b>	<b>Certificate of Exemption under Section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015</b> Resolved that as the meeting was able to qualify to not have a qualified audit under the 2015 Regulations the Certificate of Exemption be forwarded to the External Audit Body.
<b>169</b>	<b>Grants</b> There had been four applications for grants prior to the agreed closing date. Thorncombe Cricket Club were awarded £120, Thorncombe Keep Fit Club were awarded £50, The Church Tower were awarded £66.45 for a new flag, and the Playfield were awarded £200.
<b>170</b>	<b>Annual Parish Meeting</b> It was noted that due to the restrictions on gatherings, and the fact that under legislation this meeting had to be held no later than the 1 <sup>st</sup> June each year, the Government had declared that such meeting be held over until 2021.
<b>171</b>	<b>Councillors and Representatives Reports</b>

	<p><b>Bus Services:</b> Dorset Community Transport (DCT) had confirmed that all three Thorncombe bus service would continue during lockdown. Both Devon and Dorset councils had confirmed that their subsidies would remain for service 688 and the Bridport A Plusbus. They had also kindly stated that bus services could be used to pick up supplies for people who were self-isolating or sheltering. Passenger numbers are naturally down following Government guidance to only use public transport if it was really necessary, and also because many regular users were in the vulnerable category. Cllr Marsh recorded that he felt that that DCT and their staff have really gone the extra mile throughout this pandemic. He felt they had been “simply marvellous”. He had been informed that our application for grant funding from Tatworth and Forton PC was still in the system and would be dealt with in due course.</p> <p><b>Playfield:</b> A committee meeting had taken place in March at Holditch Hall. Agenda items had included plans for the VE Day Celebrations and a spring clean-up. Sadly due to the present situation they had not taken place and reluctantly the decision had to be made to lock the gates, following advice from SPFA, and that situation remains to this date, with no information regarding a date to reopen the facility.</p> <p><b>Village Hall:</b> The hall had successfully received a grant of £10k from Dorset Council</p> <p><b>Car Service:</b> The service continues following strict distancing guidance rules</p> <p><b>BAVLAP:</b> There had been a meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> March of the Steering Group at Yarn Barton. Concerns had been expressed about the state of roads and drains. People were upset that local people, or those with a local connection were not being allocated properties, even where properties had a S106 agreement in place. It had been noted that it had taken 75 days to obtain a response about a blocked drain. At present the roads in the Thorncombe area would not be suitable for double decker buses.</p> <p><b>Magazine:</b> The magazine is to recommence from July. The chairman asked the clerk to prepare a short item on this meeting for inclusion in that edition.</p> <p><b>School:</b> It was hoped to receive a report for the next meeting.</p> <p><b>Footpaths:</b> Concerns raised that some walkers were not keeping their dogs on a lead whilst passing through fields with livestock. There had also been some reports of gates being left open</p> <p><b>Neighbourhood Watch:</b> There had been instances of fly tipping in Horseshoe Lane</p> <p><b>Allotments:</b> Allotments were working well but were very dry. Whilst it would be ideal to have a water supply installed, it was felt it would be very expensive.</p>
172	<p><b>Planning Applications</b></p> <p><b>WD/D/20/001018 Stonelake Lodge, Fore Street, Thorncombe</b> :Replacement garage and store. Members felt that the development was too large, and considered it to be over development. The proposal would be disproportionate to the area. Council therefore unable to support</p> <p><b>WD/D/20/000842&amp;843 Forde Abbey: New Sewage Treatment Plant:</b> Members felt that this was badly needed and fully supported the application</p>

	WD/D/20/000735 Shedrick Cottage: Change of use and conversion of garage to dwelling: Members were divided on their opinion of this application, and decided not to offer a comment.
<b>173</b>	<p><b>Determinations and Withdrawals</b></p> <p>The following applications had been approved recently by Dorset Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 2 Westford Cottages -mobile home and alterations to roof</li> <li>● Winsham Bridge-repairs</li> <li>● Yawlings Farm: Conversion of building to dwelling</li> <li>● Old Vicarage: Fell tree</li> </ul>
<b>174</b>	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>All correspondence had been circulated to member via email</p>
<b>175</b>	<p><b>Next Meeting:</b></p> <p>Meeting closed at 8.20pm</p> <p>It was agreed that the next meeting would be a Virtual meeting to be held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July commencing at 7pm.</p> <p><i>Members of the public will be able to request to join the meeting via Skype. They will need to apply by email to the clerk no later than Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, or they can submit a question or statement to the clerk to be dealt with at the meeting by the above deadline.</i></p>

Signed ----- Chairman

Date -----