

Clerk to the Council:

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Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held at the Thorncombe Village Hall on Tuesday 2nd May 2017 commencing at 8.40pm

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

In Attendance:-The Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe), Cllr J Sewell (West Dorset District Council) and seven members of the public.

Draft until Approved

298	<p>Election of Chairman Cllr R Arnold was proposed by Cllr J Higgs and seconded by Cllr S Welford. There being no other nominations Cllr R Arnold was duly elected chairman for the forthcoming Civic year. Cllr Arnold then took his Declaration of acceptance of Office.</p>
299	<p>Election of Vice Chairman Cllr J Higgs was proposed by Cllr M Stead, and seconded by Cllr D Marsh. There being no other nominations Cllr J Higgs was elected as vice-chairman for the forthcoming Civic year.</p>
300	<p>Committees Finance: Cllr's S Welford, R Arnold, J Higgs and D Marsh. Planning: Cllr's N Higgins, P Peacock, M Stead and C Sowerbutts Amenities : Cllr's M Stead, R Arnold, N Higgins and J Higgs Cemetery & Allotments: Cllr's J Higgs, S Dunford, R Peacock and S Welford Village Hall: Cllr M Stead Blackdown Trust: Cllr J Higgs Playing Field: Cllr's D Marsh and R Peacock Public Transport: Cllr D Marsh and Mrs Marsh Website: Cllr C Sowerbutts Community Car Service: Cllr J Higgs Rights of Way: Cllr N Higgins Community Shop: Cllr S Dunford (substitute Cllr D Marsh)</p>

	<p>Neighbourhood Watch: Cllr M Stead Society of Local Council Clerks: Mr J Vanderwolfe Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils: Cllr S Welford Beaminster and Villages Local Area Partnership : Cllr D Marsh West Dorset Area Transport Group: Cllr D Marsh Citizens Advice: Cllr R Arnold</p>
301	<p>Chairman Finance Chairman: Cllr S Welford Planning Chairman: Cllr N Higgins</p>
302	<p>Declarations under the Code of Conduct Cllr M Stead declared a pecuniary interest in the Magdalen Farm application as he does work there on occasions. He would leave the room during discussions on this application.</p>
303	<p>Apologies An apology was received from Cllr Turner due to impending elections he felt it would not be correct to attend.</p>
304	<p>Minutes The minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 4th April 2017 were adopted as a true record; and were signed by the chairman. One amendment to minute 291 under bus service the amount raised should read £297 not £279.</p>
305	<p>Matters Arising It was understood that the bin (minute 287) was to be relocated. No further information had been provided regarding the payphone withdrawal.</p>
306	<p>Democratic Period A parishioner asked if there had been any progress with the diversion of the footpath at Yawlings as this has been on the cards for many years. Cllr Higgins requested that an update be demanded on this footpath by our County Councillor. Concerns by a parishioner that Dorset Waste Partnership vehicles were using his driveway as a turning point and he was concerned that this could lead to damage to his property. It was understood that this was because of work being undertaken at Lower Holditch Farm. There is a need for an additional step on the stile between Gribb and the woods. Some tyres have been dumped in the layby at Horseshoe Lane. Cllr Stead agreed to report the three water leaks at Headstock Cross, Hewood and at the entrance to Lavers Lane. There is also a blocked rod drain in Holditch on the Dorset for You website.</p>
307	<p>District Council Report There was little to report because of it being the election period.</p>
308	<p>Finances The following accounts were agreed for payment: Thorncombe PCC £300.00 (1306), Bridport Citizens Advice £100.00 (1307). Financial Update: Financial update agreed.</p>
309	<p>Urgent Highway Issues</p>

	Mr Cunningham had spoken to Cllr Dunford about walkers leaving gates open on the public footpath. It was noted that the gates had been erected outside of the original specification for the route and therefore needed permission from the County Council. Noted that Chard Street would be closed from May 18 th for surface road dressing.
310	Broadband It was understood that more works had been carried on this project over the weekend
311	Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) WD/D/16/001781 Magdalen Farm: siting of three mobile homes ancillary residential accommodation by staff (paid or voluntary) in association with activities at Magdalen Farm. The Council felt unable to make a recommendation due to the conflicting information, or lack of information provided. The Council further questioned the necessity for any Certificate of Lawfulness since it would appear that the caravans could be regarded as lawful under Permitted Development. b) WD/D/16/000830 Beerhall Farm, Beerhall Lane, Hawkchurch. Concrete over private farm track. No objection c) WD/D/17/0000023/24 Saddle Street Farm. Demolish barn and replace barn. No objections.
312	Correspondence None
313	Items of Urgency No items
314	The meeting closed at 9.50pm Next Meeting: Tuesday 6 th June 2017 at 7.30pm

Signed ----- Chairman

Date -----