

MILBORNE ST ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Full council held at the Village Hall, Milborne St Andrew on Wednesday 04th January 2023 commencing at 1900 hours

Present:

Cllr's Richard Macnair, Amy Stephens, Jo Witherden, Ash Batchelor and Jane Macleod

7 members of the public Cllr Emma Parker – Dorset Council

Full Council

1. Apologises for absence

Cllr's Redding and Williams sent apologises.

2. Declarations of pecuniary or other interest

No declarations were made.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 02nd November 2022

These were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. Clerk's report

The Clerk briefed members on matters from the last meeting, correspondence and other matters. There were no questions.

5. Chair's update

The Chair had no further matters to report.

6. Public participation (items on the agenda)

There were no comments.

7. Parish Councillors and representatives' reports that effect Parish Council matters Cllr Macleod confirmed attendance at the New Councillors course and found the content 'very good'.

8. Dorset Councillors report

Cllr Parker confirmed the opening of the Household Support Grant which was to open on 09th January 23. The link was on the Dorset Council website.

The initial budget proposal for Dorset had been drafted and would be ratified on 14 February 2023.

9. Planning

Uploading of applications to social media

Members agreed that to increase exposure to planning applications within the Parish, that the application form would be published on the website and noticeboards. In addition, it would also be placed on the Community Facebook site.

However, as a caveat, comments would be turned off and a statement as to where comments must be directed would be included alongside the uploaded Notice.

10. Financial matters

a. Payments for authorisation

A total of **8** payments totalling **£ 2660.71**, **(PV's 56-63)**, were approved and authorised for payment.

b. Budget Update

The budget spend at the end of AP9 (3rd quarter), was 76.06%.

The Clerk was content that all cost centres, except for hall hire, would come in on budget.

c. Reserves Update

The general reserve at the end of AP9 (3rd quarter), was £5623.30, which sat in the guidance of 25-75% of Precept.

11. Conservation Area Appraisal

This matter was deferred to the next meeting.

12. Discussion of landlord's consent for change of security to front gates of the Sports Ground

Further to a meeting with the trustees and receipt of a formal letter, members unanimously agreed that the security, maintenance and repairs to the front gates would be taken over by the Sports Club, with no further liability, financial or otherwise, to the Parish Council.

13. Application for s106 funding from Milborne Sports Club v3

The Chair agreed to discuss this application in four parts, the resolutions are listed below:

a. Digital locking for front gates

This was unanimously agreed.

b. Digital locking for pavilion

This was agreed by a majority decision.

Digital lock for outside toilets.

This was opposed on a majority discission.

Members could not justify the public expenditure on an asset worth around the same amount at the project.

d. Maintenance of sports pitches.

This was opposed.

Members could not see, at this time, how this request met the s106 protocol.

The Clerk would write to the CIL team at Dorset Council with these findings.

14. Pension provisions for staff

Further to closed discussions at the November meeting, it has materialised that the employers contribution within the Dorset Council pension scheme was 23% and not the 13% at previously briefed.

Members agreed that the higher figure was not affordable.

However, it was agreed that the 13% of full salary could be paid into a Work place defined contribution scheme.

This would become effective from 01st April 2023, and the first years contribution would be met from the general reserve, paid quarterly.

15. Outcomes from letter to Cllr Flower (Chair of Dorset Council)

Although no direct reply from Cllr Flower had been received, the Chair and Clerk had met virtually with a senior officer of Dorset Council, Matthew Piles, who gave reassurances that the relevant departments would be spoken to early the following week.



The Clerk was requested to chase this matter if no correspondence had been received by (11th January).

16. Discussion on request to Dorset Council on reduction of speed limits in the village It was suggested that the Causeway, Chapel Street and the school area of Hopsfield would benefit from a reduction in the speed limit to 20mph. Not all members were convinced of its merits but agreed that Cllr Macnair could led on the initial consultation phase.

Members also agreed to ask the community via a Facebook post on the Community site.

This would not be binding and remain open for one week.

17. Grant funding application(s)

There was one application from Artsreach for £100.00 This was unanimously approved.

18. Community funding for Kings Coronation event

Members unanimously agreed to set aside £500.00 from the general reserve to a specific reserves to offset any potential costs of a community event.

19. Move to electronic banking

The Clerk requested that payments move from the current cheque to BACS via online banking. This was unanimously agreed.

A policy and terms of reference were asked for prior to commencement of 01st April 2023.

20. Installation of French drain at Sports Club – landlords' permission

The installation of the drain was requested by the Sports Club to help mitigate agaisnt water logging on the lower pitch.

This was unanimously approved.

21. Setting the budget and Precept

The Clerk briefed Council on all area of income and expenditure for the financial year 23/24. The Precept was set at £13200.00, which although an overall increase on the previous year, would be a decrease in real terms to individual households due to the increase in the tax base.

22. Public participation (items not on the agenda) – for discussion only

Mr Frost spoke of the Village Hall's idea of creating a boules court, funded from s106 monies. It was requested that the application be sent the Clerk and would be consulted on at the next meeting.

Cllr Witherden mentioned that the NPPF had sent out a consultation which the Parish Council may wish to discuss.

The Chair asked if gulley clearance could be requested from Dorset Council.

It was also confirmed that the Clerk's core hours would be:

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{Monday} & \mbox{10am} - \mbox{2pm} \\ \mbox{Wednesday} & \mbox{10am} - \mbox{2pm} \end{array}$



23. Items for the next meeting

Further discussion on 20mph speed limits throughout the village Speed wire application for Blandford and Dorchester hill Conservation Area Appraisal National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) consultation

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15th February 2023 Milborne St Andrew Village Hall at 7pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2020 hours.

Richard Macnair _____ Chair to the Milborne St Andrew Parish Council