

Wayne Lewin – Clerk to the Parish Council

CERNE VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of 20th January 2022

Held in Cerne Abbas Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm

Councillors present:

J. Crouch, F. Horsington, S. Beresford, M. Keating, R. Wilkin, G. Bishop, C. Crosbie, C. Paul, L. Prowse, and L. Exton

Also present:

4 members of the public

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2105 hours

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Bolt and Cllr Haynes (DC) sent apologies.

2. Declarations of pecuniary and other interests

Cllr Horsington declared an interest on any matter regarding the allotment field.

3. To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11th November 2021

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

To confirm the minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 09th December 2021

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

4. Matters arising from previous meeting

The Clerk spoke on the following matters:

That DC Highways have completed an upgrade on the old Sherborne Road junction and would monitor the area to establish if this work reduced the amount of accidents.

It is noted that Cllr's Bishop, Wilkin, and Paul felt that the scheme was wholly in adequate.

The Clerk reminded members of the email from Cllr Haynes regarding improvements to the Long Street / Duck Street junction including the fact that the bus company would drive the recommended route.

Three quotes had been obtained for a village defibrillator. The working group will sit down and analyse these and come forward to Full Council with a recommendation.

It was confirmed that the new finger post for 'The Turning Point' in Godmanstone had been completed.

5. Update from the Chair

The Chair had no matters to brief.

6. Public Discussion Period

Members of the public raised concerns about the entrance to Giants Close.

Further road concerns were raised as the state of Long Street after the recent flood.

It was also asked if the entrance signs to village could be improved.
It was confirmed that new village gateways were being looked into by Cllr Wilkin.

The Clerk would speak to Dorset Highways and establish the responsibilities for Giants Close and ask when the resurfacing for Long Street was expected to be completed.

7. To receive a report from the Dorset Council

A report had been received and distributed. There were no matters for the Ward Councillor, however it was noted that she had not been to any meetings recently.

8. To receive committee reports and to agree action(s) in response to proposals and repairs
a. Allotments

There were no matters to discuss or brief.

b. Burial Ground

Cllr Beresford confirmed that a quote of £350.00 had been received to fix the gates at the entrance of the Burial Ground.

The Clerk confirmed a quote of £1488.00 had been received to complete the stone path around the back of St Augustine's Well.

The Burial Ground committee recommended that this was accepted, although it went against Standing Orders, as this was the contractor who completed the initial phase.

This was unanimously approved with the monies coming from the Burial Ground Reserves.

A contractor was due to quote for some routine maintenance.

c. Car Park

The Clerk confirmed that the EA would still be on site until at least the end of February. They confirmed that would continue to pay £250 per month in lieu of honesty box takings. All other matters would be discussed at agenda item 14.

The Car Park committee are due to meet the EA on 13 February 2022.

d. Children's Play Park

Cllr Keating confirmed that a quote had been requested to install rubber mulch surfacing at the front gate of the play park. It was also requested that the rubber mulch around the springers be redone.

e. Footpaths and Environment

Cllr Crosbie was disappointed with the work resurfacing the uneven areas in the snicket. It was recommended that the issue was resent to Dorset Council.

It was confirmed that the Right of Way team at Dorset Council would install some hardcore on the RoW leading to the Water Meadows.

Cllr Prowse confirmed that the complaint regarding barbed wire across a RoW near Dinkley Farm was unfounded. However, it was noted that a gap in the hedge had now started to be created.

f. National Trust

There were no matters to report. It was agreed to remove this as a standard item.

g. Planning

There were no new applications.

Cllr Bishop spoke on updates on the Swanhills application, in that a Working Party had been formed to establish drainage and sewage issues and to consult with other stakeholders such as the LLFA and Wessex Water.

Cllr Crosbie asked what had happened to Beauvoir Court application.

The Clerk responded by stating that only 2 members had replied so no comment was put forward to Dorset Council.

It was suggested by Cllr Beresford that 'out of Council' applications could be discussed via zoom with a minded to resolution and ratified at the next meeting.

All members agreed, and this would be trialled on the next application.

10. Financial update and payments for authorisation

A total of **6 payments (PV 95-100)** totalling **£ 1853.62** were authorised and approved for payment.

The Clerk confirmed that expenditure was in line with budget.

Cash flow sat at £ 64615.83.

General reserves sat higher than guidance.

11. Job evaluation, contract, and description for Parish Clerk

The recommendation as set out in the last minutes (for budget purchases) was ratified.

A copy of the new signed contract was requested.

12. Remuneration of Clerk's wages

Following a brief discussion on what could legally be done should the council choose to award back pay, it was proposed, seconded, and carried that as the clerk had decided to continue working for the council and his job had been evaluated, that further remuneration was not appropriate.

13. Financial risk assessment

The three amendments as discussed at the last meeting were updated.

The financial risk assessment was ratified.

14. Plan for the Car Park

Cllr's Keating and Prowse along with the Clerk had produced a list of requirements and requests for the Car Park. These included repairs to the Car Park and surrounding areas by the EA.

The whole list can be found in the Car Park minutes.

It was recommended that splay kerbing be inserted at the triangle off Duck Street.

It was also confirmed that the permissive pathway by Up Cerne was still on going.

All the projects were endorsed by members, with a view to looking at signage once the EA have left site.

There were no further additions at this time.

15. Charles North Charity

Cllr Crouch spoke in depth on the origins and constitution of the Charity. It was the aim to reinvigorate the AGM at the minimum.

The Clerk confirmed that by default all Parish Councillors were trustees of the Charity.

All members were happy to be trustees and the Clerk would update the Charity Commission website reflecting this matter.

16. Setting the Precept 2022/23

The Clerk spoke on each budget line and how the figure was arrived at.

Members agreed on all matters other than removing the figure for the public toilet as Dorset Council had confirmed that they would continue to run them.

The Precept was set at £21500.00, which equates to £43.07 per band D property.

The breakdown can be found under Finances on the website.

17. Items for the next meeting

Discussion on reserves

18. Date(s) of next meeting(s)

Planning 27th January 2022
Cerne Abbas Village Hall @5.30pm

Full Council 10th February 2022
Godmanstone Village Hall @ 7.30pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2130 hours.

Jill Crouch _____

Chair of Cerne Valley Parish Council