

CERNE VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of Full Council held on 14th October 2021 at Cerne Abbas Village Hall

Councillors present:

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

1. Apologies for absence

All Councillors were present

2. Declarations of pecuniary and other interests

Cllr Horsington declared an interest in any matters to do with the allotments field.

Cllr Crouch declared an interest in any Highways matter due to potential work conflict of interests.

3. To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 09th September 2021

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

To confirm the minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 28th September 2021

These were rejected as some areas of the minutes were not reflective of the meeting.

Cllr Bolt would go back to acting Clerk to correct. These will be presented at the next meeting.

4. Matters arising from previous meeting

It was confirmed that the works on 'Not the bus shelter' were complete.

It was confirmed that the works on the Duck Street posts and railings were complete.

It was confirmed that the works on the Burial Ground walls were complete.

5. Update from the Chair

The Chair thanked the current for continuing in post.

The Chair asked for any comments on the DATPC AGM motions to be sent to her.

It was mentioned that she had been contacted by Dorset Council regarding the public toilet.

It was said that annual running costs were estimated at £17K. No formal correspondence had been received.

A quote had been received for fingerpost at 'The Turning Point' in Godmanstone.

This will be forwarded to the Clerk for inclusion at the next meeting.

6. Public Discussion Period

Concerns were raised at the proposed move of the public litter from next to phone box to the village green in Godmanstone. It was felt this bin was well used and its move would cause unnecessary litter.

The Clerk deemed the resolution passed at the last meeting as a secure resolution and as such should not be revisited for 6 months under Standing Orders.

However, due to new information, it was felt the motion could be discussed again at the next meeting.

7. To receive a report from the Ward Councillor

A report had been received and distributed. There were no matters for the Ward Councillor.

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

a. Allotments

Cllr Keating confirmed the school had a plot and they had planned for the children to use this plot as part of their education.

b. Burial Ground

Cllr Beresford noted that the front gate by the Abbey was loose.

Members would ask for three quotes with a view to getting this work done.

In addition, it was agreed that the gates could do with painting.

On works, members would explore the option of repointing the North Gate as well.

c. Car Park

It was mentioned that the EA works were behind schedule and that the non-tarmac areas of the Car Park were getting very messy.

d. Children's Play Park

Cllr Keating stated that minor repairs were going to be undertaken on the chains, which formed part of the multi play.

The latest inspection report mentioned a loose post by the swings and the gate not self closing.

e. Footpaths and Environment

The following items were mentioned:

- i. Fly tip on Alton Lane
- ii. Quote for finger post
- iii. Clear up at Hooks corner
- iv. Clear out of the bus shelter after bench fire. Consideration of installing a new bin.
- v. The area around The Folly was getting overgrown and reported to Dorset Council, although it was noted about the dispute over ownership.

f. National Trust

Cllr Wilkin had spoken to the National Trust, reporting that the Giant was not visible.

Initial reply stated it would be cleaned prior to the sheep going out to graze.

g. Planning

P/FUL/2021/03872

Solar panels on Village School, Duck Street

This was unanimously approved.

9. Financial update and payments for authorisation

A total of **17 payments (PV 57-73)** totalling **£ 5123.57** were authorised and approved for payment.

The RFO explained that the change in guidance on General Reserves was to try and ensure that Councils were not hoarding monies that were not earmarked for future projects.

10. Discussion on future correspondence with Parishioners

It was felt that the Parish Council were not reaching all members of the public in a timely and efficient manner.

It was agreed to trail social media (via Facebook) and gauge the response.

It was agreed that the Clerk would lead on this.

Members also felt that the Village Magazine was an excellent tool and can be utilized more.

It was agreed that more contact details must be included in the monthly write up.

The Clerk would continue to write this up, including future meetings.

11. Village hall open evening 15th October 2021

It was confirmed that Cllr's Bishop, Wilkin, Crosbie, Paul, Prowse, and the Clerk would attend.

12. Funding quote for HR services

Various working groups had met since the last meeting and had requested a quote from an external agency to conduct a review of the Clerks job description, a job evaluation, a new contract, and terms of reference for committees.

The quote had been received and members agreed that the fee was too high.

It was agreed to obtain the NALC template for the contract and job description and ask the contractor to complete the job evaluation.

The Clerk would obtain the templates from NALC whilst the Chair would speak to the contractor.

At this point, in accordance with Standing Orders the meeting had reached its two-hour point.

The Chair proposed that an additional 30 minutes be spent to conclude the business on the agenda.

This was unanimously agreed.

13. Dorset Rights of Way Improvement Plan

It was agreed that the improvement plan should be conducted individually whilst Cllr Bolt would complete on behalf of the Parish Council.

14. Speeding on Old Sherborne Road

It was agreed to move this to the next meeting, where Cllr's Wilkin and Paul would produce (in advance of the meeting), a brief outline of proposals.

15. Further discussion on the police cones at the Saddlers on Long Street / Duck Street junction

It was agreed to move this to the next meeting. Cllr Wilkin would produce imaginative design from other councils to show what could be done.

16. Discussion on a village defibrillator

Cllr Prowse had provisionally spoken to school, who were in principle happy to have a defibrillator on a wall which would be accessible to public. This would be further discussed at the next meeting.

17. The Charles North Charity – future governance

The Clerk stated that the only observation on external audit was that the AGAR did not state that the Parish Council were trustees of the funds for the charity.

It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council would be the trustee of the fund and that the AGAR would reflect this at the next audit.

It was agreed to discuss future governance at the next meeting.

18. Application for a definitive map modification order – t653 Godmanstone

This was unanimously supported.

19. Dave Fox memorial in 'Not the Bus Shelter'

It was requested by the family if a memorial trowel could be placed in the shelter.

Members provisionally agreed to this subject to the design and size.

The Clerk would meet with the family and designer to move this project on.

20. Items for the next meeting

Job evaluation, contract, and description for Parish Clerk

Speeding on Old Sherborne Road

Further discussion on the bollards at the Saddlers on Long Street / Duck Street junction

Initial discussion on transfer of public toilets from Dorset Council

Charles North Charity governance

Fingerposts at Turning Point Godmanstone quote

Waste bin in Godmanstone

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

Allotments 08th November

On site @ 1.30pm

Play Park 08th November

On site @ 2.30pm

Full Council 11th November 2021

Cerne Abbas Village Hall @ 7.30pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2156 hours.

Cllr Jill Crouch

Chair of Cerne Valley Parish Council