

CHIDEOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall, Chideock on Tuesday
30 July 2019 at 10 am.

The Parish Council meeting commenced at **10 am**.

Present: Cllr Vanessa Glenn, Cllr Elliot, Cllr Roger Carey, Cllr Deirdre Coates, Cllr Anna Dunn, Cllr George Dunn, Cllr David Rogers.

In attendance: The Clerk, Cllr Simon Christopher and 10 members of the public.

2353 Apologies.

PCSO Alex Bishop.

2354 Grants of Dispensations.

None.

2355 Declarations of Defined Pecuniary Interests.

None.

2356 Minutes.

RESOLVED to accept and sign, as a true record,

- a) the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 25 June 2019.

Proposed by Cllr Rogers, seconded by Cllr Carey, carried unanimously.

2357 County Councillor's and Police Reports.

PCSO Bishop had told the Clerk that he had nothing to report.

Dorset Ward Cllr Christopher spoke as follows: -

- He is a member of the Dorset Council Economic Advisory Board and asks for suggestions as to how money could be spent in a constructive way
- The Dorset Council Cabinet is meeting this afternoon
- Planning – a development for up to 500 dwellings at Littlemoor has been approved
- Audit and Governance meeting – it has been reported that employer pension contributions for Dorset Council staff total £90m
- Tranche 2 redundancies are proceeding
- Cllr Flower, Leader of Dorset Council, is in communication with the government regarding the need for government finance for rural areas, such as Dorset
- Tourists should fund Dorset, Dorset should not fund tourists

Standing Orders were suspended for the following item.

8 Democratic Period.

Members of the public spoke as follows: -

- Why can't there be a "virtual" footway (as on the north side of the A35 west of the bridge) from Bullen's Lane / BW20 to Foss Orchard?
- If the A35 was de-trunked that would be many options for improvements for pedestrian access in Chideock
- What is happening about the provision of a path from Chideock to Eype?
- The WSP report speaks of 2 "uncontrolled" pedestrian crossings. But this is not correct – an uncontrolled crossing is a zebra crossing, not a "crossing point"
- WSP report – at which locations was the speed data taken?
- Why does the 40-mph limit not extend to the top of Chideock Hill?
 - The Chair suggested that the member of the public looks at the information on

the speed limit reduction trial, which is on the Parish Council website at <http://www.chideockpc.org.uk/community/chideock-parish-council-14830/speed-limit-reduction-trial/>

- WSP report – suggested locations for 2nd controlled crossing. Option 2 at the eastern end of the village is too close to the Park Farm roadway, option 3 would be preferable.
- In the past Chideock Parish Council adopted a neutral position regarding a Chideock bypass following divisions on the matter. The Parish Council should continue this approach, looking for improvements rather than being bipartisan.
- Comments on the Motions with Notice regarding the A35 – see Annex A.

Standing Orders were resumed.

2359 Reports / Updates by the Clerk and Councillors, and Updates to the Follow-Up List.

Items 1 to 11 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED** with those detailed below discussed in more detail.

Item 2 – Councillor e-mail addresses on the website. All councillors agreed to their e-mail addresses being published. **CC**

Item 3 – DAPTC AGM motions. **AGREED** to put the suggested motion forward. **CC**

Item 6 – Electric Vehicle Charge Points in Dorset. **AGREED** that the Clerk contact Hampshire County Council for further information. **CC**

Item 11– Village Hall Representative. Cllr Rogers offered to be the representative in order to remove any possible accusation of a conflict of interests. Cllrs **AGREED** to this proposal.

Follow-Up List updates: - None. **CC**

2360 A35 Matters, and Updates to the Follow-Up List.

Items 12 to 25B on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED** with those detailed below discussed in more detail.

Item 13 – A35 Strategy Meeting – follow-up meeting. **AGREED** that this be arranged by e-mail for September, possibly after the next HE Quarterly meeting. **ALL**

Item 23 – Emergency / Resilience Planning. **AGREED** to defer till September but to then find out who in Dorset Council is responsible for Emergency Planning. **CC**

Item 25B – Vehicle Activated Sign. Mike Kelson offered to help take this down so that Highways England can take it for repair. **CC**

Follow-Up List Updates – None

2361 Motions Received with Notice.

Cllr George Dunn proposed the following **TWO** motions: -

1. "That this Parish Council acknowledges the hard work that went into arranging the 2017 Village Poll but concedes that the two questions put to the village electorate are not deliverable and the PC will therefore consider alternative short-term and long-term proposals for alleviating the many problems arising from the A35 passing through our village"
2. "That this Parish Council acknowledges the many problems arising from the A35 passing through our village and undertakes to support both short-term and long-term measures in an attempt to solve all or some of these problems:
 - a) Short-term measures including, but not limited to, supporting all of the 16 options identified within the WSP A35 Chideock Community Severance and Pedestrian Safety Scheme (AWN 141) Feasibility Study dated January 2019. The Parish Council acknowledges that this Study concluded with the recommendation of following only four of these options (Options 2 and 3 were either / or), however the Parish Council will, in addition to these four, endeavour to pursue all of the options identified where the Parish Council considers these to be feasible.
 - b) Long-term measures including, but not limited to, a village bypass. The Parish Council acknowledges that the actual route (if any) will be determined by the Department for Transport and not by the Parish Council but the Parish Council will fully engage with any feasible proposal that removes through-traffic from the village."

Motion 1.

Cllr George Dunn proposed, and Cllr Anna Dunn seconded the motion.

Cllr George Dunn spoke to the motion – see Annex 2.

Cllr Coates proposed the following amendment: -

~~“That this Parish Council acknowledges the hard work that went into arranging the 2017 Village Poll but concedes that the two questions put to the village electorate are not deliverable and the PC will therefore consider alternative short-term and long-term proposals for alleviating the many problems arising from the A35 passing through our village”.~~

Amendment seconded by Cllr Elliot, carried 6 votes to 1.

Cllr George Dunn proposed a further amendment: -

~~“That this Parish Council acknowledges the hard work that went into arranging the 2017 Village Poll and will consider *feasible* short-term and long-term proposals for alleviating the many problems arising from the A35 passing through our village”.~~

Amendment seconded by Cllr Anna Dunn; amendment carried by 6 votes to 1.

Cllr George Dunn proposed the amended motion: -

“That this Parish Council will consider feasible short-term and long-term proposals for alleviating the many problems arising from the A35 passing through our village”

Seconded by Cllr Anna Dunn, carried by 6 votes to 1.

Motion 2.

Cllr George Dunn proposed, and Cllr Anna Dunn seconded the motion.

Cllr Dunn said that he had already spoken to the second motion when speaking to the first.

Various comments were made by councillors: -

- Is the motion necessary?
- The new council needs to re-enforce the actions already being pursued
- To date the Parish Council has done nothing
- Some history needs to be buried – it must not be forgotten that all previous polls and surveys taken in the village agree that a bypass is needed
- It is necessary to try to fulfil the poll results as a point of principle
- The council has been criticised in the past for doing nothing, which is untrue. A bypass needs to cover a wider area than just Chideock, an alternative route rather than a bypass. The proposed Western Gateway should / could help matters.
- Elected as a councillor to serve the whole of the village. The Village Poll accepted 2 motions - it cannot be accepted that neither is deliverable until that is proven, rather than assumed.
- The motion is unnecessary
- A letter should be written to Sir Oliver Letwin asking for a definitive statement regarding de-trunking and a meeting with neighbouring parishes must be held.
- Cllr Anna Dunn read out a statement – see Annex 3.
- Road Infrastructure Strategy 2 (RIS2) is due in the Autumn, which may contain relevant proposals.
- An alternative route is needed, all parties need to meet and work together.

AGREED to consider sending a letter to Highways England / Dorset Council asking for a definitive statement regarding the feasibility / possibility of de-trunking the A35 and a letter to neighbouring parishes asking for their comments regarding an A35 bypass through their parishes."

Cllr Elliot proposed that the motion be deleted in its entirety, seconded by Cllr Coates, carried by 5 votes to 2.

2362 Planning Matters.

a) Applications.

WD/D/19/001561 Replace entrance canopy THE GRANARY, PARK FARM, MAIN

STREET

Chideock Parish Council has no objections, subject to the Conservation Officer's recommendations.

b) Determinations.

None.

c) Appeals.

None.

d) Other Planning Matters.

i. AONB / Lighting & Dark Skies, Dorset National Park, Conservation Areas.

Cllr Christopher said that this is progressing, and that consultation is complete. The Clerk has since found out that that the process is still at step 1 – providing evidence of the need for a National Park to be presented to the Secretary of State for the Environment.

CC

ii. Enforcement and Retrospective Planning Applications.

Item 26 (Hell Farm Bungalow - outstanding planning application) on the Actions and Information List was **NOTED**.

CC

iii. Mill Lane / Bridleway 18.

AGREED to endorse the community's letter regarding Dorset Council's proposed timescale for submitting the Definitive Map Modification Order by a Planning Inspector to the Secretary of State for consideration by a Planning Inspector, except for the final paragraph asking for the bridleway to be gated. Agreed 5 – 2.

iv. Bullen's Lane / Bridleway 20 at Junction with A35.

No update. **NOTED** that Graylings is now "Sold subject to contract".

v. All Weather Path between Chideock and Eype / Symondsburry.

The Clerk has initiated preliminary discussions with Tara Hansford (Dorset Rights of Way) who is very keen to help take this forward. More information should be available in September.

vi. Seatown.

No updates.

vii. Seatown Regeneration Project.

Item 33 on the Actions & Information List was **NOTED**.

viii. Additional Matters.

Dorset Local Plan. At the recent Planning training attended by 3 councillors, it was stressed that it is essential that Parish and Town councils are kept fully informed of proposals within the new Dorset-Wide Local Plan.

CC

2363 Finances.

Item 35 on the Actions & Information List was **NOTED**.

a) Payments.

RESOLVED to make the following payments: -

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| i. | Clerk's Salary and Expenses for July | £250.65 |
| ii. | Chideock Village Hall Hire – July | £67.50 |
| iii. | Theresa Mudford – Play Area Mowing - July | £50.00 |
| iv. | Mystic Signs – Camper Van signs for FOCP | £10.80 |
| v. | Mrs Lyn Crisp – Clapp's Mead maintenance | £66.96 |
| vi. | Given that there will be no Parish Council meeting in August, a cheque, post-dated 27 August 2019, was drawn for the following payment: - | |

Clerk's net salary + office allowance for August £238.95

Proposed by Cllr Anna Dunn, seconded by Cllr Roger Carey, carried unanimously.

b) Accounts and Budget Monitoring to 30 June 2019.

The Accounts and Budget Monitoring to 30 June 2019 were **NOTED**.

c) Foss Orchard Car Park.

Item 36 on the Actions & Information List was **NOTED**.

AGREED to authorise the Clerk to obtain 3 quotes for reducing the height of the hedge on the riverbank to a manageable height.

CC

d) Chideock War Memorial.

AGREED that the Clerk will investigate the short term and long-term implications of the suggestion that Chideock Parish Council considers taking on maintenance of the War Memorial. A report will be presented to the Council at the September meeting.

CC

e) TSB Bank Account Signatories.

RESOLVED to

- i. Remove Catherine Geraghty, Peter Hunt and Robert Murray from the list of signatories. **CC**
- ii. Add Deirdre Coates, Anna Dunn, George Dunn and Vanessa Glenn as signatories. **CC**

Proposed by Cllr George Dunn, seconded by Cllr Anna Dunn, carried unanimously.

2364 Clapps Mead Playing Field.

Items 38 to 43 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.

AGREED that 1 / 2 benches will need replacing soon - to be considered as part of Budget and Precept setting. **CC**

2365 Dorset Highways and Flood Management.

NOTED that clearing of vegetation obscuring road signs is the landowner's responsibility.

2366 Current Consultations.

a) **DAPTC - Evidence of work carried out by Parish & Town Councils.**

AGREED to report on Clapp's Mead Playing Field, Foss Orchard Car Park, Parish Council support for the Chideock Society lead Seatown Regeneration Project. **CC**

b) **Dorset Council - Statement of Community Involvement.**

Statement of community involvement in planning matters.

AGREED to endorse the response from Bridport Town Council. **CC**

2367 Correspondence.

There were no other items of correspondence to be brought to Councillors' notice.

2368 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting of Chideock Parish Council.

The next scheduled meeting is at 10 am on Tuesday 24 September 2019.

The meeting closed at **12.50 pm**.

Annex A.

Statement read out by a resident during the Democratic Period.

Regarding the long-term measure of a Chideock by-pass, Cllr George Dunn correctly states that the choice of a bypass route (if any) would be determined by the DfT, but then contradicts this by claiming unilaterally and without presenting evidence that neither an out-of-parish route nor de-trunking is deliverable. That is for the DfT to determine. The parish poll result showed clearly that the Chideock parishioners support a bypass outside the parish but do not support a through-pass within the parish. Also, as the local A35 problems are most definitely NOT solely located within Chideock, it is reasonable to think that if a bypass were to be built, it would be much better if it solved the whole area's problems and not just a small portion of Chideock.

Therefore, it is wholly wrong to suggest that the CPC should abandon support for the democratically supported solution in favour of an unsupported local partial solution benefiting some parishioners whilst adversely impacting others. I believe the CPC should continue to support and press for our expressed supported solution whilst the DfT and H.E. do their jobs & analyse how best to address the whole region's A35 problems in the light of their extensive analysis of their Strategic Road Network's RIS2 plans and their MRN road network plans.

Furthermore, it would be very premature for the CPC to put their support behind a specific bypass type, length or route when there are major events in progress which might influence the situation, such as the RIS2 report due out this Autumn, the MRN report and the awaited results of the Chideock pollution-affecting measures which include a reduced speed limit on Chideock Hill, average speed cameras and improved pollution monitoring.

Annex B.

CPC Meeting 31 July 2019 – Village Poll Motions

I believe that as the initiator of the following two motions I should introduce them.

I have proposed them both in order to give clarity to this new Parish Council's attitude to what is ~~now~~ referred to as "The Village Poll".

To refresh our memories this poll was held in August 2017 to offer two questions to the village electorate that had been agreed in a village meeting held the previous month.

I have to say that at this point I find it ironic that we are now debating a poll which the previous PC took no part in organising nor did any of the then Cllrs attend the Village meeting at which the two questions were set. I say this NOT in malice or to be argumentative but simply as a statement of historic fact.

And so two questions were put to the village in a Poll:
Do you support de-trunking the A35? And
For a bypass outside of our Parish

It must be accepted that to be meaningful any question must offer an achievable outcome – I believe now as much I did on the day that neither of these two aspirations are deliverable.

In addition it would appear that the then PC did not feel obliged to comply with the outcome of the Poll anyway. The Minutes of PC Meeting held 25 September 2017 (one month after the Poll) record the Policy Statement to “define Chideock Parish Council’s ongoing A35 policy following the Parish Poll held on 14 August 2017”. Whilst noting the Poll results the adopted Policy Statement contained 9 points and not once in those 9 points were the words “de-trunking” or “bypass” used.

De-Trunking is not easy and in the case of our A35 Strategic Highway would require two major factors:

1 – For HE to support de-trunking then a suitable alternative trunk road must be available. As we all know none exists

2 – That Dorset County would be prepared to take on the financial responsibility for maintaining the de-trunked road. They have made it clear on many occasions (repeated by OL) that they are NOT prepared to

take this responsibility. To underline this I will read to you from a letter sent by OL to the PC dated 11/05/2018

For these two reasons alone the proposed de-trunking of the A35 is completely unrealistic and this new PC should accept that.

Equally regarding the routing of a bypass outside of our Parish I believe to be undeliverable. Indeed the previous PC obviously thought this to be the case as well because in May 2018 OL wrote to the PC. In his letter he asked

“

The PC replied in writing dated 29/05/2018

“

So since that date (over a year ago) the previous PC had already dismissed any attempt / belief in pursuing a bypass outside of our Parish. Indeed there is clearly no appetite for any such proposal from our neighbours in fact the A35 Diversion Action Group (formed last year) was formed to alleviate any chance of traffic being diverted through the Marshwood Vale and surrounding lanes in the event of the A35 becoming blocked through road traffic incidents.

In the light of this I am proposing two motions:

First motion

“

And my second motion

“

Annex C.

CPC meeting 30/7/19

Since the last Bypass for the village had been shelved in the early 90s

The Parish council have not put in any measures to decrease or stop the increase of traffic flowing through Chideock

HighwayEngland have a policy of increasing the traffic using the A35 thorough Chideock which in their words is a Strategic Highway

Their main concern is to push the traffic through as quickly as possible.

They have recognised that traffic volumes through Chideock. Will increase by some 56% by 2025

Highways England are on record as saying the solution to the problems here in Chideock - Pollution, Speed, noise, vibration, increasing volume of traffic, safety the list goes on - can all be dealt with by one solution

A Bypass their words not ours.

Even the recent Safety and Severance report with 16 recommendations HE will only consider 4 recommendations as the others impede the traffic flow.

Evidence that electric vehicles will stop all the pollution is a misnomer

We will still get polluting vehicles with the particulates which smell horrendous *the mention only says we are over no-remedy ??*

Electric vehicles will not stop the congestion or the increase of volume of traffic through this village

The Parish Poll In 2017 only had two questions

Neither of which have in any way been enacted, the PC have said they support the parish poll but only addressed sort term measures which did not stem from the parish poll. They did not address the two questions from the Poll

therefore I feel the PC needs to be honest

over the last 20 years the PC has concentrated only on the short term measures to such an extent they seem to have lost sight of the only viable long term solution, leaving villagers disillusioned with the continuing lack of any tangible improvement. *pollution increases*