

CHIDEOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Chideock Village Hall on Tuesday 25 May 2021 at 10 am.

Prior to the meeting: -

- Cllr Downes signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as a Councillor
- Cllr Downes gave the Clerk his Register of Pecuniary Interests.
- Cllr McAra (was Glenn) signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Chair
- Cllr George Dunn signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Vice Chair
- Cllr McAra signed, with the current date, all minutes of meetings which were held via Zoom.

The Parish Council meeting commenced at **10.02 am**.

Present: Cllr Vanessa McAra, Cllr Anna Dunn, Cllr George Dunn, Cllr Coates, Cllr Peter Hunt, Cllr Mick Downes.

In attendance: The Clerk, and 2 members of the public.

2571 Apologies.

Cllr Peacock sent his apologies, which were accepted.
PCSO Bishop and Cllr Christopher sent their apologies.

2572 Grants of Dispensations.

None.

2573 Declarations of Defined Pecuniary Interests.

None declared.

2574 Minutes.

RESOLVED to accept and sign, as a true record,

a) the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 27 April 2021.

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

2575 Dorset Ward Councillor and Police Reports.

a) PSCO Bishop had reported by e-mail as follows: -

- Whilst not specific to Chideock, there has been a theft of a catalytic converter from a vehicle in the West Road area, Bridport over the last week. Cat converter thefts are on the rise and Japanese vehicles are often the favoured target, as the price of the metals inside are expensive. The parts are usually taken off by angle grinder, so I urge vigilance and for anyone to report any suspicious activity to us, at the time on 101. If you believe a crime is in progress, call 999.
- Between the 21st and 22nd April, a kiosk in the Morcombelake area was broken into and a till containing cash and a charity box were stolen.
- At the beginning of May, we had a report of the theft of lamb weighing scales from a barn in North Chideock. This could have occurred at any time from February to the time of reporting.
- In the early hours of the 8th May, some fuel was stolen (siphoned) from a vehicle in the Chideock area.

b) Cllr Christopher, Dorset Ward Councillor, had reported by e-mail, his report is appended to the minutes.

Standing Orders were suspended for the following item.

2576 Democratic Period.

Richard Benjamin, Village Hall Committee Chairman, spoke about the re-opening of the hall and the plans going forward, including installation of broadband.

He also told the Parish Council that hire fees have been reduced by approximately 50% until 31 May 2022.

A member of the public spoke about the issue of vehicles following sat-nav down Mill Lane to get to Seatown. **AGREED** that the Clerk

- Contact Spar distribution centre to ask them to tell drivers to use Sea Hill Lane to access the shop at Golden Cap Holiday Park
- Contact Dorset Council re signage
 - telling drivers to ignore sat-nav and use Sea Hill Lane
 - directing walkers to Seatown down Mill Lane not Sea Hill Lane.
 -

Standing Orders were resumed.

2577 Reports / Updates by the Clerk and Councillors.

Items 1 to 18A on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED** with those detailed below discussed in more detail.

Items 1 to 5 – All-Purpose All-Weather Path – AGREED that the Clerk will write to Cllr Christopher and Chris Loder to tell them that a Chideock all-weather all-purpose path is not being given any priority by Dorset Council. **CC**

Item 6 – BBQs and Fires. All agreed that whilst this is an excellent aim it is almost impossible to enforce – what is needed is education of the dangers and the precautions which should be taken. **AGREED** that the Clerk asks Dorset Council to provide fire proof containers at Seatown where disposable BBQs can be disposed of by their users. **CC**

Item 8 – BLAP Parrish Liaison Meetings. The Clerk said that, whilst she has decided to stop attending these on a regular basis, she will attend the next one as there will be a presentation on the Dorset Council Community Governance Review, followed by a Q&A. **CC**

Items 11 and 12 – Dorset Volunteer Ambassadors. The Clerk reported that Seatown will be included at weekends but that the scheme is not starting in time for the late May bank holiday weekend.

Items 15 and 16 – Litter Bins. **AGREED** that the Clerk replies explaining that the bin(s) requested are for public use, not commercial use by the Parish Council. **CC**

Social Media Presence.

The Clerk said the creation of a Facebook group is almost complete and will be available by the time the Chideock News is distributed.

Chideock War Memorial.

AGREED to accept Mr Devine's offer to clean the War Memorial and to reimburse him for any materials required.

2578 A35 Matters.

Items 19 to 35 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED** with those detailed below discussed in more detail.

Items 19 to 22 – A35 Update. **AGREED** that there was no further action which could be taken at the present time.

Items 26 to 30 – Air Quality Study. Cllr George Dunn gave a brief update on correspondence from Bristol University.

Notes from meeting with Chris Loder MP on 5 February 2021. **AGREED** that the Clerk once again chases Chris Loder for his amendments to the Clerk's notes of the meeting. **CC**

2579 Motions Received with Notice.

None.

2580 Planning Matters.

a) Applications.

P/HOU/2021/00805 Stoke Cottage, North Road, Erection of garage
TO BE DRAFTED BY THE CLERK FOR AGREEMENT BY COUNCILLORS

b) Determinations.

WD/D/21/000077 The Old Creamery Ridwood - Erect side extension. **GRANTED**

c) Appeals. None.

d) Other Planning Matters.

Item 37 on the Actions & Information List was **NOTED**.

2581 Finances.

Items 37A to 39A on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.

a) Payments.

RESOLVED to make the following payments: -

- | | | |
|------|---|---------|
| i. | Clerk's Salary and Expenses for May | £344.93 |
| ii. | Mr Kenneth Hussey for Quarterly Play Equipment Inspection + Repairs | £404.50 |
| iii. | DAPTC Subscription | £234.07 |
| iv. | Hall Hire May | £14.00. |
| v. | Donation to St Giles PCC for use of church on 13 May 2021 | £27.00 |

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

b) Internal Audit & Annual Governance and Accountability Return.

The Internal Audit will take place on 26 May and the approval of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return will be brought to the June meeting.

c) Asset Register and Insurance Renewal.

The Clerk stated that she is satisfied that all Assets are listed and insured as required. Items with a value less than £250 are not insured due to the insurance policy excess of £250. **CC**

RESOLVED to

- To renew the Parish Council insurance cover with Pen Underwriting Limited for a premium of £543.34, for 1 June 2021 – 31 May 2022. (£620 budgeted).

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

d) Foss Orchard Car Park.

Nothing to report.

2582 Clapps Mead Playing Field.

Item 40 – Clapp's Mead Quarterly Inspection. The Clerk's summary of works required was **AGREED**.

NOTED that the football net pegs at the goal post nearest Mill Lane are still being removed – to be monitored. **AD**

AGREED to ask Ken Hussey for a quote for work to improve the fencing next to the River Winniford.

RESOLVED to authorise and host the Friends of Clapp's Mead Mini- Fete to be held on Saturday 14 August 2021 at Clapps Mead Playing Field, with 10% of stall takings to be donated to the Parish Council towards the cost of purchasing new play equipment, subject to the following conditions: -

- A strict understanding that no vehicles are allowed on the Playing Field except to deliver and remove equipment for the event
- No parking at all on the field.
- Any damage to the surface of the playing field to be made good by the Fête organisers.
- Any electrical equipment and supplies to be correctly set up and made safe for the public.
- Main gate to be kept closed once the event starts.

Proposed by Cllr Vanessa McAra, seconded by Cllr Anna Dunn, carried unanimously.

2583 Dorset Highways and Flood Management.

Items 41 - 47 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.

2584 Current Consultations. None

2585 Correspondence.

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

2586 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting of Chideock Parish Council.

The next scheduled meeting is at 10 am on Tuesday 29 June 2021.

The meeting closed at **11.45 am**.

Cllr Christopher's E-mailed Report.

While the Country awaits details of trade deals that will particularly impact on the future of the farming industry, I thought that on this occasion I would not dwell for long on farming but write more about the A35 and policing.

Since the April meeting we have seen a number of local events:

These have included the election of Mr David Sidwick as the Police and Crime Commissioner for Dorset. I know a number of us have met Mr Sidwick in Chideock, and although the current elected term at 3 years is a relatively short one, I am certain that we all look towards effective policing of the Chideock Parish Council area.

Among matters that the police should be keeping a very close eye on is speeding. There has been considerable coverage of the thoughts of Highways England on the A35 released shortly after the Police and Crime Commissioner Election period and local elections in East Devon wards that are also impacted by the A35

The focus of the press has been on the Chideock A35 temporary speed limit becoming permanent allowing for proper enforcement. I am of course aware that the Chideock Hill 30 miles per hour limit, as with many things, divides opinions

Having held discussions with many Chideock Parish Councillors it is clear we are going to have to continue our work in the short term on at least three areas because of levels of concern shown by others not being perceived as matching our own before we address other issues

These 3 areas would appear to be:

- 1) additional pollution monitoring (PM2.5) where as you may be aware I engage in discussions with the head of Public Health Dorset
- 2) speeding and the desirability of average speed cameras
- 3) Safety including additional road crossing and also installation / improvements to pavements

Our Member of Parliament has been quoted widely about his concerns about Safety on the A35 and issues with Highways England.

I continue to engage with officers and local politicians and council executives on the desirability of traffic being encouraged to use the A37 and A303 where possible and avoiding the A35. This is widely being seen as desirable not just by our MP, but increasingly those associated with Dorset Council.

Similar points apply in respect of safe walking and cycling for instance between Chideock and Bridport, where there is increasing acceptance that our difficulties should be resolved in preference to other parts of the West Dorset Parliamentary Constituency.

I continue to make the point that there is a great need for improved public transport for those of all age groups and for residents and visitors alike

Please note I have also engaged with the officers dealing with Waste Collection particularly due to concerns re littering and Dorset Highways due to concerns re road surfaces and mud on lanes

Dorset Council is working on collating the huge number of responses to the Consultation on the new Dorset Local Plan which is expected to be adopted by the second part of 2023.

It is my further understanding, that the collation period should be complete by July

Finally I look forward to the ending of all Covid restrictions hopefully on the 21 June 2021 so we can meet normally at the end of June 2021 and thank you again for your comments most particularly in respect of A35 issues and public transport.