

**Clerk to the Council:**

Mr J.F. Vanderwolfe FILCM, Chartered MCIPD  
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**Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on the Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 at 7.30pm in the Thorncombe Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllr's J Higgs (Chairman), D Marsh, M Stead, A Hiscock and P Basham.

**In Attendance:-**The Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe), Cllr S Christopher and one member of the public.

Draft until Approved

748	<b>Election of Chairman</b> Cllr J Higgs was elected as chairman, having been proposed by Cllr P Basham and seconded by Cllr D Marsh.
749	<b>Declarations of Acceptance of Office</b> Cllr Higgs signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by the Clerk.
750	<b>Election of Vice-chairman</b> Cllr D Marsh was elected as Vice-chairman, having been proposed by Cllr J Higgs, and seconded by Cllr M Stead.
751	<b>Appointment to Outside Bodies</b> Agreed same as previous year except that Rights of Way Officer would be Mr N Berry
752	<b>Apologies</b> None received
753	<b>Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct</b> No declarations were made at this stage of the meeting.
754	<b>Minutes</b> The minutes of the meeting held on the 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2023, having been previously distributed; were agreed as a true record; and were then signed by the chairman.

755	<b>Matters Arising</b> No items
756	<b>Monthly Surgery</b> No issues raised. Cllr D Marsh would host the June surgery.
757	<b>Democratic Period</b> A parishioner was concerned about the branches on a tree in the churchyard and had been informed that this was now the responsibility of the parish council. The clerk informed the parishioner that the parish council had not yet formally taken over this responsibility, therefore the responsibility remained at present with the Parochial Church Council.
758	<b>Accounts for Payment</b> Resolved to ratify the following payments: Dorset Council £10,498.67 and HMRC PAYE £233.60.
759	<b>Financial Update</b> The finance update was approved. Financial assets as at 1 <sup>st</sup> May were £21,575.25
760	<b>Annual Governance Statement 2022/23</b> The Annual Governance Statement was agreed
761	<b>Annual Accounting Statements 2022/23</b> The Annual Accounting Statements were adopted The clerk was thanked for dealing with these matters.
762	<b>Certificate of Exemption AGAR 2022/23</b> Resolved that as both income and expenditure were below the £25k ceiling level a Certificate of Exemption would be made, which would mean that an external audit would not be required.
763	<b>Dorset Councillor's Report</b> The report, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, was noted
764	<b>Bus Services</b> Passenger numbers remain similar to previous months.
765	<b>Community Shop</b> The shop was hoping to be able to secure sufficient funds to pay off the loan
766	<b>Rights of Way</b> It was understood that diversion for Yawlings was now in hand with Dorset Council
767	<b>Police</b> A report by our Community Police Officer had been circulated.
768	<b>Playfield</b> The see-saw needs attention.  A new date is being arranged for the safety training

769	<b>School:</b> A report had been circulated.
770	<p>Planning</p> <p>Glebe House, Chard Street P/LBC/2023/02153 Works to five sashes in main house, twenty four timber casements in main house and two casement windows in coach house. <b>Resolved to support</b></p>
771	<p><b>Annual Parish Meeting</b></p> <p>Confirmed that principle guest speaker had been booked and that a buffet would be provided.</p>
772	<p><b>Closing of Meeting</b></p> <p>The chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.45pm</p>
773	<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p> <p>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 7.30pm</p>

Signed ----- Chairman

Date -----