

CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

THREE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY FIFTH MEETING OF THE CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY 12TH JANUARY 2015 IN THE WHITCHURCH CANONICORUM VILLAGE HALL.

3291: Present: Cllrs: I Gollop (Chair), D Snook, C Bailey, S Creed-Castle, C Sage, C Mahaddie, K Mansbridge, S Johnson, C Everidge, H Joyce and D Turner (DCC), M Robinson (WDDC); J West (Clerk) and two members of the public

3292: Apologies: Received from Cllr C Peck

3293: Meeting Suspended for Public Discussion: None

3294: Declarations of Interest/ Consider Grant of Dispensations: none.

3295: Resolution to approve the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held 12th November 2014: Draft minutes had been circulated and were approved subject to one minor amendment concerning verge cutting.

3296: Actions Following Last Meeting: The clerk had circulated a list of actions and outcomes which were noted.

3297: Budget and Precept 2015-16: The minutes of the Finance Committee of 8 January and the budget recommended by them had been circulated. It was proposed by **Cllr Gollop** and seconded by **Cllr Creed-Castle** that the proposed budget should be adopted. This was agreed unanimously.

3298: Reports: Forthcoming events at **Whitchurch Village Hall** included the Farmers Breakfast on 25 January and Pig Racing on 21 March (tbc). There were several regular bookings. At **James Hargreaves Hall** there were bookings most evenings. **Lengthsman: Cllr Creed-Castle** reported problems with blocked drains and overgrown hedges in Stoke Mill Lane continued. Work at Copse Gate had been done by the Lengthsman. Problems at Gibbs Lane, Verriopt's Lane and Love's Lane were also mentioned and **Cllr Mansbridge** agreed to pass these onto the Lengthsman. **Cllr Bailey** noted that the website needed updating for 2015 Parish Council meetings – Clerk to action. **Cllr Gollop** mentioned problems in Bybrook, which had been raised several times but had not been resolved. **Cllr Mansbridge** 3 years on the drain at Champernhayes continues to overflow – the clerk will pursue these matters with DCC Highways if details of previous correspondence can be provided.

3299: District / County Reports: Cllr Robinson: Reported that Cllr Tony Alford had been elected as the new leader of West Dorset District Council. The three councils (WDDC, WPBC and ND) had agreed to a partnership. This would probably take two years to implement. He asked for the Council's views on the new meters installed in car parks in Bridport. The consensus of the meeting was that the reason for installing the new meters was not clear; the keypads were difficult to use; machines were sometimes poorly located and caused queuing. **Cllr Robinson** agreed to take these concerns back. He then referred to the enforcement issues at Wootton Bakery and the response of the enforcement officer, which was to the effect that the matter had now been resolved to the satisfaction of WDDC. **Cllr Snook** reported that there was still some local dissatisfaction with this. **Cllr Everidge** commented that there was some general concern about the rigour of planning enforcement. **Cllr Robinson** advised that any instances where it was felt that this was the case should be challenged. **Cllr Turner:** Referred to an email that he had circulated from the Head of DCC Highways in relation to issues at Muddyford Lane. The resurfacing work had been carried out by the Council's partner Hanson and any "additional" work by them had been carried out at no cost to the Council. He also highlighted the Verge Cutting meeting with DCC and the contractor, which was to be held on 26 January. Finally he referred to a further email concerning enforcement issues relating to the agricultural building at West Star Farm, adjacent to the A35 at Morcombelake. WDDC were satisfied that while what had been constructed was different to the plan, no breach of planning conditions had occurred. **Cllr Everidge** expressed concern that where there were potential departures from the original planning consent the level of these could not always be readily identified from Dorsetforyou. **Cllr Robinson** agreed that this was something he would look at.

3301: Planning Applications:

i) Late Planning: None

ii)To Consider: None.

iii) To note:

WD/D/14/002867 The Old Byre, Wootton Lane - Extension to provide new kitchen and dining area with accommodation in the roofspace - no objection.

WD/D/14/003068 Grandview Riding Stables, Shipp Knapp, Morcombelake - Addition of roof lights and dormer windows, new openings and alterations to existing opening and internal alterations. No objection.

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WD/D/14/003067 Arne, Sun Lane, Morcombelake - Erection of replacement dwelling (amendments to application approved under reference 1/D/11/001577) – no objection subject to conditions to ensure demolition work on garage precedes development, to minimise effect on neighbours and to prohibit any future development on site.

iv) Planning Approvals/Refusals (to note): WD/D/14/002788 Monkton Wyld Touring Caravan Park – shower block alterations –approved by WDDC.

vi) Enforcement issues: Note that the issues relating to West Star Farm had been discussed under reports, above.

vii) Local Plan: It was noted that the inspectors report following the examination in public had not yet been published. **Cllr Robinson** advised that it was unlikely to contain anything specific to the Parish.

3302: Noticeboards and fingerposts: It was noted that the Fishponds notice board had now been replaced in its original position. The Clerk advised that **Cllr Peck** had approached Roger Bond for repair quotes for the signpost at the junction of Crooked Lane and Lower Street and will also find out the costs of replacement of the previously undamaged post at the village end of Gassons Lane. **Cllr Gollop** reminded the meeting that the 2015-16 budget included provision for a programme of replacement and repairs to fingerposts. Following further discussion it was agreed that the external LEADER funding source identified by **Cllr Johnson** might be a potential source of funding for the fingerposts programme and the Clerk was requested to investigate this further and report back to the next meeting.

3303: Verges and hedges: The Clerk reported that DCC had invited two members of the Council to attend the meeting with officers and the contractor on 26 January at Whitchurch Canonorum Village Hall. **Cllr Mahaddie** agreed to attend and would co-ordinate the councils concerns about particular areas. **Cllr Peck** would be asked if she wished to attend, otherwise **Cllr Everidge** would attend.

3304: Superfast broadband: **Cllr Gollop** expressed continuing frustration with implementation dates that were announced then failed to materialise with no apparent explanation. He would make further enquiries.

3305: Finance

i) Payment approvals: The following payments were approved:

| Chq No | Payee | Purpose | Amount £ |
|--------------|--------------------------------|--|----------------|
| 1341 | M Wilson | Clerks pay and expenses | 53.12 |
| 1342 | HMRC | PAYE | 5.40 |
| 1343 | Wootton Fitzpaine Village Hall | Hall hire | 44.00 |
| 1344 | S Lee | Lengthsman | 598.00 |
| 1345 | John Bright | Posts | 20.78 |
| 1346 | Play Quest | Repairs and renewal of play equipment Whitchurch | 1080.00 |
| 1347 | Cheque Cancelled | | |
| 1348 | J West | Clerks pay and expenses | 752.20 |
| 1349 | HMRC | PAYE | 78.60 |
| 1350 | HMRC | PAYE | 5.40 |
| 1351 | HMRC | PAYE | 79.80 |
| 1352 | S Lee | Lengthsman | 628.00 |
| 1353 | Wootton Fitzpaine Village Hall | Hall hire | 22.00 |
| Total | | | 3367.30 |

3306: Chat Chat: No new editors had come forward. **Cllrs Gollop** and **Everidge** to meet to discuss and bring a report to the next meeting.

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3307: Consultation on proposed recharging of parish election costs by WDDC : A letter had been received by WDDC seeking views on a proposal to recharge parishes with the cost of holding elections with effect from 2019-20. The charges would be per elector or a fixed charge if there were uncontested elections.

Cllr Gollop felt that the charges were ridiculous as the cost of running elections would occur in any case when there was a district council election, any additional costs for the parish election would be minimal. If no election - no costs ? It was surely just shifting the cost and in fact increasing it by adding a billing process. There was general support for this view and it was proposed by **Cllr Gollop** and seconded by **Cllr Sage** that a letter be written to WDDC expressing these concerns. **Cllr Gollop** to draft and circulate for approval.

3308: Consultation on Household Recycling Centre changes : A paper had been circulated from the Dorset Waste Partnership setting proposed changes in opening of centres and the introduction of some charges in order to balance budgets. The Clerk commented that the introduction of charging in Cornwall had, according to residents groups, led to a 30% increase in flytipping. The meeting was concerned about such a possibility together with an increase in other unauthorised means of waste disposal such as burning, with all the accompanying problems. It was agreed that the Clerk would draft and circulate a response to the consultation capturing these concerns.

3309: Resilience plan: The Clerk confirmed that he had found no trace of a plan in the files or the website, only some working papers that might now be out of date. Some councillors recalled that a plan had been produced and submitted to the County Council. It was agreed that the Clerk would make enquiries to establish if a copy of the plan could be obtained, consideration could then be given to updating this.

3310: Water main replacements: Cllr Everidge reported that the work by Wessex Water had been completed and had generally been carried out in a sympathetic way by staff "on the ground". The consultation process had however been patchy. Cllr Sage reminded the meeting that it had been agreed to ask Wessex Water how much asbestos pipework remained in the parish. The Clerk agreed to check the status of this communication.

3311 : Correspondence: The clerk had circulated the correspondence list – noted.

3312: Items for the next Agenda: To include verge cutting, fingerposts, Char Chat, resilience plan and Superfast Broadband.

3313: Date of Next Meeting: Monday 9th February 2015 at 7.30pm in the Wootton Fitzpaine Village Hall.

3314: Matters of Urgency: Cllr Gollop shared details of a response from Wessex Water on the options and viability for connecting Whitchurch Canonorum to the public sewerage system under a section 101A application. Wessex Water had concluded that all the options had failed the test of financial viability and as there was also low interest from the public in such a scheme they would not be pursuing the application further. Instead they recommended that private systems should continue to be monitored and maintained, as necessary.

3315: Close of Meeting: There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50 pm.