

Wayne Lewin – Clerk to the Parish Council

**CERNE VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**13 Stileham Bank, Milborne St Andrew, Dorset, DT11 0LE**

**07419 136 735**

**cernevalley@dorset-aptc.gov.uk**

**Minutes of Full Council held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at Godmanstone Village Hall**

**Councillors present:**

**F. Horsington, H. Brown, C. Crosbie, C. Paul, G. Bishop, L. Prowse, and K. Marshall.**

Cllr Jill Haynes (Dorset Council)

There was 1 member of the public present

**1. Apologies for absence**

Cllr's Muskett, Keating, Burghart, Bolt, and Beresford sent apologies.

**2. Declarations of pecuniary and other interests**

Cllr Horsington declared any matters to do with the allotment field.

Cllr Bishop declared an interest in items 12 and 13.

**3. To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

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

**4. Matters arising from previous meeting**

It was confirmed that Dorset Council rejected the idea of a roundabout on the Long Street / Duck Street junction – due to lack of space.

No reply had been received from the New Inn.

Cllr Bishop raised concerns on correspondence and details as to regards of the Burial Ground Extension in that he had requested information that was not forthcoming.

The Chair explained that the Burial Ground Extension Working Group was set up for the purpose of the Change of Use of the land. The matter of the purchase was a matter for Full Council.

To that end, all members had seen the document from the solicitors with regards to searches and insurance.

The Chair stated that this is what solicitors are being paid to do, and once concluded, all members would receive the report and be able to comment, prior to signing off on the purchase.

**5. Update from the Chair**

The Chair confirm that the administrative process of the Charles North Charity was being transferred to Mr Mike Hywel-Davis, with Cllr Kevin Marshall stepping up to Chair.

The trustees agreed to rewrite the constitution, so it was more up to date and inclusive.

The Chair updated members on the BG extension, in that the solicitors had requested clarity of the plot of land being sold and had gone back to sellers' solicitors.

It was also noted that a submission for a permissive path through the land by a resident had been

applied for.

Cllr Bishop requested that title plans should be asked for.  
The Chair said this must be left to the solicitors.

The Chair continued by asking if any members of the Council were free for the briefing on the transfer of public toilets to Town and Parish Councils.  
Cllr Horsington stated he would attend.

## **6. Public Discussion Period**

The question was raised as why the grass was left to grow so long on the Village Green in Godmanstone.

It was confirmed that both the Village Green and Frys Lane would be cut on an as and when basis. This was brought to the Clerk's attention last week and had now been completed.

Cllr Brown would liaise with Cllr Crosbie with a view to looking into making part or all the area into a wildflower meadow.

Grass cutting would be on the F&E agenda.

## **7. To receive a report from the Dorset Council**

A report had been received and distributed.

Cllr Haynes was asked the question on the transfer of public toilets to Town and Parish councils. As far as she was aware, no decision would be made until after the elections in May 24.

Cllr Haynes was asked about the roll out of Dorset Council EV charging points for rural communities. As far as she was aware, DC were prioritising towns, and had applied for additional funding from government for rural areas.

## **8. Financial update**

### **a. Payments for authorisation**

There were **17** payments (**PV's 50-66**) totalling **£ 4757.01**, that were authorised and approved for payment.

### **b. Ink Cartridges**

It was agreed that any Councillors may be reimbursed the cost of ink for printing done on behalf of the Parish Council such as putting agendas on noticeboards.

### **c. Website**

The Clerk explained that the free website the Parish Council had had for many years was now to cost. Authority was sought and given for the first payment of £9.99, with a view to a future discussion on a website at the next meeting.

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

### **a. Allotments**

Cllr Keating was not present.

**b. Burial Ground**

Cllr Beresford was not present.

**c. Car Park**

Cllr Prowse updated the Council on the following matters:

- a. Damaged post at entrance of Car Park did not need any work.
- b. A quote was requested for tree works in the picnic area.
- c. The committee were happy to take on the whole of the permissive path. A quote had been requested to cut the growth from Giants View Car park to A352. This would be funded from honesty box takings.
- d. The wildlife area was doing well. Additional wood chipping was donated by Cllr Paul for the pathway.
- e. The bug and bee hotels looked amazing.
- f. Advise has been sought on what plants could be put in the 'boggy area'.
- g. The committee agreed to buy some wild daffodils, a bulb planter, and soil testing kit.

**d. Children's Play Park**

Cllr Crosbie confirmed an external inspection had been carried out.

Issues from the inspection included:

- a. Loose fence (fixed by Cllr Marshall).
- b. Benches needing attention. Two had been completed and a quote was being sourced for the remaining three.

The committee also agreed to get a quote to wood fill the cracks and then varnish the swing frame.

It was also agreed to get a quote to backfill the trip hazard(s) along the edge of the jungle mulch.

**e. Footpaths and Environment**

Cllr Bolt was not present.

It was confirmed that the growth by the gate opposite May's cottage had been reported.

It was confirmed that the overgrown bank in the Snicket had been reported.

It was confirmed that the gully at the bottom of Piddle Lane had been reported.

The Clerk would chase Highways as to the enforcement letters sent to the owners of the beech hedge at Chescombe.

**f. Planning**

**See Annex A**

**10. Procurement of Village Gateways**

Members agreed to endorse this project.

The funds to be met from CIL.

The Clerk would contact Highways to complete any relevant paperwork for this.

Cllr's Bishop and Brown abstained on the vote.

**11. Internal audit report**

The internal audit report and actions were approved by members.

**12. Protocol and procedures for purchasing of goods and services for the Parish Council**

Cllr Horsington reminded Councillors of the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations, in that unless approved by a Chair of committee (within their power) or by Full Council – members must not commit to spending public monies without permission.

**13. Honorarium payment refund for grass cutting of Burial Ground extension**

Cllr Horsington recommended that an honorarium payment of £25 be given to Cllr Bishop for the cutting of the grass on the burial ground extension.

**This was unanimously agreed.**

**14. Purchase of unknown Tommy and/or wreath for Remembrance**

Members agreed for the purchase of a wreath but declined the option of the unknown Tommy.

**15. EV charging point for Cerne Abbas**

Please refer to minute 7, Dorset Councillor update.

**16. Raising the profile of the Parish Council**

Cllr Prowse thought that, at a minimum, Councillors details shown be displayed in a visible location other than on the website.

It was suggested that an A4 sheet with Councillor's details, including name, email, position, and optional phone number be created – with a view to expanding this with photos after the elections.

**This was agreed by all. The Clerk would start the process.**

**17. Items for the next meeting**

Website fees

Half term budget report

**18. Date(s) of next meeting**

**Full Council**

**Cerne Abbas Village Hall**

**12<sup>th</sup> October 23**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2035 hours.

**Cllr Fred Horsington** \_\_\_\_\_ **Chair of Cerne Valley Parish Council**