

**Minutes of the Chideock Parish Council meeting held at Chideock Village Hall on Tuesday the 28<sup>th</sup>  
of November 2023, at 10 am**

**Present:** Cllr George Dunn (Chair), Cllr Anna Dunn, Cllr Mick Downes.

**In attendance:** Clerk, Cllr Simon Christopher, and three (3) members of the public.

**The Parish Council Meeting commenced at 10:00am.**

**3009. Apologies.**

Apologies were received from Cllr McAra, Cllr Hunt, Cllr Parkins, and PSCO Bishop.

**3010. Grants of Dispensation.**

None received.

**3011. Declaration of Defined Pecuniary Interests.**

None. The Chair reminded councillors of the need to review their register of interests at least once a year and inform the clerk of any changes. It was noted that Cllr Parkins had completed her register of interests.

**3012. Minutes of the last meeting.**

**RESOLVED** to accept and sign, as a true record, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 2023.

Proposed by *Cllr Anna Dunn*, seconded by *Cllr Downes*, carried unanimously.

It was noted that corrections will be made to previous minutes in the January 2024 meeting.

**3013. Democratic period.**

A resident noted that WRAG is independent of Chideock Parish Council and hence Cllr Downes' position of WRAG representative, agreed in the previous meeting, was invalid, however Cllr Downes will be welcomed into the group simply as a local resident.

Residents raised concerns regarding Clapps' Mead relationship to CPC; support for the Village Hall; pollution; recent planning applications; and road maintenance.

**3014. Report from Cllr Simon Christopher.**

Cllr Simon Christopher discussed the implications of the Autumn Budget Statement on local authority finance, and noted meetings he would be having soon. Cllr Downes and Cllr Anna Dunn enquired as to which body has responsibility for the River Winniford. Cllr Christopher added that at the recent Dorset Local Access Forum, full support was expressed for the proposed footpath/cycleway between Chideock and Bridport.

**3015. Updates by Clerk and Councillors.**

The Clerk reminded Parish Councillors of the need to submit inspection reports of Clapps Mead. The Parish Council agreed to contact a resident about building a new website for the Parish Council. The Chair updated the Parish Council regarding maintenance of the hedge at Foss Orchard Car Park; the agreement with the Bridport Town Council Lengthsman will be renewed,

and the Clerk was instructed to inform Rob Murray of hedge cutting times and to draft a letter of thanks to Mr Murray. The Parish Council agreed to seek local businesses able to address the waterside hedge. The Clerk was instructed to ask Parish Councillors to volunteer to represent the Parish Council at the BLAP Steering Group meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> of December. It was agreed that discussion on the pricing of Foss Orchard Car Park season tickets would be deferred to the next meeting as there were few Parish Councillors in attendance.

**3016. A35 Matters**

The Chair had nothing to report regarding the A35 Parishes Group. Issues with traffic lights not working were noted.

**3017. River Winniford and Water Pollution issues.**

The Clerk was instructed to draft a letter to National Highways regarding clearance of verges, drains, and general maintenance. The Parish Council discussed the causes of blocked culverts resulting in flooding. Cllr Downes agreed to draft a letter to Cllr Simon Christopher and Chris Loder MP on this issue.

**3018. Motions received with notice.**

None.

**3019. Planning Matters.**

None.

**3020. Finances.**

Cllr George Dunn proposed deleting item 12.a.ii as this item of expenditure was included in item 12.a.viii. Cllr Downes seconded, carried unanimously. Cllr George Dunn proposed deferring the payment of a reimbursement to the Clerk for the purchase of the wreath as an invoice had not been received. Seconded by Cllr Downes, carried unanimously. Cllr George Dunn proposed an arithmetic correction to item 12.a.i, raising the figure to £365.26. Seconded by Cllr Anna Dunn, carried unanimously.

**3021. Finances.**

**a. RESOLVE** to make the following payments: -

- a. Clerk's salary and Expenses for October  
£365.26
- b. Mystic Signs – Clapps Mead Signage  
£35.40
- c. Huck Nets – Football goalposts and nets  
£1406.16
- d. Luke Bennett – Bus shelter cleaning  
£40
- e. Sal Robinson – Clerk training (to be paid from Salary Contingency reserve)  
£173.88  
Hall Hire – Hall (23<sup>rd</sup> Nov, 28<sup>th</sup> Nov), Committee Room (17<sup>th</sup> Nov, 30<sup>th</sup> Nov)  
£60

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

**2. RESOLVE** to pay any invoices received after the agenda was circulated.

- a. None.

**3.** The Parish Council did **not** resolve to make a payment for DAPTC relating to email provisions, but agreed in principle to making the payment. This provision will allow

larger storage and hence prevent issues with emails being received, and allow the Parish Council to continue using a .gov.uk email address.

4. The Parish Council did **not** resolve to make a payment to BLAP. This is because this payment had already been made, and the figure provided was the cost to be paid in the following financial year.
5. Q1 Budget monitoring was not presented in July 2023 as the Clerk had only been newly appointed. Q2 Budget monitoring was not presented in October as the Clerk was absent due to illness. Cllr George Dunn proposed accepting the budget monitoring, seconded by Cllr Anna Dunn, carried unanimously.
6. The Parish Council agreed in principle with Version 1 of the draft budget, to be agreed as a final draft once the tax base had been received from Dorset Council.

### **3022. Clapp's Mead Playing Field.**

#### **a. Receive updates regarding the Playing Field and Play Area.**

Chideock Parish Council appointed the following individuals to the Clapps Mead Managing Committee: Lyn Crisp; Peter Hunt (representing the Church of England); Anna Dunn (representing the Roman Catholic Church); Lucinda Daniels; and Theresa Mudford. There will be a working group of volunteers consisting of, but not limited to: Nick Mudford; Shay Devine; Mick Kelson; and George Dunn. The recently released PSPO and its implications regarding dog walking were discussed. Regarding a recent use of the Playing Field, Cllr Anna Dunn clarified that the conditions of the bequest of the field stipulated that the "council shall not permit ... to the hindrance of enjoyment of children ... except with the consent of the committee." Therefore, use of the field by adults and young adults is understood to be permissible so long as children are not prevented from enjoying the field and the Managing Committee has given consent. The Parish Council agreed that future one-off events should be noted to the Managing Committee; the Clerk was instructed to publicise this via the Parish magazine. The trampoline has yet to be installed in Clapps Mead due to weather conditions rendering the ground unsuitable. It was noted that the goalposts have now been installed. The Clerk was instructed to order one new sign for the gate entrance to Play Area saying "No Dogs Except Guide Dogs"; the Clerk was instructed to issue new Cllrs Inspection Rota.

#### **b. Tree trimming.**

The Parish Council will seek quotes on the necessary tree-works and provide the Clerk with contact details. The Parish Council did **not** agree to commission Bridport Town Council at this time.

#### **c. Receive updates regarding The Friends of Clapp's Mead.**

None.

### **3023. Dorset Rights of Way; Dorset Highways; Flood Management.**

#### **a. Dorset Rights of Way.**

None.

#### **b. Dorset Highways.**

The Parish Council noted a recent walkaround with Blair Turner. Cllr George Dunn agreed to summarise the Dorset Council response to issues raised.

#### **c. Flood Management.**

The Parish Council discussed the possibility of requesting volunteers for clearances of

culverts and ditches. This was ultimately decided against. Repairs to Seatown infrastructure were noted.

**3024. Consultations.**

None.

**3025. Correspondence.**

The Parish Council clarified the nature of correspondence they wish to receive.

**3026. Confirm the time and date of the next meeting of Chideock Parish Council.**

The next meeting will be at 10:00 am on the 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2024 at Chideock Village Hall.

The meeting closed at **12:25pm.**

Action	Responsible individual	Item	Notes
Draft letter of thanks to Mr Murray.	Clerk	3015	
Ask Parish Councillors for representative to BLAP steering group meeting	Clerk	3015	
Draft letter to NH regarding verges, drains, and maintenance	Clerk	3017	
Draft letter to Cllr Simon Christopher and Chris Loder MP regarding blocked culverts resulting in flooding	Cllr Downes	3017	
Summarise Dorset Council response to issues raised during walkaround with Blair Turner.	Cllr George Dunn	3023	