

# CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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## THREE HUNDRED AND NINETY NINTH MEETING OF THE CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL (ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING) ON MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016 IN THE WHITCHURCH CANONICORUM VILLAGE HALL

**3561: Present:** Cllrs: D Snook, C Peck, H Joyce, S Johnson, K Vaughan, S Creed-Castle, C Everidge, C Mahaddie, C Bailey, J West (Clerk), S Christopher (WDDC).

**3562: Apologies :** none.

**3563: Election of Chair :** It was proposed by **Cllr Bailey** and seconded by **Cllr Johnson** that **Cllr Snook** continue as Chair. All agreed.

**3564: Election of Vice-Chair:** It was proposed by **Cllr Bailey** and seconded by **Cllr Johnson** that **Cllr Everidge** continue as Vice-Chair. All agreed.

**3565: Previous Chair's closing remarks :** **Cllr Snook** reflected back to the previous year's elections and noted that following these Cllr Gollop had been re-elected as Chair but had resigned due to ill-health in June. She outlined various matters that had arisen during the year including presentations on Superfast Broadband and Neighbourhood Planning. The Clerk had changed the website provided with a significant reduction in costs. The Lengthsman scheme had continued to be effective with a large number of drains kept clear and general tidying-up. She noted that the DCC austerity programme had resulted in the loss of the number 76 bus service, which was currently being replaced by a service run by a charitable concern. The Parish Council had embarked on a programme of repairs to fingerposts. Finally the Council continued to work hard on planning issues generally and on finding an appropriate way forward on neighbourhood planning.

**3566: Declarations of Interest :** none

**3567: Election of members to committees and review and appointment of representative positions**

The following were proposed, seconded and agreed.

- (a) **Finance Committee** Cllrs, Snook, Johnson, Creed-Castle and Bailey
- (b) **Planning Committee** Cllrs, Snook, Johnson, Creed-Castle, Bailey, Joyce, Sage, Mahaddie and Everidge
- (c) **Complaints Committee** Cllrs, Snook, Joyce, Everidge and Vaughan
- (d) **Rights of Way Officers** Wootton Fitzpaine – Mr P Mills, Whitchurch Canonicorum – Mrs C Peat, Stanton St Gabriel – Cllr Everidge
- (e) **Trees** Cllr Peck
- (f) **Transport** Cllr Everidge
- (g) **DAPTC** Cllr Snook
- (h) **Bridport Local Area Partnership** Cllr Everidge
- (i) **Ancient Monuments/photographer** Cllr Creed-Castle
- (j) **Planning Areas** Monkton Wyld – Cllr Sage; Wootton – Cllr Snook; Whitchurch North – Cllr Bailey; Whitchurch South – Cllr Mahaddie; Stanton St Gabriel – Cllr Everidge
- (k) **Wootton Fitzpaine Playing Field** Cllr Snook
- (l) **Flood Warden** Cllr Bailey
- (m) **Lengthsman liaison** Cllr Creed-Castle

**3568: Wootton Fitzpaine Playing Field Trustees**

**Cllr Snook** reported that John Bradbury, Jon Snook and Nigel Chapman were all prepared to continue as trustees. The meeting was grateful for their continued interest and agreed to re-elect them.

**3569: Public Discussion Period:** No requests

**3570 : Resolution to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016 :** Draft minutes had been circulated and were approved subject to amendments to minutes 3548 (Transport) and 3549 (District Councillors report)..

**3571 : Actions Following Last Meeting:** As circulated by the Clerk, who advised the meeting that the current owner of Tempest House had contacted him to say that it was his intention to maintain the White Gates at Wootton Cross. This was welcomed.

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## 3572 :Reports:

**Dorset Association of Town and Parish Councils (DAPTC)** : Cllr Snook reported on the Star Award scheme for training introduced by the DAPTC Chief Executive. This prompted some discussion from councillors about the value of the proposal, while accepting the benefits that training on the whole offered.

**Bridport Local Area Partnership** : Cllr Everidge reported that the annual assembly would take place at Bridport Town Hall on 25<sup>th</sup> May. Speakers would be Michael Deegan from the Pilsdon Community on housing and George Streatfield, who would talk about the Melplash Show and other matters.

**Transport : Cllr Everidge** : Cllr Everidge referred to the forthcoming meeting A35 at Chideock and suggested other members of the council might wish to attend. On buses **Cllr Joyce** reported that so far only 4 people had registered to use the No. 76 replacement service and she wanted to encourage more to do so or there is was a risk that the service would not be maintained.

**Trees and Hedges** : nothing to report.

**Lengthsman : Cllr Creed-Castle** : There was some discussion about how to obtain feedback so that there was an awareness of when work commissioned from the Lengthsman had been completed. **Cllr Creed-Castle** agreed to give further consideration to this.

## Councillor Reports :

**Cllr Peck** advised that she was going to follow-up the National Trust about replacement of the “temporary” fingerpost at Stonebarrow.

**Cllr Snook** reported that there had been a village clear-up on 27<sup>th</sup> April in advance of the best kept village inspection. She had attended the Lyme Regis/Bermuda twinning AGM, where it had been reported that a statue of Sir George Somers was to be erected in Lyme Regis.

**Cllr Johnson** reported that the repair to the cover in Lower Street appeared unsatisfactory and the opportunity had been missed to fill nearby potholes at the same time. **Cllr Peck** agreed to report the potholes.

**Cllr Everidge** advised that the white line at the Langdon Lane/Muddyford Lane junction was not visible and there had been several near-misses. She would report this. She circulated pictures and text relating to various problems on Ship Knapp to Pickaxe Cross section of bridleway (a BOAT), which were making this increasingly hazardous. **Cllr Turner** offered to investigate.

**Cllr Mahaddie** reported that the road sign for Sun Lane was broken, she would report this.

**3573: County Councillor : Cllr Turner** reported that a meeting was to be held involving council representatives and all of Dorset’s MPs to discuss the county’s future governance. He had emailed through a consultation about proposals for a combined authority to deal with matters such as transport and the economy.

**3574 : District Councillor’s Report : Cllr Christopher** reported that Oliver Letwin MP was still pursuing the issue of Superfast Broadband in the Whitchurch area. He advised that one of the conflicts between districts in coming together as one unitary authority involved resolving different levels of benefit from income such as car parking. He reported that the referendum held on 5th May had resulted in a vote of approximately two-thirds to one-third in favour of a committee form of governance for the District Council rather than the existing Cabinet-led system. A change to a new system would be made in May 2017.

Cllr Vaughan referred to a recent Government pronouncement that people in rural areas were not interested in Superfast Broadband (SFBB). It was quickly established that the majority of the parish councillors alone needed it for business purposes. Following discussion it was agreed that more pressure needed to be applied. Businesses such as tourism, farms and forestry relied upon effective internet connections. It was agreed to write to the Superfast Team, copy to Oliver Letwin asking what the position now was in relation to provision of SFBB in the Char Valley.

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## 3575 :Planning

### (i)To Consider : none

(ii) **To note** : WD/D/16/000470 - St Christophers, Butt Lane, Ryall. DT6 6EJ – Erect extension – no objection

WD/D/16/000526 - Partway Cottage, Spence Lane, Wootton Fitzpaine. DT6 6DG - Ground floor extensions to provide garden room and porch – no objection

(iii) **Approvals / Refusals (to note)**: WD/D/15/001719 – Little Oak Farm, Champernhayes Lane, Wootton Fitzpaine. DT6 6DF. Erection of sheds, shelters, polytunnels and entrance track – refused

WD/D/16/000431 – Orchards, Higher Street, Whitchurch Canonorum. DT6 6RH – Erection of a timber garden building for use as a studio - approved

WD/D/16/000417 – Wren Cottage, Tizzard's Knap, Morcombelake, DT6 6EF- Erection of a dwelling – Refused

WD/D/14/000197 Land Adj. to Muddyford Lane – proposed gypsy/traveller site - appeal dismissed

It was agreed that reduce potential for confusion the heading “WDDC decisions” would be used for this section in future.

(iv) **Enforcement** : The position with regard to the Veiv site was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk would write to the enforcement officer, copy to Matt Prosser and Oliver Letwin MP asking him to set out his timetable for enforcement action, in the light of the inspectors report.

(v) **Planning process** : The Clerk referred to the proposed changes to the standing orders. These were discussed and agreed subject to one minor change to wording. The Clerk in liaison with **Cllr Bailey** had designed a compliment slip to be used when conducting planning site visits. These had now been printed and the Clerk had copies for distribution to area planning reps.

## 3576 : Clerks Report

### (i) Payments

The following payments were agreed.

11.5.15	S Lee	Lengthsman April 2015	1368		£286.00
11.5.15	J West	Clerk Pay & expenses May	1369		£352.98
11.5.15	HMRC	PAYE May	1370		£79.60

**3577 : Final Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2016** The Clerk presented the formal final accounts for the year ending 31 March 2016 (copy appended to the minutes). He advised the meeting that the accounts had been audited by Sue Mullin who had found no errors and had complimented the Clerk on the record keeping. It was proposed by **Cllr Peck** and seconded by **Cllr Joyce** that the accounts be accepted. The annual governance statement was also agreed and signed by **Cllr Snook**.

**3578 : Clerks Report** The Clerk referred to recent correspondence relating to the swing barrier in the Whitchurch Play area. He reiterated that this was a safety item and could not be removed. A play inspector had confirmed this following a request by the Clerk to examine it and while stating that it did not present anything other than an acceptable risk to children had said that it could be modified by painting or adding additional wood to it. Following discussion it was agreed that painting the ends would be tried in the first instance. The Clerk would contact **Cllr Creed-Castle** with a request for the Lengthsman to do this.

**3579 : Neighbourhood Planning** The meeting considered the outline questionnaire drafted by the Clerk in consultation with Nick Cardnell from WDDC. It was agreed to include a preface to the questionnaire explaining its purpose. It was suggested that questions relating to employment and business could be included. **Cllr Peck** reiterated her concerns about public involvement prior to a decision. It was agreed that the Clerk would continue to work on the questionnaire in consultation with Nick Cardnell with the aim of bringing a draft to the July meeting.

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**3580 : Defibrillator: Cllr Peck** reported that Kevin Clausner at the Five Bells had started a collection. She had indicated that the Council might be prepared to contribute, but would need more details.

**3581 : Char Chat : The Clerk reported that** Ivan Gollop had produced a draft Char Chat with a couple of gaps still to be filled. He had sent articles on Neighbourhood/Parish planning and Council finances It was agreed that he would check progress with Ivan. Following discussion it was agreed that **Cllr Snook** and **Joyce** would take responsibility on behalf of the Council for an editorial review of the publication prior to printing.

**3582: Japanese Knotweed : Cllr Mahaddie** advised that some of the red posts signifying Japanese Knotweed clumps appeared to be in the wrong place in Pitman's Lane. Following discussion it was agreed that she would contact Jill Exton to see how this could be resolved.

**3583 : Parish Meetings :** Two of the Parish meetings had been held with the Stanton St Gabriel one to come. It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting would be placed on the Council's website and that this would be publicised through parish magazines.

**3584: Items for the next agenda :** Superfast Broadband, planning questionnaire, parish meeting, Char Chat, Fingerposts.

**3585: Date of next meeting :** 13 June 2016 – Whitchurch Canonicorum Village Hall

**3586: Closure of meeting :**The meeting was closed at 9.45pm.