

Yeohead & Castleton Parish Council

Minutes of meeting in Osborne Village Hall, Thursday 11th January at 7.30 pm.

The following were present: Councillors Mason, Buckland, Simnett, DC Cllr Legg and the Clerk

23.68 **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Dimond, Hunt. Kellaway and Perryman,

23.69 There were no **declarations of interest.**

23.70 **The minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd of November 2023** were confirmed and signed.

23.71 **Adjournment Session**

Mrs Julia Buckland told the meeting about regular flooding of the highway in Goathill, close to the bridge over the stream. The flooding is also extending into Mrs Buckland's garden. Water runs down the road from the Milborne Port direction carrying a lot of mud and small gravel, which is blocking the drains. Much of this material is coming from farm vehicles, especially those moving slurry. Mrs Buckland is regularly clearing the surface of the drains, but they are unable to cope with the amount of water and debris. She has recently reported the issue on the Dorset Highways website. Cllr Legg asked her to send him photos which he will share with Highways. The clerk will write to Canon Court Farm and Goathill Farm to ask them to make extra efforts to lessen the amount of debris being carried onto the Highway.

Cllr Legg spoke about several highways issues on the agenda – see items below.

23.72 **The financial report for the year 2023-24** to date was received and accepted.

Payments in accordance with budget were approved: Clerk salary: £309.62; HMRC (PAYE): £77.40; Osborne Village Hall: £20. Paid since the last meeting and approved: Milborne Port Computers £430. Direct debit to Hugo Fox for £11.99 per month.

23.73 **Budget and Precept 2024-25:** The council agreed a budget of £8,243. This includes £400 in case there is a contested election. As this is unlikely to be needed the council felt comfortable agreeing a precept request of £7,831, which is a 5% increase on the current precept. The budget also included rises in annual grants for churchyard and play areas maintenance. The council decided to award the clerk a pay rise of £1 per hour as recommended in November by NALC in the 2023 pay agreement for Local Government Employees. The new pay level will start from April.

23.74 **Planning Matters**

Items in bold: Comments were decided or approved at this meeting.

Name	Details /Reference	Status
The Grange at Osborne	P/FUL/2023/06937 External & internal alterations to facilitate conversion of existing function room 2no. treatment rooms & a meeting room, including replacement of conservatory roof & amendments to external walls of conservator	No objection
The Old Rectory, Poyntington	P/FUL/2023/03948 Change of use from agricultural land to agricultural land and ground mounted solar array to serve The Old Rectory. Erect Ground Mounted Solar Array.	No objection Granted 20.12.23
Tithe Barn, Poyntington	P/HOU/2023/02632 Extensive alterations to house and garage barn.	No objection
The Grange at Osborne	P/FUL/2023/04007 External & internal alterations to facilitate conversion of existing function room to 3 No. hotel suites	No objection Withdrawn 15.11.23 Nutrients
Mushroom Farm Cow Lane Poyntington	P/FUL/2022/02416 Erect 2 No. dwellings (Class C3), new vehicular accesses and associated works.	Objection

	Demolish existing agricultural buildings and polytunnels.	
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- 23.75 **Rights of Way:** DMMO Applications:
No issues.
- 23.76 **Oborne Playground Equipment:** The council looked at a photo of a piece of equipment flagged as dangerous at the last inspection. The wooden structure has been taken down, but is now lying on the ground with "Do not use" tape on it. The council was concerned that the rough edges of the broken wooden beams could pose a hazard and asked the clerk to write to the playground committee.
- 23.77 **Fingerpost Repairs:** The fingers on the red post have been renovated by a volunteer. The council has been asked to take care of painting the post. It was decided that the clerk will write to Bradfords and ask if they will sponsor the paint. If this doesn't succeed, the council agreed that it will pay for the paint. Ned Edwards has repaired the other posts on the B3145, using wood donated by Cllr Perryman for one of the fingers.
- 23.78 **Highways Issues:**
- a) B3145 junction with Clatcombe Lane: The traffic collision officer had written after the recent meeting with a series of actions to be taken, including a speed survey and warning signs of frequent collisions.
 - b) A30 junction and pavement at Oborne: The meeting with the traffic collision officer also looked at this junction. Actions to be taken by Dorset Highways are for the road markings at the junction and on the A30 to be refreshed and the vegetation along the wall and on the footpath to be cut back. Turning right onto the A30, the vegetation at the base of the wall has been removed for part of the way towards the Sherborne turn.
 - c) Sheeplands Lane, provision for horse riders: Cllr Legg said that unfortunately Sherborne Castle Estates are unwilling to allow a route for horses to be made on their land. The clerk suggested writing to the BHS, but Cllr Legg said that when the BHS representative looked at the road last year, he did not seem able to help.
 - d) Road and verge maintenance in Poyntington: Highways have recut some of the verges and removed vegetation from the base of the raised pavement.
 - e) Dancing Hill consultation: The council did not have any comments to make.
 - f) Request for double yellow lines on New Road, Sherborne: Cllr Legg advised that this was unlikely to be put forward due to the cost of the application.
- 23.79 **Management of the vegetation and trees at Jadestone:** Cllr Simnett has discussed the management of vegetation at Jadestone adjacent to the Batch, Poyntington with the owners, who think that they are not responsible for the maintenance of the vegetation. Having looked at the site plans, Cllr Simnett is in agreement with the Community Highways Officer who believes that the responsibility does lie with the property owners. The council agreed that it can do no more and the matter must be left to Dorset Highways.
- 23.80 **Drains in Goathill:** See adjournment session above.
- 23.81 **Parish Council Elections 2024** The clerk briefly ran through the timetable for the elections. It was agreed that she will bring nomination forms to the next meeting and will start to advertise the election in February.
- 23.82 **Items for the next Agenda: None**
- 23.83 **Dates of future meetings:**
- 7 March, Poyntington
 - 16 May, Poyntington
 - 4 July, Oborne
 - 5 September, Poyntington
 - 7 November, Oborne

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

