

CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

THREE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY SIXTH MEETING OF THE CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY 9th FEBRUARY 2015 IN THE WOOTTON FITZPAINE VILLAGE HALL.

3316: Present: Cllrs: I Gollop (Chair), D Snook, C Bailey, S Creed-Castle, C Mahaddie, C Everidge, M Robinson (WDDC); J West (Clerk) and one member of the public

3317: Apologies: Received from Cllrs C Peck, S Johnson, H Joyce, D Turner (DCC)

3318: Meeting Suspended for Public Discussion: None

3319: Declarations of Interest/ Consider Grant of Dispensations: none.

3320: Resolution to approve the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held 12th January 2015: Draft minutes had been circulated and were approved subject to one minor amendment concerning verge cutting.

3321: Actions Following Last Meeting: The clerk had circulated a list of actions and outcomes which were noted.

3322: Co-option of councillor: Cllr Gollop reported that Kit Vaughan was unfortunately unable to attend. His potential co-option was discussed and it was proposed by **Cllr Creed-Castle** and seconded by **Cllr Snook** that he be co-opted. This was agreed unanimously. The Clerk would advise him accordingly.

3323: Reports: PCSO Burton reported on latest incidents in the area. These included theft from a horsebox, theft of copper pipes and lead flashing from a building site in Morcombelake and theft of building materials from a shipping container in Marshwood.

Transport: Cllr Everidge reported that the X53 will now stop at the top of Abbotsbury Hill. **Cllr Everidge** also offered to liaise with Jim Rose, who had the role of Rights of Way officer to ensure that RoW issues were actively monitored – this was agreed. Don Newman who was the Rights of Way representative for Whitchurch had given up some time ago and that this role was currently not being covered. **Cllr Gollop** suggested that the “new” council in May should initiate a review of the standing orders to clarify issues such as representation. Clerk to note. **BLAP: Cllr Everidge** reported that chairman Maureen Jackson is standing down at the end of her current term and there remained concerns over whether the member of staff Tessa Greenaway, who supports community planning and other BLAP matters would be retained due to funding problems. She also drew attention to the meeting in Bridport the NHS consultation meeting following day on the “Need for Change” review and a forthcoming meeting about the Rural Challenge, Lord Teverson, Chair Rural Coalition is giving a talk / answering questions at the Town Hall on Thursday 19th March 6.15pm.

DAPTC : Cllr Snook mentioned that there was a new transparency code that exempted bodies with a turnover a less than £25k from having an external audit. Char Valley PC would fall into this bracket. Councillors were anxious that if this was the case that the new regulation did not result in any loss of scrutiny of the councils finances, be it actual or perceived. The Clerk agreed to explore this matter and report back.

DAPTC’s annual conference was to take place on 25 February **Cllr Snook** confirmed that both the Clerk and herself would be attending.

Wootton Fitzpaine Village Hall : The AGM was taking place on 10 March and **Cllr Snook** mentioned forthcoming Artsreach events and the Rotary quiz on 28 March. **Cllr Snook** added that the village hall committee was interested in possibly siting a picnic table on the playing field (owned by the Parish Council) in memory of villager Guy Bryant. **James Hargreaves Hall :** There was nothing of note to report, there were bookings most evenings.

Cllr Snook reported that she had been made aware of foul odours in the area of the bridge near Wootton Manor. The Clerk advised that the best option was for the complainants themselves to telephone the Environment Agency pollution hotline. **Lengthsman: Cllr Mahaddie** had identified some issues that required work by the Lengthsman and would contact **Cllr Mansbridge** about these. **Cllr Bailey** commented on the forthcoming “Recycle for Dorset “ waste collection arrangements and highlighted the unsuitability of some of the arrangements in rural areas and questioned whether they provided value for money. **Cllr Everidge** raised concerns over coastal access, particularly while the National Trust carried out work to Langdon Lane car park. She also raised concerns about the collection of domestic waste at peak times along the A35 through Morcombelake. **Cllr Creed-Castle** reported that she had now tracked down owners of all the hedges that need cutting in the Stoke Mill Lane area. She asked the Clerk if he could follow up the previously reported issue about drains with DCC.

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Cllr Gollop asked the Clerk if he could also follow up the broken covers outside Bybrook with DCC.

Cllr Robinson reported that he would be standing down at the forthcoming elections and that due to boundary changes Char Valley Council would fall under a different area. He offered to send the Clerk a map showing the effect of this. There was some discussion about the impact of this on the Council, although it was noted that there was nothing that could be done to change it. Cllr Robinson mentioned a meeting taking place in Bridport Town Hall on 10 March at 7pm in relation to the LEADER funding programme. He also reported that a 1.9% increase in West Dorset council tax for 2015/16 was being proposed. In relation to flooding he revealed that a capital project fund had been established to carry out works to benefit properties that had been repeatedly subject to flooding. Anyone affected should contact Dorset County Council to see if there was potential for work to benefit them. Finally he revealed that the Dorset Waste Partnership was currently subject to three separate reviews.

3324: Broadband : Cllr Gollop stated that he had emailed the Superfast Broadband project team asking for clarification of the roll-out timings but had not even received a response to date. To be reviewed at the next meeting.

3325: Planning

i) Presentation – WD/D/14/002600 Bridles Farm House, Wootton Hill, Fishpond (resubmission)

Alterations and extension to provide new bedroom with lounge over and garage. This application had yet to be received formally from WDDC. The applicants Mr and Mrs Coates explained the basis of the application and how they had addressed planning officers concerns. Cllr Gollop thanked them for the presentation, which would be useful to councillors in considering the merits of the application.

ii) To consider : none.

iii) To note : WD/D/14/003066 Hillcrest, Lower Lane, Ryall - Single storey rear extension with garage below – no objection

WD/D/14/002161 Upways Verriotts Lane, Morcombelake - Alterations and extensions. Removal of garage from forecourt – no objection, subject to conditions.

iv) Enforcement : Cllr Everidge repeated her previously voiced concerns about the lack of rigorous enforcement and the issues in relation to the development at West Star Farm. Without the original plans it was not possible to know how much what had actually been constructed departed from these.

3326: Fingerposts : The Clerk explained that he had followed up the LEADER funding as requested at the last meeting but neither the criteria of this or the Bridport Car Boot Fund would fit the fingerpost programme. There were few external funding sources for Parish Councils to access, the Lottery “Awards for All” scheme appeared the only possibility. **Cllr Peck** had provided a quote she had obtained for completely refurbishing the fingerpost at the junction of Crooked Lane and Lower Street. This was useful and it was agreed that as there were apparently others offering to repair fingerposts that if possible competitive quotes should be obtained, but they must adhere to the specification as set out in the above quotation. The aim would be to decide which fingerposts were in need of work and then commission this using the budget previously agreed and any other available funding. The Clerk agreed to clarify whether Dorset AONB would provide any funding.

3327: Verge/Footpath cutting : Cllrs Peck and Mahaddie had attended a meeting organised by DCC with contractors and other local parish representatives on 26 January. This had been reasonably productive. One of the main outcomes was that we could now, where it was considered useful, liaise directly with the contractors when there were issues to be addressed. Cllr Mahaddie also highlighted the Service Level Agreements that were available for parishes to pay DCC to maintain footpaths. This would be worth considering, however we would need to advise DCC by the Autumn of any paths that we wished them to maintain through such an arrangement.

3328: Clerks Report : The Clerk reported that he had received correspondence from the Secretary of Whitchurch Toddler Group asking the Parish Council to provide a sandpit in the play area and seeking improvements to the two slides. There were concerns about providing a sandpit for health and safety reasons and the Clerk was requested to circulate the correspondence to enable councillors to consider the details of the representations made.

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The Clerk also reported that he had visited the previous Clerk and they had examined all documentation that she had retained pending a new Clerk being appointed. A lot of this had now been disposed of by the Clerk, but there were several old records including minutes that would be passed to the Dorset History Centre for proper safekeeping.

3329 : Finance : The following payments were approved :

Chq No	Payee	Purpose	Amount
1354	Logomotion	Website 2013/14	725.00
1355	J West	Feb 2015 pay and expenses	356.59
1356	Whitchurch Village Hall	Hall hire	20.00
1357	HMRC	PAYE Feb 2015	79.60
1358	Bridport CAB	annual grant	100.00
Total			£1281.19

3330: Char Chat : Cllr Gollop circulated a short list of points for discussion. It was agreed that Char Chat should continue and in a printed and electronic format. Editions would be produced when there was suitable content, but the aim would be at least two per annum. **Cllrs Gollop and Everidge** volunteered to edit the publication and contributions were sought initially from all councillors. Suggested topics for the next edition included fingerposts and verge cutting. It was agreed to hold an informal meeting at the Five Bells pub to discuss content, etc. **Cllr Gollop** to arrange.

3331: Resilience Plan : The Clerk advised that neither DCC Emergency Planning or West Dorset District Council could find any trace of a plan for the Parish, nor could he find anything in the paper or electronic records. It was agreed that he would contact the previous Clerk as one final avenue of exploration. The consensus was that given the nature of the Parish and local community the extensive work needed to compile and maintain such a plan was not a priority.

3332: Correspondence : The Clerk had circulated the list of correspondence. There were no questions on this.

3333: Items for next agenda :

- Fingerposts
- Char Chat
- Superfast Broadband
- New Electoral Boundaries

3334 : Date of next meeting : 9th March 2015 James Hargreaves Hall, Morcombelake

3335 : Close of meeting : The meeting was closed at 9.25pm.