

CHIDEOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Chideock Village Hall on Tuesday 28 September 2021 at 10 am.

The Parish Council meeting commenced at **10.00 am**.

Present: Cllr Vanessa McAra, Cllr Anna Dunn, Cllr George Dunn, Cllr Peter Hunt, Cllr Mick Downes.

In attendance: The Clerk, Cllr Simon Christopher and 11 members of the public.

2619 Apologies.

PCSO Bishop sent his apologies.

Cllr Coates and Cllr Peacock sent their apologies, which were accepted.

2620 Grants of Dispensations.

None.

2621 Declarations of Defined Pecuniary Interests.

None declared.

2622 Minutes.

RESOLVED to accept and sign, as a true record,

a) the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 27 July 2021.

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

Item Dorset Ward Councillor and Police Reports.

a) Police Report. PCSO Bishop had reported the following information by e-mail:-

“At some time in the early hours of 11th September, a vehicle in the village had a door prised open and rear quarterlight window smashed. The owner’s wallet was left in the car, so thinks the offender/s were disturbed. I remind people not to leave any items of value inside unattended vehicles. If anyone has any information about this, please contact us.”

b) Cllr Christopher, Dorset Ward Councillor, had reported by e-mail; his report is appended to the minutes.

At the meeting he spoke and answered questions from councillors as follows: -

- Events are starting to take place again – for example, the Bridport Literary Festival in November
- Dorset Council is still not having in-person meetings – he is against this and is fighting for resumption of face-to-face meetings now, not at some future date
- He is talking with Cllr Jill Haynes and Cllr Rebecca Knox regarding pollution in Chideock
- He arranged meetings in August for Chideock Parish Council with Ben Hampson (National Highways) and David Sidwick (Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner)
- At the last Dorset Council meeting he asked that more be done for the west of the county instead of all funding going to the east.

A member of the public said that she has been trying to get a Council Tax matter sorted out since last November without success – why are staff still working from home and why can’t they sort out problems remotely?

A member of the public asked if Dorset Council is using the “cabinet” system for decision making. Cllr Christopher said that is the case, it consists of 10 councillors with 6 other lead members are advisors.

Standing Orders were suspended for the following item.

2624 Democratic Period.

Ms Kim Sankey addressed the Parish Council in relation to planning application **P/LBC/2021/02514** for Laneside Cottage, explaining why the work had been carried out without planning permission and giving details of the work involved.

Mr ? Maskell spoke about his progress on the All-Weather All-Purpose Path project.

- Support from the community is essential
- Regular reports are made to the Parish Council
- It is a “work in progress”
- There are 3 possible routes, 2 north of the A35 and 1 south, all with problems which have yet to be resolved
- Dorset Council will receive the proposals next spring for consideration in the Financial Year starting April 2022
- So far he has received 42 letters of support which probably equates to about 80 people out of approximately 550 residents – more are needed

He also spoke about the poor state of Hell Lane – he is waiting for an overdue response from Dorset Cllr Bryan, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Travel and Environment. Hell Lane is of historic importance and a link between Whitchurch and Symondsburry.

Cllr Christopher said

- he has invited Cllr Bryan to come to Chideock to meet with the Parish Council.
- Chris Loder MP has stated that safe walking and cycling are very important and the need for a route from Chideock towards Bridport is more important than Sustrans improving the Maiden Newton Trailway
- There are other routes in a similar state to Hell Lane, for instance Common Water Lane between Broadwindsor and Beaminster. He has paid for legal advice which he has shared with Broadwindsor and will share with Chideock.
- He reiterated that West Dorset needs a fair deal and that Cllr Bryan must come to the village.

A member of the public spoke about her concerns regarding pollution and the lack of a safe walking / cycling route toward Bridport.

Members of the public spoke of their concerns with the revised West Dorset Leisure Holiday's revised plans for the previously approved Leisure Building – planning application P/VOC/2021/02516. Cllr Christopher asked people to write to him with their concerns.

A member of the Village Hall Committee spoke about the damage caused to cars parked at the Hall caused by deliberately placed nails. The Clerk reported this to the police who offered advice.

Standing Orders were resumed.

2625 Reports / Updates by the Clerk and Councillors.

Items 1 to 11 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED** with those detailed below discussed in more detail.

Items 2 to 5 - BBQ Disposal. AGREED to leave this until next year.

Item 8 – Disabled cubicle, Seatown toilets. Cllr George Dunn said he will check if Dorset Council has dealt with this. **GD**

Items 11 – Ultrafast Broadband from Jurassic Fibre. Clerk to chase by telephone. **CC**

2626 A35 Matters.

Items 12 to 38 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED** with those detailed below discussed in more detail.

Item 14A – Air Quality Action Plan. AGREED that the Clerk will follow up if nothing is heard within 2 weeks of this meeting. **CC**

Items 21 and 22 - Foundry Lea (Verse Farm) development. Cllr McAra to draft a letter to Dorset Council asking that, as an A35 stakeholder, Chideock Parish Council is informed and consulted about the Miles Cross roundabout construction plans. **VM**

Items 36 to 38 - Western speed camera. Clerk to ask Ben Hampson, National Highways, for an update on correcting the speed limit signage so that enforcement can take place. **CC**

AGREED that the Clerk asks when the repair to the bridge parapet will be completed. **CC**

2627 Motions Received with Notice.

None.

2628 Planning Matters.

a) Applications.

P/LBC/2021/02514 Laneside Cottage Main Street. Comments by 4/10/2021
Retrospective approval of eradication of dry rot in bathroom, kitchen, and bedroom.
Alterations to first floor bathroom. Ventilation installed and insertion of steel wall ties.
Chideock Parish Council supports this application.

P/VOC/2021/02516 Golden Cap Holiday Park Seatown. Comments by 11/10/2021
Site reorganisation comprising changes of use & operational development including removal of all 108 touring caravan pitches & siting 'lodge' style caravans & static caravans on OS 0586 & 2500. Siting static caravans, diversion of public footpath W10/14 & creation of a permissive path within OS 4417. Landscape enhancements. Changes of use of buildings B and C. Construction of a leisure building on OS 1597/2093. Variation of conditions 1, 3, 4 & 19 of planning approval 1/D/12/000410 - amended plans, materials, and landscaping timetable.

AGREED (3 for, 2 against) that a Planning Committee meeting be held to allow full consideration of this application. Dorset Council to be informed by the Clerk of the delay to the submission of the Parish Council's consultation response. West Dorset Leisure Holidays to be invited to give a short presentation and answer questions.

CC

b) Determinations.

P/FUL/2021/01509 Garden Cottage Sea Hill Lane - Erect 1no. dwelling and garage following demolition of existing. **REFUSED**

c) Appeals. None.

d) Other Planning Matters.

AGREED that the item for Mill Lane / Bridleway 18 will in future be dealt with under agenda item Dorset Rights of Way, Dorset Highways and Flood Management.

2629 Finances.

a) Payments.

RESOLVED to make the following payments: -

| | | |
|------|--|---------|
| i. | Clerk's Salary and Expenses for September | £448.20 |
| ii. | HMRC – PAYE for July, August, and September | £184.40 |
| iii. | Hall Hire – 10 August, 28 September | £28.00 |
| iv. | Ken Hussey – Clapp's Mead Inspection + Repairs | £201.50 |
| v. | DAPTC Code of Conduct, Register of Interest and Complaints Procedure on-line briefings Summer 2021 | £30.00 |

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

a) Foss Orchard Car Park.

Items 41 to 43 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.

2630 Clapps Mead Playing Field.

Works identified in Ken Hussey's July Inspection Report.

It was noted that the Burma Bridge hut floor surface is slippery when wet. Cllr George Dunn **GD** to investigate how this can be made safer.

Cllr George Dunn also agreed to investigate how the dips in the ground surface under the seesaw can be rectified. **GD**

Item 30 on the Actions & Information List was **NOTED**.

Friends of Clapp's Mead.

Cllr Anna Dunn passed £103.80 to the Clerk, raised by stall holders at the Fete held in August – for the Community Fund.

AGREED that 2 new litter bins be purchased, 1 to be paid for by the Parish Council, 1 by The Friends of Clapps Mead: -

<https://www.bin-shop.co.uk/> Eco Recycled Hooded Top Litter Bin - 90 Litre



CC

CC

£91.79 ex VAT, £110.15 inc VAT, Mainland Delivery: £9.99 + VAT

Cllr Anna Dunn reported that the Chideock W. I. has purchased another bench for Clapp's Mead. The Clerk will add this to the Asset Register and advise the Parish Council insurers of this added item

AGREED that the Clerk asks Bridport Town for a quote to have the vegetation on the brook banks cleared by the Lenghtsman. Once this has been done an assessment can be made of any work required to the brook bed.

2631 Dorset Rights of Way, Dorset Highways and Flood Management.

Items 44 - 52 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.

Item 51 – Overhanging Hedge. This has been cut back by the householder

AGREED that the Clerk

- Requests an update regarding field drainage onto Mill Lane
- Reports blocked drains on Mill Lane.
- Asks for an update regarding repair of the dangerous steps from Sea Hill Lane to the footbridge over the River Winniford at Seatown.

CC

2632 Current Consultations.

Items 54 to 57A the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.

Item 56 - National Highways future road investment. By 30/11. **AGREED** that councillors **ALL** will provide feedback to the Clerk.

Information attached

Item 57 - Rights of Way Improvement Plan - Dorset Council. By 31/10. **AGREED** that **ALL** councillors will provide feedback to the Clerk.

2633 Start Time of Meetings.

AGREED to ask for feedback from residents via the November Chideock News.

2634 Annual Village Meeting.

The Annual Parish / Village meeting must be held annually on some day between 1st March and 1st June, both inclusive, in every year – Local Government Act 1972. Obviously, this was not possible in 2000 and 2021. **AGREED** that the next meeting will be held in 2022, rather than holding a delayed 2021 meeting later this year.

2635 Correspondence.

There were no other items of correspondence to be brought to Councillors' notice.

2636 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting of Chideock Parish Council.

The next scheduled meeting is at 10 am on Tuesday 26 October 2021.

The meeting closed at **12.40 pm**.

Cllr Christopher's E-mailed Report.

A few thoughts prior to the September 2021 Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 28 September.

If a week is a long time in politics, so a month can be most eventful time, with the extended holiday season and HGV and other labour shortages, and some garages out of fuel.

Meetings

In recent times I have arranged for Mr. Ben Hampson of National Highways, (previously Highways England) to meet with Chideock Parish Councillors and also Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner Mr. David Sidwick.

I have e mailed Graham Duggan Head of Community and Public Protection at Dorset Council and Councillor Ray Bryan Portfolio Holder for roads, but also footpaths and cycleways , in the hope that they will visit Chideock and meet with Chideock Parish Councillors and myself

A35

A recent incident West of Chideock and road closure impacted Chideock and also surrounding villages . I made Mr Sidwick aware of frustrations arising from this and am aware that our local MP is aware. I look forward to discussing this and indeed all matters relating to the A35 at length on Tuesday.

Covid Public Health Update

Case rates in Dorset and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole continued to decline but we have seen a small uptick in the last few days. This is reflective of the regional and national picture. Our local case rates are above the South West average but remain below the England average. In line with the decrease in case rates in recent weeks, we've also seen COVID-related hospital admissions start to fall. There are currently 26 people in hospital with COVID-19 in Dorset.

With COVID-19 continuing to circulate in our communities, it's really important that anyone with symptoms gets tested and self-isolates whilst they wait for the result. Regular rapid testing when you haven't got symptoms is also key to stopping the spread as you can check you're not infectious and potentially passing the virus on to others. Anyone who hasn't yet had their first or second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine can still book an appointment to get their jab.

Latest data on Covid Summary

Summary of the most recent data:

- 7-day case rates per 100,000
 - o BCP: 227.0 (compared to 246.4 in last update on 17 September)
 - o Dorset: 253.6 (compared to 254.1 in last update on 17 September)
- Confirmed cases in last 7 days
 - o BCP: 901 (compared to 978 in last update on 17 September)
 - o Dorset: 963 (compared to 965 in last update on 17 September)
- Current COVID-19 patients in hospital beds in Dorset: 26 (compared to 30 in last update on 17 September)

Future Dorset Council Meetings

Notwithstanding the above, I believe that it is of the greatest importance that Dorset Council returns to normal working without delay.

As things stand this will not happen with Dorset Council meetings as of 1 October 2021.

This has led to divisions I have to say with some other predominantly older Councillors as clearly I wish to see the Dorset Council be less cautious in the way it works and in my view better reflect working arrangements in the wider society. I say working arrangements but it is more than this as local organisations from the Chideock Farmers discussion club to the Bridport Literacy returning to normality. Nationally we are seeing crowds returning from events as diverse as Last Night of the Proms to the Party Conferences to nightclubs.

I have to say my actions in calling for a change in mind set has not made me widely popular and I have perhaps by my calling for change become the most controversial Dorset Councillor of the last week .

I feel I have made enemies in leading the demand for a move back to face to face meetings of Dorset Council now, rather than just reflect on survey results dither and delay yet again.

I am however cheered by reflecting on the words that some have attributed to Churchill.
"You have enemies? Good. You've have stood up for something ,sometime in your life"

Dorset Council Household Recycling Centres

The opening hours of all 10 of the Dorset Council Household Recycling Centres (HRCs, or "the tip") will change from Friday 1 October.

From 1 October to 30 March, HRCs would usually be open from 10am to 4pm. From Friday 1 October, all HRCs will now open an hour earlier at 9am.

From next year, 1 April to 30 September, HRCs will still open at 9am but close at 5pm. The revised times will bring Dorset Council's HRCs in line with those in the BCP Council area and better reflect the demand for these services.

Average daily traffic data shows there is far more demand for HRCs between 9am and 10am (around 427 vehicles per hour) than there is between 5pm and 6pm (227 vehicles per hour). To reflect this behaviour and make things simpler for customers, our HRCs will now open at 9am all year round but keep the earlier 4pm closing time in the winter to address site safety as it gets darker earlier.

The move to open earlier will especially help during March, as we experienced higher numbers of visitors dropping off garden waste due to the early onset of warmer spring weather this year. Services struggled to cope as HRCs didn't open until 10am but visitors had started arriving much earlier, and the facilities were only operating for six hours each day

It is hoped the earlier opening times in winter will smooth demand throughout the day, matching visitors' travelling patterns and reducing morning queue times

Afghanistan and Military Veterans

With over 58,000 military veterans in Dorset, Dorset Council is reminding current and former members of the Armed Forces, and their families, that support is available for them.

Whether they served in Afghanistan, or in other conflicts, news of the withdrawal of military forces has significantly impacted on the wellbeing of many veterans and their families.

Through its commitment to the Armed Forces Covenant and links to health and wellbeing services including charities, Dorset Council is encouraging anyone affected to reach out for support

Cllr David Walsh, Chairman of the Dorset Armed Forces Covenant Board, said:

"The scenes pictured on the TV and in the media have brought back memories and raised questions for our Armed Forces that have served, or are serving.

"There are a number of organisations, in Dorset and further afield, which can offer support or just listen. If you are affected by recent events please reach out.

"The whole nation has a moral obligation to the Armed Forces, and their families. They deserve our respect and support, and fair treatment. Through the Dorset Armed Forces Covenant we are working to ensure all members of the armed forces, past and present, are treated fairly.

Please let me know if you would like details of the many organisations offering support

Finally a message about energy firms and energy bills....

Worried about energy bills? Seek advice and support now

With recent news coverage about energy firms going bust and rising utility costs for consumers, many of us will be feeling worried about the months ahead.

If you're already struggling to pay your energy bills, or are concerned about how you're going to meet rising utility costs this winter, seek advice and support now.

Call Dorset Citizens Advice on Freephone 0800 144 8848 or visit www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/reaching-out

Best regards

Simon

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