

**Minutes of the Chideock Parish Council meeting held at Chideock Village Hall on Tuesday the 27<sup>th</sup>  
of June 2023, at 10 am**

**Present:** Cllr George Dunn (Chair), Cllr Vanessa McAra (Vice-Chair), Cllr Anna Dunn, Cllr Peter Hunt, Cllr Mick Downes.

**In attendance:** Clerk, Cllr Simon Christopher, PCO Alex Bishop, and four (4) members of the public.

**The Parish Council Meeting commenced at 9:56am.**

**2950. Apologies.**

None.

**2951. Grants of Dispensation.**

None received.

**2952. 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.

**2953. Dorset Councillor and Police Reports.**

**a. PCSO Bishop.**

The Chair requested that the order of the agenda be amended so as to allow PCSO Bishop to speak, followed by co-option, followed by Cllr Christopher's report, owing to the individuals' schedules that day. CPC agreed to this.

PCSO Bishop updated CPC that there had been one report of a theft of a rucksack in Langdon Woods. He reiterated from previous meetings that people must be careful to not leave valuables in vehicles, and that he asks people to remind guests of this when visiting beauty spots.

He brought to the attention of CPC scamming activity, regarding phone calls, emails, text messages, and other communications designed to part people with their money and information. He advised that people be careful of communications in which an unsolicited party requests one downloads an app allowing remote access, giving the example of a third party claiming to be from the BT fraud department claiming that remote access is required to resolve an issue. He advised the meeting that the best thing to do is to have as little contact with scammers as possible, and hence one should avoid unsolicited phone calls and instead allow answerphones to play so as to allow individuals to screen calls. He also suggested that when a caller claims to be from a company, the prudent action is to phone the company back on a trusted number to verify the veracity of the initial call. He noted that screening can also be performed by dedicated screening services which require callers to first state who they are before one answers the phone, so that the call can be terminated without speaking. He noted that this was valuable as it prevents scammers from beginning the conversation and successfully convincing individuals. He informed the meeting that the police website has advice around scam prevention, as does the action fraud website [actionfraud.police.uk](http://actionfraud.police.uk). He noted that some scams also fall under the jurisdiction of Trading Standards.

The Chair thanked PSCO Bishop for his report.

**2954. Application for Co-Option to Chideock Parish Council.**

A resident of Chideock Parish applied for co-option to CPC. The council voted 2 in favour of co-option, 3 opposed to co-option. The resident therefore was not co-opted.

**2955. Dorset Councillor and Police Reports.**

**a. Cllr Simon Christopher.**

*Cllr Christopher* referenced the budget report and passed it around the meeting, drawing attention to the proportion of the UK budget dedicated to servicing debt interest, which stood at £116 billion. He noted that the amount spent on debt interest significantly exceeds that spent on defence and noted that regardless of the result of the next General Election, this would present difficulties for the government. He compared this to the situations of two previous Secretaries of the Treasury who sardonically commented to their successors that there wasn't any money.

He noted that bond yields and mortgage rates have in recent times increased, with negative consequences. Describing the unpredictability of macroeconomic indicators, he referenced the improved condition of FTSE in the US, which was predicated on the belief that inflation in the US was going down – a development which has been affected by Russian attacks on Ukrainian grain silos. He states that this situation has caused difficulties for the public. He told CPC that he did not foresee an easy situation given high inflation, and noted that earnings rising by 7% will imply macroeconomic consequences, drawing particular attention to the pension triple lock (which he reminded the meeting involves increasing the state pension by the lowest figure out of earnings increases, inflation as measured by CPI, and 2.5%). He reiterated that the current state of inflation will cause difficulties for Local Authorities as this causes pressure to increase remuneration to LA employees, which is the largest cost faced by Dorset Council.

*Cllr Christopher* informed CPC that he would be meeting the leader of Dorset Council in the afternoon, and hence requested that if any members had particular issues that they wished to have raised, they send an email or texts on these matters so that he would be able to raise them.

The Councillor then turned his attention to the current roadworks and corresponding traffic restrictions. He noted that the cones indicating the contraflow of traffic causes difficulties for people accessing and regressing from their properties in the affected areas, and that the reduction to two lanes of traffic (rather than the standard three) has the potential to significantly exacerbate the impact of breakdowns on traffic.

He suggested the CPC consider inviting Laura Cornett of Dorset Council, who specialises in grants and grant funding for communities.

*Cllr Christopher* told the meeting that he was keen on people emailing him about activities going on in the villages of his ward, and that he enjoys going to events such as dog shows and classic car shows as it is important to him that he is out in the community

so that people are aware of who he is for when they have a problem which he can address

Discussing the effects of interest rates on borrowing, *Cllr Christopher* recalled the issuance of war stocks during WW2, which were issued at 3.5% interest, which the government bought back around fifteen years ago as this was comparatively expensive debt while interest rates were low. He noted that the reward for taking on the risk of debt is interest, and hence when bond markets move as they did in September, the volatility of the market is significant. He noted that the pound is now 20% higher than in September, which he described as unsurprising as people can now buy into government debt and receive a reasonable return. He said that this however affected different generations differently; while people with money can invest and receive interest, young people with mortgages instead see the cost of servicing their debt increasing.

*Cllr McAra* noted that a consequence of low interest rates over the last fifteen years has been that people now entering retirement who were fortunate enough to have capital to invest have found it difficult to do so and achieve a reasonable return. *Cllr Christopher* concurred. *Cllr McAra* noted also that banks have not been rewarding savers with higher interest rates on savings even as base interest rates have increased, and that this was a significant issue. She also noted that in the past, people would often have to repay mortgages with interest rates around 15%, and suggested that discussions around the current economic situation are not taking into account a longer history of borrowing costs. *Cllr Christopher* responded that this was true, and continued that the current situation involves different prices, stating that there was a distinction between a rate of 15% on a principal of £60,000 and a rate of 6.5% on a principal of £400,000.

*Cllr McAra* referred to an article in the Dorset Echo about a veteran who had been living with his daughter in rented accommodation in Dorset who had been forced to vacate the property as the owner had intended to increase the rent to a level at which he and his daughter could not afford. She told the meeting that this had led to the whole family being placed in hostel accommodation while Dorset Council attempted to find housing for the family. She told the meeting that she was raising this situation as she perceived it to be an ongoing challenge for Local Authorities. She argued that while much of the debate seems to be regarding affordable housing, she believes that this is insufficient, as if people have no money, they need social housing, provided either by a housing authority or the state. Noting that Dorset Council is launching a consultation on housing, she asked what the Council's position was specifically on social housing as opposed to affordable housing. *Cllr Christopher* responded by noting new housing in Dorchester being built on brownfield site, noting that this included a mix of affordable housing, and promised to send a further note on the affordable housing being built. *Cllr McAra* responded that this did not address the question of social housing specifically. The Chair thanked *Cllr Christopher*.

#### **2956. Minutes.**

*Cllr George Dunn* asked CPC if they wished to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of the 27<sup>th</sup> of June as a true record of the meeting. *Cllr Hunt* noted the accuracy of the minutes, but expressed the view that the minutes should be a praxis of the meeting rather than the more

comprehensive record of the meeting, arguing that more limited minutes may improve transparency and accountability by reducing the burden on interested residents of the Parish when reading them to glean what was discussed and decided at the Parish Council meeting. He noted that many other organisations limit minutes to three to four pages of A4 and that the minutes presented represented eight pages. He therefore requested shorter minutes from the Clerk in future. *Cllr McAra* disagreed, arguing that she would like the minutes to reflect what had actually been said at the meeting. She agreed that there was a stylistic difference between the notes of the current Clerk and the former Clerk, but argued that this was not in itself a bad thing. *Cllr George Dunn* agreed, and noted that due to the volume of CPC business conducted via email – to which the public are not privy – a more comprehensive record of CPC meetings was of value in providing transparency. *Cllr Downes* stated that he did not consider the length of the minutes to be a burden, noting the time between meetings allowing plenty of time for reading. *Cllr George Dunn* therefore suggested leaving the style of the minutes to the discretion of the Clerk.

**RESOLVED** to accept and sign, as a true record, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of the 27<sup>th</sup> of June 2023.

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

#### **2957. Democratic Period**

A Chideock Resident told CPC that he lives where the cones indicating the traffic restrictions start, and that he was not pleased at their appearance. He told the meeting that he was not given warning or consultation. He expressed his confusion as to why the restrictions start so far before the worksite, and described the effect of the restrictions as forcing him and similarly affected residents when making a trip to Bridport as forcing these individuals up the hill, past the worksite, to turn around at *Fecility's Farmshop* and subsequently driving past the worksite again, extending the duration of the journey noticeably. *Cllr George Dunn* noted that the originators of these works are National Highways, and that National Highways place safety as their top consideration. He told the meeting that full notice was given regarding the necessity of the work, relating as it did to the slip on the right hand side of the hill going up. To facilitate this, the other lane has to be used for traffic, hence reducing the number of lanes to two and creating difficulty as the overtaking lane is removed. He suggested that the reason for the length of the restrictions may relate to highways regulations, but as he doesn't know this for a fact, suggested that the Clerk enquire. Another Chideock resident responded that she had emailed them, and received a response that work is done to keep impact to a minimum. She told CPC that she was told that CPC had been communicated with extensively in preparation of the scheme, hence why they had attended this Parish Council meeting. The Parish Council responded that they had not been given any more information than had been made public. *Cllr Downes* informed the meeting that full information had been supplied to the council on June 6<sup>th</sup>, and that an abridged version of this was subsequently released by CPC which neglected the slippage restriction. *Cllr McAra* said that there had been an email to CPC, however there had not been any consultation. *Cllr Hunt* asked the meeting if a timescale had been given – *Cllr Dunn* responded that it was roughly five months, and *Cllr McAra* concurred that it would be twenty-six weeks. The Chideock Residents questioned the motivation of safety for the extent of the restrictions given that it directed traffic going from Chideock to Bridport to pass the site of the works twice rather than not passing the site at all. *Cllr Hunt* agreed with this assessment. CPC instructed the Clerk to write to National Highways and Balfour Beatty (the party contracted for the works) to ask for rapid attendance for a public forum so as to explain the reasons for the form of the restrictions to the public directly. *Cllr Christopher* requested that he, Chris Loder MP, and the Rt Hon Mark

Harper MP be included in the email.

Another Chideock resident commented that he appreciated the new style of minutes as it had allowed residents to read about the discussions that had happened. He also noted his disappointment that CPC had not co-opted an individual who had made a significant contribution to the community and asked why they had arrived at this decision.

Another Chideock resident enquired regarding the effect of his correspondence regarding the traffic incident discussed at the last Parish Council meeting. *Cllr George Dunn* responded that CPC had written the letter to National Highways and Chris Loder MP in such a way that did not include opinions or assessments of the incident. The Chideock resident asked why the minutes of the previous meeting neglected to note the debate around the accuracy of the description of the incident that had been provided; *Cllr George Dunn* disagreed that the minutes had omitted discussion.

The Chideock resident asked if Mr Rob Murray (who maintains the Foss Orchard Car Park hedge) was employed by CPC. *Cllr George Dunn* responded that he volunteered and was not employed. The Chideock resident responded that CPC had a duty of care to both Mr Murray and the residents. The Chair noted these comments and responded that CPC will consider this in the Motion Received with Notice to be discussed.

The Chideock resident noted that the Golden Cap campsite have publicised that they are open from the 14<sup>th</sup> of July to the 30<sup>th</sup> of August, which exceeds their planning application which grants 39 days. The Chair informed the meeting that CPC would discuss this later in the Parish Council meeting.

CPC was informed that the new notice board for outside the Village Hall had arrived without legs – the Village Hall committee would be putting the new sign on appropriate legs.

A Chideock resident told CPC that the advent of the holiday season has resulted in increased traffic on Mill Lane, and had been informed that many drivers used this due to sat-nav direction, and also because signage suggesting people instead use Seatown was obscured by vegetation. *Cllr McAra* responded that CPC had been monitoring various aspects regarding signage, and noted that CPC would be meeting with Cllr Beddows of Dorset Council who holds the relevant portfolio. She noted that the extent of vegetation obscuring signage was not limited to the sites mentioned but affected Duck Street, Mill Lane, and Sea Lane, and noted that much of this signage was important. She also noted that the issue regarding ownership of the bridleway had not been forgotten and that work was ongoing. *Cllr George Dunn* added that residents had expressed concern about the volume and speed of traffic, and hence reminded the meeting that Dorset Council had been appointed to conduct a trial week which will review traffic movements and speeds.

*Cllr Christopher* asked to be sent photos of obscured signage. He informed the meeting that in a village in his ward there was a road safety review ongoing. He told the meeting that concerns within his ward are best expressed to him to discuss with Dorset Council.

Regarding enforcement of planning permissions, he told the meeting that there was approximately 450 legacy cases ongoing from the old District Councils, and that they highlighted

four key issues, including levels of extensions on listed buildings without permission and taking farmland into gardens and diverting footpath. He suggested that the answer to such issues was not just to contact enforcement officers but also to contact him directly so that he can raise this at a direct level, as he regularly liaises with the relevant officer. The Chair thanked *Cllr Christopher* for his comments.

#### **2958. Reports/ Updates by the Clerk and Councillors.**

CPC noted that they had communicated with Palmers regarding overflowing bins at Seatown Beach and suggested that the response had been satisfactory. It was noted that there had been no response regarding signage relating to the PSPO (Public Space Protection Order) affecting this area and suggested reminding the party of this communication.

*Cllr George Dunn* updated CPC about the most recent BLAP (Bridport Local Area Partnership) meeting, which had been attended by a representative of Citizens Advice Bureau Dorset who had thanked Parish Councils for grants of any size to the organisation, and *Cllr George Dunn* expressed his belief that the organisation does a worthwhile job over many matters. He noted that the representative had agreed to share data regarding use of Citizens Advice Bureau Dorset disaggregated to the level of Parish Councils.

CPC noted an upcoming meeting with *Cllr Beddow* of Dorset Council, and were reminded of the need to determine a date for a meeting with PCO David Sidwick. *Cllr Hunt* asked why the Parish Council was scheduling meetings during August when the Parish Council would not be having a Parish Council meeting in this month as it's a holiday period, which was significant due to personal commitments during this month. *Cllr George Dunn* noted that PCO Sidwick's office had informed CPC that he was unavailable during July. *Cllr McAra* added that she did not consider herself to be unavailable in her capacity as a Parish Councillor during the summer period, and did not believe that an August meeting was overly burdensome. *Cllr Hunt* responded that availability was an important constraint. *Cllr George Dunn* responded that he agreed and this had been understood.

CPC discussed whether there was sufficient information about how Jurassic Fibre would affect Chideock. *Cllr McAra* told the meeting that residents had been asking whether they would have to pay for it, and whether it was fair that this was so in a village that had not been connected in the way that other areas are. It was asked if the current wait was for the mast at the top of the hill to be removed and replaced to enable later-generation mobile data. She suggested that if the village had 5G mobile data, this would remove the need for fibre optic.

*Cllr McAra* updated CPC about ongoing matters relating to West Dorset Leisure Hospitality. She wished to separate the issues of the specific situation with 16 Acre and the issue of enforcement of enforcement of permissions. She noted the previous mention in the meeting by a Chideock resident of the statutory agreement limiting permission to 39 days, and noted that this agreement was established in 2012. She told CPC that this issue had arose the previous year, when the site was open from the beginning of July to the first week of October. CPC had been informed that enforcement could only be conducted retroactively. It was noted that the previous year, CPC had reported the infraction, and this had not resulted in action. *Cllr McAra* expressed that she did not anticipate action to cancel bookings already made this year, but was raising the issue as she believes that Dorset Council's approach to enforcement was not correct. She suggested that if organisations sign agreements, they must understand them, and that by

publicising longer opening periods, they are advertising that they intend to violate these agreements. She suggested that CPC should write to the Dorset Council enforcement team as their current enforcement process makes current agreements ineffectual. *Cllr Hunt* agreed that retrospective action was too late; *Cllr Downes* expressed his agreement with *Cllr McAra*. He noted that in previous years, WDLH had a Certificate of Lawfulness to exceed agreed timescales. He said that it had previously arose that they exceeded agreed timescales without such a certificate. He noted that as patterns had not been established for ten years, there was no argument from that perspective. It was suggested that during COVID, such certificates had been granted so as to encourage economic activity during the recovery, but that this was no longer the case, and the agreement from 2012 still stood. CPC noted existing cases which had demonstrated that fines and costs make it prohibitive for Local Authorities to pursue enforcement through court, and that businesses perceive these to be acceptable costs for infringement given the revenue generated by the additional business. *Cllr Downes* noted that Certificates of Lawfulness can be revoked by Local Planning Authorities. *Cllr McAra* offered to draft a letter on behalf of CPC to Dorset Council, and to West Dorset Leisure Hospitality. *Cllr George Dunn* concurred with this course of action, and noted that Chideock benefits economically from tourist activity. *Cllr Downes* suggested that WDLH had been contacted before on similar matters and that's when they informed CPC of their Certificate of Lawfulness – *Cllr George Dunn* suggested that it is worthwhile requesting this again.

The Clerk informed CPC of ongoing efforts to resolve the issue of signatories of the CPC bank account. He told CPC that this had yet to progress, and efforts were ongoing.

#### **2959. A35 Matters**

Correspondence to National Highways and Chris Loder MP regarding the traffic incident discussed in the previous Parish Council meeting was noted, and it was reiterated that this was to draw attention to non-fatal incidents on the A35 in Chideock. The Clerk was instructed to put this correspondence on the website for the public to view. *Cllr Downes* reiterated that national databases of traffic incidents only recorded those involving fatalities and significant injuries. He told CPC of a website called [crashmap.co.uk](http://crashmap.co.uk) which provided information regarding the location and severity of accidents. The meeting noted a recent accident outside the Church in Chideock which had caused backups as far as Charmouth, and that this was not reported to the police as it was not of such a nature to justify this. *Cllr Hunt* noted that such incidents in the other direction would cause significant difficulty for those affected by the road restrictions relating to current work on Chideock Hill.

CPC noted that National Highways were addressing an overhanging hedge of a Chideock resident. It was noted that CPC are in the process of arranging a meeting with PCO Sidwick relating to enforcement of rules on the A35. CPC also made note of their four priorities that had been outlined and sent to Chris Loder MP, which were: alternative routes and detrunking; controlled pedestrian crossings; average speed cameras; and the delivery of improved pavements and footpaths.

#### **2960. River Winniford and Water Pollution Issues.**

CPC noted correspondence with Wessex Water relating to when upgrades will be made to sewage infrastructure in Chideock. It was reported that there was no new news on testing for e-coli.

**2961. Motions Received with Notice.**

- a. Motion regarding the maintenance of Foss Orchard Car Park hedge.
- i. The hedge in Foss Orchard Car Park along the bank of the river requires significant works initially in cutting and subsequently in maintaining.
  - ii. CPC acknowledges that the extent of these works is beyond that which could be expected of local volunteers and therefore proposes to establish a budget allowance and contract with the Bridport Lengthsman for these works as follows:
    1. That a contract is placed with the Bridport Lengthsman for the initial cutting and trimming which will include the removal of areas of hard wood growth to the top; front and rear (riverside) sides of the hedge. This contract to include the subsequent regular maintenance of the hedge at a suitable height. This contract to include removal from site of all cuttings and rubbish arising.
    2. That the initial works should be carried as soon as contractually possible and subsequently for two cuts per year during the growing season April to September.
    3. That a budget for these works be agreed - which must be open to annual review

That a "lead Cllr" be appointed alongside the Clerk to oversee and liaise for these works.

**AMENDED** to change "lead Cllr" to "lead Cllr or Cllrs".

Proposed by *Cllr McAra*, seconded by *Cllr George Dunn*, carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED** the motion.

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

The Clerk was instructed to engage with the Bridport Lengthsman to find existing contracts and to establish budgetary implications.

**2962. Planning Matters.**

**a. Planning Applications.**

- i. **P/NMA/2023/03678** Underhill Main Street Chideock DT6 6JD - Non material amendment for planning permission P/HOU/2022/05735 (Erect extensions and replacement garage- amended scheme) - amended plans reposition garage to avoid root system of protected tree.

**RESOLVED** to support.

Proposed by *Cllr Hunt*, seconded by *Cllr McAra*, carried unanimously.

- ii. **P/PAPA/2023/03730** Langdon Hill National Trust Car Park Langdon Hill – Construct a forestry track.

The Clerk told CPC that he had mis-placed this in the agenda, and it was notification of a decision and hence did not require action.

- iii. **P/TRC/2023/03776** Pelham Main Street Chideock Bridport DT6 6JW – T1 & T2 Holly – Fell.

**RESOLVED** to support.

Proposed by *Cllr McAra*, seconded by *Cllr Hunt*, carried unanimously.

- iv. **P/PAPA/2023/04046** Filcombe Farm Muddyford Lane Morcombelake DT6 6EP – Construct a forest track for timber extraction.

**RESOLVED** to support.

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

- b. **Application received after the agenda was circulated.**
- c. **Determinations.**
- d. **Appeals.**
- e. **Other planning matters – See Actions and Information List.**
  - i. AONB, Lighting / Dark skies, Dorset National Park, Conservation Areas.
  - ii. Enforcement, Retrospective Planning Applications.
  - iii. Other

**2963. Finances.**

- a. **RESOLVED** to make the following payments:
  - i. Clerk's salary and expenses for July  
£362.74
  - ii. Clerk's salary and expenses for August (cheque post-dated)  
£324.70
  - iii. Village Hall hire – 25<sup>th</sup> July  
£20.00
  - iv. HMRC PAYE – April to June (retrospective)  
£228.40
  - v. Quarterly inspection of Mill Lane play area  
£47.50
  - vi. John Bright Fencing Ltd, play area repairs  
£29.09

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

- b. **RESOLVED** to make the following payments:

Clerk's expenses for August  
£12.22

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

**2964. Clapp's Mead Playing Field.**

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

*Cllr Anna Dunn* told CPC were told that trees were overhanging, and that signs needed replacing due to theft and sun-damage. One such sign is the sign informing visitors that dogs must be on leads when children are in the play area. *Cllr Anna Dunn* agreed to provide the necessary information to the Clerk to resolve. She noted gullies on the sides of Clapp's Mead that require attention from the Bridport Lengthsman. She noted an issue becoming apparent regarding a ditch on the north side. This ditch was cleared out a couple of years ago, as well as one on Mill Lane, which is dangerous due to undergrowth. The Clerk was instructed to set up a meeting with the Bridport Lengthsman.

*Cllr George Dunn* noted that the quarterly inspection had highlighted a blue bench in the play area that was in need of repair, replacement, or removal. He told CPC that he and *Cllr Downes* had visited the bench and determined that it was in overall good quality, and needed work on the back, which he is undertaking. It is currently out of the area, which has safety roping. *Cllr McAra* offered thanks.

- b. **Receive updates regarding The Friends of Clapp's Mead.**

None.

**2965. Dorset Rights of Way; Dorset Highways; Flood Management.**

**a. Dorset Rights of Way.**

*Cllr McAra* requested that CPC maintain their attention on the issue of the bridleway on Mill Lane. She summarised the current situation: since 2012, the determination of the status of the middle section of Mill Lane as a bridleway has been in dispute. She informed CPC that she had all relevant papers – the Clerk and *Cllr McAra* agreed to meet to update the Clerk on the matter. She told CPC that she intended to bring the issue back up in the autumn as it needed to be followed up, noting that the last correspondence had been in 2019. *Cllr Hunt* clarified that this was to identify ownership, which *Cllr McAra* confirmed, adding that this was why there was a problem with cars using this route. It was noted that CPC was still waiting for the Planning Inspectorate to hear the matter. *Cllr Anna Dunn* noted that it had not yet gone this far due to Dorset Council.

*Cllr George Dunn* informed CPC that the footpath near Foss Orchard was badly overgrown, and as a result he had contacted the relevant officers. He told CPC that it had since been trimmed back from the footpath up to a point, but not up to a fence, as Dorset Council believes that this is the responsibility of the residents. *Cllr Downes* asked whether they were working off of the Definitive Map, which disagrees with online maps. *Cllr McAra* noted that this matter had history, and that it had been in dispute when she first joined CPC. As far as she was aware, it had always been a Right of Way, and this had been restricted by the fence that had been installed. It was noted that this area used to be cleared not by the linesman but by volunteers due to this dispute that had not been resolved. The Clerk was instructed to contact Land Registry to obtain the legal definition of the boundaries.

*Cllr George Dunn* and *Cllr Downes* noted that they had reported dilapidated infrastructure relating to a footpath, and each were yet to see a response, and surmised that this may be due to the relevant office tracing ownership.

*Cllr McAra* told CPC that she had reported three issues with Rights of Way relating to infrastructure in need of replacement. She informed the meeting that near Butt Lane, infrastructure was damaged, and the Right of Way had been grown over, and hence even if one were to obtain access, they would not be able to walk through. She reported that this had been picked up by the relevant office. Her reports also included infrastructure opposite the Catholic Church in a field normally occupied by sheep. This infrastructure had been removed and replaced in a different location. She said that while the new infrastructure was of high quality, the location of the path has been altered. She reported that discussions with longtime residents indicated that the path had always been in the previous location, and that she had not requested that the path be moved.

*Cllr Downes* read from a report from the relevant office which noted that the previous footpath did not conform to the definitive map, and the new footpath did. *Cllr McAra* enquired about the source of the report. *Cllr Downes* responded that it was available on the Dorset Council website.

**b. Dorset Highways.**

None.

**c. Flood Management.**

None.

**2966. Consultations.**

**a. RIS3 Consultation.**

CPC noted that the response to the RIS3 consultation had been submitted, and confirmation of receipt had been received.

**2967. Correspondence.**

No requests were made.

**2968. Confirm the time and date of the next meeting of Chideock Parish Council.**

The next meeting will be at 10:00 am on the 26<sup>th</sup> of September 2023 at Chideock Village Hall.

The meeting closed at **12:15pm**.

Action	Responsible individual	Item	Notes
Invite National Highways and Balfour Beatty to a public forum to explain the motivation for the form of the road restrictions in Chideock.	Clerk	2957	As with all correspondence, upon drafting, the item will be circulated among CPC for approval/amendments. This item will be posted online.
Invite representative of Jurassic Fibre and a relevant member of Dorset Council to the September CPC meeting.	Clerk	2958	
Draft a letter to Dorset Council about appropriate enforcement processes.	Cllr McAra	2958	As above.
Draft a letter to West Dorset Leisure Hospitality regarding the over-long advertised holiday period.	Cllr McAra	2958	As above.
Arrange meeting with CPC and Bridport Town Lengthsman regarding undergrowth issues in Clapp's Mead.	Clerk	2964	As above.
Update 'Important Correspondence' section of the CPC website.	Clerk	2959	
Engage with Bridport Lengthsman to find existing contracts relating to the Foss Orchard Car Park hedge, and establish budgetary implications of the motion received with notice.	Clerk	2961	As above.
Obtain legal boundaries of land relating to footpath from Land Registry.	Clerk	2965	