

VALE OF ALLEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, held at 7.15 pm Hinton Martell Village Hall
on Tuesday 17th November 2015

PRESENT

Cllr Mr J. Campbell – Vice-Chairman

Cllr Mr S. Wathen, Cllr Mrs S. Gilchrist, Cllr Mrs M. Cook, Cllr Ms D. White,

Cllr Mrs P. Hill, Cllr Mr R. Hill

Also present were the Parish Clerk Mrs K. Bradbury and District Councillor Mr S.S. Tong

15/113. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Mr D. Gill, and County Councillor Mr S. Butler.

In the absence of Cllr Mr D. Gill, the Vice-Chairman Cllr Mr J. Campbell took the chair

15/114. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest to report.

15/115. DISPENSATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN A VOTE ON AN AGENDA ITEM

There were no requests for dispensations.

15/116. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

15/117. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON – Tuesday 20th October 2015

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 20th October 2015 (pages (1092 - 1095) having been approved, were adopted and signed as a true and correct record subject to the following amendment:

.Minute No 15/112(a), Cllr Mr R. Hill: remove the end of the sentence from “start on... and replace with the words “exchange contracts”.

15/118. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a. **Minute No 15/091 (b), Blind Summit, Gussage All Saints:** There has been no movement regarding the painting of “SLOW” signs on this hazardous bend. The Clerk was requested to follow up on this matter.
- b. **Minute No 15/091 (g), Flooding at Long Crichel:** there has not been any progress on clearing the culvert on Long Crichel Hill and Holly Grove has not been swept.

15/119. COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT

There was no report.

15/120. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**Cllr Mr S.S. Tong**

Cllr Mr S.S. Tong reported on the progress of the Revised Governance Proposals for East Dorset District Council: Cllr Tong stated there are three parallel proposals running side by side but that no decisions have been taken and the discussions are nowhere near completion. The options require detailed scrutiny before being put to the Government Minister.

- (a) **Combined Authority Proposal:** the Northern Powerhouse is based on the Manchester Metropolitan Districts pooling some of their powers on certain key issues such as Strategic Transport, Economic Development and Housing. The individual districts retain their existing structures and sovereignty. The Manchester Districts have a long history of co-operation on key strategic issues and this is one of the reasons that Manchester is doing so well that the Government has agreed to devolve NHS funding to Greater Manchester. In Dorset it has been agreed in principle that all nine of the individual Authorities (Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch Boroughs and the District Councils) will put forward a similar proposal to the Government stating their key strategic objectives. All nine authorities are examining the proposal in detail and the Government is funding the initial work on the proposal. There is broad agreement and no fundamental objections from the nine authorities. If the Government approves, the change should be in place by next summer.
- (b) **Unitary Authority Proposal:** This proposal is that all nine authorities pool their operations in one Dorset wide authority. The main concern of the Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch Boroughs and of East Dorset District Council is that two thirds of the population of Dorset lives in this South Eastern area and generates most of the economic growth. The South East would need assurances that its interests would be safeguarded.
- (c) **South East Unitary Authority:** discussions between Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch Boroughs and East Dorset District Council are at a very preliminary stage to put together a case for the South East to break away from the rest of Dorset and become a separate unitary authority. This arrangement would pose a great challenge for East Dorset as it is a largely rural area compared to the urban boroughs.

Three business cases are being prepared

- i. S.E. Dorset Unitary Authority
- ii. Pan Dorset Unitary Authority
- iii. Status Quo – including the Combined Authority on Key Strategic issues.

15/121. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

- a. **Calendar of Meetings:** The revised Calendar of Meetings for 2016 was approved.
- b. **Annual Budget:** It was reported that in the interests of transparency the draft annual budget figures would be made available for public scrutiny one month prior to their consideration and final approval by the Parish Council. Notices with the Clerk's contact details have been displayed on the Parish Council noticeboards.
- c. **DAPTC AGM:**
- i. Cllr Mrs M. Cook reported that there had been complaints that some of the Towns and Parishes were not being kept informed of developments on the Unitary Authorities question and they had to glean their information from the local press. There was concern that

- in any unitary area would favour those conurbations with the largest clout
- ii. All the existing officers of the Eastern Area Committee were re-elected.
 - iii. All the motions were passed but it was recommended that the wording of motion number 5 be changed so that meetings could be held at any convenient time and at week-ends.
- d. **Fingerposts:** The Fingerposts Working Group held a meeting on 3rd November. It was agreed they would use the AONB spotting forms to draw up a report on each fingerpost in the Group Parish, including the remedial work needed to bring the fingerposts back into good condition. The group has arranged another meeting for the 23rd November..
- e. **Superfast Broadband:** The Clerk had received some more cards and posters advertising the roll out of Superfast Broadband in the area.
- f. **Website:** The Parish Council received quotations from three website designers for setting up a Parish Council Website. Mr Mark Gracey had experience of setting up sites for Lytchett Matravers and for Winterborne Whitechurch Parish Councils. **It was unanimously resolved to accept the quotation from Mr Mark Gracey.** Proposed by Cllr Mr J. Campbell and seconded by Cllr Mr R. Hill.
- g. **Mr Brian Hammond:** To report the outcome of his request to re-align the road at the High Lea junction

15/122. PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

There were no planning applications for consideration

15/123. EAST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS

The following Planning Applications have been approved:

- a. 3/15/0842/HOU, Green Pastures, Hinton Martell
- b. 3/15/0412/FUL, Millum, Hinton Martell

15/124. OTHER PLANNING MATTERS

- a. Tree Works at Abbey Farm House, Lower Street, Witchampton. T1 – Crown reduce canopy by 1 metre and thin canopy by 10%
- b. Tree Works at Vine Cottage, Hinton Martell. T1 Apple – remove split branch and reduce canopy by up to 1 metre and T2 Yew – Crown lift to 2.5 metres above garden
- c. Street Naming: House name change from Millums to “Millum House”, Hinton Martell

15/125. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a Authorisation and payment of Cheques: The cheques having been approved were signed by Cllr Mr J. Campbell and Cllr Mrs S. Gilchrist

Details	Amount (£)	Cheque No:
1 K. Bradbury, Clerk's Salary October 2015	271.78	780
2 Inland Revenue PAYE October 2015	56.91	781
3 C.T. Mee R&BT Seat November 2015	12.00	782
4 Hinton Martell Village Hall Hire May, June, July & Oct 2015	120.00	783
5 All Saints Church P.C.C. Clock Maintenance	200.00	784
6 DAPTC Bring your own Chair	30.00	785
Total	690.69	

5/126. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. **DAPTC Annual Report:** Annual Report for 2014 – 2015
- b. **Simon Hoare MP:** Posters showing contact details of Simon Hoare MP for North Dorset.
- c. **Clerks & Councils Direct:** November 2015 issue

15/127. MATTERS OF INFORMATION

- a. **Cllr Mrs S. Gilchrist:** reported that the autumn leaves on Pound Hill need sweeping up.
- b. **Cllr Mr S. Wathen:** reported that the drain at the bottom of Uppington Hill needs clearing.
- c. **Cllr Mr S. Wathen:** reported that Hinton Martell Village Hall had received £500 from the District Council and £1,000 from the County Council towards its Village Hall refurbishment programme. Mr Wilbert Smith has been approached for help with funding applications from other bodies. Jackie Wharfe and Cllr Wathen are getting together to create a questionnaire to send to all the residents canvassing their ideas on how the new hall could best serve the community.

Meeting closed at 8.58 pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman