

<b>VALE OF ALLEN PARISH COUNCIL</b>
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<b>MINUTES</b>
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**of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, held at 7.30.pm Gussage All Saints Village  
Hall on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2015**

**PRESENT**

Cllr Mr D. Gill – Chairman

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

**15/068. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from County Councillor Mr S. Butler.

**15/069. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest to report.

**15/070. DISPENSATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN A VOTE ON AN AGENDA ITEM**

There were no requests for dispensations.

**15/071. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions from members of the public.

**15/072. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON – Tuesday  
28<sup>th</sup> July 2015**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2015 (pages (1080 - 1083) having been approved, were adopted and signed as a true and correct record subject to the following amendments.

- a. **Minute No 15/061(d) Blind Summit, Gussage All Saints:** The final sentence of the minute should read as follows: Cllr Mr R. Hill reported that after checking the road conditions he agreed with Mr Waterman's opinion that a sign was not necessary and a simple "SLOW" warning painted on the road would be sufficient.
- b. **Minute No 15/066(f) The Ramblers:** In the final sentence replace styles with "stiles".

**15/073. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

- a. **Minute No 15/052(a) Gaunts Common (Horseshoe Junction) Fingerpost:** Cllr Mr S. Wathen reported that the application form having been submitted, the damaged fingerpost has been replaced. It is not a faithful replica but is a welcome improvement.
- b. **Minute No 15/061(a) Savills, Witchampton Burial Ground Extension:** The Clerk reported that she had written to Savills but had been informed that Mr

Simon Peck was on holiday and would deal with the matter on his return to work.

- c. **Minute No 15/061 Hinton Martell Kiosk:** Cllr Mr S. Wathen reported that the equipment has been removed from the kiosk.
- d. **Minute No 15/061(c) Hinton Martell Notice board:** The Clerk reported that she had sent an e-mail to Mr Giles to let him know that his quote had been accepted and asking who the cheque for the deposit should be made out to. There had been no response as yet.
- e. **Minute No 15/067 BT Broadband Green Box:** The Clerk reported that she had contacted Dorset County Council Superfast Broadband team and informed them of the unacceptable visual impact of the concrete plinth and the danger to motorists and members of the public as the plinth was so close to the side of the road. There has been no response as yet.

#### **15/074. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

There was no report.

#### **15/075. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

##### **Cllr Mr S.S. Tong**

- a. **Ward Budgets:** It was reported that the District Council has doubled its allocation to the Ward Budget which will be £4,000 for this year. There will be a meeting of Parish Council Chairmen with Cllr Tong in late September to discuss the allocation of the funds available. The County Council is also making funds available for community projects and Cllr Tong will liaise with Cllr S. Butler in order to allocate the funds as efficiently as possible.
- b. **Government Rural Plan:** The Chancellor of the Exchequer has published a ten point strategy for improving productivity within the rural economy. The plan includes improvements in Superfast Broadband provision and better mobile communications: Increasing the uptake of apprenticeships and relaxation of planning regulations for rural businesses. Future plans for housing will perhaps be the most contentious with proposals to increase the availability of starter homes in villages by incremental steps subject to local opinion. Councillors were urged to access the document on-line as it will be the basis of future developments within rural areas.

#### **15/076. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT**

- a. **New Electronic Planning System:** Mr Ben Bennetts will be attending the next Parish Council meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2015 in order to demonstrate the different models of projector for showing the plans and to go through the operation of the system with real time examples. As the meeting will be held at Witchampton a screen for projecting the plans will be required. Cllr Mrs S. Gilchrist agreed to make suitable arrangements.
- b. **Fingerposts:** The Clerk reported that she had contacted both District Councillor Mr S.S. Tong and County Councillor Mr S. Butler to ask if it would be possible to obtain grants towards the refurbishment of the Vale of Allen fingerposts. Cllr Mrs M. Cook stated that she already had a bank account set up for the work being carried out on the Witchampton fingerposts which could be expanded to include the rest of the Vale of Allen. The Clerk had also contacted Mr Wilbert Smith, Recreation Officer for the rural parishes to ask if there might be any funding available elsewhere. Refer to the next meeting.
- c. **Ask Dorset:** The Clerk was requested to find out more about the Ask Dorset community engagement programme.
- d. **Superfast Broadband:** BT Outreach has been installing "green boxes" carrying the fibre-optic lines in a number of locations around Witchampton. Connections to households will be via the standard copper cables. The

scheme is starting to be rolled out in Hinton Martell and Hinton Martell residents have received cards through their doors informing them of what is happening. It was agreed that Councillors should encourage residents to register an interest in receiving a superfast broadband connection as this would help to hurry things along. Outlying areas like Manswood and Long Crichel are unlikely to be included in the initial roll out of the scheme but pressure needs to be put on the County Council and BT Outreach to supply alternative methods of accessing a better quality broadband service. Cllr Mr S. Wathen agreed to send a sample of the BT card to the Clerk.

- e. **High Lea Junction:** A letter was received from Mr B. Hammond regarding the poor visibility at the High Lea junction. Mr Hammond suggested the re-alignment of the junction to improve visibility. It was considered that there was very little likelihood that the County Council would agree to such a scheme on grounds of cost effectiveness as there have been very few accidents at this junction. The Clerk was requested to send a copy of the letter to the Highways Department

f. **DAPTC Training Seminars:**

Date	Time	Course	Cost	Venue
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> September	10.00am – 4.00pm	Clerks seminar	£50	Kingston Maurward
Tues 29 <sup>th</sup> September	7.00 – 9.00pm	Chairmen & Clerks get together	£30 for two	Dorset County Council Offices
Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> October	10.00 – 12 noon	Budgeting & Precepts	£30	Tarrant Keynston Village Hall
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	6.30 – 9.00pm	New Councillors & Code of Conduct	£30	Tarrant Keynston Village Hall

Cllr Mr D. Gill to attend the Chairmen & Clerks get together and also the Budgeting and Precepts seminar.

**15/077. PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

There were no planning applications for consideration.

**15/078. EAST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS**

There were no planning decisions to report.

**15/079. OTHER PLANNING MATTERS**

There were no other planning matters to report.

**15/080. 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 July 2015	271.78	766
2	Inland Revenue PAYE July 2015	56.91	767
5	C.T.Mee Burial Ground, R&BT Seat and Manswood Seat August 2015	95.00	768
	<b>Total</b>	423.69	

b **Other Financial Matters**

- i. **It was Resolved to grant permission for the Clerk to raise a cheque for £321 as down payment for the construction of the Hinton Martell Notice board.**

- ii. It was unanimously Resolved to Approve the Un-Audited Statement of Accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015. Proposed by Cllr Mrs M. Cook and seconded by Cllr Ms D. White
- iii. It was unanimously Resolved to Approve the Annual Governance Statement for the Year 2014/2015. Proposed by Cllr Mr J. Campbell and seconded by Cllr Mr R. Hill.
- iv. It was unanimously Resolved to Receive and Approve the Internal Auditor's Report for 2014/2015. Proposed by Cllr Mrs P. Hill and seconded by Cllr Mr S. Wathen.
- v. It was unanimously Resolved to Approve the Revised Asset Register for 2014/2015. Proposed by Cllr Mr D. Gill and seconded by Cllr Mrs S. Gilchrist.

**15/081. CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. **DAPTC Newsletter:** Summer edition.
- b. **East Dorset Heritage Trust:** Events and Courses for September to December 2015

**15/082. MATTERS OF INFORMATION**

- a. **Yew Hedge Pound Hill Junction:** It was reported that the Yew Hedge belonging to the Alms Houses at the bottom junction of Pound Hill has become infested with brambles which are sending out long arching branches into the road making it hazardous for pedestrians, especially at night time. The Clerk was requested to contact Savills who act as agents for the Crichel Estate.
- b. **Vale of Allen Website:** Cllr Mrs M. Cook stated that there website needs to be in place as soon as possible in order to inform residents of progress on the many issues discussed in council meetings.
- c. **Mead Lane, Gussage All Saints:** Road works for the laying of a soak away have been carried out in Mead Lane. The Clerk confirmed that she had not been notified of any works that might be due.
- d. **Cllr Mr D. Gill:** reported that he had received a letter requesting volunteers to serve on the Dorset Access Forum; a group set up to improve access to the countryside.

**Meeting closed at 9.05 pm**

**Signed.....**

**Date.....**

**Chairman**