

VALE OF ALLEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, held at 7.30 pm in Witchampton Village Hall on Tuesday 4 February 2020

Present:

Cllr J Campbell - Chairman

Cllr S Hanstead, Cllr K Mitchell, Cllr S Bushell, Cllr S Tong, Cllr S Wathen, Cllr D Burford-May, Cllr S Warnock, Cllr T Read, Dorset Cllr R Cook

I Hanstead Parish Clerk

19.135 Recording, Photography Social Media

No applications this meeting.

19.136 APOLOGIES

Cllrs J Van Etten, M Bushell, D White, M Cook, C Bailey, Dorset Cllr P Brown

19.137 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest to report.

19.138 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN A MEETING

There were no requests for dispensations to report.

19.139 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

No public present.

19.140 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON – Wednesday 8 January 2020

The Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting (pages 1376 - 1382) were approved and signed as a true record.

19.141 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Matters arising were either on the agenda, or updates via the 'Actions List':

- 19.042 – SLACK blog site initially tested and ready to roll out for further trial.
- 19.095 – Guidance note discussed and deemed unnecessary as members aware of the difference between 'pre-determination' and 'pre-disposition'. It is up to individual members to use discretion and personal judgement being aware of expressing opinions and their audience, not laying themselves open to criticism or claims. Legal extract notes to be retained for the benefit of future new councillors.
- 19.097d – Website – Cllr Warnock received confirmation to arrange an advert for a student project at Bournemouth University

- 19.110 – Neighbourhood Plan – awaiting draft copy of proposed questionnaire. Clerk attended a Parish Council consultation meeting run by Dorset Council. A standard questionnaire was suggested to DC.
- 19.134 – Badges agreed – dark green with white text.

19.142 DORSET COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Cllr R Cook reported:

- DC's budget for 2020/21 was discussed and consulted with councillors and the three Scrutiny Committees. Comments passed to the Cabinet. It was agreed, in principle, to refer to full Council:
 - 1.99% increase on basic Council Tax
 - 2% addition for Adult Social Care (central Government agreed limit)
 - £10m support for Adult and Social Care, Children Services
 - Properties with 'D' band Council Tax will pay approximately £100 per year extra not including Parish/Fire/Police precepts
 - £8m shortfall – looking for further savings but retaining delivery of all major services
 - Reviewing asset management - the council has around £500m worth of assets. Looking at how the council 'works', rationalisation of space, long-term leases, etc
 - Long-term empty homes are currently subject to 100% Council Tax. It was proposed that homes empty for five years plus should pay 200% Council Tax, and those ten years plus from April 2021, 300%. It was hoped this would bring more empty homes back into use.
- Local Plan – DC holding meetings with Parish and Town Councils to start focusing on possible options. Discussion took place between members over a questionnaire. The Clerk advised he attended a Parish Council consultation meeting run by DC. Main towns will see most expansion, although many Parish Council thought some limited development would help sustain village communities. The Clerk had received presentation slides that he would circulate for members comments, to input on the website consultation.

19.143 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

- a. Website (future dates) – members were reminded to send details of events including artwork to the Clerk via email
- b. Burial Ground – almost complete save for arranging an easement with the Village Hall trustees to allow access from the road to the rear of the car park. Awaiting a meeting with the village hall committee.
- c. Name badges – agreed to purchase.
- d. CiLCA – The Clerk advised that he had been accepted onto the next course run in Somerset. A four-day college attendance March, April, May and June, then to complete a works portfolio of evidence.

19.144 PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR DECISION

Application No:	Location	Proposal	Type
3/19/2086	2 Cashmoor, Gussage St Michael	<p>Demolish existing block of 4no garages and erect a detached double garage with utility room and roof storage</p> <p>Deadline before meeting.</p> <p>Decision –</p> <p>It was Resolved to OBJECT This is the third consultation response and little has changed. The Parish Council is still unhappy because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * roof too high * potential to create separate self-contained dwelling. Interestingly a quick Google search showed that even without the dormer windows, the 'storage' space is bigger than the minimum size that would make a conversion to living space viable * out of character with rest of row of similar houses * height of proposed structure is out of scale * the frontage does not tie into anything (e.g. the line roof line is not consistent with the current single storey roof line, and therefore will not be aesthetically pleasing of existing development) 	HOU

19.145 DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS NOTED

Application No:	Location	Decision
3/19/2392	Brook Cottage, Witchampton	Tree work No Objections Raised
3/19/1906 & 3/19/1905	Hinton Cottage, Hinton Martell	Extend roof line of extension on first floor to original building thus creating the space for construction of a first-floor bathroom. In addition, install French doors on the ground floor of the extension Granted
3/19/2085	Millstream House, Gussage All Saints	Single storey first floor extension over existing Double garage, convert garage into habitable accommodation. Erect single storey front porch and double garage and carport with pitched roof Granted

19.146 OTHER PLANNING MATTERS

Application No:	Location	Proposal
3/20/0074	Michaelmas Cottages, Witchampton	G1 - Norway Spruce x 3: Fell It was Resolved to SUPPORT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good tree management

19.146b WITCHAMPTON POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT

No further progress to report. Chairman asked the Clerk to ask Savills for an update.

19.147 FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) The following items were approved for payment – invoices signed by Cllrs J Campbell and S Wathen BACS to be processed.

	Details	Amount (£)	V.A.T	Payment Total	Cheque No:	Or BACS
1	Ian Hanstead – Clerk’s salary Feb	357.15	0	357.15		Yes
2	Normtec (GSM fingerpost)	1200.00	0	1200.00		Yes
3	GSMCHA (hall hire)	10.00	0	10.00		Yes
4	Witchampton Village Hall (hall hire)	50.00	0	50.00	1009	

Payments over £100 issued from last meeting:

	Details	Amount (£)	V.A.T	Total
1	Ian Hanstead – Clerk’s salary Jan + expenses Qtr 3	626.64	0	626.64
2	HMRC	267.80	0	267.80
3	East Dorset Citizens Advice	100.00	0	100.00
4	Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance	100.00	0	100.00

19.147b PAYMENTS RECEIVED

	Details	Amount (£)
1	HMRC VAT Refund	314.91
2	Burial DN 30 Jan	336.00

19.147 c BANK BALANCE

The Parish Clerk confirmed the bank account and cash book reconciled as at 7 January 2020, this had been verified by Cllr Mitchell, as per Finance Regulations.

19.147d PRECEPT 2020/21

Members noted this had been applied for on 13 January and a confirmation email from DC regarding the amount followed.

19.147e – VAT RECLAIM

Members noted that a payment had been made by HMRC. This had been credited to villages and central administration, as appropriate.

19.147f – GUSSAGE ST MICHAEL FINGERPOST EXPENDITURE

A quotation had been received for the replacement of the second fingerpost in the village. Budget provision was available from 1 April. Members unanimously agreed to the expenditure.

19.148. BURIAL APPLICATIONS

Type	Ref	Details for consideration
Interment of body	2019/010	DN resident at Manswood. Agreed under Parish Clerk's delegated authority

19.149 CORRESPONDENCE

Following the payment for grants to East Dorset Citizens Advice, and Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance, correspondence had been received from each thanking the Parish Council for their contributions.

19.150 MATTERS OF INFORMATION

a) Cllr Wathen

- a specification was being written, aided by Chris McKie, for the refurbishment of the village fountain. It was hoped the fund is now sufficient in earmarked funds for this project.
- Black Barn Farm appears to have lots of work being undertaken. Concern expressed about the mess on the roads as a result of the works and around 50 metres for hedgerow removed
- potholes have been poorly patched
- The village now has a defibrillator in the village hall

b) Cllr S Bushell

- advised of an increase recently in fly tipping, some by moving vehicles. Some of this fly tipping was residential waste.
- village quiz night on 7 March
- VE day event being considered, more details to follow

c) Cllr Warnock –

- village hall planning application submitted for refurbishment
- made contacts and will add Vale of Allen issues to Village Voices magazine
- Village quiz night 28 February
- A Valentines night event in the village hall has sold out
- The village looking at ideas for celebrating VE day between 8 and 10 May
- Village holding a wine tasting event in the village hall on 17 April

d) Cllr Mitchell

- a drive-by has been arranged with Cllr Brown and DC staff for the C2 road
- DC has announced part of the C2 road being closed in May for repairs

e) Cllr Read

- leading on Ward AGM
- 22 May a concert is being held at the Witchampton church in memory of Euan Gilchrist

f) Cllr Hanstead

- expressed concern about the Rest and Be Thankful seat and possible injury despite the seat being taped off. Members agreed the best solution pending

Cllr White seeking costs for a replacement, would be to remove the seat.
Cllr Read would speak to Cllr White.

Meeting closed at 9.04 pm

Signed.....

Date 3 March 2020

Chairman