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| **V**of**A**  **Parish Council** **VALE OF ALLEN PARISH COUNCIL - MINUTES** | | |
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of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, held at Gussage St Michael village hall on Tuesday 10 January 2023 at 7:30pm

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| Present: Chairman - Cllr T Read  Cllr S Hanstead, Cllr K Mitchell, Cllr S Bushell, Cllr S Glover, Cllr D Burford-May, Cllr T Collie, Dorset Cllr P Brown, and I Hanstead, Parish Clerk. |

##### 23.001 RECORDING, PHOTOGRAPHY, SOCIAL MEDIA

No applications.

##### 23.002 APOLOGIES

Received from Cllrs Warnock, Porretta, and Dorset Cllr R Cook.

###### 23.003 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None.

**23.004 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN A MEETING**

There were no Requests for Dispensations to report.

**23.005 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was one member of the public present. No issues raised although offered to give his comments on his experience in neighbourhood planning in Colehill. The chairman expressed his thanks and would make an exception when the council was discussing the item.

**23.006 MINUTES**

Members unanimously approved the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 6 December 2022 (pages 50 - 53).

**23.007 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Members reflected on the informative presentation given by Dorset Council prior to the start of the meeting on Neighbourhood Planning. Much discussion took place on the benefits of creating a plan against what the Dorset Council Plan will cover and the prospect of legislative changes which may negate the need for such plans. The latter had an unknown timescale. Further, there was concern about the amount of time this process would take. Some members ideally wanted to know what the demands were in their areas. Overall, there was a mixed reaction. What was mentioned was that expectations of residents were not raised unnecessarily.

The chairman suggested a way forward. To approach a couple of consultants and ask them further questions on the process. There were steps such as declaring an ‘area’. Also, subject to the consultants, to start applying for the grant available from Dorset Council.

This topic would be discussed further at future meetings.

**23.008 DORSET COUNCILLOR’S REPORT**

Cllr Brown advised:

* **C2 works (A354 end)** – consultation had been issued for a road closure from 10 March for four weeks – to rebuild the road edges from A354. As the whole road was being closed, the sunken area near the pumping station at the other end would be considered for repair.
* **C2 issues (Horton Inn end)** – the Road Safety team were about to start considering the options for the two sharp bends by the pumping station and the one-way hill.

Cllr Cook usually provided a report for the meeting. This would be circulated after the meeting for members information.

**23.009 HIGHWAYS**

Cllr Brown would be meeting the manager for the 20mph scheme. He would present the questions members raised

**23.010 FLY TIPPING**

No cases reported.

**23.011 FINANCE**

**a)** **Quarter 3 Financial position** – members noted the current position with no issues to report this quarter. Members also noted and approved the Clerk’s suggested transfers from revenue to projects for year end.

**b) Budget 2023/24 –**

**i) Budget -** members noted that there were no public representations and approved the budget that the Finance Working Group proposed last year.

**ii) Precept** – members requested the Clerk submits the precept request to Dorset Council.

**c) Financial Regulations – Bank Signatories –** members acknowledged the number of bank cheque signatories/BACS authorisers had fallen and was a potential risk (as noted in the Financial Risk Table October 2022). Members noted that all invoices were approved at full committee meetings, a member reviewed the invoices and initialled them, BACS authorisers were given an email with a copy of the invoices approved to pay before going on-line, quarterly a member checked the cashbook and bank statements, so the control was quite high. Moving temporarily to one member cheque signing/BACS authorising would be a low risk.

Members therefore agreed to move to one member signatory/authoriser with a review in six months period (or shorter if signatories increase), with the proviso that a member reviewing/initialising the invoices was not a signatory/authoriser. Members therefore agreed that the Financial Regulations 6.4 (referring to cheques) and 6.9 (referring to BACS) would be changed.

**d) Payments** – members unanimously approved payment of:

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| **Details** | **Description** | **Total** |
| Salaries | Jan | 604.23 |
| Expenses | Qtr 3 | 213.58 |
| CT Mee | Bus shelters | 50.00 |
| Savills | Manswood play area rent | 1.00 |
| GSMCHA | Hall hire Jan | 10.00 |

Over £100 payments since last meeting – members noted:

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| **Details** | **Description** | **Total** |
| Salaries | Dec | 854.03 |
| Hillmeadow Services | Burial ground | 120.00 |
| Cheap Printing Dorset | Various signs | 166.80 |
| Evans Above | Millennium Ave trees | 1740.00 |
| HMRC | PAYE | 500.00 |

Income Received– members noted

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| **Details** | **Description** | **Total** |
| Haven Memorials | Plot F7 | 180.00 |

**23.012 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Members confirmed their consultation comment to Dorset Council.

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| **Address** | **Proposal** | **Comment** |
| P/HOU/2022/07392 - Sweet Apple Farm, Gussage All Saints \* | Erect 2 no. single storey extensions. | Support  No issues raised |
| P/STA/2022/07452 - Land Hinton Mill Farm, Hinton Parva \* | Section 37 Application for a 3rd Wire addition to existing overhead line network | Support  Needed for new buildings. |
| P/HOU/2022/07474 & P/LBC/2022/07475 Manor Farmhouse Harley Lane Gussage All Saints \* | Restoration and conversion of barn into a studio and storage space. | Support  Good plan for renovation and usage of existing structure with little observable impacts to the surroundings. |
| P/VOC/2022/07676 Hinton Mill Farm, Mill Lane, Witchampton \* | Vary Condition 2 and Discharge Condition 7 of Approved P/A 3/20/0929/FUL (Change of Use and Conversion of four existing agricultural buildings to Class C3 Residential Use (9 dwellings), works to further outbuildings, demolition of a redundant building and construction of new car port) | Support  Good use of an unused site and good to diversify the type of properties with the 2 bed houses in the area.  We question the use of sky lights given this is a Dark Skies area. |

* Decision via email, as per Standing Orders, as between council meetings

**23.013 MATTERS OF INFORMATION**

Cllr Hanstead – the article on Cost of Living had been sent to the editor of The Circle parish magazine.

* 24 February – Spud ‘n’ Spout featuring the Yellow Bus project.

Cllr Read – He had sent a note to all Bradford residents. At least three had responded to the Governance Review.

**Meeting closed 21:17pm**

Signed T Read Chairman Date 7 February 2023