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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 Hinton Martell village hall on Tuesday 8 August 2023 at 7:30pm

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

##### 23.112 Recording, Photography, Social Media

No applications.

##### 23.113 Apologies

Received from Cllr Porretta and Dorset Cllr Cook.

###### 23.114 Declarations of Interest on the Agenda

None.

**23.115 Requests for Dispensations to Participate in a Meeting**

There were no Requests for Dispensations to report.

**23.116 Public Participation**

There were no public present.

**23.117 Minutes**

Members unanimously approved the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 4 July 2023 (pages 27 - 30).

**23.118 Neighbourhood Plan**

Members advised next meeting would start with a presentation from another consultant at 7pm. Later that meeting, members would consider:

* Whether to go forward with a Neighbourhood Plan
* Whether it would be for all the council or by smaller divisions of Wards (and which Wards would proceed)
* Which consultant they favoured to approach if going ahead
* And, if time for discussion was short, it would be continued at the 3 October meeting.

**23.119 Dorset Councillor’s Report**

**a)** Cllr Brown advised:

* Electoral Role – publicity starting soon.
* Dorset Council’s target of employing at least 5% of apprentices had been exceeded with 232 recruits started.
* Next round of grants £5,000 to £50,000 was open to 6 October.
* Five sites have been awarded the prestigious Green Flag award for public open spaces.

**b)** Cllr Cook reported via email (some items duplicated Cllr Brown’s report):

* Since Dorset Council was set up, For the period 2020/21 to 2023/24 Dorset Council has secured £101.3m of grant funding, rising to £121.6m based on future year commitments and the life of the current grants.
* Cllr Flower also had an opportunity to meet with the Secretary of State for the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) again a few weeks ago and asked for a comprehensive review of fairer funding for Dorset.

Dorset Council receives very little revenue support grant (RSG) from government, which is why there continues to be far too much dependency on the local taxpayer.

* Round 4 of the Household Support Fund (HSF) reopened for applications 2 August for low-income households in the Dorset Council area. The support will be in the form of supermarket vouchers.
* The regulations for temporary recreational campsites or ‘pop up’ camping sites have changed with the introduction of new permitted development rights. Land can still be used for up to 28 days per calendar year as a campsite with unlimited number of tents only without formal planning permission. This right applies until 25th July 2024.

The new rights also allow land to be used for up to 60 days in any calendar year as a campsite. This latest change permits up to 50 pitches of either tents or campervans. With this usage the council will need to be notified in writing first. There may also be the need for a site licence.

**23.120 Highways**

a) C2 – no update on improvement options around the single carriageway hill. The final resurfacing at the other end of the road likely in Spring 2024.

b) 30 mph – Dorset Council looking at Newtown, Gussage St Michael and Cashmoor, but their priority appears to be low, despite it being Dorset Council’s agreed policy for rural villages.

c) 20 mph – villages are still considering whether there was any possibility applications will succeed.

**23.121 Fly Tipping**

None.

**23.122 Finance**

**a)** **Bank Reconciliation** - members noted that the bank statement of 2 July reconciles to the cashbook.

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

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| **Details** | **Description** | **Total (£)** |
| Salaries | Aug | 620.90 |
| DAPTC | Councillor training | 54.00 |
| CT Mee | R&BT seat | 14.00 |
| CT Mee | Manswood seat | 14.00 |
| Steve Vaughan Contractors | Millennium Avenue | 600.00 |
| Hillmeadow Services | Burial ground (July) | 240.00 |
| CT Mee | Bus shelter treatment | 135.00 |
| CT Mee | Manswood bus shelter | 10.00 |
| Hinton Martell village hall | Hall hire 2023 | 45.00 |

**Over £100 payments since last meeting** – members noted:

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| **Details** | **Description** | **Total (£)** |
| Salaries | July | 620.90 |
| Hillmeadow Services | Burial ground (Jun) | 240.00 |
| Expenses | Qtr. 1 | 152.40 |

**Income Received – members noted.**

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| **Details** | **Description** | **Total (£)** |
| Coppid | Manswood | 1.00 |
| Slade Funeral Directors | Burial | 418.00 |
| Haven Memorials | Memorial | 56.00 |
| FC Douch Funeral Directors | Burial | 169.00 |

**23.123 Planning Applications**

Members confirmed their consultation comments to Dorset Council.

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| **Address** | **Proposal** | **Comment** |
| P/CLE/2023/03691 - Cobwebs Gussage All Saints \* | Certificate of Lawfulness to continue the use of former garage as annexe (ancillary residential accommodation | No comments made |
| P/HOU/2023/03557 – Sweet Apple FarmGussage All Saints | Install new dormer to the lift shaft, repair and re-build existing chimneys and to re-slate the existing roofs in slate to match existing with tingles, alterations to the existing garaging/barn, demolition of the lean-to to the small barn and installation of a new sewage treatment plant. | No action as planning application withdrawn 23 July 2023 – source Dorset Council website. |
| P/NMA/2023/04057 – 2 Church CottagesGussage St Michael | Non-material amendment - Increase in depth to single storey rear extension to planning permission P/HOU/2022/06780 (Erect two storey side and single storey rear extensions (demolish existing porch & building to side)) | No action as planning permission given by Dorset Council. This item for information. |

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

**23.124 Noticeboards** – Members considered whether to increase the number of noticeboards in villages. After thorough discussions, no further noticeboards were to be installed. At the next round of Annual Ward meetings (May 2024) villagers would be asked if they use their noticeboard(s) and whether it(they) should be removed.

Greater use of the village/parish magazine would be considered, but deadlines and frequency of publication was an issue. Some villages had adopted Whatsapp and Facebook, and these should be encouraged.

**23.125 Village Burglaries** – members noted the recent targeted burglaries in Gussage All Saints. Seven homes had sheds, garages, out buildings or vans broken into. Police response was initially poor, but this changed when more senior Police were approached.

A drop-in event is being arranged with the Crime Reduction team. It was suggested to involve Victim Support Officers. A meeting with the Police Commissioner is also being arranged.

**23.126 Matters of Information**

Cllr Collie – fountain – a committee of nine residents has been set up to explore funding, design etc.

Cllr Warnock – suggested an article for the parish and local magazines for recruiting new councillors to the five vacancies. She offered to draft an article for all members to amend as they wish.

Cllr Read – Open Garden was schedule for 26 and 27 May 2024.

* A short article had been placed in the Witchampton/Manswood/Crichel parish magazine about the possibilities of a Neighbourhood Plan. He will circulate so others can do similar in their local magazines.

**23.127 Date of Next Meeting** – members noted that the next meeting would be held on 5 September at Gussage St Michael village hall, starting at 7pm.

**Meeting closed 21:14pm**

Signed T Read Chairman Date 5 September 2023