

CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

THREE HUNDRED AND EIGHTIETH MEETING OF THE CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY 9TH JUNE 2014 IN THE WOOTTON FITZPAINE HALL.

3182: Present: Cllrs I Gollop (Chairman), S Johnson, C Everidge, S Creed-Castle, H Joyce, K Mansbridge and C Mahaddie, and D Turner (DCC) and M Robinson (WDDC).

3183: Apologies: Received from Cllrs Snook, Bailey and Peck.

3184: Meeting Suspended for Public Discussion: No public present.

3185: Declarations of Interest/ Consider Grant of Dispensations: None

3186: Resolution to approve the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held 12th May 2014: Draft minutes had been circulated and were approved.

3187: Actions Following Last Meeting: The clerk had circulated a list of actions and outcomes which were noted. Cllr Everidge has contacted Demelza Hyde regarding another patch of Japanese knotweed on a footpath – response awaited.

3188: Reports: Police: The clerk has been advised there were no crimes reported in Char Valley in the previous month. Cllr Everidge reported strange e mails and phone messages from Neighbourhood Watch and questioned their validity. WDDC Cllr Robinson said he was aware there had been an IT system glitch which probably accounted for the problem. Cllr Everidge will forward the e mails to the clerk. **ROW:** Nothing to report **Transport:** Cllr Everidge reported that WATAG could provide those travelling by bus with a card to show to the driver asking for time to sit down etc before the bus moves away **BLAP:** Funding for the Community Planning Manager role is under threat. **Village Halls: Whitchurch Canonorum Village Hall:** A grant of £1,800 towards wall repairs has been obtained; an art exhibition is planned for August and a harvest supper in October **Wootton Fitzpaine Village Hall:** None **James Hargreaves Community Hall:** None **Lengthsman:** Cllr Mansbridge noted that matters were working well **Ancient Monuments:** Cllr Creed-Castle has now identified information for all 18 names on the war memorial. The cost of the exhibition will be above the sum of £100 originally budgeted

Parish Councillor Reports: Cllr Joyce: She is disappointed in the response from DCC officers concerning the damaged footpath sign and drain cover **Cllr Creed-Castle** A drain is blocked by Bluebell Wood House in Ryall Road – Cllr Mansbridge will notify the lengthsman **Cllr Johnson** She reported that George Rendell was very pleased that the names he suggested for the new affordable housing developments had been accepted and passed on his thanks to the parish council. **Cllr Mansbridge** reported on signs asking for “dogs to be kept on leads” on a footpath on his land, erroneously marked in places as a bridle way, being torn down; he also noted the continued blocked drain by his property **Cllr Everidge** Reported that the potholes east of Norchard on Muddyford Lane were getting worse, despite some repairs having been made; repairs have been made to Langdon Lane, but it’s yet to be seen how effective these are; a dog in the area is hunting deer but since neither sheep nor nesting birds are the targets no action can be taken by the authorities.; she remains disappointed with the lack of enforcement by WDDC at the View **Cllr Mahaddie** She reported that some, but not all, of the Japanese knotweed in Pitmans Lane seems to have been sprayed by DCC

3189: District / County Reports Cllr Robinson The Scrutiny Committee are reviewing a decision to charge parish councils for the costs of elections, a final decision will be made in time for budget setting for 2015/16; a new planning page on Dorset for you will be released shortly, which is vastly improved; an event led by Ewan Dickinson is being held at Blackdown village hall on 17th June – the aim is to work on a strategy to clear Himalayan balsam from the Ax and Char. **Cllr Turner** He reported that the Boundary Commission review seems to be recommending an increase in the number of councillors from 45 to 48. Studies of migration indicate that by 2020 Dorset will have a 10% shortfall in the numbers required for employment, not enough people moving into the area are of working age **Tree Officer** Nothing to report

3190: Planning Applicants presentation: None

3191: Planning Applications:

Late Planning: None

To Consider: WD/D/14/001112 – Shave Cross Inn, DT6 6HW (adjoining parish consultation) – change of use to a dwelling – after a lengthy discussion, it was agreed by all present to object to the application as the change of use would lead to the loss of a valuable amenity to the rural community of the Marshwood Vale

To note:

WD/D/14/000994 – Knapp Farm, Wootton Lane, Wootton Fitzpaine, DT6 6NG – extensions and alterations – no objections

CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

WD/CA/14/000165 – Sunnyside, Whitchurch Canonorum, DT6 6RQ – tree work, fell one Christmas Tree – no objections but recommend replanting with native specimen

Planning Approvals/Refusals (to note):

WD/D/14/000697 – Wakeleys Farm – approved

Wd/D14/000653 – Manor Farm, Wootton Lane - approved

Planning Related Correspondence: Upper Marshwood Vale PC is considering developing a Neighbourhood Plan, either for itself or a joint Plan with other local rural parishes. A meeting has been convened for 25th June at 7.30 pm at Bettiscombe village hall – Cllrs Everidge and Gollop will try to attend

3192: Fingerposts: Nothing to report.

3193 Superfast broadband: Despite assurances given by the Superfast Dorset team at the last parish council meeting, roll out seems patchy and poorly communicated. The clerk was asked to contact the team to find out exactly what is happening and when and how this will be communicated throughout the community.

3194: Affordable Housing: The clerk had been advised that development was still on track. However, despite Hastoe saying that the process of indentifying tenants would start in early June nothing has been heard and the clerk will ask what is planned. He will also ask that if any applications are made for the installation of bright security lighting that these are declined by Hastoe.

3195: Finance

(i) **Clerks report:** Draft accounts for the year ending 31st March 2014 had been circulated previously and the clerk reported that these had been scrutinised by the internal auditor and give a clean bill of health. It was therefore agreed to approve the annual accounts and authorise the Chairman to sign the Annual Return and the Governance Statement within.

(ii) **Payment approvals:** The following payments were approved –1295 M Wilson Clerks Salary, Expenses June 2014 - £501.27; 1296 HMRC Paye June £76.57; 1297 DAPTC – subscription £344.12; 1298 – S Lee – Lengthsman - £312.00; 1299 – Creeds – Char Chat - £325.00

3196: Correspondence: The clerk had circulated the correspondence list - noted

3197: Items for the next Agenda: To include superfast broadband and affordable housing update

3198: Date of Next Meeting: Monday 21st July 2014 at 7.30pm at the James Hargreaves Memorial Hall.

3199: Matters of Urgency: Concern was raised about the acoustics at parish council meetings. Sound systems were not thought to be a solution but the “splay” seating arrangement seems to be helping. It will also help if only one person speaks at a time and “noises-off” conversations (or Char chat) between councillors or members of the public are avoided.

3200: Close of Meeting: There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.38 pm.