



CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

447th Meeting of the Parish for Char Valley Parish Council held on 9th October 2023 at 7.30pm – Whitchurch Canonorum Village Hall.

APPROVED MINUTES

Meeting opened: 19.31.

5305: Present: Cllrs. N Ziebland (Chair), J Kewley, S Creed-Castle, H Joyce, A Carey, C Stanbury, S Johnson, and T Ely (Clerk). In attendance: 2 members of the public.

5306: Apologies for absence: T Hansford, J Busby, R Cook, C Noon.

5307: Public forum:

- The chair addressed the public and asked if anyone would like to speak.
- A member of the public addressed the council with their concerns regarding pheasants in Fishponds and spoke for the allotted 3 minutes. This was followed by a similar presentation from the other member of public in attendance.
- The residents' presentations were connected to an item that appears later on the agenda so this was then moved up the agenda to enable discussion.

5308: Pheasants in Fishponds

- The chair addressed council to seek opinions on the subject raised by the residents, that had previously been circulated and discussion commenced.
- It was proposed that CVPC support the residents' concerns regarding the commercial shoot established in Fishponds with regards to implications for the environment, wildlife and residents.

Proposed by Cllr. Carey and Seconded by Cllr. Creed-Castle, 4 in Agreement, 3 Against.

The clerk to use the links provided by Dorset Council to report the issues to Planning and Noise and Nuisance.

The clerk to send the links to the residents in attendance.

Two residents left the meeting at 19.53.

5309: Co-opt new councillor to Whitchurch Canonorum South: No applications.

- Cllr. Ziebland asked how the vacancy is being advertised and the clerk informed council; via the website and emails to the residents list.

The clerk to put together a poster/words that can be posted on the WhatsApp groups.

The clerk to join the local WhatsApp groups.

5310: Declarations of interest: None.

5311: Dispensation requests: None.

5312: Resolution to approve the minutes of the CVPC meeting held on 11th September 2023.

Proposed by Cllr. Stanbury and Seconded by Cllr. Joyce, 5 in Agreement, 2 Abstained as not present.

5313: Actions following last meeting:

- Power Cuts and the 'Priority Services Register'. **A councillor to put a message out on the WhatsApp groups.**
- The clerk to apply to move the bank account to Starling - The clerk had circulated some notes. Council decided to stay with their current bank account. Proposed by Cllr. Joyce and Seconded by Cllr. Johnson, 7 in Agreement.
The clerk to organise to meet with Cllrs. Johnson and Joyce to reactivate their on-line log ins.
- **Cllrs. to send any suggestions to Cllr. Carey of local people who may be appropriate to provide a talk at an information day** – Cllr. Carey had received one suggestion.
- The Community Fund was discussed as a good grant to apply for. Cllr. Joyce had confirmed that Playquest do not carry out refurbishments but have provided the information to enable the working group to look to place the order for the memory boards and stepping stones. **To be discussed in the next working party meeting. Cllr. Johnson to get quotes for the fencing.**
- The clerk to enquire if the Whitchurch and JH halls can provide Wi-Fi – Action complete. The clerk to follow up with Philip Page at the Whitchurch Village Hall after their meeting on 21st September. An email has been sent, no reply yet.
- CVPC-01, NO 2, Fivepenny Farm, Wootton Fitzpaine, Bridport, DT6 6DF - Cllr. Noon to compose a response for the proposed applicant to cover the conversation had. Action complete.
- BLAP - Cllr. Noon informed council of an upcoming meeting on Friday 15th September where Chris Loder would be present and asked if anyone had any questions they would like posed for them to be sent to Cllr. Noon via email. Cllrs. to send Cllr. Noon any questions for Chris Loder. **Action complete.**
The clerk to send an email to the residents to ask for any proposed questions. **Action complete.**

- The clerk to contact Dorset Council to find out how to organise the flood signs and training. See the clerks notes. The clerk updated council that Dorset Council do not provide signage or training. There was some discussion about where they would be needed. **The clerk to secure a price from DC for signs.**
- Cllr. Busby to continue to organise a central sandbag store. **Need to find out what they have in place and work out how many sandbags/sand/flood signs to order.**
- Cllr. Creed-Castle confirmed her neighbours are in need of some bags which they can store on their land. Cllr. Creed-Castle to find out how many they require. **The clerk to check emails etc. as Cllr. Creed-Castle says she has already passed on this information.**
- **Cllr. Joyce to cancel her Zoom subscription.**
- Cllr. Creed-Castle mentioned having reported the hedges on Buntshay Lane not being cut. **Cllr. Creed-Castle has followed up to be told DC are looking into it.**
- New Litter Bin - Following a request from a Morcombelake resident for a litter bin to be put at the bus stop, Cllr. Noon had investigated with Dorset Council and found that if wanting a bin CVPC would have to purchase it and pay DC to empty it. It was decided to start by putting up a sign to encourage people not to drop litter - **Cllrs. to send suggested wording to Cllr. Creed-Castle. Cllr. Creed-Castle is yet to receive any wording, Cllrs. to action.**
- The clerk to send the playground inspection report to the village hall (once completed) and to let them know that CVPC do not insure or have any further responsibility for the area. **Action complete.**
- Cllr. Kewley to send the clerk an inspection checklist she currently uses elsewhere. It has been sent but the Clerk can't open the attachment. Cllr. Kewley to send in a different format. **No longer needed.**
- 30 mph speed limit in Morcombelake - Cllr. Noon reported having correspondence from 3 residents requesting this. Cllr. Noon to write to National Highways and the local MP to put their cases forward. **Action complete.**

5314: Planning Applications:

a) Responses submitted to Dorset Council before this meeting:

Application Ref.	Location	Expired	Agreed Response	Submitted
P/FUL/2023/03787	Spence Farm Spence Lane Wootton Fitzpaine Dorset DT6 6DF	04/09/2023 extended to 12/09/2023	Support Comment: The pool cover, if used, should be an appropriate colour and material.	12/09/2023
P/FUL/2023/02460	Little Hill Tizard's Knap Morcombelake Bridport DT6 6ED	21/09/2023	Comment: No objection to the building itself but the proposed entrance is dangerous. The existing, exceptionally narrow lane (car width) is already a bottleneck for exiting traffic. The additional 12 visitors to 3 yoga sessions a day i.e. 72 journeys is very concerning. Increased noise and traffic from the property is already disturbing local residents.	20/09/2023
P/FUL/2023/04819	St John The Baptists Church Wootton Hill Fishpond	25/09/2023	Support Comment: CVPC would like to comment that the environmental impact from the sewage smell will need to be considered.	21/09/2023
P/VOC/2023/04844	High Bullen Sun Lane Morcombelake Dorset DT6 6DL	26/09/2023	Support Comment: Please note that CVPC are very concerned at any further increase in holiday accommodation as there is already an over-supply of available accommodation in the Char Valley area to the detriment of the local residents, existing hospitality businesses, and the local environment. More development also undermines the very reason why this area is attractive to visitors and existing residents.	22/09/2023
P/FUL/2023/04897	Southfields Farm Wootton Lane Wootton Fitzpaine Bridport DT6 6NQ	26/09/2023	Support Comment: Please note there is not a notice displayed.	22/09/2023

b) Responses considered at the meeting: None.

c) **Proposed applications to be discussed at this meeting:** None.

5315: Finance:

a) **AGAR** - see the clerks notes for detail.

- The clerk updated council that the accounts were now complete and signed off for 2022-2023 by the external auditors.

b) **Donations** - see the clerks notes for detail.

- The clerk updated council that the donations are due and would be processed for the November meeting.
The clerk to liaise with Cllr. Joyce to direct the church donations to the right people.

c) **Payments:**

- The payments for October 2023, as below, were approved.

Payee	Details	Cheque No.	Receipt No.	Amount
Wootton Fitzpaine VH	Hire 22/09/2023 - River Char	Online		25
Clear Councils	Insurance	Online		944.43
Kenneth Hussey	Inspections WF+WC	Online		77.5
BDO	Accounts Auditors	Online		£252.00
S. Lee Garden Services	Replace grit bin Loves Lane	Online		£144.00
Hilary Joyce	Dorset Cop expenses	Online		£28.50
Tamsin Ely	Clerks expenses October 2023	Online		£68.49
Tamsin Ely	Clerks wage October 2023	Online		£813.10
Total				£2,353.02

Proposed by Cllr. Joyce and Seconded by Cllr. Ziebland. All in Agreement.

The clerk to liaise with Cllr. Creed-Castle to send the October payments online.

d) **Bank Reconciliation** - The clerk had circulated the bank reconciliation and council were happy.

e) **The Bank Account** - Discussed under Actions above.

5316: Parish External Liaison:

a) **BLAP** - No further update.

b) **DAPTC** - The clerk updated council about the clerks conference she attended. She reported that it was a lovely day and very informative. It started off with a Q and A session. One question asked was why the enforcement of planning doesn't seem to happen, the answer was they will only enforce cases once they have carried out a public interest test to see if harm is being caused. If no harm, then no enforcement.

5317: Flooding:

a) **Warden** - CVPC are still in need of flood wardens.

b) **Sandbags** -

- The main store will be at Whitchurch Canonorum Village Hall.

Cllr. Busby to continue to organise a central sandbag store. Need to find out what they have in place and work out how many sandbags/sand to order.

5318: Police Report

- The clerk had circulated the report from Lyme Regis Police.

- Cllr. Creed-Castle mentioned a local crime that had not been included. **Cllr. Creed-Castle to send the details to the clerk to enquire with the CVPC PSO.**

5319: Communications Working Party: No further update.

5320: Farming Interests Working Party: Cllr. Johnson had circulated a report and ran through a few of the topics.

5321: Local Amenities Working Party: A report had been circulated to councillors.

- Cllr. Creed-Castle updated council that she has the official quote for the Wootton picnic table with the request for a deposit. Council agreed to pay £320 now for the deposit and the balance on completion.

The clerk to pay £320 to Alex Brooks in the November payments.

- Valuing Assets - The clerk updated council that she had gained a quote for the valuation of the assets for £885 including the Well. £840 if excluding the well. The other company recommended by the DAPTC only do buildings.

The clerk to add to the finance meeting agenda for discussion.

a) **The Well:**

- Cllr. Joyce updated council the CVPC had received communication from Mr. Rose to say their solicitor had advised it was in their title. Cllr. Joyce asked councillors their views if CVPC should look into seeking legal advice or to let it go. It was discussed at length where different views were shared. CVPC had been paying for its upkeep for at least 30 years and it is a Parish Asset that the previous owner of the property is adamant it is owned by the Parish Council. It was mentioned that it would be a shame if it was no longer available to the Residents for visits etc. Council decided that to embark on the expenses of a legal investigation would not be in the interests of local taxpayers.

Cllr. Joyce to draft a letter to Mr. Rose for the next meeting.

b) New Grit Bin:

- Cllr. Creed-Castle reported that the last grit bin CVPC replaced was done incorrectly by the lengthsmen and he had replaced the wrong one. This means the one that was supposed to be replaced (Hillside Cottage, Ryall, Grid Ref: 40679 94634) now needs replacing. The clerk's notes include a quote. Shovels were discussed.

The clerk to calculate how many shovels are needed and to source further prices.

The clerk to purchase a yellow grit bin as per the quote in the clerk's notes.

Proposed by Cllr. Joyce and Seconded by Cllr. Kewley. All in Agreement.

5322: Playground/Playfield Working Party:

- a) **Whitchurch playground** - Discussed under Actions.
- b) **Wootton Field and play area**

Cllr. Joyce to organise a meeting with Cllr. Noon, Cllr. Joyce Later on the agenda., John Snook and an appropriate village hall representative.

5323: Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Party/River Char Community Project (RCCP):

- a) **Hedgehogs** - Cllr. Joyce talked of a local Hedgehog group that have asked CVPC to finance 4 signs for use by local residents.
- b) **River Char Project** - Cllr. Joyce updated council that the next workshop is scheduled for 10th November (this has since changed to 25th November), a talk on the 25th January 2024 and another workshop after that.
- c) **Dorset Council Pilot Scheme - Research in Tree Management** - CVPC had received communication from Dorset Council with a questionnaire to aid research regarding trees in the parish. Cllr. Carey asked if any councillors knew of any trees that CVPC own and there were none.

Cllr. Carey to complete the questionnaire.

d) List of 'special' trees in our parishes -

- The clerk updated council that she had been in contact with Dorset Council to obtain a list of trees with a TPO within the parish. So far, she had been told there is no list and they are working on some mapping but it is not available yet. A few emails had gone back and forth as the data must be stored somehow!

The clerk to continue with Dorset Council and to include Cllr. Simon Christopher.

5324: Planning Working Party:

- a) **Approve wording for holiday lets etc.** - Not discussed. Clerk to move to the November agenda.
- b) **Pheasants in Fishponds** – Discussed under Actions.

5325: Staffing Committee: A report had been circulated.

5326: Transport Working Party:

- a) **Heavy and large vehicles in the Marshwood Vale – Gassons Lane** - Cllr. Ziebland described the issue on Gassons Lane. Council discussed the problem and that a lot of work had been done in previous years and a solution had not been found. There is currently a works order raised for some resurfacing on the road and the clerk has been in contact with Blair Turner but council feel it is a much bigger issue where the road actually needs structurally changing.

Cllr. Ziebland to send Cllr. Simon Christopher an email for assistance.

b) Slow Ways National Walking Network - Clerk to move to the November agenda.

- c) **A35 Parishes Group Meeting 13th October 2023** - The clerk had circulated a map of the A35 that Cllr. Noon had prepared for the meeting on the 13th October. The map was discussed but nothing was added. Councillors did mention that we need to be careful not to encourage a bypass.

5327: Cllr. Christopher, Dorset Council: Cllr. Christopher had circulated a report but was not present.

5328: Other issues that have been circulated for discussion:

- The clerk had distributed a planning application that had missed the agenda;

Application Ref.	Location	Expires	Agreed Response
P/HOU/2023/01602	8 Goodens Hill Whitchurch Cross To Cockwell Cross Whitchurch Canonicorum DT6 6RF	24/10/2023	Support. Comment: CVPC have no objection to this application. <u>Proposed by Cllr. Ziebland and Seconded by Cllr. Johnson, All in Agreement.</u>

5329: Public and other matters - To consider any matters that Cllrs. wish to raise that has not already been circulated.

[no resolutions can be made]: None.

5330: Councillor training:

- The clerk had sent an email with links to available training, councillors were encouraged to have a look and let the clerk know what training they would like to complete.

5331: Date of next meeting: 13th November 2023 Finance - Wootton Fitzpaine Village Hall, 27th November 2023 - James Hargreaves Community Hall

5332: Meeting closed: 21.20.