

CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

FOUR HUNDRED AND TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY 11TH JUNE 2018 AT JAMES AHRGREAVES COMMUNITY HALL

4116: Present: Cllrs: S Creed-Castle, H Joyce, C Peck, C Mahaddie, S Johnson, C Bailey, J Eager, R Colby, S Christopher (WDDC), A Marks (Clerk), Paul Derrien (Housing Enabling officer) Cllr C Sage (arrived at 8.15)

4117: Apologies for absence: Cllrs. Everidge, Snook, Vaughan and D Turner (DCC)

4118: Talk on Housing Needs by Paul Derrien Housing Enabling Team Leader: Paul Derrien and his team look at affordable housing schemes in Dorset. He suggested that young people join the housing register at an early age and local people get priority. When a Housing Needs Survey takes place everyone in the parish should look at their own housing needs. In a recent survey at Litton Cheney the results showed a number of single people living in large properties. Paul can tailor his surveys to our own needs and there will not be any cost to Char Valley. He said that September / October is a good time to do a survey. He left some examples of previous surveys

4119: Public Discussion Period: No questions raised

4120: Declarations of Interest: Cllr Richard Colby has an interest in the planning application WD/D/18/00801 for Seawards, Verriotts Lane, Morcombelake and left the room during its deliberation.

4121: Resolution to approve the minutes of the Parish Council & AGM meeting held on 14th May 2018: proposed by Cllr Colby seconded by Cllr Mahaddie and approved unanimously.

4122: Clerk's actions following the last meeting:

The clerk met the auditor, Susan Mullins, on 23rd May 2018 who signed off the annual internal audit report for 2017/18. The accounts, when signed, the certificate of exemption will be sent to the accountants PKF-Littlejohn and the annual accounts will be put on the CVPC website.

The clerk is in the process of completing the annual VAT return, the amount for the tax year 2017/2018 is £1,305.01

Following the meeting with Cllrs. Snook, Johnson, Mahaddie, Joyce and Vaughan – the clerk completed a S106 application and submitted this to WDDC by 1st June. It was agreed unanimously by the meeting that the CIL payment of £2,100 should be used by Wootton Fitzpaine towards a PA system for the village hall, restoration of the White Gates and some work in the playing field. The remaining S106 money was to be spent on the following

A bespoke roof over existing seat at bus stop in Morcombelake, half costs towards acoustics equipment for Whitchurch Canonorum village hall (other half being paid for by village hall committee), children's play equipment, cycle rack and bench, trees and wild flower bulbs also for Whitchurch Canonorum

The clerk and Cllr Everidge attended the BLAP parishes meeting on 23 May. It was agreed that the chairman of BLAP would write to Cllr Rebecca Knox Leader of Dorset County Council advising them of the importance of BLAP especially with the establishment of the unitary authority.

The clerk has submitted an application form for a grant towards the costs of the war memorial exhibition that took place in March, the closing date for this is mid July so it is unlikely that we will hear whether we have been successful until later in the summer.

The clerk has contacted Mike Trew again regarding signage in Taylors Lane as the work was due to be done in mid May

Action: clerk

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The clerk has contacted the enforcement officer at WDDC regarding the lack of planning permission for the installation of a swimming pool at High Close in Shedbush Lane and the signage outside Annie's tearooms. She has since heard from the enforcement team that construction of a swimming pool does not require planning permission but as it is situated in an AONB we will look into this further.

Action: clerk

4123: CVPC Representative Reports: WATAG

Report by Chris Everidge following a WATAG meeting on Thursday 24th May 2018

- The Bridport to Dorchester bus will wait for the connecting Axminster to Weymouth bus in Bridport.
- A reminder about the Dorset Community Plus Bus which runs approx 10.30am Wednesday mornings (£5 return). This bus can also accommodate wheelchairs. All passengers are collected and returned to their homes. The route covers Catherston Leweston, Wootton Fitzpaine, Whitchurch Canonorum, Ryall, Morcombelake and Symonds bury. Register your details with Kari 9.30 – 2.30 Monday to Friday 01258287980 Then book before midday on Tuesdays for the following Wednesday. Details on the Website www.ectcharity.co.uk - click on the 'Dorset' link
- * Stagecoach continue to run a bus service from Lyme Regis to Exeter.
- * Exeter bus station has closed.

BLAP Cllr Everidge

With regard to the BLAP letter of June 4th requesting that DCC liaised with Parishes in respect of post Unitary management of all services and the implications this would mean for Parishes; in particular with respect to confirmation of the current position on

- community involvement in the new Unitary
- representation in the decision-making process
- details of how services will be run
- the future of community planning.

The letter records the feeling of all 13 Parishes and CVPC decided to send a letter of supporting the submission by to Rebecca Knox supporting her submission.

Action: clerk

DAPTC: Cllr Snook

*At the Western Area meeting in May, it was reported that a shadow authority is to be set up on 7 June, ahead of the new Dorset Council in 2019. There will be 82 new councillors on Dorset Council.

* A new order regarding the feeding of gulls in the WDDC area is now in place, fines to be imposed on those in breach of it.

* There are 1572 people on the housing register list.

* Parishes must take care that our level of precept and reserves allows for possible future change. DAPTC will keep members informed of other changes.

* Parishes do not need to appoint a data protection officer to implement changes introduced by the General Data Protection Regulations.

*** Tree and Hedge Officer Cllr Peck**

* I am working with Cllr Vaughan on an article for the website and Char Chat about ash die back and sudden oak death: the disease, symptoms, what to do, incidences in the county. I am meeting with Cllr Mahaddie in her capacity as Chair of the Hardown Society to see what can be done to stop the spread of rhododendron ponticum on Hardown Hill. Although not immediately adjacent to the SSSI, there is a sizeable area on the NW flank of the hill and the problems this plant poses to surrounding habitats if left unchecked are well documented.

Action: Cllr Peck

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4124: CVPC Councillor's reports – June 2018

Cllr Everidge

* With regard to the Fly Tipping on Pitmans Lane Amanda King, our PCSO, has confirmed that fly tipping is a WDDC/DCC? Council matter as long as the items are deposited on Council owned Property. Despite the Dorset Waste Partnership (DWP) 'Tip-Off' initiative, data protection stops the initial owner being traced from a registration plate. The only solution to trace a perpetrator is to find a witness.

* All are welcome to attend Morcombelake's Homewatch meeting on 21st June in the James Hargreaves Hall.

Cllr Johnson

* Concerns have been expressed about the speed of vehicles passing the village hall when children are present.

Cllr Mahaddie

* Knotweed is reappearing in Pitmans Lane and Taylors Lane. This was reported on the Dorset for You website on 10th May. We do not expect action immediately but the sites should be included when the Council do their regular spraying rounds.

Cllr Peck

* Having raised the issue of householders / builders burning building waste rather than using licensed waste disposal firms to remove arisings, it has been decided to put something on the website and in the next issue of Char Chat. There might be other matters such as emptying septic tanks, keeping hedges cut back, thinking about keeping our skies dark, neighbourhood watch that could be drawn in as well.

* A resident of Goodens Hill is concerned about vehicle speeds on the straight, steep section north of Crooked Lane and asks for a speed restriction sign to be put up. Cllr Vaughan. In view of Cllr Johnson's comment about speeding, the chairman will contact Mike Potter, Collision Reduction Officer, DCC for guidance in obtaining speed reduction measures.

Action: Cllr Joyce

* The lack of clear roadside verge cutting at the end of Berne lane on the A35 looking east and west was reported to DCC and highways and neither took any action until I severely pestered them. Last year they cut it back but this year is cut back to half of what it was. I suggest we send a short note to DCC and highways requesting a proper cutback before we have another collision at the junction. Cllr Colby suggested contacting Connect who are responsible for grass and hedge-cutting along major roads

Action: Clerk

Cllr Snook

* There is now a website for the village of Wootton Fitzpaine set up by Ray Dyer. It is planned that local events will be advertised on this. There are sections about the Social Club, the Village Hall and the Church.

* White Gates: Cllrs Sage, Colby and Snook and Amy Ralph met at the White Gates on 23 May. We discussed what needed to be done and the best way of bringing the White Gates up to a good standard. There are only 3 such boundary gates in Dorset and although our Gates only consist of 2 side gates with a missing central gate, they represent important

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historical street furniture in our parish, and in Dorset, similar to the fingerposts. They were erected in the early 1900's as a result of an accident that happened where Champernhayes Lane meets the B3165, so that any future accidents would be prevented. Mr and Mrs Watson, the current residents of Tempest House, have volunteered to paint the gates when needed after they have been brought up to a good standard (which includes the painting).

At present, we hope to allocate about £700 from the CIL money towards the refurbishment. The lowest estimate of 3 to bring them up to standard, including painting, is £2250. Some parishioners and members of the Pass family (the Pass estate originally erected the Gates) have promised to give donations and grants can be applied for. The White Gates will not be added to the CVPC's asset list because future painting will be

undertaken by Mr and Mrs Watson. In order to move forward, the CVPC needs to be in agreement with the proposals to refurbish the White Gates, Any grant application needs to have the CVPC's name on it, donations will be paid to the CVPC and ring fenced. If we are successful in obtaining a grant, and/or receiving sufficient donations, together with the £700 from the CIL grant there should not be any cost to CVPC.

There were no further parish councillor reports

4125: Reports

District Councillor's Report: Cllr S Christopher: was pleased to report that the fridge that had been dumped in Ryall as now been removed. 140 councillors attended the first meeting of the shadow authority and it was represented by members of all political parties. Building of 3,500 affordable homes is proposed north of Dorchester, and there is the possibility of building a road joining the A35 with the A37, this could then lead vehicles onto the A303.

4126: Planning:

i) Considered :

WD/D/18/000801 - SEAWARDS, VERRIOTTS LANE, MORCOMBELAKE – application for approval of reserved matters for access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale – CVPC have no objection to this application – proposed by Cllr Mahaddie and seconded by Cllr Peck approved with two abstainers

ii) Decisions submitted before the meeting and noted::

- WD/D/18/000719 CUTHAY FARM, BLUNTSHAY LANE, WHITCHURCH CANONICORUM – excavation of wildlife pond – no objection
- WD/D/18/000953 1 SHEEPWASH GREEN, GRANDFATHERS KNAP, FISHPOND – demolish conservatory and erection single storey extension – no objection
- WD/D/18/000744 MANOR HOUSE, WOOTTON LANE, WOOTTON FITZPAINE – erection of a summer house – no objection

iii) West Dorset District Council Decisions (to note):

Approvals / Refusals - None

iv) Appeal Decision – None

v) Enforcement: - None

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4127: Finance and Clerks Report: i) Payments

Payee	Details	Cheque no.	Receipt no.	Amount
Annette Marks	June salary	500182	0618/1	£444.48
HMRC	PAYE for June	500183	0618/2	£85.00
S Lee Garden Services	Lengthman's services for War Memorial exhibition	500184	0618/3	£46.80
Wootton Fitzpaine village hall	Hire of hall for May's meeting	500185	0618/4	£22.00
DAPTC	Essentials for Councillors training – Richard Colby	500186	0618/5	£40.00
DAPTC	Annual subscription 2018/19	500187	0618/6	£375.60
TOTAL				£1,013.88

The payments for June were proposed by Cllr Eager and seconded by Cllr Johnson.

ii) The clerk raised the subject of the bank account which is currently held at Co-op Bank in Skelmersdale. When the previous clerk transferred the bank account from TSB Bank to Co-op Bank, there was a branch in Bridport which has since closed. The nearest branches are Taunton or Exeter and this is a problem when cash is paid into the account. Cheques are sent by post. Also the account used to attract credit interest but this has ceased for the last few months and we are holding a substantial sum on our current account. The clerk will seek DAPTC advice on transferring some funds to an interest-bearing account. Cllr Colby says that we can pay cash into the Post office for the Co-op Bank and the clerk will look into this

Action: Clerk

4128: Final accounts for 2017/18 – these were signed by the chairman and the clerk. The Certificate of Exemption will be forwarded to PKF Littlejohn LLP and the accounts displayed on the Char Valley Parish Council website

Action: Clerk

4129: National Parks – Cllr Joyce had previously had a long discussion with Sandra Brown of the National Parks Team. Michael Gove, Secretary of State for the Environment is reviewing the possibility of establishing new National Parks especially in AONBs. So far the liaison between farmers, the NFU and the South Downs National Parks has been very good.

Two letters from Sandra Brown were sent previously to councillors. Cllr Everidge had suggested, prior to the meeting, that CVPC should write in support of the second evaluation stage of the proposal. However, in the absence of any explanation of this and no mention of it being made by Sandra Brown, no action was taken.

4130: White Gates: In the absence of Cllr Snook, Cllr Colby advised the meeting that they had visited White Gates – please see comments under Cllr Snook above – and are looking for the approval of CVPC to spend £700.00 from the CIL monies towards the restoration of the White Gates. The request was proposed by Cllr Sage and seconded by Cllr Creed-Castle and approved unanimously

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4131: Parking at James Hargreaves Community Hall : as has been mentioned in minutes from previous meetings the parking at the hall is very limited The clerk was advised by a local resident that there are three parking spaces at the rear of the hall. Cllr Peck will contact the owners of Artwave to see if there is a possibility of parking on their forecourt and Cllr Mahaddie repeated her offer to accommodate three cars on her driveway nearby. The clerk advised the meeting that we are not charged for using the hall. Cllr Joyce asked that we contact the committee asking that they invoice us in future for using the hall.

Action: Clerk, Cllr Peck

4132: Items for July's agenda: broadband, banking, silent soldier, insurance for snow ploughs and immediate information about A35 road works

Action: Clerk

4133: Any other business: Cllr Creed-Castle supplied information about the British Legion's metal 'Silent Soldier', an almost life size outline which can be bought for £250.00 and commemorates 1914-18 war. More information about it – possible location and details of display etc. will be discussed at next month's meeting

Action: Cllr Creed-Castle

Questions about the forthcoming night roadworks on the A35 at Chideock will be investigated and Councillors informed

Action: Chairman

4134: Date of next meeting: 16th July at Whitchurch Canonicorum village hall

Meeting closed at 9.15pm