

# CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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## FOUR HUNDRED AND SEVENTH MEETING OF THE CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2017 IN WOOTTON FITZPAINE VILLAGE HALL

**3799: Present:** Cllrs: D Snook, S Creed-Castle, C Everidge, H Joyce, C Peck, K Vaughan, S Johnson, D Turner (DCC). S Christopher (WDDC), A Marks (Clerk) and two members of the public

**3800: Apologies :** C Malhaddie, C Bailey and C Sage

**3801: Public Discussion Period:** the members of the public arrived later in the meeting

**3802: Resolution to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017:** Draft minutes had been circulated and were approved and signed by **Cllr Snook**

**3803: Actions Following Last Meeting:** The clerk circulated an updated contact list, however it was pointed out that following the next elections a couple of councillors will change their areas of responsibility

**3804: Reports:**

**Dorset Association of Town and Parish Councils Cllr Snook** advised the meeting that the invite for rural businesses to attend workshops arrived too late for those in our area – Lyme Regis on 14<sup>th</sup> March.

**Bridport Local Area Partnership :** Cllr Everidge reported that following last month's meeting there will be a meeting in Bridport on 30<sup>th</sup> March to discuss the problems of homelessness, young people and housing in the area. There will be a meeting of the Unitarian Council on 6<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30 to look at the needs of the parishes and how Bridport can help. Cllr Everidge is not sure whether she will be able to attend.

There has been a draft meeting looking at health changes and in particular those associated with mental health.

**Transport : Cllr Everidge** advised that two surveys have been sent out – one for bus users and one for non-bus users.

Co-ordinators for providing hospital transport are very few and the authorities are looking to set up these in local areas.

**Trees and hedges: Cllr Peck** reported that there are problems with a cottage near Pitmans Lane as the bank is collapsing, the householder has tried to stopping it falling into the road but shoring it up with scaffolding poles. Mr Turner will contact the relative department at council highways to find out who is responsible for maintaining these areas

**3805: Councillor Reports :**

**Cllr Snook:** Mr Miller used to mow the grass near the finger post at Partway in Wootton, as he now lives in Chideock he is no longer able to do this and soon the grass will be too long – it could possibly be a job for the lengthsman. There is land for sale in Wootton – in total 54 acres divided into four separate lots – it is up for auction at the end of the month. Cllr Snook asked Cllr Johnson to send a 'get well' card to Cllr Bailey following her surgery on behalf of the council.

**Cllr Everidge:** is suffering communication problems – difficulty with internet access. The finger post at the bottom of Stone Barrow Lane is now complete and has the National Trust emblem on the top – this finger post was sponsored by the trust.

**Cllr Creed-Castle:** advised that the article on ancient monuments will be in this month's Golden Cap magazine. She has received assistance obtaining information from the various ancestry websites. She has passed information to the clerk of the names and addresses of the householders in Stoke Mill Lane and they will be written to regarding cutting back the hedges in the autumn. The ditches are also in a poor state and Mr Turner said that at one time the council would clear these however it is really the responsibility of the landowners.

**Cllr Peck:** advised the meeting that following the resurfacing of the road by the Five Bells pub in Whitchurch a cyclist had come off his bicycle, it was reported to Highways who came out very promptly to repair the damaged road however Cllr Peck said that the surface following the original repairs was very poor. Taylors Lane in Whitchurch is very narrow not suitable for any vehicles apart from cars. Delivery lorries have churned up the verges – a sign needs to be put up stating that the road is unsuitable for large vehicles, we are writing to DCC highways asking them to put up a notice on Taylor's Lane saying that it is only suitable

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for cars and nothing larger. Berne Lane – either BT or OpenReach cut back the hedges on this property (the owner of the property attended the meeting) without the owner's permission and then dumped the cuttings in the road, they were asked by the owner to leave the premises. They are due to return to sort out the hedge cutting – if they have not returned by next month's meeting we will write to them.

**Cllr Joyce:** advised that there is a meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> April at 7.00pm to discuss the future of the church at Whitchurch. A third of the church's income is provided by residents the majority of which are 80 or over. The church is a Grade 1 listed building (the building is valued at £9,000,000 and the annual insurance premium is £4,500). Major repairs are paid for but day to day running costs need to be worked out.

**Cllr Johnson:** advised the meeting that the ditch near her property is about 2' deep, both Cllr Johnson and Cllr Vaughan have reported this on the Highway's website. The Resilience Plan which Dorset Council claimed to know nothing about has now been found. It is being held by the clerk.

**Cllr Vaughan:** nothing to report

**3806: County Councillors Report : Cllr D Turner** reported on the unitary policy – the Secretary of State is due to make a decision by the end of the month. Dorset Explorer – he will be getting individual details soon – a lot of resurfacing is planned. County elections are taking place on 4<sup>th</sup> May – we can check for consultations on the Dorsetforyou website

**3807: District Councillors Report : Cllr S Christopher** reported on visiting other parish councils – Chideock had been visited by the National Parks group who supported their idea for having a national park that should extend inland and not just on the coastal areas. He met with The Right Hon. Oliver Letwin whilst in London and they were looking at the installation of pedestrian crossings on A35, the member of parliament was amazed at the cost. He advised that the planning application for Sheepwash in Fishpond had been approved by the planning department by 6 votes to 4. He advised that the departments at WDDC dealing with land charges and local searches is improving. He complimented Char Valley parish council on the brilliant work that is being done with the restoration of the finger posts and the installation of defibrillators.

### **3808: Planning :**

**i) To Consider :** WD/D/16/002880 – Hill Farm, The Green, Morcombelake, DT6 6EA – Replacement outbuilding – resubmission pending – no objection to the amendment

**ii) To Note:** WD/D/16/002347 - 2 Sheepwash, Grandfathers Knapp, Fishpond. DT6 6NP – new extension and driveway – the Parish Council still object to this application as it is contrary to plan 263 and 572 – as stated above this was approved by the planning department by 6 votes to 4

WD/D/000094 – Thistlegate House, Charmouth by pass, Charmouth DT6 6BY – change of use from C2 (residential care home) to C3 (dwelling house) – no objection as the property did not function as a care home

WD/D/16/002837 –New Inn Cottage - Grandfathers Knap, Fishpond DT6 6NW - Replacement glazing and small remodelling works to existing cottage. Erect new extension to cottage rear. – no objection as it is not overlooked

WD/16/002788 – Foxglove Cottage, School Lane, Wootton Fitzpaine. DT6 6NF - New open fronted oak framed double garage. Conversion of integral garage to bedroom and replacement of flat roof over with pitched roof to match existing house roof – no objection

WD/D/16/002881 - Valley View, Carters Lane. Morcombelake, DT6 6SF - Erect ancillary building – pending as have asked for more information on drainage and sewerage

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

**iv) Appeal Decision** – appeal allowed on WD/D/15/001719 Little Oak Farm, Champernhayes Lane - Erection of a main shed, a cow shed, a small shed, a hay shelter, two polytunnels, track and entrance way. – following last month's meeting when Simon Christopher suggested that we write a letter to Oliver Letwin as well as WDDC expressing our views Cllr Snook has prepared a letter which has been forwarded to all of the council for their opinion and it received a mixed reception. The outcome is that Cllr Snook should write a more general letter expressing the views of the council about the AONB; this is to be sent to all councillors before being sent to the relevant parties.

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**v) Enforcement: Cllr Everidge** is concerned about the continued work on the ramp on the A35 although the enforcement officer Mr Perry states that works have stopped. The clerk will contact him to ensure that the site is constantly monitored.

Brigs Farm, Champerhayes Lane – application was submitted for a house and permission was granted provided a sustainable living was made from farming, however evidence shows that this was not the case. The enforcement officer has visited the site and needs to revisit to see if any agricultural work is taking place. We are writing to Mr Perry the enforcement officer asking him to revisit the site.

## **3809: Clerks Report:**

**(i) Payments –** The following payments were approved :

Payee	Detail	Chq	amount
Sylvia Creed Castle	War memorial	500083	£79.29
Mr A T P Brooks	Finger posts – Penn Cross	500084	£549.60
Mr A T P Brooks	Finger posts – Fishpond Bottom Road	500085	£452.40
Mr A T P Brooks	Finger posts – Trevetts Corner	500086	£435.60
Mr A T P Brooks	Finger posts – Wootton Fitzpaine village hall	500087	£387.60
S Lee Garden Services	Lengthsman	500088	£1,840.80
Annette Marks	Clerks pay – March 2017	500089	£446.00

**(ii)** Received a cheque for £285.00 from Lord Hall of Birkenhead towards the restoration of the fingerposts in Whitchurch.

Sent an E mail to our insurance concerning the repair to the swing seats in the play area at Whitchurch – John West and Councillor Peck thought they looked fairly straight forward and thought that we could repair the flat swing seats. The insurance company have advised that the work should be done by the person who undertook the inspections. I have contacted Ken Hussey asking him to send me an estimate for the work to be done and sent him details of the model numbers of the two types of seats, am waiting to hear from with the price.

The website has been updated with the progress of the finger posts as well as details of the annual parish meetings in April.

As from 1<sup>st</sup> March we have to update our E mail address, we can no longer use a 'gmail.com' address, we now have to have an E mail address ending in '.gov.uk'. John arranged for this to be added to our 'gmail.com' address – the address is [charvalley@dorset-aptc.gov.uk](mailto:charvalley@dorset-aptc.gov.uk) - unfortunately it does not seem to be working properly at the moment – I have tried sending an E mail from my own computer to this E mail address a couple of times – the first time it arrived a couple of hours after sending it. I also tried again yesterday and sent it at 12.40 and it arrived at 13.35. I then sent an E mail to the gmail address and it arrived in a matter of seconds.

As from 1<sup>st</sup> April WDDC will no longer be sending planning applications by post, they will be sent electronically to the clerk and I will forward them electronically to the councillor dealing with the particular application. This was discussed at a meeting that I attended in January and I can forward details to you all – although you may already have these.

**3810: Residents' Survey** – the report is going to be discussed at the three parish meetings in April, the draft introduction written by Cllr Joyce and the resume done by John West will be sent to all councillors. At the parish meetings, councillors will present Cllr Joyce's introduction and John West's resume and encourage a public discussion regarding the Neighbourhood Development Plan. A Steering Committee needs to be set up before a Plan can start, and members of the Parish would be required to sit on this. Councillors Vaughan and Everidge expressed an interest in sitting on this Committee as representatives of CVPC. A decision about whether the CVPC will go ahead with a Neighbourhood Development Plan will be taken at the meeting in May. Before the meetings a leaflet is to be prepared to advise the residents about the meetings and report the results of the survey.

**3811: Play Area Whitchurch:** this has been covered in the clerk's report

**3812: Verges: Cllr Peck** reported that she and Cllr Malhaddie had been trying to get the DCC to cut back the verges that had not been cut. We used to have a 2<sup>nd</sup> cut that would accommodate the wild flowers but it seems that now we can only have a 2<sup>nd</sup> cut when it is suitable to the council. Cllr Creed-Castle suggested

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that we have just one cut but this happens later in the year. The consensus was that we should continue to have two cuts a year. Cllr Peck advised that red posts on the verges mark the presence of knotweed - she will discuss this with Cllr Malhaddie.

**3813: Defibrillators:** the British Heart Foundation will undertake the Defibrillator and CPR training at Whitchurch Canonicorum village hall on 16<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm, it was hoped that this training could also be taken to some of the smaller villages.

**3814: Talk on AONB:** Sandra Brown will be attending the meeting in May and talking about National Parks – she will be allocated a half hour slot at the beginning of the meeting.

**3815: Parish meeting dates:** these have been arranged and will take place on 18<sup>th</sup> April at Whitchurch Canonicorum and Stanton St. Gabriel and on 20<sup>th</sup> April at Wootton Fitzpaine

**3816: Items for next agenda:** Play Area at Whitchurch, Verges

**3817: Date of next meeting:** Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at James Hargreaves Community Hall Morcombelake.

**3818: Any matters of urgency:** None were raised.

**3819: Closure of Meeting:** The meeting was closed at 9.50pm.