

## CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

### FOUR HUNDRED AND TWENTY THIRD MEETING OF THE CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2018 AT WHITCHURCH CANONICORUM VILLAGE HALL

**4206: Present:** Cllrs: S Creed-Castle, H Joyce, C Mahaddie, C Everidge, R Colby, C Sage, D Snook, S Johnson, S Christopher, A Marks (Clerk), Sarah Hutson, Ali Cameron, Sarah Dewe

**4207: Apologies for absence:** Cllr. Vaughan, Cllr. Turner, Cllr. Eager

**4208: Public Discussion Period:** PCSO Sara Hudston and Ali Cameron, Chairman of the Upper Marshwood Vale PC, spoke about the meeting taking place on 29<sup>th</sup> November, chaired by police commissioner Martin Underhill concerning the A35 and the problems associated with accidents on the road. Together with Sir Oliver Letwin they have been very active in setting up an A35 committee to organise traffic through the vale. They also discussed fibre broadband in the Marshwood Vale, following the last update by Outreach 25 houses were missed and the cost to supply these properties is £68,000, the government will cover £30,000 and in the meantime the PCC have contacted the council as there is money leftover from the last update. The Chairman commented that CVC sea regularly with Sir Oliver Letwin and other interested parties on an A35 committee and suggested Upper Marshwood Vale might also wish to be included. CVPC were also instrumental in obtaining an improved Broadband service for Whitchurch.

**4209: Introduction to Sarah Dewe:** Ms. Dewe, the new footpath officer for Wootton Fitzpaine attended. Cllr. Joyce and the clerk will make arrangements to meet with the footpath officers of both Whitchurch Canonorum and Wootton Fitzpaine

**4210: Declarations of Interest:** None

**4211: Resolution to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018:** proposed by Cllr. Johnson and seconded by Cllr. Creed-Castle, agreed unanimously

**4212: Clerk's actions following the last meeting:** Following the meeting in October the clerk sent out the grant donations and has received a number of thank you's and acknowledgements, Whitchurch Pre-School are using their donation of £500 towards a Mud Kitchen for their garden.

The Countryside Working Party held a further meeting at the end of October and the comments made at this meeting have been posted on the Char Valley website and sent out to all the councillors. The clerk has obtained four notices from Bredy the veterinary surgeons in Bridport which will be posted around the area.

The clerk purchased a Remembrance wreath for Wootton Fitzpaine and this was displayed outside the village hall commemorating 100 years since the end of WW1 and is displayed on the web site.

The clerk attended the public annual meeting of the finance committee at James Hargreaves Community Hall on 6<sup>th</sup> October, the minutes being sent under separate cover. The precept for the financial year 2019/2020 will be £19,179.00, an increase of just over £200 on the current year. With the council elections taking place in 2019, some of the costs created by this will fall on the parish and town councils such as paying for the polling stations, presiding officers and clerk. The clerk queried that, as we are a grouped council, would we have to pay for these in each village and this is the reply received from DAPTC:

*Having checked with my colleagues at WDDC about the current voting arrangements for your areas, the answer is yes, due to the arrangements for your parish areas you will need to factor the costs associated with three polling stations and three sets of staff into your calculations.*

*To put that into context, in terms of elections we are required look at individual parish areas regardless of whether they operate as part of a group. We would not run an election based on the Char Valley Group but rather for Whitchurch Canonorum, Wootton Fitzpaine or Stanton St Gabriel. In practice, it is unlikely that all constituent parish areas of a group would be contested at the same election due to the size of the areas that have resulted in a grouped arrangement.*

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The clerk contacted the enforcement team at WDDC regarding possible planning infringements at Champernhayes and Griddleshay which are now being investigated by them.

The clerk has contacted Stephen Lee regarding changing the position of the CVPC notice board outside the post office in Morcombelake at a cost of £100 - £120 plus VAT. She has also contacted Stephen Lee regarding repairing the grit bin outside James Hargreaves community hall.

**Action:Clerk**

The clerk awaits a reply from Simon Roberts at Highways dept for WDDC regarding an update on the signage at the junction of Gassons Lane. The clerk has now received an email from Simon Roberts shown below *Rather than exchanging emails to enlarge on an issue, if you would prefer to call my works number 07500577327 I will be happy to discuss this or any other issues.*

*Kind Regards*

*Simon Roberts.*

The clerk attended a meeting with Cllrs.Peck, Everidge and Snook regarding the next edition of Char Chat which will be published in the New Year.

### **4213: Reports:**

**BLAP** nothing to report

**WATAG** nothing to report

**DAPTC:** Cllr Snook attended the AGM at County Hall, Dorchester on 10 November 2018. All motions were carried. Rebecca Knox, leader of the shadow unitary council spoke on progress. Dorset Council will come into being on 1 April 2019. From the floor, there was a general feeling of lack of communication and two way dialogue between town and parish councils and the shadow unitary council.

**DAPTC – What it does.** Most parish and town councils in Dorset are members of DAPTC. It provides support and training and assistance to members. It is backed by the National Association of Local Councils. Members can refer to DAPTC for legal advice, procedural advice, financial and insurance advice.

DAPTC disseminates information. It publishes newsletters and circulars regarding changes in local government legislation. It filters huge amounts of information from central government and decides what to publish in its circulars. It provides training for councillors, clerks and chairmen. It also provides refresher training. DAPTC responds to government consultation papers on behalf of its members. It organises seminars and holds an annual meeting in the spring, where speakers provide information on topical issues. It lobbies on specific issues. The DAPTC representative attends the western area meetings in Bridport, where current issues are discussed.

**Verges** The clerk still awaits a reply regarding cutting the verges in Blunthays Lane, she will send a further email

**Action:Clerk**

**Cllr Everidge:** Cllr Everidge has attended six meetings on behalf of CVPC since the October meeting. Forthcoming meetings she will attend are -

19.11.2018 Bridport Local Area Partnership (BLAP) - Health and Wellbeing

21.11.2018 Liaison Meeting - Lyme Regis Town Council and the surrounding Dorset Parishes

22.11.2018 Western Area Transport Action Group (WATAG)

06.12.2018 Bridport Local Area Partnership (BLAP) - Steering Group

08.01.2019 Bridport Local Area Partnership (BLAP) - Management Team

11.01.2019 A35 Bridport Area Committee

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**Cllr.Snook:** A large crack at Westover Bridge on the left hand side going up the hill was reported to Highways working Party. A parishioner has requested that we look again at the issue of speed through the main part of Wootton Fitzpaine Village as her dog was run over earlier in the year. Cllr Colby informed the meeting that this is a long process based on measured speeds on a road. Cllr Snook commented that a recent speed survey in Wootton had shown that speeds were not excessive. The meeting decide not to take any action.  
There were no further councillor reports.

**4214: County and District Councillors' Reports:** Neither councillor attended the meeting

**4215: Planning:**

**Responses submitted to WDDC before November's meeting – full details can be found on the website**

- WD/D/18/001763 LAND KNOWN AS PAM'S MEADOW SOUTH OF STONEBARROW LANE, CHARMOUTH Formation of new vehicular access and reconfigure the parking/turning area and associated works. CVPC objects to the scale of the proposed access which appears over large for domestic requirements. However, there is no objection, in principle, to access being created at this point.
- WD/D/18/001877 GABRIELS, STONEBARROW LANE, CHARMOUTH, BRIDPORT DT6 6RA Erection of first floor balcony. CVPC has no objection to this planning application
- WD/D/18/002169 NUTCOMBE COTTAGE, GREEN PIT KNAPP, WOOTTON FITZPAINE DT6 6NA Conversion of existing detached car port to be used as holiday purposes or ancillary accommodation. The parish council working party (3 councillors) came to a 2 to 1 majority in favour of this application
- WD/D/18/001953 THE BLUE HOUSE, VERRIOTTS LANE, MORCOMBELAKE, BRIDPORT DT6 6DU Erection of single storey ancillary accommodation - CVPC believes that the applicant should be asked to provide more information, including the proposed drainage route from the new building, before a decision is taken.
- WD/D/18/002384 WYLD MEADOW FARM, POUND LANE, MONKTON WYLD, BRIDPORT DT6 6DD. Erection of a barn - We have no objection to this planning application. The barn will be well screened and is in an unobtrusive position

**Responses considered at the meeting:**

- WD/D/18/002270/1 CHERRY COTTAGE, WHITCHURCH CROSS TO JN GASSONS LANE, WHITCHURCH CANONICORUM, BRIDPORT DT6 6RF. Erection of single storey side extension & alterations, incorporating existing garage – Char Valley Parish Council objects to this proposal solely in respect to the view from the road towards the new link and the converted garage.
- WD/D/18/002349 1 IVY COTTAGES, TIZARD'S KNAP, MORCOMBELAKE, BRIDPORT DT6 6EE Demolition of porch and erection of replacement porch and first floor extension. Carry out alterations – Char Valley Parish Council have no objection to this proposal.
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**iii) West Dorset District Council Decisions (to note):**

**Approvals / Refusals** - None

**iv) Appeal Decision** – None

**v)**

**vi) Enforcement:**

**vii) General:** CVPC to write to WDDC Planning Department regarding problems experienced in contacting planning officers.

**Action: Cllr Joyce**

## CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

### 4216: Finance

#### PAYMENTS FOR NOVEMBER 2018

Payee	Details	Cheque no.	Receipt no.	Amount
Annette Marks	Clerk's salary	500220	1118/1	£431.42
HMRC	PAYE for November 2018	500221	1118/2	£85.00
Stoneform	Repainting & cleaning of war memorial	500222	1118/3	£450.00
S Lee	Lenghthman's services for October	500223	1118/4	£124.80
D Snook	Return mileage to DAPTC AGM	500224	1118/5	£21.60
KAL Marquees	Marquee hire for LSI	500225	1118/6	£43.20
Bridport Area Development Trust	Donation of WW1 exhibition	500226	1118/7	£50.00
Alex Brooks Furniture	40% deposit for White Gates	500227	1118/8	£980.00
<b>Total</b>				<b>£2,185.02</b>

The finances were proposed by Cllr. Creed-Castle, seconded by Cllr. Snook and approved unanimously.

**Action: Clerk**

#### 4217: Results of annual finance meeting:

1. Present Cllrs. Joyce, Creed-Castle, Everidge, Snook and Johnson and the clerk.
2. There were no Declarations of Interest
3. Election costs for 2019 elections – if a parish or town council has an uncontested election, there is no recharge. Shared costs for combined elections (such as polling stations and staff) are split 50/50 but full costs of elements specifically relating to the parish election (eg. Ballot papers) are recharged to the parish or town council. The clerk has received a 'calculator' in the form of a spreadsheet to indicate the approximate cost of a contested election.
4. The draft budget for 2019/20 was agreed at the meeting – the precept will increase from £18,896 to £19,179. It was agreed that councillors could claim travelling expenses and parking when travelling on council business. With the money from the S106 payments our turnover for the tax year 2018/19 will be over £25,000 and it will then be necessary for our budget to be examined by the auditors PFK Littlejohn who charge £200.00. We also need to find a new auditor for our accounts. There is a contingency of £1,000 for a contested election. The committee proposed that we support another local charity and this will be discussed further at our January meeting.

**4218: Local housing survey:** the councillors are happy to go ahead with a local housing survey

**Action: Clerk**

**4219: Whitchurch war memorial refurbishment / Exhibition in Bridport:** the war memorial in Whitchurch has been cleaned and repainted – a photograph of this can be found on the Char Valley website. Cllr. Creed-Castle held a further exhibition of the men from Whitchurch who fell during World War 1 at the LSI in Bridport. The exhibition was over two days and the LSI were very happy with it and are happy for CVPC to do something similar in the future. CVPC donated £50.00 to the LSI for holding the exhibition

**4220: Recent events re badger cull in the area:** the chairman reported that there had been unpleasant events involving protestors and those in favour following a recent badger cull in the area which had now ceased. During this time it became evident that the parish council no longer had a police contact to liaise with directly and the police now wish to redress this as well as re-establishing a neighbourhood watch in the parishes.

**Action: Cllr Joyce**

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**4221: Report from Countryside Working Party:** the tourist office in Bridport Tourist office are now holding copies of the Countryside Code. Unfortunately, Cllr. Colby will be standing down from the Countryside Working Party.

Report for CVPC of the Countryside Working Party meeting on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Present: Cllrs. Joyce, Peck, Johnson, Sage and Vaughan, A Marks (parish clerk)

Apologies: Cllr. Colby, Cllr. Bailey

Results of proposed actions following CVPC meeting

Sheep are being infected with tape worm from dogs., Cllr Colby to discuss with farmers where posters regarding dogs bothering animals should be placed. **Action: Cllr Colby**

Glossary of farming terms – Cllr Johnson has been researching this, but it is rather long winded, and she is trying to make it shorter **Action: Cllr Johnson**

- Cllr Johnson has also been working on a day of a farmer's year; when this is finished she will send it to all the councillors for additions and amendments, Cllr Colby will need this by the end of January

**Action: Cllr Johnson/other working party members**

CVPC footpath officers will be contacted to ensure that they are aware of their duties.

**Action: Clerk/Cllr Joyce**

### Planning

- It is suggested that CVPC writes to WDDC Planning Department regarding the problems experienced by CVPC in contacting planning officers. **Action: Cllr Joyce**
- **Superfast Broadband**
- Cllr. Vaughan is looking further into Superfast Broadband. **Action: Cllr Vaughan**

### Non-farming residents' comments

Comments from non-farming Whitchurch residents, randomly collected by Cllr Peck were circulated prior to the meeting and received favourably. Most villagers are in support of the farming community and appreciate many of the problems currently confronting the industry.

Suggested issues arising from CWP comments to be discussed and actioned where CVPC requests

### **1 Slurry/river water quality**

Following discussion about slurry spreading and the water quality of the River Char, CWP recommends that CVPC should contact the environment agency regarding the state of the River Char – offering co-operation in improving water quality

**Action; Cllr Joyce**

Cllr Johnson undertook to enquire if another a track could be left around fields with footpaths, so walkers can avoid slurry spreads.

**Action: Cllr Johnson**

### **2 Transport**

It was noted that hedges in Ryall Road have been cut back thus improving the road width. Various other transport issues were examined, and the following recommendations made -

- i) That CVPC should pursue the imposition of a 20mph speed limit through Whitchurch village but that bumps would be inappropriate **Action: Cllr Colby/Joyce**
- ii) The Gassons Lane corner in Whitchurch is very narrow for large vehicles to negotiate – Residents could be requested to ask for smaller delivery vans. DCC should also be contacted to see if the corner can be fashioned to accommodate larger vehicle.  
Cllr Johnson reminded the meeting that the camber of the road is being altered which is expected to make a favourable difference to vehicles navigating the corner and it was agreed to delay contact at the stage.

If possible, controls on the new pedestrian crossing at Morcombelake should be placed at heights suitable for both wheelchair users and horseback riders leaning down from their saddles.

**Action: Cllr Everidge/Clerk**

- iii) Next meeting of the working party to be held on 7<sup>th</sup> January

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**4222: S106 update** – our application has been approved.

**4223: A35 update:** Balfour Beatty have offered us a copy of their A35 resilience plan

**4224: Date of next meeting** – 14th January at Wootton Fitzpaine Village Hall

**4225: Any other business** None

**4226: Items for next meeting,** A35, National Park proposal, Countryside Working Party report, road calming, report from S106 working party

**4205: Close of meeting:** the meeting closed at 9.10pm