

MINUTES FOR JUNE 2019 - CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

FOUR HUNDRED AND TWENTY NINTH MEETING OF THE CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY 10th JUNE 2019 AT WHITCHURCH CANONICORUM VILLAGE HALL.

4334: Present: Cllrs. H.Joyce,, C.Bailey, K Vaughan, C Sage, C Mahaddie, J.Eager, S Creed-Castle, C Noon, A Carey, A.Marks (clerk), Cllr, S.Christopher,

4335: Apologies for absence: Cllr. C Peck, S Johnson

4336: Public Discussion Period: Nothing

4337: Declaration of Interest: None

4338: Resolution to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th May 2019: proposed by Cllr. Bailey and seconded by Cllr. Mahaddie and agreed unanimously.

4339: Clerk's actions following the last meeting:

- a. The clerk has written to the leader of the 1st Charmouth Guides following their request for a donation of funds asking them to be more specific as to what they wish to use the funds for – once a reply has been received the clerk will bring this to the next parish council meeting for further discussion
- b. The clerk has contacted the lengthsman again asking him if he would be willing to take on the task of cleaning the village signs and fingerposts and she still has not received his reply.
- c. The clerk has again contacted Ken Hussey to see whether he has visited Whitchurch pre-school regarding the wobbly fence, he has replied stating that he missed the first E mail but had mentioned the fence in his inspection earlier in the year. He will come back with a price before undertaking the work
- d. Unfortunately, none of the other 'ethical' banks offer the facilities we require. The clerk has discovered that we can open a savings account alongside our current account with the Co-op Bank which currently pays 0.50% in interest. The Co-op can also provide with a paying book for use at the local post office. This proposal will be put before the council at July's meeting as well as deciding who we should add as signatories on the account, we shall arrange a further meeting of the finance committee to complete the application form and change of signatories' form.
- e. By the time of the next parish council meeting the clerk will have updated the parish council's website with updated councillor details – in the past this was undertaken by Hugo Fox and now the role has been passed onto the users.
- f. The Chairman asked for a query about the Annual Governance and Accountability Returns (AGAR) papers to be clarified before being signed. The meeting authorised the chairman to sign the return when clarification had been obtained. Then the exemption certificate can be sent off to the accountants P K F Littlejohn, the external auditors.

4340: Councillor profiles

- **Cllr. Hilary Joyce**

Runs an organic farm in Whitchurch where she has lived for nearly 30 years, previously ran a PR and marketing consultancy.

- **Cllr. Clive Sage**

A farmer living in Monkton Wyld

- **Cllr. Sylvia Creed-Castle**

Runs a small farm – the last in Whitchurch Canonicorum, as well as a camp site.

- **Cllr. Julia Eager**

A new member of the parish council, moved to the Char Valley 3 years ago previously the head of a school in Salisbury

- **Cllr. Chris Bailey**

A dairy farmer and longest standing member of the Char Valley Parish Council at this meeting, Cllr. Johnson has served for longer. She manages the farm with her son.

- **Cllr. Andrew Carey**

He has lived at Westhay for 32 years, he is a publisher by trade in Charmouth.

- **Cllr. Clare Mahaddie**

Cllr. Mahaddie has lived here for 16 years, she trained as an architect and worked as a town planner in Milton Keynes.

- **Cllr. Chris Noon**

Moved to the Char Valley last August and runs fitness classes. Previously lived near London and qualified as a civil engineer.

- **Cllr. Kit Vaughan**

Cllr. Vaughan has two young children and lives on a 52-acre holding restoring woodland, previously he worked in agriculture and conservation. He has a Master's degree in agriculture.

4341: Reports

Bridport Local Area Partnership (BLAP)

Terms of reference for the partnership were discussed and agreed.

The following issues were raised -

1 The Climate Emergency policy adopted by the new Dorset Councils was not listed on the agenda of its first meeting.

2 Cllr Christopher is the new Chairman of the Planning Committee

3 Dorset Councils will be looking again at the devolvement of services to parish councils and are not bound by previous decisions.

4 No pre-application planning advisory service is now available at Mountfield and it is unclear whether this will be continued. If so, a charge is likely to be made. Further enquiries are being made.

5 Residents are angered by the alleged high-handed behaviour of the bus company proposing to introduce double decker buses on the route through Litton Cheney, Askerswell and Loders. Residents have been asked to cut hedges back and high enough to clear the buses.

Western Area Traffic Advisory Group (WATAG)

1 There needs to be greater communication on public transport provisions between WATAG and Dorset Council on behalf of all interested parties as this is now the only channel of communication. Unfortunately,

Dorset Council have declined to send a representative as they have 'fewer councillors' and 'do not have the time'.

2 Bus company representatives confirmed that all hedges bordering the road should be cut 16ft above the road surface. Their buses are 14.6 ft high. 3 The bus company says a Sunday X53 is inviable but it is possible for town and parish councils to subsidise a service without Dorset Council permission.

3 There are new timetables for the Lyme to Exeter and Axminster to Honiton routes.

4 A transformation of Bridport Bus Station into a "Transport Hub" is underway which will include a parking and a skateboarding facility.

5 Several instances were reported to the bus company where connecting buses have only 1- or 2-minutes leeway potentially leaving passengers stranded for many hours if the connection is not made.

Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councillors.

DAPTC has stated in recent correspondence that it 'made its presence felt' in the reorganisation of the new Dorset unitary councils and is now keen to press home a case for greater involvement in shaping working practises in the new councils.

They are suggesting that both parish and town councils can help this aim by demonstrating the important work that they do in situ. The Chair of DAPTC, Councillor Alan Thacker, requests that we complete a form showing examples of the work we regularly undertake as well as the services we provide for our community, specifically examples that demonstrate the strategic importance of what we do in terms of the wider debates such as improving the health and wellbeing of local residents, improving community safety and/or supporting the local economy and environment. This form has to be returned by 31st July 2019.

There is also a request that all councils send 2 representatives to DAPTC area committees and events. We have received a request for proposals for the AGM on Saturday 9th November. The closing date for submitting proposals is Tuesday 6th August. I was unable to attend the recent DAPTC Western Area meeting as I was away. No minutes have been forthcoming to date so I will report back on that meeting at the Parish Council meeting in July.

Verges

Only one cut per annum is taking place and this is timed for the second half of June. Can all councillors report to Cllr. Mahaddie by 30th June if their verges have not been cut. The work is being undertaken by the same staff as prior to the unitary council.

Councillor reports

- Papers by Cllr Carey and Vaughan were considered under 4345. No further reports.

4342: County Council Reports: -

- Cllr. Christopher advised the meeting that there was an application to build 400 houses at Littlemoor, this has been deferred for a site visit. Cllr. Christopher has attended meetings for pending induction courses, Cllr. Christopher also attended Care in the Community run by Tim Goodson talking about doctor's surgeries, there are currently 84 in Dorset but there is a problem recruiting young doctors as they do not wish to be equity partners. The main problem of retaining GP's is because of their pensions – there is a lifetime cap on pensions of £1,055,000. Sunday 9th June was Open Farm Sunday. Regarding climate change Barry Sherman is the only MP who has been invited to attend climate change meetings. Cllr. Christopher suggested that Cllr. Vaughan contacts Sir Oliver Letwin regarding problems with River Char.

4343: Planning applications

- **Responses submitted to WDDC before June's meeting –**
- WD/D/19/001088/9 MANOR GARDENS, WOOTTON LANE, WOOTTON FITZPAINE, BRIDPORT DT6 6NH Erection of dwelling, garage, garden store & associated landscaping. Restoration of listed boundary wall & bothy
- *We have no objections to the proposed development at Manor Gardens. We would suggest that conditions are put in place for only one residential dwelling on the site, and tied into the restoration of the listed garden walls.*
- **Responses to be considered at June's meeting:**
- WD/D/19/001165/6 ROSE COTTAGE, WESTOVER HILL, WOOTTON FITZPAINE, BRIDPORT DT6 6ND Recoating of the thatched roof, replacement of all double glazed windows and doors with Slenderglaze units and replace original entrance door with window, raising of one chimney and reinstatement of another and internal alterations – *Char Valley Parish Council have no objection to this planning application*
- WD/D/19/000945 & 001207 WYLD MEADOW FARM, POUND LANE, MONKTON WYLD, BRIDPORT DT6 6DD New Solar Farm (revised layout and design) comprising of solar arrays, equipment housing & ancillary/associated equipment and continued use of land for agricultural purposes (grazing). Amendments include: erection of a network operator and private substation and switchgear house; development of a turning and parking area in north corner of the site; three inverter and transformer housing enclosures (instead of four previously permitted) and in revised locations; minor changes to appearance of inverter housing; minor changes to solar panel specification and siting; additional hedgerow works and associated revisions to the siting of the security fence; additional landscaping including the planting of seven oak trees and the planting of new hedgerows; the construction of a 3.5 m wide access track adjacent to the north-west boundary and a wall mounted CCTV camera fixed to the substation and switchgear house in addition to the three pole mounted CCTV cameras previously proposed - Variation of condition no 2 of Planning Approval 1/D/13/00175. *Planning application 000945 has already been approved by Dorset Council. There is no objection to application 001207 but recommend that there should be a time limit*
- WD/D/19/000844/5 SHIP FARM, SHIP KNAPP, MORCOMBELAKE, BRIDPORT DT6 6EW Replacement of windows. Replacement of French doors in lower ground floor. Repointing of house & chimney. Remove cement render on rear elevation. Relay/replace roof slates. Installation of conservation velux window in shower room. Repair/rebuild & alterations to garden walls at front elevation. Replacement of modern brick/cement wall. Lowering of ground level at front of house to reduce water run-off, matching of ground and front wall levels to angle of house. Trenching in front of house to try to alleviate chronic damp problems. Retaining wall 20cm off house for trench, topped with gravel drainage trays. Replacement of plastic UPVC sheet veranda with traditional bespoke cast iron and glass veranda – *CVPC have no objection and there is a very minor change of view of the house from the road*
- **Dorset County Council Decisions (to note):** none
- **Appeal decision:**
- **Enforcement:** none to consider

4344: Finance:

- The following were approved for payment - proposed by Cllr. Eager and seconded by Cllr. Mahaddie, passed unanimously.

PAYMENTS FOR JUNE 2019

Payee	Details	Cheque no.	Receipt no.	Amount
Annette Marks	Clerk's salary	500259	0619/1	£385.44
HMRC	PAYE for June	500260	0619/2	£88.00
Wootton Fitzpaine Village Hall	Hall hire for 2 meetings	500261	0619/3	£47.00
Total				£520.44

- Two new signatories were required for the CVC bank account and Cllr. Carolyn Peck and Cllr. Chris Bailey were proposed by Cllr. Eager and seconded by Cllr. Mahaddie, passed unanimously. It was also proposed that a savings account paying interest be opened with the Co-operative Bank as too much money is currently held in the non-interest paying current account. This was proposed by Cllr. Eager and seconded by Cllr. Vaughan passed unanimously.

4345: Climate emergency

- Cllr Carey had previously circulated a paper about the worldwide climate change and environmental emergency. Following discussion CVPC voted unanimously to acknowledge the climate change and environmental emergency, proposed by Cllr. Carey seconded by Cllr. Vaughan, passed unanimously as follows – Char Valley Parish Council and the Climate Emergency
- It was agreed that a working party consisting of all CVPC councillors would discuss the paper further and make action recommendations to the July meeting.
- Cllr Joyce asked that delegated powers be given to the chairman to enable the reporting of environmental offences by CVPC. Any reported offence would be checked by the Chairman and, where possible, one other councillor before a report would be made. Because of the urgency of reporting such offences, it was usually not possible to obtain email comments from all CVPC councillors. There had been three complaints recently, (possible river pollution, hedge cutting out of season and copious smoke from fires during a dry period,) two of which should have been reported. This was proposed by Cllr. Carey and seconded by Cllr. Vaughan, passed with one abstention.
- Cllr Vaughan had previously circulated a paper about environmental issues in the Char Valley parish area.
- It was agreed that the Climate Change and Countryside Working Party should look at these points and report to the CVPC July meeting.

4346: S106 update

- Cllr. Mahaddie has spoken to Nick Shannon regarding designing the bus shelter but he is unable to start for a while **Action; Cllr. Mahaddie**

4347: A35 volunteer group update

- Nothing to report

4348: Wishing well in Whitchurch

- Cllr Joyce reported that the lock on the well door is jammed but the hole into which it might be locked has disintegrated. So even if the lock worked, it could not be secured. The door also swells when wet, thus jamming the door into the door space.

- Cllr Joyce to contact Dave Brooks who previously mended the well door. **Cllr Joyce**

4349: National Park updates

- The website is up to date.

4350: What are the best methods of communicating CVPC activities, concerns, and achievements to our local electorate

- Cllr. Noon feels that the local residents do not know what the parish council does or what is happening locally and thinks that we need to make our presence known in the area, he suggested that we produce a quarterly newsletter

Action: the clerk / Cllr. Noon

4351: Byway 89 between Ryall Road and Pitmans Lane (Loscombe Well Road)

- Cllr. Creed-Castle has contacted Nick Goff at Dorset County Council asking him to restrict the size of the vehicles along this track. However, he advised that this could be difficult to achieve and would require a traffic order. Councillor Creed-Castle asked him when the road was classified as a BOAT and has asked whether a sign could be erected stating that the road is unsuitable for large vehicles and she is still awaiting a reply, it was suggested that she contacts Richard Colby for guidance

- **Action – Cllr. Creed-Castle**

4352: Cleaning of village signposts and repairs to notice boards

- The clerk is still waiting to receive a reply from the lengthsman regarding this, she will contact him again.

Action – the clerk

4353: Twinning Association with Lyme Regis on 24th July

- The Lyme Regis mayor will attend the Sir George Somers memorial service in Whitchurch church followed by afternoon tea. Cllrs. Eager and Creed-Castle will represent CVPC at the lunch and ceremony beforehand in Lyme Regis. CVPC to pay for the lunch.

4354: Date of next meeting: 15th July 2019 at Wootton Fitzpaine village hall

4355: Any other business:

- The clerk has been experiencing problems with downloading the councillor's photographs onto the website and it was agreed that their photographs will no longer appear on the website

4356: Items for next agenda

- Upper Marshwood Vale neighbourhood plan, newsletters and publications, verges, by-ways, CVPC to be represented at Fruit and Flower Show in August

4366: Close of meeting – meeting closed at 10.05