



CHAR VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

422nd Meeting of Char Valley Parish Council held remotely on 11th January 2021

MINUTES

4620: Present:

Cllrs. H Joyce, C Peck, C Mahaddie, C Noon, S Johnson, J Eager, A Carey, J Jones, S Creed-Castle, K. Vaughan, T Hansford, C Bailey, M Stainer (Clerk). In attendance: Cllr. S Christopher (Dorset Council). Emma O'Brien.

4621: Apologies for absence:

None.

4622: Public forum:

No members of the public present wished to speak.

4623: Declarations of interest:

None.

4624: Resolution to approve the minutes of the CVPC meeting held on 19th November 2020.

Proposed by Cllr. Carey and seconded by Cllr. Mahaddie. Agreed unanimously.

4625: Actions following last meeting:

As mentioned in reports.

4626: Planning applications:

a. Responses submitted to Dorset Council before the meeting:

WD/D/20/002464 – Pax Cottage, Ryall. Opposed by the council.

b. Responses submitted to Dorset Council before the meeting:

Champhenhayes Corner. Cllr. Hansford has received the majority of member responses. The majority view was that the caravan was not acceptable, but that the other items were, and there should be no retrospective planning. Compilation of comments to be collected and sent to the clerk.

c. Dorset Council Decisions:

None.

d. Enforcement:

None.

4627: Finance:

a. Payments:

Cllr. Creed-Castle asked if online banking had progressed with the council's bankers, the Co-operative Bank. The clerk commented that, as he was only just in post, he could only observe that progress was slow and that his ability to take this matter forward was restricted, as the clerk is not a

signatory to the account. The clerk agreed to draft a letter to the bank, to be signed by two signatories, requesting: (i) confirmation of the current signatories; (ii) change of address for the statements to the new clerk's home address; and (iii) authority for the clerk to be able to enquire on the account. Cllr. Joyce suggested that the council look at opening an account with another bank as the online banking access problem had been an issue for about 18 months.

PAYMENTS FOR DECEMBER 2020

Payee	Details	Cheque no.	Receipt no.	Amount
Annette Marks	Clerk's salary	500382	1220/1	£ 404.21
HMRC	PAYE for December	500383	1220/2	£ 90.40
Ken Hussey	Repairs to play equipment at Whitchurch pre school	500384	1220/3	£ 560.21
Andrew Carey	Cost of website domain name	500385	1220/4	£ 14.75
DAPTC	Training on website access	500386	1220/5	£ 20.00
TOTAL				£1,089.57

b. Approval of the precept for 2021-22:

Cllr. Joyce had previously circulated precept papers which contained a proposal from the Finance Committee for a precept of £19,403 for 2021-22, which is £64 lower than the previous year (£19,467). Proposed by Cllr. Peck and seconded by Cllr. Johnson. Agreed unanimously.

c. Additional payments to graveyards:

Cllr. Joyce reported on discussions at the Finance Committee where it had been suggested that, because of the greatly reduced incomes of the churches due to Covid, an additional one-off payment might be made toward the maintenance of the graveyards. Cllr. Peck proposed 50% of the original annual payment, as a one-off, which was seconded Cllr. Noon. Agreed unanimously.

4628: Report from Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Group:

- Cllr. Joyce thanked Cllr. Carey for his work on this report. Cllr. Carey has sent out 3 draft documents, earlier this evening, to members of the working group. Cllr. Carey pulled together these documents from his reading of a large number of other responses from, and participation in, relevant local groups, and has included the responses which are most relevant to a parish like ours, and to us.
- Cllr. Carey explained that the documents are on the website. All responses need to be submitted to Dorset council by 20 January 2021 and the working group will come up with a confirmed response in time for submission.
- Cllr. Joyce asked Cllr. Carey if the proposed response was consistent with the current policy of one year ago. Cllr. Carey confirmed that the proposed response is consistent but that there are now topics that were not previously covered.
- Cllr. Joyce proposed, for the purpose of procedural approval, that if the members of the working group approve the response, and on the understanding that it is consistent with the current policy, then the council delegates the approval. Any comments on the draft response needs to be submitted to the working group by 6pm on 14 January 2021. Proposed by Cllr. Vaughan and seconded by Cllr. Eager. Agreed by majority (not all were present for voting purposes due to technical difficulties).
- River Char Project. Cllr. Vaughan reported that Ian Rees and Nick Gray have been reaching out, contacting landowners and farmers in the area for feedback. Cllr. Vaughan will gather feedback on their (Ian and Nick) questionnaire document, collate comments and feedback.
- Cllr. Carey added that draft proposal suggests that Dorset Council brings together other catchment areas with the River Char project to develop a scheme for the whole of Dorset.

4629: Report from Communications Working Group:

- Cllr. Noon commented that the notice boards are running well with effort from Cllr. Creed-Castle and members volunteering.

- Cllr. Noon reported that Cllr. Carey has been working hard on the website. A couple of issues remain that will be brought to the council with recommendations.
- Cllr. Noon reported that if any councillors want to over their e-mail address to a council address then could they please contact the working group.
- Cllr. Noon was hoping that the working group would bring a proposal for a full version of the new style guide to the next meeting.

4630: Report from Cllr. Christopher (Dorset Council):

- Cllr. Christopher commented that he had some recent complaints from a local firm about the length of time it is taking to deal with planning applications.
- Cllr. Christopher commented Dorset that Council is looking to protect services.
- Cllr. Christopher commented on the Oxford Farming Conference and that he would lobby for the financial sustainability of council farmers.
- Cllr. Christopher is expecting an announcement, within the next week or so, will announce some good news with respect to looked after and vulnerable children within the county of Dorset.
- Cllr. Christopher will continue to chase poor Broadband issues.
- The Police and Crime Commissioner elections will proceed in May 2021.
- The consultation with respect to the Local Plan will commence next week.
- Cllr. Christopher stated his desire for lorries to diverted from Chideock and Morcombelake.

4631: Report from Farming Interest Working Group:

- Cllr. Johnson commented that milk prices had dropped by 2p a litre in January.

4632: Report from Local Amenities Working Group:

- Nothing additional to report.

4633: Report from Planning Working Group:

- Cllr. Mahaddie reported that Cllr. Jones has been co-opted to the working group.

4634: Report from Staffing Committee:

- Cllr. Eager reported that Mike Stainer has been appointed as the new clerk.

4635: Report from Transport Working Group:

- Cllr. Noon reported that he is still awaiting a meeting with Chris Loder MP.
- Call from the government for input and evidence on the future of transport in rural areas with a response date of 16th February. A summary of papers will be circulated to the working group by Cllr. Noon in time for a response at the next council meeting.

4636: Report from Whitchurch Canonorum Playground Working Group:

- Cllr. Eager reported that she had done a new risk assessment.
- Cllr. Noon had raised a question about insurance in the event of trespass. The clerk agreed to contact our insurers to understand our position.

4637: Date of the next meeting:

- 8th February 2021 at 7.30pm via remote invitation using 'GoToMeeting'.

Meeting closed at 20.53.