

# CHIDEOCK PARISH COUNCIL

**Clerk to the Council:**

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**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall, Chideock on Tuesday 30 September 2014 at 10:00 am.**

**Present:** Cllrs Elizabeth Grant (Chair), Roger Carey, Kate Geraghty and Rob Murray.

**In attendance:** The Clerk, DCC Cllr Turner and 1 member of the public.

The Parish Council meeting commenced at **10:03 am**.

**1519 Apologies.** None.

The Clerk reported that she had inadvertently omitted to invite PCSO Ash and West Dorset Councillor Summers to the meeting.

**1520 Grant of Dispensations.** None.

**1521 Declarations of Defined Pecuniary Interests.** None.

**1522 Minutes.**

a) **RESOLVED** to accept and sign, as a true record, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 29 July 2014.

Proposed by Cllr Grant, seconded by Cllr Carey, carried unanimously.

**1523 County and District Councillors' and Police Reports.**

a) DCC Cllr Turner spoke as follows:

- As usual August was a quiet month at DCC and WDDC
- DCC has been given a low emission grant by central government which is being used to install 2 electric car charging points, one in Bridport and the other in Lyme
- DCC has to save another £12m
- WDDC also has to achieve further savings
- WDDC and Weymouth and Portland Council are in talks with North Dorset District Council with a view to expanding the current 2 council partnership to cover the 3 councils – a “transformation fund” of £600,000 from central government is available to achieve this. If this happens then there will be one management team for the 3 councils.
- WDDC is considering charging Parishes / Towns for elections when there is no other election on the same date. This would only occur if a Parish or Town Council by-election was called. The proposal is being considered by the Efficiency Scrutiny Committee and will then go to the Policy Scrutiny Committee.

Cllr Geraghty asked if Cllr Turner could give an update on the situation within WDDC Development Control, as he is a District Councillor as well as CPCs County Councillor. Cllr Turner said that 2 senior officers have left and that their replacements have also left. Part of the problem is that WDDC cannot attract suitable candidates. A further issue in the Development Control process is the number of applications which are now failing the validation process, which is delaying registration of applications.

Cllr Geraghty asked Cllr Turner to raise with WDDC the issue of many Development Control officers and other staff taking holiday leave in August and in December / January as this can mean that there is no one able to deal with planning queries from Parish Councils and the public.

*Standing Orders were suspended for the following item.*

**1524 Democratic Period.**

Mr Richard Benjamin, Chair of the Village Hall Committee, gave a brief update about the Village Hall and the Village Hall Committee:-

- There will be a small surplus this financial year (to 30 September 2014)

- £4000 has been received in donations, fund raising events have been successfully run and this money, together with CPCs contribution, are ring-fenced for maintenance
- The next step is to investigate the extent of rot in the timber frame. The flat roof of the extension is no longer leaking but will need replacing, as will the main roof at some point.
- The emergency lighting is now functional and leaks in the heating system have been fixed, a rotten window frame has been replaced and air vents have been cleared
- Management rules and other documents are being drawn up
- It has not been possible to apply for grants for works carried out so far as the work has needed to be done immediately. However, grants will be investigated once the scope and cost of major repairs is known
- The Village Hall AGM is on 27 October
- The village has shown a lot of support for the Village Hall
- Cllr Murray said that the Treasurer is to be congratulated on the work done on the accounts, budget and monitoring of costs.

*Standing Orders were resumed.*

## 1525 Reports / Updates by the Clerk and Councillors.

Items 1 to 28 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**, with the exception of those detailed below, which were discussed in more detail.

- a) **Item 1 – A35 Road Surface.** Andy Kirby has told the Clerk that he should have an answer for the Parish Council this week.
- b) **Item 6 – Bullens Lane.** Cllr Grant said the Mr Maskell has cleared the area bordering his property and that she will do any further clearance needed. **EG**
- c) **Item 7 – Chideock Castle. AGREED** that CPC will support the suggested actions but cannot be directly involved. Clerk to check if the land is part of the Weld Trust or owned by Mr Coates of Chideock Manor. **CC**
- d) **Item 12 – Clerks’ Seminar.** The Clerk gave a brief report. **AGREED** that the issue of engaging the community for the 2015 Parish Council elections be placed on the October Agenda and that councillors let the Clerk know their ideas prior to the meeting. **ALL**
- e) **Item 13 – DAPTC AGM Motions (2).** **AGREED** that CPCs position on the Bridport Town Council motion be discussed at the October meeting. The Clerk pointed out that CPCs motion needs to be spoken to at the AGM and that she can do that in the absence of a councillor, but that she needs a script. **KG**
- f) **Item 14 - DCC Councillor's Community Budget. AGREED** that the Clerk will send Cllr Turner the requested information regarding the costs of maintaining the Parish Notice Boards. **CC**
- g) **Item 22 – Parish Notice Board at Seatown.** Cllr Geraghty reported that a site visit had been held with Mr Perfect (Palmer's Brewery), Mr Richard Benjamin (Chideock Society), John Hussey and herself (CPC), and a position for the board on Palmer's land was agreed. The refurbished board is now in situ.
- h) **Item 23 – Salt Bins.** All bins are still full from previous years. The Ridwood bin is still in situ.
- i) **Item 24 – Seatown Parking signage. NOTED** that the double yellow lines have not been repainted. Clerk to follow this up with Dorset Highways. **CC**
- j) **Item 27 - The Open & Accountable Local Government Guide. AGREED** that Councillors need to see the relevant sections of this Guide. **AGREED** that whilst it may not be possible to insist that the Council be asked prior to recording taking place, it would be polite if this were done. **CC**

### Other Items

- k) **All Weather Footpath.** Cllr Grant reported that Sarah Silcox (All Weather Footpath Group) has been told by Robin Barbour that the land ownership issue has been resolved and that he can see no reason why this matter cannot now move forward.
- l) **A35 – Air Quality. AGREED** to write to **CC**
  - **WDDC asking for**
    - latest Air Quality figures
    - their response to the recent report re further particulates identified in diesel fuel
    - any impact following the articles in hauliers trade publications re using A303 / M3
  - **HA asking for**
    - Statistics for HGVs using the A35 over past 5 years and reason for any increase
    - Speed data for HGVs at London Inn monitoring point for past 5 years with reason for any increase in proportion of vehicles exceeding speed limit
    - update on the provision of a VOSA Roadside Enforcement Site to west of Chideock
  - **Oliver Letwin MP** asking that he reviews the status of all the possibilities that he investigated as possible ways of reducing the number of HGVs passing through Chideock.

- m) **Sandbag Store.** Cllr Grant has received a letter from WDDC asking if the sandbag store needs to be replenished. **AGREED** that Cllr Grant checks with Mrs Crisp (Community Flood Group) as to whether the main store could take another 20 bags and whether any are needed elsewhere. Cllr Carey said that there are currently none in North Chideock. Cllr Grant to action requesting the additional sandbags. **EG EG**

#### 1526 Planning Matters.

- a) **Applications.** None.
- b) **To consider any applications received after the agenda was circulated.** None.
- c) **Determinations.**  
**WD/D/14/000297** LAND ADJACENT A35, MUDDYFORD LANE Proposed gypsy/traveller site. Occupancy limited to 2 caravans (retrospective) (Full) **REFUSED**  
**WD/D/14/001655** ANCHOR COTTAGE, SEA HILL LANE Retention of oil tank enclosure and alterations to enclosure (Listed Building Consent) **APPROVED**  
**WD/CA/14/00251** IVY COTTAGE, MAIN STREET Surgery to Holly trees, Hawthorn trees and 1No Walnut. **GRANTED**
- d) **Ridwood Affordable Housing Development.**  
 Items 29 - 31 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED. AGREED** with the suggestion that the postal address for the additional houses should be Ridwood if that was what current residents wished.
- e) **Any Other Planning Matters.**
- i. **AONB / Lighting & Dark Skies.** Items 32 - 33 on the Actions and Information List were **NOTED.**
  - ii. **Enforcement.** Items 35 - 39 on the Actions and Information List were **NOTED. AGREED** not to follow up immediately on enforcement at Muddyford Lane, in the light of the planning application refusal, but to wait for a month or so to see if action is taken by WDDC.
  - iii. **Golden Cap Caravan Park.** No update.
  - iv. **Mill Lane Bridleway 18.** No update.
  - v. **Seatown.** Item 34 on the Actions and Information List was **NOTED.**
  - vi. **Other.** Item 40 on the Actions and Information List was **NOTED.**  
 Cllr Geraghty asked Cllr Turner how many Planning Enforcement Officers are in post at WDDC. Cllr Turner said that there are two.

#### 1527 Finances.

Items 41 - 46 on the Actions and Information List were **NOTED.**  
 The Clerk reported that the External Auditors have passed the Annual Return, with a minor comment that the page 2 figures do not add up to the total but are out by £1. The Clerk said that this is because of the rounding to whole pounds which is required.

##### a) Payments.

**RESOLVED** to make the following payments:-

Clerk's Salary & Expenses for September	£251.55
PAYE for July, August & September	£159.00
Mr Lee Martin for hire and use of mower	£90.00
PNW Services for Bus Shelter Cleaning July, August & September	£20.00
Caledonia Play – Basket Swing	£4125.00

Proposed by Cllr Carey, seconded by Cllr Murray, carried unanimously.

- b) **Foss Orchard Car Park.** Andy Kirby has told the Clerk that he should have a drawing of the proposed "toilet" signs this week. **AGREED** that the Clerk sends Mr and Mrs Tilley an update regarding this "toilet" signage (to be provided by Highways Agency / Connect but erected by CPC)) and asks them for an update on the issue of people urinating in the car park. Cllr Grant and Cllr Murray reported that some of the bushes in the car park have been cut back to discourage such activity. **CC**
- c) **Grant request from the Bopper Bus Organisation.** Cllr Grant said that, whilst there were no Chideock children using the Bopper Bus in 2013 – 2104, there are now 4 village children. She further reported that the Fete Committee is going to make a grant to the Bopper Bus Organisation but that the amount is as yet undecided. **AGREED** that CPC will make this up to £500, to be formally resolved at the October meeting when the Fete Committee amount is known. **CC**
- d) **Update of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.** **AGREED** that the Clerk will prepare drafts from the NALC model documents and present them to the Parish Council for consideration at the next meeting. **CC**

#### 1528 Clapps Mead Playing Field.

##### a) New Equipment – Basket Swing.

This has been installed and is proving very popular. Cllr Grant praised the installation team from

Caledonia Play, who also trimmed back excess chain on the junior swing.  
Damage to seat of main swing – **AGREED** that Cllr Grant investigates the cost of a replacement and orders it, provided that it costs no more than £100.00. **EG**

**1529 Flood Management Plan for the Winniford Valley.**

Cllr Carey reported that he is still pursuing issues with some of the gullies in Sea Hill Lane. Markings on the tarmac of Sea Hill Lane near Vine Cottage indicate that the culvert is possibly going to be replaced, on a slightly different line under Sea Hill Lane.  
The run-off onto Sea Hill Lane from adjacent fields in the vicinity of Seahill Cottages / Cumbrey Lane is still an issue and needs action from the land owner / farmer. Clerk to follow up with the Flood Group / Environment Agency re land ownership so that this can be taken forward. **CC**

**1530 Current Consultations.**

- a) **Electoral Review of West Dorset, Local Government Boundary Commission.** This has concluded and has resulted in 24 Wards with 42 councillors. Chideock & Symondsburby Ward has been extended in area, with 1984 electors and 1 councillor.
- b) **WDDC Local Plan Consultation on Further Proposed Changes to the New Local Plan for West Dorset, Weymouth & Portland.** The responses have been sent by WDDC to the Inspector. If the Inspector is satisfied that the council has dealt with his concerns raised at the exploratory meeting, he will re-open the examination of the Local Plan.
- c) **Rural Sounding Board - 1st Survey.** Clerk to collate councillor's responses.
- d) **Dorset Waste Partnership consultation on street cleaning and litter.** Clerk to collate councillor's responses.
- e) **WDDC Service Review of support to Community and Voluntary Sector Organisations in West Dorset.** Clerk to collate councillor's responses.
- f) **Electoral Review of Dorset, Local Government Boundary Commission.** To be considered at the October meeting when more information should be available.

**1531 Motions Received with Notice.** None.

**1532 Correspondence.** There were no other items of correspondence to be brought to Councillors' notice.

**1533 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting of Chideock Parish Council.**

The next meeting of Chideock Parish Council will be on Tuesday 28 October 2014 at 10:00 am.

The meeting closed at **12:03 pm.**