

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 29 September 2015 at 10:00 am.

Present: Cllrs Elizabeth Grant (Chair), Roger Carey, Kate Geraghty, Rob Murray, Irena Campion, Laurie Elliot and David Rogers.

In attendance: The Clerk, WDDC Cllr Christopher and 6 members of the public.

The Parish Council meeting commenced at **10:02 am**.

1686 District Councillor Report.

As Cllr Christopher had a WDDC meeting at 11:00 it was agreed to let him speak at this point in the meeting.

- He is attending a WDDC meeting about Universal Credit and the probably impact in regard to Housing Benefit being paid to the person not the landlord.
- The planning application for Vearse Farm has registered.
- The Local Plan goes before the full WDDC Council on 22 October for adoption.
- He has attended several meetings with Chideock councillors regarding the need for improvements Seatown – this is a “work in progress.”
- The appeal against refusal of planning permission for the land at Muddyford Lane goes before the Planning Inspector in October.
- WDDC is working to reduce the delays in processing Land Charges and Searches.
- A lot of work has been going on over the summer in regard to the merger of West Dorset & Portland and Weymouth with North Dorset.
- There is to be a review of speed limits on the A35 between Honiton and Dorchester.
- The Waste Transfer Station opens on 1 October.
- The WDDC Development Control committee has been meeting twice a month due to the increase in the number of applications which appears to be due to the lack of an adopted Local Plan or defined 5 year land supply.

1687 Apologies. DCC Cllr Turner sent his apologies. *PCSO Ash’s apologies were received after the meeting.*

1688 Grant of Dispensations. None.

1689 Declarations of Defined Pecuniary Interests. None declared

1690 Minutes.

- a) **RESOLVED** to accept and sign, as a true record, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 28 July 2015, after the following amendment:
Page 1, minute 1667, 5th bullet point, 1st line – replace 6th word “the” by “with”
Proposed by Cllr Grant, seconded by Cllr Rogers, carried unanimously.

1691 County and District Councillors’ and Police Reports. *See also 1686.*

Cllr Turner had sent the following information to the Clerk:

“Only issue to note is the Devolution Agenda which seems to be gathering pace, we had a briefing at County yesterday about a Combined authority which as your probably aware was “trumped” by the new “Super” Council proposal from Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & East Dorset District Council.

A number of Councillors are now looking towards a Unitary authority for Dorset as a solution.”

Standing Orders were suspended for the following item.

1692 Democratic Period.

Mrs Lyn Crisp:

- Several males aged about 17 were seen in the early evening of 28 September at Clapps Mead kicking to Play Area fence. A member of the public took photos and they ran off. The police were rung (incident number 28-336) but took no action. Youths have been seen there on other occasions. No damage appears to have been done but a lot of litter was left. Mrs Crisp said she will keep an eye on the area in the evenings.
- A Mill Lane resident is concerned that large HGVs are going up Mill Lane to Roadstead Farm. Clerk to follow this up with DCC Highways. CC
- She would prefer the new swings to be ordered from Caledonia Pay, who supplied the basket swing
- She asked if the Parish Council will consider precepting £500 for the Bopper Bus grant as it done by other parishes
- The recent frequent game shooting is upsetting residents and dogs. She has been advised by the Bournemouth 111 call centre that if it is excessive then it is a public nuisance and the police can take action. The Clerk said that if residents keep a record of when it occurs, including start and end times, this will provide evidence for a public nuisance report to the Police.
- Recently there was an unpleasant incident where a woman (staying in a holiday let in Mill Lane) was letting off display fireworks in Clapps Mead Playing Field. The Police were rung but said they could not do anything as it was before 11 pm. It is however unlawful to let off fireworks on the highway or in a public place unless the owner had given permission.

A member of the public who lives on Chideock Hill spoke of concerns about traffic emissions which are not monitored west of Whitecroft. Cllr Murray gave a summary of the Air Quality Management Area and suggested that maybe Speed Watch could be restarted but that would need volunteers from the community to come forward. It was suggested that the resident write to Cllr Christopher, Highways England and the Police about these concerns.

Cllr Geraghty said that there is a loophole in the law which allows filters to be removed from diesel vehicles, including HGVs and that there is a need for a Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (was VOSA) Roadside Enforcement Site to the west of Chideock and that the Parish Council has been pushing for this for many years but with no success due to the cost.

Standing Orders were resumed.

1693 Reports / Updates by the Clerk and Councillors.

Items 1 to 12A on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**, with the exception of those detailed below, which were discussed in more detail.

- a) **Items 4, 5 & 6 – Disabled Parking Bay, upper Sea Hill Lane. AGREED** that a notice be placed on the pole at the site saying that unless objections are received by the Clerk, the Parish Council intends to ask DCC to revoke the Order which created the disabled bay. EG
- b) **Item 9 - Game Shooting causing a nuisance to residents. AGREED** to write to Chideock Manor saying that residents are concerned about the level of shooting and asking if advance warning can be given e.g. by a notice in the Village Shop. CC
- c) **Item 11 – DCC Verge Cutting Schedule.** Clerk to chase for a response. CC

1694 A35 Matters.

Items 13 to 20 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**, with the exception of those detailed below, which were discussed in more detail.

AGREED that Cllr Christopher be copied in on all future correspondence on the A35. CC

- a) **Item 13B – Air Quality – Defra reports. AGREED** to write to Mr Graham Duggan expressing concern and disappointment regarding the late production of the Defra Air Quality Reports. CC
- b) **The following matter was raised:-**
Cllr Murray said that the trees on the north side of the road between Miles Cross and the Crown roundabout are obscuring the new traffic lights at the Broomhills Waste Transfer Station and asked that this taken up with Symondsburry PC and Bridport TC. CC

1695 Planning Matters.

a) **Applications.**

WD/D/15/001748 IVY COTTAGE, MAIN STREET Replacement of existing stainless steel flue liner with a modern flue system compliant with latest building regulations and HETAS

requirements (Listed Building Consent)

Chideock Parish Council has no objection subject to the Listed Building Officer's recommendations, with the proviso that the proposed stainless steel outer casing must either be completely encased in the chimney pot and so not visible, or have a matt black finish so as to not reflect light

WD/D/15/001770 LARKS HEY, DUCK STREET Construct bin stores and wall (Full)

Chideock Parish Council has no objection.

The Parish Council notes that DCC Highways has stated that there is "No highway objection". However, the plans show the realigned retaining wall as being 2 metres in height. The Parish Council draws your attention to the Highways Act 1980, Section 167 (Powers relating to retaining walls near streets):-

"(1) This section applies to any length of a retaining wall, being a length—

(a) any cross-section of which is wholly or partly within 4 yards of a street; and

(b) which is at any point of a greater height than 4 feet 6 inches above the level of the ground at the boundary of the street nearest that point;

(2) No length of retaining wall, being a length which when erected will be a length of retaining wall to which this section applies, shall be erected otherwise than in accordance with plans, sections and specifications approved by the local authority in whose area the street is situated; and before giving such approval that authority, if they are not the highway authority for the street, shall consult the highway authority."

WD/CA/15/00272 1 HOPE COTTAGES, MAIN STREET T1 - Reduce crown on Walnut by 30% T2 - Reduce Crown on Beech by 30% T3 - Reduce Crown on Beech by 30%

Chideock Parish Council has no objection, subject to the Tree Officer's recommendation

WD/CA/15/00273 2 HOPE COTTAGES, MAIN STREET T5 - 1 no. Ash - Reduce canopy spread by 2.5 mts max

Chideock Parish Council has no objection, subject to the Tree Officer's recommendation.

However, as the application is for a tree situated within the curtilage of 2 Hope Cottages (a property adjoining 1 Hope Cottages which is given as the applicants address) the Parish Council assumes that the owner of 2 Hope Cottages has been informed of / consulted about the proposed works

WD/CA/15/00274 APPLETREE THATCH, MAIN STREET - T4 - 1 No Yew - Reduce canopy spread by 2.5 metres max

Chideock Parish Council has no objection, subject to the Tree Officer's recommendation.

However, as the application is for a tree situated within the curtilage of Appletree Thatch (a property adjoining 1 Hope Cottages which is given as the applicants address) the Parish Council assumes that the owner of Appletree Thatch has been informed of / consulted about the proposed works.

The Parish Council has been informed that Yew clippings can be used to make a cancer treatment drug and asks that, if the application is successful, the applicant investigates this means of using the clippings resulting from the tree work to the Yew. See <http://www.friendshipestates.co.uk/yew-collection/yew-collection.html>

WD/D/15/001955 RICK BARTON HOUSE, CHIDEOCK HILL Alterations to create holiday/ancillary accommodation. Provision of translucent canopy (Full)

Chideock Parish Council has no objection.

If the development is approved then the Parish Council expects a planning condition to be set which clearly states that the development cannot be occupied at any time other than for purposes ancillary to the residential use of the existing dwelling and that the new development cannot be let or sold as a separate unit.

The Parish Council trusts that, if the application is approved, the applicant will incorporate rain water harvesting and that external lighting will be low wattage down lighting, possibly on sensors.

Given that the application site is adjacent to the A35, should Highways England also be consulted?

b) To consider any applications received after the agenda was circulated.

None.

c) Determinations.

d) WD/D/15/000649 WELLS FARM, BRIGHTHAY LANE Convert existing cow shed to use as ancillary accommodation (Full) **Approved.**

WD/CA/15/00229 SEATOWN HOUSE, SEA HILL LANE G1 - Surgery to remove overhanging branches **Withdrawn**

e) Ridwood Affordable Housing Development.

Items 23 to 25 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED. AGREED** to wait for Magna's response to Mrs Lyn Crisp before taking any direct action.

Cllr Campion reported that she has asked Magna about their providing equipment for the toddlers' play area but has not yet received a response. **IC**

f) Any Other Planning Matters.

i. **AONB / Lighting & Dark Skies.** Nothing to report.

ii. **Enforcement.** Item 26 on the Actions & Information List was **NOTED**.

- Muddyford Land - appeal against refusal of planning permission. **AGREED** that the Clerk contact Char Valley Parish Council and to offer CPCs support and ask them to include CPC's views in any representation which may be made to the Inspector at the hearing. **CC**

- Chimneys, Main Street is again advertised for sale, with self contained ancillary accommodation included. **AGREED** to report this to the Enforcement Officer as this accommodation is within the garage and so does not have planning permission. **CC**

iii. **Golden Cap Caravan Park.** Nothing to report.

iv. **Mill Lane Bridleway 18.**

Items 27 to 40 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.

- **RESOLVED** to adopt and take ownership of the Response to the DCC Report on the Status and Extent of Mill Lane / BW18. (The Response was given to DCC at the meeting of 24 July 2015). Proposed by Cllr Geraghty, seconded by Cllr Grant, carried with 2 abstentions.

- **RESOLVED** to make a request to DCC under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for all communications between West Dorset Leisure Holidays / Mr Martin Cox and DCC in regard to Mill Lane / Bridleway 18. Proposed by Cllr Geraghty, seconded by Cllr Murray, carried with 2 abstentions. **CC**

- **RESOLVED** that Cllr Murray be the Parish Council representative on the Community Group. Proposed by Cllr Carey, seconded by Cllr Grant, carried unanimously.

- The draft letter to Mr Mike Harries, DCC Director for Environment and the Economy, was **AGREED** with the changes noted, to be sent after the meeting with Oliver Letwin MP on 10 October, subject to any further changes agreed at that meeting. **CC**

v. **Seatown.**

Items 41 to 48A on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**. **CC**

- **Item 44 – Seatown Car Park.** Clerk to follow up short stay parking charges with Palmers. **CC**

- **Item 48 – Seatown Management Meeting.** **AGREED** to ask Cllr Christopher to convene a meeting of all parties. **CC**

- **Item 48A – offer of new bench at Seatown.** **AGREED** that this be referred to Nigel Wraxall, the land owner.

vi. **Other.**

Item 49 - 51 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**. **CC**

- **Item 50 – All Weather Footpath.** **AGREED** that the Parish Council writes to Highways England and Connect, copy Oliver Letwin MP. **CC**

- **Item 51 – Retrospective Planning Applications.** **AGREED** to write to Oliver Letwin MP suggesting that such applications should either attract a much higher fee and / or a fine for development without consent, to be copied to Cllr Christopher. **CC**

1696 Finances.

Items 52 - 56 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.

a) Payments.

RESOLVED to make the following payments:-

| | |
|--|---------|
| i. Clerk's Salary & Expenses for September | £245.57 |
| ii. PAYE for July, August and September | £162.60 |
| iii. PNW Services for bus shelter cleaning April - September | £40.00 |
| iv. Chideock Village Hall Hire – September | £25.00 |
| v. Lee Martin – mower hire x 5 for Clapps Mead play area | £50.00 |
| vi. BDO for External Audit | £120.00 |
| vii. DPATC for Clerk's Seminar | £45.00 |

Proposed by Cllr Campion, seconded by Cllr Rogers, carried unanimously.

b) Foss Orchard Car Park.

Cllr Murray gave the Clerk £253.15 from the ticket machine and reported that takings this year are higher than in 2014. It would appear that more short term visitors are paying for parking.

c) External Audit.

The Council thanked and congratulated the Clerk.

As per the External Audit requirements, **RESOLVED** to approve and accept the completed Annual Return for 2014 – 2015.

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

d) Grant to the Bopper Bus Organisation.

AGREED that Cllr Grant will ask the Fete Committee if they will contribute. **AGREED** that CPC can only afford to give a grant of between £200 and £350 in order to maintain the balance of the Community Fund at £1,000, the amount of the original bequest from Rowena Grafton. Deferred until the October meeting. **EG**

1697 Clapps Mead Playing Field.

a) Autumn Working Party. Cllr Grant reported that she has spoken with Mrs Lyn Crisp and that the Working Party will take place on 25 October, time to be decided. It will be advertised by notices and word of mouth. The aim will be to clear as much as possible so as to get a better idea of the work required to clear the ditch and brook with a hired digger at a later date. It is hoped that it will be possible to burn the cleared matter on a large metal sheet, to protect the grass. **EG**

b) Replacement of the double swing. Cllr Grant reported that she has obtained 3 quotes (details distributed to councillors) and that Caledonia Play was the best value at £2,400 ex VAT, including safety surfacing, delivery and erection. The Clerk said that there is £3,577.59 in the Earmarked Fund for new equipment.

Mrs Lyn Crisp said that the Chideock Trust may give a grant if they are approached. Cllr Grant said that she also wants to investigate grants via Fields in Trust. Both need to be done prior to the equipment being ordered. **EG**

RESOLVED that the replacement swing be purchased from Caledonia Play. Proposed by Cllr Campion, seconded by Cllr Murray, carried unanimously.

c) Play Area Inspections. **AGREED** that the Clerk will prepare a rota for 2 inspections per month. **CC**

1698 Flood Management Plan for the Winniford Valley.

Item 58A on the Actions & Information List was **NOTED**.

Cllr Carey said that the potholes in Seahill Lane have been done already.

Cllr Carey also reported that DCC consider that a “strategic” grit bin is required at the junction of Cumbrey Lane / Sea Hill Lane, which DCC can supply but CPC has to pay for. As a “strategic” bin all refills will be free of charge. **AGREED** that the Clerk follow this up. **CC**

1699 Conduct of Meetings.

Cllr Murray’s report was **NOTED**.

The Clerk said that meetings every two months would not work. She asked that councillors send her items for the Agenda and reports for the Actions & Information List by the Tuesday before the meeting at the latest. **ALL**

1700 Current Consultations.

a) Rural Sounding Board Questionnaire - The impacts of austerity measures on local services. Cllr Murray, the delegated representative, gave the Clerk the completed questionnaire.

b) WDDC Service Review Consultations - Have your say. For individual completion.

1701 Motions Received with Notice. None.

1702 Correspondence.

There were no other items of correspondence to be brought to Councillors’ notice.

1703 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting of Chideock Parish Council.

The next scheduled meeting is at 10:00 am on Tuesday 27 October 2015.

The meeting closed at **1:10 pm**.