

Minutes published unapproved for ratification at the meeting to be held on 3 November 2020

**MINUTES OF OKEFORD FITZPAINE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT 7.30pm VIA ZOOM ON TUESDAY 6 OCTOBER 2020**

**PRESENT:** Cllr N Plummer (Chairman)  
Cllr R Rowe (Vice-Chairman)  
Cllr S Corben  
Cllr R Corben  
Cllr D Gartside

**Also present:** - Mrs. Sandra Deary, Clerk, Cllr P Batstone, Dorset Council and 10 members of public

- 1 **APOLOGIES:** None
- 2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Members were reminded of the need to declare an interest if it was not already disclosed on their declaration of disclosable pecuniary interest form held by the Clerk.
- 3 **GRANTING OF DISPENSATIONS:** The Council resolved to delegate the power to grant dispensations to the clerk at the Parish Council Meeting held on 6 November 2012. No dispensations were required.
- 4 **MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1 SEPTEMBER 2020:** having been circulated to Cllrs and website were taken as read. It was proposed by Cllr Rowe and seconded by Cllr Gartside that they be signed by the Chairman, this was agreed.

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5.	<b>Dorset Council Councillor's Report:</b> Cllr Batstone advised that there were a lot of people falling out in the Parish and there was still a problem with speeding. Dorset Council had concerns regarding the cost of a 2 <sup>nd</sup> wave of Covid-19.	
	<p><b>Public Participation:</b> Mr Burt advised that the clerk had stated at the last meeting that planning application 2/2020/0344/FUL had been granted. This application was not granted until 21 September 2020. Mr Burt was concerned about the lack of action regarding the access to the village hall which he had raised in February. He also raised concerns that no action had been taken in relation to the issue of speeding. Cllr Gartside advised that she had met with the Highways officer, who had only recently been to following the covid-19 situation. The Highways officer advised that the width of the access through Greenhayes should be 3.5m. Cllr Gartside had been to measure the width which was mostly at 3.5m. However, there was a 15cm slip of land on the left hand side, which would need pushing back by the land owner. Cllr Corben advised that the fire brigade had attended site with a fire engine, they had advised that the access was a little tight but accessible. Mr Burt advised that any future development of the village hall site would require access of at least 3.7m, any future development would be put in jeopardy if the width was not 3.7m. Cllr S Corben advised that the breather pipe used to be situated outside the garden. Cllr Gartside agreed to liaise with Cllr S Corben and with the Highways Officer again.</p> <p>Mrs Clay asked if the speeding issue would be discussed during the meeting. Cllr Gartside advised that the parish could have a SID on Castle Lane without the need for the expense of a survey, as historically there was one there before. The Parish Council had decided it was best to wait and see if the pony field is developed as they indicated they would fund traffic calming there. The Parish Council could not have a SID on Higher St. due to overhanging vegetation and the speed criteria not being met. The Chairman advised he had previously advised that a working party to look at speeding issues would be set up when safe to do so and that disappointingly there had only been two people confirm an interest in joining this working party at this time.</p> <p>Mr Gartside asked if 2 seats could be installed at the top right-hand corner of the recreation ground to allow resident to rest and admire the beautiful view.</p>	
	<p><b>Update on Open Items:</b></p> <p><b>Recreation Ground:</b> Cllr S Corben advised that the drainage work had now been completed and Mr Frampton was digging out the ditch from the footpath to the pavilion gates. The Parish Council thanked Mr Frampton for all his hard work. Mr Frampton had asked if the overhanging branches on the tree at the bottom of the field could be cut off. Cllr R Corben advised that Mr Drake could obtain an 8m trimmer to allow the hedge to be cut without the need to drive on the newly planted verge. He suggested all trees along the border be trimmed before next year.</p> <p><b>Bowey Field:</b> Cllr R Corben advised that Mr Frampton and Mr Hall were trying to get new bearing for the swing but new seats might be required. He added that the fence behind the seat was broken. Cllr Corben agree to look into the option of building a bigger fence at that point to stop people climbing over it.</p> <p><b>Neighbourhood Planning:</b> The Chairman advised that he was awaiting recommendations from the working party before the Parish Council could make a decision on whether to continue with the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p><b>Belchalwell and Fiddleford items:</b> N.F.T.R.</p> <p><b>Land at top of Back Lane &amp; Bottom of Okeford Hill:</b> N.F.T.R.</p> <p><b>Old Orchard, Mary Garden and other areas of Grass:</b> Cllr S Corben advised that the fence had now been erected and residents had said how pleased they were, as it made it</p>	

	<p>safer for the children to play. It was decided to wait a while before making any decision on any play equipment or trees being put on the site, as the children were enjoying the green space to play.</p> <p><b>S.106:</b> Following the decision to support the village hall extension with a further £5000, the request form had been completed by the Village Hall Committee chairman. It was agreed to discharge this item from the agenda.</p> <p><b>Little/Mill Lane Signage:</b> Cllr Gartside advised that she had emailed Dorset Council and received the following response from Mr Bradley: "Since getting a formal crossing is proving near impossible, I've agreed a 3-stage approach with my internal client.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refresh the warning signage on the approach to the lane. The order for this work went in and was carried out without us being told, so sorry I couldn't give you advanced warning. They also still need to remove some out of date and unnecessary signs.</li> <li>• Undertake some speed monitoring to see if reducing the speed limit is in order, if it is;</li> <li>• Reduce the speed limit which would allow for relaxed design criteria for some form of crossing – probably an island of informal dropped crossing".</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Gartside advised that grants were available to Dorset Council, Cllr Batstone agreed to work with Cllr Gartside to ascertain if grant funding could be obtained.</p> <p><b>Gallops at Stockhold Bottom:</b> Cllr Batstone advised that she was still chasing this issue.</p> <p><b>Plaques for listed building:</b> Mr Vickers advised that the plaques had now been received and were ready to be erected once it was safe to have an unveiling ceremony. Mr Vickers added that the new owners of the old Rectory had agreed to have a plaque erected on the outer perimeter wall if the Parish Council wished to do so. It was proposed by Cllr S Corben that a fourth plaque be purchased for the old Rectory. This was seconded by Cllr R Corben and agreed by council.</p> <p><b>Refurbishment of Plaque on the commemorative Cross:</b> The Clerk advised that 2 quotations had been received to refurbish the plaque, one quote gave the following 2 options:  <b>Option 1</b> – The removal and cleaning of the existing Portland stone plaque, reinstatement of the existing lettering and reinstallation of said plaque.at a cost of £920.00  <b>Option 2</b> – The Ham Hill stone monument at the heart of Okeford Fitzpaine is clearly in need of some attention. There is obviously significant weathering to the Ham Hill plinth and the cementitious pointing is concentrating moisture and slowly corroding the monument even more. I would suggest a removal of all cementitious (cement) materials with the replacement of a sympathetic hydraulic lime and Ham Hill stone dust-based mortar. By flaunching the pockets that are obviously holding water this would be beneficial to the longevity of the monument. Also, the suggestion of a lead cap to the head of the monument would significantly help with the preservation of the it. Option 2 also includes all of the above mentioned in option 1 at a cost of £2,500.00. It was agreed that the Council had a duty to preserve the commemorative cross and it was decided to precept for the cost in the 2021/2022 precept</p> <p><b>Wall at Greenhayes:</b> Cllr R Corben advised that 2 quotation had now been received for repairs to this wall and the wall at the Pavilion. The quotes for repairs to both walls came in at £3000 and £5000. It was proposed by Cllr S Corben that the quotation for £3000 be accepted and the work be carried out to both walls. This was seconded by Cllr Rowe and agreed by Council. Cllr R Corben to advise the contractor of this decision.</p> <p><b>Museum/ Defibrillator Lighting:</b> Cllr R Corben advised that repairs to the roof had been started and would be completed on Saturday 10 October, weather permitting. Cllr S Corben advised that the timer was broken. He suggested that the timer be fixed to allow the lights to be on from 5pm – 9pm. It was agreed that Cllr S Corben ask Mr Hall to carry out repairs/replace the timer.</p> <p><b>Illegal opening in Shillingstone Lane:</b> Cllr Gartside advised that she had spoken to Mr Hitchcott, Enforcement Office at Dorset Council who advised that since the opening had been in place for 4 years with no enforcement action being taken it was now too late to take enforcement action. Members were disappointed with this outcome. Cllr Gartside advised that the verge was being eroded by vehicles parking on it. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr R Skeat's asking for action to be taken to prevent further erosion.</p> <p><b>Grants:</b> Cllr Rowe advised that she had forwarded details of available grants which could be useful to the village hall and the community group. She advised that a leisure grant was available and agreed to work with Cllr S Corben to request a grant for the requested seats at the recreation ground.</p> <p><b>Open Spaces Review:</b> N.F.T.R.</p> <p><b>Wild flowers on verge by recreation ground:</b> Cllr S Corben advised that the flowers had now been planted and the ditch had been dug out. Mr Vickers asked if the cutting of the verge could be the sole responsibility of the group to avoid damage to the flowers. The clerk was asked to write to highway to ascertain how to prevent them cutting the verge in future.</p>	<p>Cllr R Corben to give go ahead for work to be carried out</p> <p>Clerk to write to Mr R Skeats</p> <p>Clerk to write to Highways</p>
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7.	<p><b>OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:</b></p> <p><b>Response to Planning White Paper:</b> It was agreed that Councillor would submit individual comment and the Chairman would liaise with the Clerk to submit comments on behalf of the Parish Council.</p> <p><b>Recorded Votes:</b> The Clerk advised that the Parish Council standing orders stated that unless standing orders provide otherwise, voting on a question shall be by a show of hands. At the request of a councillor, the voting on any question shall be recorded so as to show whether each councillor present and voting gave his vote for or against that question. Such a request shall be made before moving on to the next item of business on the agenda.</p> <p><b>Access to the Village Hall:</b> This item had been covered in the public participation part of the agenda.</p> <p><b>Parish Council Vacancy – The next steps:</b> The Clerk advised that election had been called by 10 residents following the resignation of Cllr Le Riche. Due to the covid-19 situation the notice of election will be sent to the clerk in March 2021 asking for nominations. If more than 1 candidate came forward the election would take place on 6 May 2021, if only one candidate came forward, they would be elected uncontested, with no election taking place. If no candidates came forward the Council will have a vacancy which could be filled by co-option. The same process would be followed following the resignation of Cllr Day. The Clerk advised that the notice of vacancy had been placed on the website and the noticeboard.</p> <p><b>Fingerpost at Fifehead Common:</b> The Clerk advised that this had been reported to Fifehead Neville Parish Council, Sturminster Newton Parish Council and Dorset Council. No further action required.</p>	
8. 8.1  8.2 8.3 8.4	<p><b>PLANNING MATTERS:</b></p> <p><b>APPLICATIONS: 2/2019/1735/FUL</b> - Pleydells Farm, Higher Street, Okeford Fitzpaine – 5 Dwellings – The clerk advised that this was a re-consultation of a planning application and that Dorset Council had advised that the objections raised by the Parish Council on the original consultation would be carried forward. It was agreed by Council that the objection be carried forward.</p> <p><b>2/2020/0644/FUL</b> - Hartcliff Farm Higher Street to Belchalwell Street – Road, Okeford Fitzpaine, Blandford Forum. Dorset - Change of use and extension of agricultural building to form 1 no. dwelling. Following discussion Cllr S Corben proposed no objection to this application. This was seconded by Cllr R Corben and agreed by Council.</p> <p><b>DECISIONS: NONE</b></p> <p><b>PLANNING COMMITTEE UPDATE:</b> The Planning Committee had not met since the last meeting.</p> <p><b>ANY OTHER PLANNING MATTERS:</b> Appeal of planning application No. <b>2/2019/1091/OUT</b> – Pleydells Farm, Lower Street, Okeford Fitzpaine, Dorset – Demolish buildings and develop land by the erection of 48 No. dwellings with associated parking, access and landscaping. The Clerk advised that the Parish Council had not been informed of this appeal. She had contacted the Planning Officer who had advised that no date had yet been set for the appeal and that is the reason the Parish Council had not been informed. The Chairman agreed to sit on the Parish Council Planning Committee until another Councillor came forward.</p>	Clerk to inform Dorset Council
9.	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The new magazine for the Blackmore Vale</li> <li>• Dorset Community Action - Funding and support available to your charity, community group or social enterprise to aid recovery from Covid-19 x 5</li> <li>• NALC – Chief Executive's Bulletin x 5</li> <li>• Dorset Council - Latest news and information from Dorset Council, 4 September</li> <li>• DAPTC E-News 4th September '20</li> <li>• NALC – Rebuilding Communities Newsletter x 7</li> <li>• Dorset Community Action - Invitation to our next Support Webinar - Exploring Policy, Procedure and Good Practice.</li> <li>• Dorset Council - New campaign - Reaching Out</li> <li>• Dorset Council - News release: Dorset Libraries to restart reservation system</li> <li>• Dorset Council - A planning special from Dorset Council, 11 September</li> <li>• Dorset Council – Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Temporary Traffic Regulation Notice A357, Bagber</li> <li>• Dorset Council - Latest news and information from Dorset Council, 18 September</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DAPTC E-News 18th September '20</li> <li>• DAPTC E-News 25th September '20</li> <li>• NALC – Corona virus Update</li> <li>• Wessex Community Housing Hub - Autumn webinars coming soon</li> <li>• DAPTC - COVID-19 Update</li> <li>• Dorset Council - Potential changes at Household Recycling Centres (HRCs), Blandford HRC to close for 10 days</li> <li>• Dorset Council - A special edition of Dorset Council news</li> <li>• Dorset Council - Latest news and information from Dorset Council, 25 September</li> <li>• DAPTC E-News 25th September '20</li> <li>• Dorset Council – Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Temporary Traffic Regulation Notice A357, Melbury Abbas</li> <li>• DAPTC Training Newsletter - E-Learning Special</li> <li>• Dorset Community Action - Invitation to our first virtual community networking event</li> <li>• Dorset Council - Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan published ahead of Cabinet meeting</li> <li>• DAPTC E-News 2nd October '20</li> <li>• Latest news and information from Dorset Council, 2 October</li> <li>• Dorset Community Action - Invitation to our next Support Webinar - Working Together</li> <li>• Dorset Council - News release: Grants available for community organisations, including Town and Parish councils</li> </ul>	
10.	<p><b>REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS:</b></p> <p><b>Rights of Way/Footpaths:</b> The footpath officer advised that work had been carried out on 3 footpaths and work on the stile behind the chicken shed would take place this week. More volunteers and additional equipment were now required. It was agreed that an advert should be put in the Fippenny News for volunteers and a list of required equipment be collated by the footpath officer.</p> <p><b>Transport:</b> N.F.T.R.</p> <p><b>Football Club:</b> Cllr S Corben advised that the system was up and running and going well.</p> <p><b>DAPTC:</b> The Chairman advised that he would be attending a meeting on 14 December 2020.</p> <p><b>Village Community Group:</b> Mrs Finklaire advised that the mud-pie cafe sign would be removed until the Covid-19 situation was resolved or restrictions relaxed. The OAP Christmas dinner had been cancelled. The Village Community Group had agreed to purchase a Christmas tree for outside the school.</p> <p><b>Village Hall:</b> Cllr Rowe advised that the Christmas Fair would take place on 29 November 2020.</p> <p><b>PCC:</b> Cllr Gartside read the following statement: Decisions by members of past and present Parochial Church Councils, in an attempt to secure a future for our village church building, were initiated many years ago and before my arrival or Rev Lydia's. The lack of basic modern facilities such as water and a toilet were recognised as stumbling blocks to fulfilling many desirable purposes of the building and over several years led church members to seek a one-off permission to address all the building's needs. Doing nothing was not an option as the decline in income and attendance made clear to all who had eyes to look. Reports of the painfully slow progress of the project over the past four years have appeared in written and verbal reports in many places including each month to the Parish Council where any councillor concerned with the proposals could have made comment and any parishioner could have heard or read about and made comment, but did not. Once permission was obtained and work commenced, accusations of secrecy and underhand tactics made against members of the current Church Council were untrue and personally hurtful to those who willingly gave of their best. As a result, it has been decided that no further report will be given by the PCC to the Parish Council, leaving anyone with an interest in the church or its building to keep informed via its website, its noticeboards and by attending church meetings and services. An invitation has been issued to attend the postponed Annual Meeting of Parishioners followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sun 25 Oct at 1130 in St Andrew's Church to which all parishioners are encouraged and welcome to attend. Elections to serve as Churchwarden or as a Parochial Church Councillor will be held if more nominations than places are received from those on the current Electoral Roll.</p> <p><b>School:</b> N.F.T.R.</p> <p><b>Tree Officer:</b> N.F.T.R.</p> <p><b>History Society:</b> Mr Vickers advised that a book sale had been held in the museum and all 60 copies had been sold. The museum could not be opened to the public at this time due to the Covid-19 situation.</p>	

<p>11. 11.1</p> <p>11.2</p> <p>11.3</p> <p>11.4</p> <p>11.5</p>	<p><b>FINANCIAL MATTERS:</b></p> <p><b>Accounts paid since last meeting:</b></p> <p>Croft Castings – 3 x Blue Plaques £918.00 Chq No. 1261</p> <p>SSE – Bus Shelter Electric £48.52 Chq No. 1262</p> <p>Mr A Frampton – Play Equipment Sundries £26.33 Chq No. 1263</p> <p>Mrs S Deary – Salary £360.57 Chq No. 1264</p> <p>Southern Electric – Pavilion Electric £179.32 D/D</p> <p><b>Accounts to be paid:</b></p> <p>Goddards Landscapes – Ditch work £720.00 Chq No. 1265</p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr R Corben and seconded by Cllr Rowe that these be paid. This was agreed by Council.</p> <p><b>Receipts:</b> £260.00 Fippenny News subs, £13,195.00 precept and £50 for access to 62 Greenhayes.</p> <p><b>Finance Review:</b> The Clerk had distributed the accounts. No issues were raised.</p> <p><b>Any other Financial Matters:</b> None.</p>	
<p>12.</p>	<p><b>ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seats for the recreation ground</li> <li>• Illegal parking at the Village Hall</li> </ul>	
<p>13.</p>	<p><b>THE NEXT MEETING:</b> The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 3 November 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom. The Chairman thanked all present and closed the meeting at 10.20pm</p>	