

Minutes published unapproved for ratification at the meeting to be held on 1 December 2020

**MINUTES OF OKEFORD FITZPAINE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT 7.30pm VIA ZOOM ON TUESDAY 3 NOVEMBER 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 4 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 6 OCTOBER 2020:** having been circulated to Cllrs and website were taken as read. It was proposed by Cllr S Corben and seconded by Cllr Gartside that they be signed by the Chairman, this was agreed.

		Action
5.	<b>Dorset Council Councillor's Report:</b> Cllr Batstone advised that she was trying to make sense of the new regulations in relation to Covid-19 for the area. Discussions on a 20mph speed limit for villages may be discussed again, Cllr Batstone to look into this. Cllr Batstone advised that the MP thought the new lockdown regulations would probably continue into the new year.	
	<p><b>Public Participation:</b> The Clerk advised that the following email had been received from Mr Goddard, in relation to the installation of seat/s at the recreation ground:</p> <p>"Putting more seats around the recreation ground, even with the best intentions, will bring other problems, more dog fouling around the play areas, littering, children loitering out of sight. Before the pandemic, besides football and other events, most days there would be about 4 people walking around the rec with dogs not on leads, no people without dogs walk around the rec, every week 3 people run around the rec 2 with dogs not on leads and children regularly using the play area and some of the grassed area. The sign on the gate as you enter the rec is worded, No dogs allowed except on the footpath on a lead, people already ignore this sign walking and running around the rec with dogs off leads and not picking up the mess, by putting seats away from the footpath will only encourage more dog walking around the rec leaving mess for the children and footballers to step in, I've seen two other people from the village picking up other people's dogs mess so they don't get the blame for it. More houses coming to the village over the next couple of years will bring more dogs and more children, more children might bring back the junior football pitch at the top of the field but who would want their child running around in dog's mess. Would money be better spent improving the footpath link from the village to the rec so people can use the footpath from the rec to the trail way".</p> <p>The Chairman advised that he had received similar comments from another resident. Cllr S Corben agreed with the points raised in the email as dog walkers currently ignored signs that dog must be on a lead and kept to the footpath. He considered that a seat would allow people to sit whilst their dogs ran around the recreation ground.</p> <p>Mr Burt raised concerns about the amount of money the Parish Council currently held in the bank. He asked that a report showing projected spends be produced with the precept to allow residents to understand where the money held will be spent. Mr Burt considered that the if a new footpath was installed around the recreations ground this would probably be used by cyclist riding at speed.</p> <p>Mrs Chenery advised that she walked her dog at the recreation ground and did allow the dog to run free if there were no other people around, she added that she always cleaned up after her dog. She felt that better signage was required. Mrs Chenery advised that the road surface in the centre of the village was deteriorating and urgently needed to be resurfaced. Cllr Gartside advised that resurfacing of the village centre had been on the Highways list to do 2 years ago but had disappeared off the list. The Clerk was asked to write to Highways to ascertain why this resurfacing had been removed from the work list.</p> <p>Cllr R Corben advised that the Parish Council had been asking for the road in the centre of the village to be resurfaced for a number of years.</p> <p>Mrs Chenery asked if the forecourt of the school could be used to hold a regular outside mudpie café as this was much missed by villagers. Mrs Finklaire agreed that the mudpie café was greatly missed by residents. However, most of the volunteers were in the vulnerable</p>	Clerk to write to Highways

	group for Covid-19. She added that the mudpie café would be reopened at the soonest possible opportunity when safe to do so.	
	<p><b>Update on Open Items:</b></p> <p><b>Recreation Ground:</b> Cllr S Corben advised that he had cleaned all the guttering. He advised that he would put the heating on timer to prevent any burst pipes over the winter period as all football had now been cancelled due to the Covid-19 regulations. Mr Frampton had swept around the gate and generally tidied up the recreation ground and was in the process of digging the ditch outside.</p> <p><b>Bowey Field:</b> Cllr S Corben had requested a quotation for a higher fence behind the seat.</p> <p><b>Neighbourhood Planning:</b> The Chairman advised that he would speak to Mr Weeks for recommendations if the Parish Council should continue with the Neighbourhood Plan and investigate further once this was received.</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 he would keep an eye on the gate for wear and tear.</p> <p><b>Little/Mill Lane Signage:</b> Cllr Gartside advised that the funding opportunity reported at the last meeting had only been open for 48hrs and this opportunity had been missed. Cllr Batstone advised that she would liaise with Mr Skeats, Highways.</p> <p><b>Gallops at Stockhold Bottom:</b> Cllr Batstone advised that she would chase this issue with the enforcement officer at Dorset Council.</p> <p><b>Plaques for listed building:</b> N.F.T.R.</p> <p><b>Wall at Greenhayes:</b> Cllr R Corben advised that the preferred contractor had stated that prices would remain the same if the Parish Council proceeded with this work next year. The Chairman advised that there was enough money in the bank to proceed with this work now. Cllr R Corben asked to give the go ahead to the preferred contractor.</p> <p><b>Museum/ Defibrillator Lighting:</b> Cllr S Corben thanked Mr Hall for fixing the timer on the light. Mr Hall had advised that the light may need replacing in the future as it was very old. Cllr R Corben advised that the tiles would be replaced as soon as the weather improved. Cllr S Corben advised that the museum and the bus shelter would need to be painted in the spring.</p> <p><b>Illegal opening in Shillingstone Lane:</b> Cllr Gartside advised that she had sent photos of the verge to Mr Skeats who would look into this matter.</p> <p><b>Open Spaces Review:</b> The Chairman advised that the landowner of the land opposite Castle Cottage, Castle Lane, had not yet made a decision. He agreed to keep chasing for an answer. Cllr Gartside asked if a time line could be put on this, she considered that a footpath to the recreation ground would make a huge difference to the local residents.</p> <p><b>Wild flowers on verge by recreation ground:</b> The Clerk advised that Dorset Council had agreed to cease cutting the verge and would install blue posts to indicate to operators not to cut the verge. The positioning of the blue posts needed to be finalised.</p> <p><b>Offer of trees for planting:</b> Councillors felt that now was the ideal time to plant these trees. Cllr S Corben agreed to liaise with resident on this matter.</p> <p><b>Review of Fippenny News:</b> Cllr S Corben advised that most of the 452 magazines had now been delivered to all houses. The Chairman thanked all volunteers. Cllr Rowe advised that some residents had already signed up for PDF copies of the magazine in future.</p> <p><b>Access to Village Hall:</b> Cllr Gartside advised that Dorset Council maps show the extent of Greenhayes and the area concerned did not belong to Dorset Highways. Cllrs S &amp; R Corben advised that the lane had definitely narrowed over the years. Following discussions, it was agreed to look for evidence that the gardens had encroached on the lane, the Parish Council could then challenge the land registry plans. It was considered very important that the width of the access be maintained.</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to investigate the deeds of 62 Greenhayes and the village hall car park.</p>	<p>Cllr R Corben to give go ahead.</p> <p>Clerk to obtain deeds.</p>
7.	<p><b>OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:</b></p> <p><b>Seats for the recreation ground:</b> Cllr S Corben felt that if a seat was provided it should be a rustic seat to blend in with the surroundings, however, he felt that providing a seat would exacerbate the current problem with dog fouling and dogs running around the recreation ground. Cllr R Corben agreed with Cllr S Corben. Cllr Gartside thought that the actions of the minority should not impact of the enjoyment of other residents. Following discussions Cllr Gartside proposed the purchase of a rustic seat for the recreation ground, on the understanding the if the current problem worsened the seat could be moved to an alternative location. This was seconded by Cllr Rowe and agreed by Council. Clerk to liaise with Cllr S Corben about which would be the most suitable seat and obtain pricing.</p> <p>In relation to the current situation around dogs on the recreation ground it was agreed that better signage should be purchased.</p>	

	<p><b>Illegal parking at the Village Hall:</b> The Clerk advised that she had written to the tenants asking that the taxi ceases to park in the village hall car park. No response had been received. Cllr S Corben advised that the taxi was still parking there. The Clerk was asked to write to the house owners and the Dorset Council Licensing department regarding this issue.</p>	Clerk to write to DC and house owners.
<p>8.</p> <p>8.1</p> <p>8.2</p> <p>8.3</p> <p>8.4</p>	<p><b>PLANNING MATTERS:</b></p> <p><b>APPLICATIONS:</b> None</p> <p><b>DECISIONS:</b> None</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></p>	
9.	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NALC – Rebuilding Communities x9</li> <li>• DAPTC E-News 12th October '20</li> <li>• NA - DAPTC Newsletter</li> <li>• Dorset Council - News release: Charges at car parks set to change</li> <li>• Dorset Council - News release: Have your say on the future of our Tourist Information Centres</li> <li>• Dorset Council - Latest news and information from Dorset Council, 16 October</li> <li>• NALC – Chief Executive's Bulletin x2</li> <li>• DAPTC E-News 16th October '20</li> <li>• Dorset Community Action - support for your charity, community group or social enterprise to aid recovery from COVID-19</li> <li>• Dorset Council - Latest news and information from Dorset Council, 23 October</li> <li>• DAPTC E-News 23rd October '20</li> <li>• DAPTC – Standards Matter 2 – Public Consultation and Public Sector Surveys</li> <li>• Dorset Council - Help needed: Climate Emergency strategy consultation launched</li> <li>• Census 2021 – Councillors Handbook</li> <li>• DAPTC - Communications Support for Lockdown &amp; Training Update</li> <li>• NALC – Coronavirus Update x3</li> <li>• Dorset Community Action - The importance of Volunteering in Winter - Your Webinar Invitation</li> <li>• DAPTC - New guidance for Remembrance Sunday</li> </ul>	
10.	<p><b>REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS:</b></p> <p><b>Rights of Way/Footpaths:</b> Mr Gartside advised that 4 volunteers had repaired the stile behind the chicken sheds.</p> <p><b>Transport:</b> N.F.T.R.</p> <p><b>Football Club:</b> Cllr S Corben advised that football had again been cancelled due to the Covid-19 situation.</p> <p><b>DAPTC:</b> The Chairman advised that he would be attending the AGM on 14 November.</p> <p><b>Village Community Group:</b> N.F.T.R.</p> <p><b>Village Hall:</b> Cllr Rowe advised that the village hall was back in lockdown. The craft fair had rearranged. The new kitchen was progressing well and a further donation had been received towards the extension.</p> <p><b>School:</b> N.F.T.R.</p> <p><b>Tree Officer:</b> A fallen limb on a tree at the bottom of Knapps had been reported to Dorset Council. Cllr Gartside advised that there was a dangerous limb hanging from a tree on Lower Street. Cllr S Corben agreed to look into this.</p> <p><b>History Society:</b> N.F.T.R.</p>	
<p>11.</p> <p>11.1</p> <p>11.2</p>	<p><b>FINANCIAL MATTERS:</b></p> <p><b>Accounts paid since last meeting:</b></p> <p>HMRC – Employee PAYE</p> <p>£540.20</p> <p>Chq No.1265</p> <p><b>Accounts to be paid:</b></p> <p>Goddards Landscapes – Ditch work</p> <p>£720.00</p> <p>Chq No. 1266</p> <p>DVLA – Replacement Log Book for Tractor</p> <p>£25.00</p> <p>Chq No. 1267</p> <p>Parish Mag Printers</p> <p>£90.00</p> <p>Chq No. 1268</p> <p>Goddards Landscapes – Fencing at Mary Gardens</p> <p>£1500.00</p> <p>Chq No. 1269</p> <p>Jerry Ellis – Replacement light for tractor</p> <p>£94.47</p> <p>Chq No. 1270</p> <p>Mrs S Deary – Salary, Stamps and printer ink</p>	

11.3 11.4 11.5	<p>£422.76 Chq No. 1271</p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr Rowe and seconded by Cllr S Corben that these be paid. This was agreed by Council.</p> <p><b>Receipts:</b> None</p> <p><b>Finance Review:</b> The Clerk had distributed the accounts and the Quarter 2 accounts. No issues were raised. The Quarter 2 accounts were signed by the Chairman as a true record.</p> <p><b>Any other Financial Matters:</b> None.</p>	
12.	<p><b>ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anti-Social Dog Behaviour</li> </ul>	
13.	<p><b>THE NEXT MEETING:</b> The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 1 December 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom. The Chairman thanked all present and closed the meeting at 9.20pm</p>	