

Minutes published unapproved for ratification at the meeting to be held on 6 April 2021  
**MINUTES OF OKEFORD FITZPAINE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD AT 7.30pm VIA ZOOM ON TUESDAY 2 MARCH 2021**

**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:**

**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.

**4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2 FEBRUARY 2021:** having been circulated to Cllrs and website were taken as read. It was proposed by Cllr R Corben and seconded by Cllr S Corben that they be signed by the Chairman, this was agreed.

		Action
5.	<p><b>Dorset Council Councillor's Report:</b> Cllr Batstone gave the following report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A health overview committee meeting would be taking place this week.</li> <li>• Dorset Council were looking at new provisions for children in Weymouth to try to stop children being taken into care.</li> <li>• Dorset Council were looking to make an order to make disposable BBQ's illegal on Council land.</li> <li>• The release of Sky lanterns had now been banned</li> <li>• 5G training was currently being undertaken and the Council was working closely with the farming industry as 5G could enhance farming in the area</li> <li>• The budget was agreed a couple of weeks ago.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Public Participation:</b> Mr Vickers asked if the Parish Council would consider putting a litter bin in the centre of the village. Following numerous incidents of fly tipping in the lay-by by the herb farm. He also asked if the Parish Council would request that Dorset Council turn the lay-by back to a verge to stop people parking there and fly tipping. It was agreed to put these items on the agenda for the next meeting.</p>	
6.	<p><b>Update on Open Items:</b></p> <p><b>Recreation Ground:</b> Cllr S Corben advised that the mower was due its yearly service. Council agreed that this should be carried out. He advised that the plumber was due back shortly to complete the works on the toilet cisterns. There had been an incident of littering by 3 teenage girls, including alcohol bottles, this had been reported on social media.</p> <p><b>Bowey Field:</b> N.F.T.R.</p> <p><b>Neighbourhood Planning:</b> The Chairman advised that the draft Terms of Reference would be brought to the Parish Council meeting next month for adoption.</p> <p><b>Belchalwell and Fiddleford items:</b> Cllr S Corben advised that the temporary fingerpost at Belchalwell had been hit by a vehicle and snapped off. Cllr S Corben had replaced the fingerpost.</p> <p><b>Darknoll Lane:</b> Cllr Gartside advised that she was meeting with Mr R Skeats, Dorset Highways on 11 March. The Council agreed that Darknoll Lane should be included in the Parish Council's response to the Local Plan consultation.</p> <p><b>Old Orchard, Mary Gardens and other areas of grass:</b> Cllr S Corben advised that he had been approached by local residents to make 4 planters for the railings. Cllr Corben advised that the cost for this would be minimal and agreed to make them. Cllr R Corben proposed that Cllr S Corben make the requested planters. This was seconded by Cllr Rowe and agreed by Council.</p> <p><b>Little/Mill Lane Signage:</b> Cllr Gartside advised that this should also be included in the Parish Council's response to the Local Plan. Cllr Gartside and Cllr Rowe agreed to liaise to produce the response to the Local Plan consultation which will be emailed to all Councillors for comments before being submitted.</p> <p><b>Gallops at Stockhold Bottom:</b> Clerk to email Cllr Batstone for an update.</p> <p><b>Wall at Greenhayes:</b> Cllr R Corben advised that the works to the wall had now been complete. It was agreed to discharge this item from the agenda.</p> <p><b>Museum:</b> Cllr S Corben advised that the lighting to the defibrillator had not yet been completed. Cllr R Corben advised that the roof tiles would be fitted in the next couple of weeks now that the weather was drier.</p> <p><b>Okeford Fitzpaine Climate Emergency Response:</b> Cllr Gartside advised that the Dorset Green Living Group had set up meetings to discuss life changes. She asked if anybody would be willing to set up a group for Okeford Fitzpaine to look at issues around energy, food</p>	<p>Cllr S Corben to make 4 planters</p> <p>Clerk to email Cllr Batstone</p>

	<p>waste, transport etc. It was agreed to discuss this further after the elections in May when new Councillors may be interested setting up/joining a group.</p> <p><b>Parking on verge in Shillingstone Lane:</b> It was agreed that as the Highways Department of Dorset Council had been made aware of this issue, there was nothing further the Parish Council could do. It was agreed that this item should be discharged from the agenda.</p> <p><b>Grants:</b> N.F.T.R.</p> <p><b>Open Spaces Review:</b> The Chairman advised that he had spoken to the land owner again who had handed the decision to the family. The Chairman had asked if the family did not want to sell the land would they consider giving a right of way through the orchard to form a footpath to the recreation ground. It was agreed to leave this request with the family and to discharge this item from the agenda.</p> <p><b>Wild flowers on verge by Recreation Ground:</b> Mr Vickers advised that the flowers had now been planted and signs installed to prevent mowing the ground. It was agreed to discharge this item from the agenda.</p> <p><b>Fippenny News Review:</b> Cllr Rowe advised that the review was now complete and a new format in place. It was agreed to discharge this item from the agenda.</p> <p><b>Access to Village Hall:</b> Cllr Gartside advised that the following response had been received from the Highways Department of Dorset Council:  “DC Highways are requesting the new rockery outside no 62 be removed back to the outer edge of the iron standpipe, making assumption that standpipe would have been positioned just off the highway boundary for safety”  Cllr Gartside advised that Dorset Council would visit again in a couple of weeks to ascertain if the rockery had been moved back. The Chairman advised that the tenants had now moved out and the home owners were due to move back in in the near future.</p> <p><b>Seat at Recreation Ground:</b> The Chairman considered that the decision to install a seat should be reviewed at the next meeting as the seat would not be anywhere near a footpath, he felt that a better location could be found. Cllr R Corben agreed that the decision should be reviewed.</p> <p><b>Illegal Parking at Village Hall:</b> The Chairman advised that the residents who had been parking in the village hall car park had now left the property. It was agreed to keep an eye on the situation.</p> <p><b>Repairs to the drain at Little/Mill Lane before resurfacing:</b> Cllr Gartside advised that she was meeting with Mr R Skeats, Dorset Highways on 11 March, when this item would be discussed.</p>	
7	<p><b>OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:</b></p> <p><b>Motorcross events in the village:</b> The Clerk advised that she had written to Dorset Council regarding concerns raised about motorcross events in the village, she had received the following response:  Thank you for the Parish Council's letter. Its contents are noted and I trust the following advice is of use to both councillors and parishioners alike.  Dorset Council Environmental Health is responsible for the investigation of alleged statutory nuisances under the Environmental Protection Act 1990. A statutory nuisance is a matter that is persistent, continuing, unreasonable, affecting a complainant within their own home; and is a nuisance or prejudicial to health. We are only able to accept complaints under this legislation from residents (or under exceptional circumstances an appropriate representative e.g., for power of attorney, or language barriers), Mr Colls and the address from which the disturbance emanated would need to be provided. In such an event, we would ask the complainant to keep a log of nuisance incidents over a fourteen-day period, and to return the logs within one month. It is pertinent to clarify that this process cannot be used to prevent or retro-actively punish one-off disturbances, or pre-empt nuisances that may or may not occur. Should the logs demonstrate further investigation is necessary or appropriate, we would carry this out in due course.  Should a statutory nuisance be declared under the above process, and abatement notice would be served. Abatement notices may be appealed, and under such circumstances a defence available to industrial or trade premises is that of “best practical means”. It would therefore be incumbent upon the site operator to demonstrate that they are adhering to the appropriate best practices and codes of conduct for that particular activity.  Under Schedule 2, Part 4 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015; land may be used for not more than 14 days in a calendar year for: “motor car and motorcycle racing including trials of speed, and practising for these activities.” Should this be breached the planning department at Dorset Council would be the appropriate enforcement body. Should planning permission be sought for a permanent change of use for the site, environmental health would be consulted and would likely wish to examine the impact of noise upon nearby dwellings.  As motocross events themselves are not licensable activities, there is no requirement for a Temporary Event Notice. Any TENs associated with supplementary functions on site (such as</p>	

	<p>a licenced bar for refreshment for example) would not have an effect on the running of motocross events.</p> <p><b>Drains at Bowey and Darknoll Lane:</b> The Clerk advised she had reported the blocked drains to Dorset Council. A response had been received advising the Dorset Council had permanently repaired 2 drains in Bowey and 1 on the main road and visual checks had been carried out on all drains in Darknoll Lane and all were running perfectly.</p> <p>Councillors reported blocked drains in Lower Street, Castle Avenue, Higher Street and Shillingstone Lane. The Clerk was asked to report these to Dorset Council.</p> <p><b>Planting of a tree on the Old Chapel Green in memory of former Councillor Ted Horton:</b> Cllr S Corben advised that he had been approached by Mrs Horton asking for Parish Council permission to plant a tree on the Old Chapel Green in memory of her late husband, former Councillor Ted Horton. Cllr Corben advised that the chosen tree would not grow any bigger than 4m. There were currently 3 trees on the site, one of which was possibly dying. Cllr S Corben proposed giving permission for a tree to be planted in memory of former Councillor Ted Horton. This was seconded by Cllr R Corben and agreed by Council.</p>	Clerk to report blocked drains to Dorset Council
<p>8. 8.1</p>	<p><b>PLANNING MATTERS:</b></p> <p><b>APPLICATIONS:</b></p> <p><b>P/FUL/2020/00476</b> – Land east of Castle Lane, Blandford Forum, Dorset – Convert existing barn to 1 No dwelling and form parking and amenity area – Following discussion it was proposed by Cllr Plumber that the Parish Council should object to this application on the following grounds:</p> <p>The Parish Council objected to the original barn application <b>2/2016/0351/FUL</b> on the grounds that the size of the proposed barn was inappropriate for the size of the holding. The Parish Council felt that the only reason the barn had been built was to convert into a dwelling at a later date.</p> <p>The original application was for a single storey barn, the Parish Council made a number of complaints that the barn was not being built in accordance with the plans which were submitted and granted. However, NDDC took no action to prevent the “barn” being built with 3 storeys.</p> <p>This proposed development is well outside the settlement boundary and would be development of land in the countryside which is contrary to Policy 20 of the Local Plan and contrary to the developing Okeford Fitzpaine Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>The proposed development is set away from the village centre along a busy, unlit, road with no footpath, this would be dangerous for pedestrians walking into the village from the dwelling.</p> <p>The access road leads directly on to a 60mph unlit road which is narrow in places, this would be very hazardous, especially at night.</p> <p>In response to the developer’s statement that:</p> <p><i>“The Local Plan recognises Okeford Fitzpaine as being one of the larger villages within the plan area with a reasonable level of services and the barn is situated just outside the village – immediately beyond the recreation ground and within a short and safe walking distance of the village facilities and a wide number of public rights of way.</i></p> <p><i>There is a public right of way crossing the recreation ground immediately to the south of the site which provides an alternative route for walking to and from the village”</i></p> <p>The Parish Council advise that the footpath referred to does not go into the village but stops at the end of the recreation ground.</p> <p><b>DECISIONS: P/HOU/2020-00259</b> – Castle Cottage, Castle Lane, Okeford Fitzpaine, DT11 0RL – Enlarge first floor window to form doorway to ease access to existing storage area. Build external oak staircase to enable access – <b>GRANTED</b></p> <p><b>P/LBC/2020-00260</b> – Castle Cottage, Castle Lane, Okeford Fitzpaine, DT11 0RL – Enlarge first floor window to form doorway to ease access to existing storage area. Build external oak staircase to enable access - <b>GRANTED</b></p>	Clerk to submit response to Dorset Council
8.2	<p><b>DECISIONS: P/HOU/2020-00259</b> – Castle Cottage, Castle Lane, Okeford Fitzpaine, DT11 0RL – Enlarge first floor window to form doorway to ease access to existing storage area. Build external oak staircase to enable access – <b>GRANTED</b></p>	
8.3	<p><b>PLANNING COMMITTEE UPDATE:</b> The Planning Committee had not met since the last meeting.</p>	
8.4	<p><b>ANY OTHER PLANNING MATTERS:</b> None</p>	
9.	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NALC – Online events x 6</li> <li>• Dorset CPRE calls for a truly Local Plan, read our alternative approach</li> <li>• DAPTC Training e-news February 2021</li> <li>• Dorset Council - New Dorset Traffic Regulation Order x 2</li> <li>• DCA's Latest News - Community Support for your Organisation</li> <li>• NALC – Coronavirus update x 3</li> <li>• DAPTC E-News 5th February '21</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Latest news and information from Dorset Council, 5 February</li> <li>• Request for suggestions for name of new development in Castle Lane</li> <li>• DAPTC E-News 12th February '21</li> <li>• Latest news and information from Dorset Council, 12 February</li> <li>• NALC - Chief Executive's Bulletin x 3</li> <li>• Dorset &amp; Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority - Consultation of draft Community Safety Plan 2021-24</li> <li>• Dorset Local Plan and North Dorset Trailway</li> <li>• Dorset AONB: Agricultural Transition questionnaire, workshops and a limited £500 advice offer</li> <li>• Notes from 7th Climate and Ecological Support meeting 11 Feb 2021</li> <li>• Dorset Council - Council proposes to stop funding its Tourist Information Centres, looks at future options</li> <li>• DCA's Latest News - Community Support for your Organisation.</li> <li>• CPRE - Briefing note for Parish Councils in North Dorset on the Local Plan</li> <li>• DAPTC E-News 19th February '21</li> <li>• Latest news and information from Dorset Council, 19 February</li> <li>• Mr Burt - 5G RuralDorset - In the news</li> <li>• Mr Burt – 20mph speed limit choice information</li> <li>• Dorset Council Community Governance Review</li> <li>• Dorset Council – Emergency Temporary Road Closure A357 – Shillingstone</li> <li>• DC - Have Your Say on Transforming Cities Fund's Sustainable Transport Routes</li> <li>• Dorset Council - New Free Parking Policy</li> <li>• Dorset Council is looking to change how they work with the Voluntary Sector in the delivery of its Adult Services day care provision – Survey</li> <li>• DAPTC – Chairman's Newsletter</li> <li>• DAPTC E-News 26th February '21</li> <li>• Dorset Community Action - Join us for our Support Webinar session this Wednesday, plus a bonus invite to our Funding Fair!</li> </ul>	
10.	<p><b>REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS:</b>  <b>Rights of Way/Footpaths:</b> N.F.T.R.  <b>Transport:</b> N.F.T.R.  <b>Football Club:</b> Cllr S Corben advised that football would start again the first Saturday in April.  <b>DAPTC:</b> The Chairman advised that he had attended a couple of training events and had booked on the Neighbourhood Planning Training on 25 March.  <b>Village Community Group:</b> Mrs Finklaire advised that the Mudpie café would be re-opening on 26 June.  <b>Village Hall:</b> Cllr Rowe advised that the Village Hall Committee were currently considering having broadband at the village hall.  <b>History Society:</b> N.F.T.R.  <b>Tree Officer:</b> The Clerk advised that she had reported the dead boughs on oak trees on the road towards Ibberton. No response had been received. Clerk to chase.</p>	Clerk to chase Dorset Council
11. 11.1 11.2 11.3 11.4 11.5	<p><b>FINANCIAL MATTERS:</b>  <b>Accounts paid since last meeting:</b>  Mrs S Deary – Printer ink  £58.00 Chq No. 1290  <b>Accounts to be paid:</b>  Mrs S Deary - Salary  £369.10 Chq No.1291  It was proposed by Cllr Plummer and seconded by Cllr S Corben that these be paid. This was agreed by Council.  <b>Receipts:</b> £5.00 Fippenny News Subs.  <b>Finance Review:</b> The Clerk had distributed the accounts. No issues were raised.  <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>• Terms of Reference for Neighbourhood Plan Working Party</li> <li>• Waste bin for village centre</li> <li>• Change lay-by near the herb farm to verge</li> <li>• Obtain 2 small pieces of land from Housing Association to plant wild flowers</li> <li>• Name for new development on Castle Lane</li> </ul>	
13.	<p><b>THE NEXT MEETING:</b> The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 6 April 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom. The Chairman thanked all present and closed the meeting at 9.10pm.</p>	