

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF OKEFORD FITZPAINE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT THE PAVILION, CASTLE LANE ON TUESDAY, 5th OCTOBER 2021 at 7.30pm.**

**PRESENT:** Cllr N Plummer (Chairman) and Cllrs R Rowe (Vice-Chairman),  
R Corben, S Corben, D Gartside, C Jay and F Light.

**In attendance:** Dorset County Councillor P Batstone  
Mrs Sophie Pearce, Parish Clerk.

**Also present:** Eleven members of the public.

1. **Apologies:** The Clerk advised that no apologies had been received.
2. **Declaration of Interest and Dispensation Requests**
  - a. **To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers:**  
No Declarations of Interest were received.
  - b. **To consider any Dispensation Requests received by the Parish Clerk and not previously considered:**  
The Clerk confirmed that no dispensation requests had been received.
3. **Minutes**  
Okeford Fitzpaine Parish Council RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.  
**Proposed: Cllr Light. Seconded: Cllr Rowe.**
4. **Dorset Councillor's Report**  
Nothing to report in direct relation to the parish of Okeford Fitzpaine.

**Public Question Time**

A member of the Okeford Fitzpaine Village Community Group expressed concerns of the on-going costs of the new defibrillator situated at the bus shelter. A request was made that the Council cover the costs of consumables (electrode pads etc) as this responsibility had not been made clear and were ongoing maintenance costs. It was agreed that this issue was on the current month's Agenda.

A member of the Village Hall Committee raised concerns of continual illegal parking at the Village Hall car park and reminded the Council that it was their responsibility. Despite efforts made and many years of discussion and several Councils, illegal parking has still not been resolved.

The Chair of the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC) raised frustration that the letter from the Village Hall Trustees had still not been responded to. It had been agreed that the Council were to meet at the car park to discuss the issues raised and to also look at the possibility of resurfacing the car park. It was pointed out that there had still been no discussions recorded in the Minutes since, or further contact made with the VHMC to move the project forward. The VHMC therefore had decided that the part of the proposal as outlined in the Hall's submission should proceed in order to make the areas safe.

Objections were raised to suggested improvements to Darknoll Lane by parishioners. It was felt that they were not appropriate and should not be a priority, especially considering the potential high cost involved. It was suggested that the focus should be on connecting the village to the Rec with a safe passage via a footpath away from the road. There were also various emails sent to Councillors from members of the community in agreement to these points, including concerns relating to the detrimental damage to wildlife, threat to the preservation of the countryside and to the environment.

## 5. UPDATES ON OPEN ITEMS:

### Recreation Ground

**Cllr S Corben** confirmed that the tractor is now taxed. Nothing further to report.

### Bowey Field

**Cllr R Corben** confirmed that issues with bins is now RESOLVED.

A request has been received for a zip wire to be installed. Cllr S Corben looking into costs.

### Neighbourhood Planning

**Cllr Plummer** reported that no action had been received in response to requests from known consultants. The DAPTC is to be contacted by Cllr Plummer in order that an active consultant be asked to move this matter on.

### Belchalwell and Fiddleford items

**Cllr R Corben:** No issues

### Darknoll Lane

It was agreed that the responsibility for the works lie with the Dorset Council.

Cllr S Corben recognised that the ditch at the far end of the lane could be drained as there was no question this was an issue, but that the rest just be maintained.

Cllr Rowe informed the Parish Council that there is a Consultation on all public rights of way with a deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021.

**Cllr Gartside** to speak to the District Council and Highways to resolve this matter.

### Little/Mill Lane

**Dorset County Councillor P Batstone** reported that there was no progress. Nothing to Report.

### Plaque for Listed Building on The Cross

The Clerk advised that a Heritage Statement had now been received and forwarded to Mr Andrew Vickers to enable a planning application to be submitted for the works. On the Chairman asking the Council, **Cllr Jay** volunteered to assume responsibility on behalf of the Council for the submission and obtaining of the planning application, with Mr Vickers's assistance.

### Museum

**Cllr S Corben** reported that the woodwork repairs are on hold until March 2022.

### **Okeford Fitzpaine Climate Emergency Response**

**Cllr Rowe** reported that there had been no response to emails sent in relation to appropriate trees for the village. The Woodland Trust has been contacted but the minimum quantity was 100 trees. One landowner in the village had agreed to receiving 100 trees to plant on their land. **Cllr Rowe** to get details before ordering trees.

### **Availability of Appropriate Grants**

Cllr Rowe informed the Council that there are no suitable grants at this time.

### **Illegal Parking at The Village Hall**

Further to the comments made (and noted) in the public session Cllr S Corben confirmed that more cars have been seen parking illegally, despite clear No Parking signs. It was agreed that more decisive action is required. Private clamping firms were considered, along with fines and car stickers. Cllr S Corben reiterated that as private land, this must be protected.

**Cllr Light** is to look at options available for enforcement measures.

**Cllr S Corben** is to look at sticker notices for windscreens.

### **Repairs to the Drain at Little/Mill Lane**

**Cllr Gartside** informed the Council that the contractors had met the relevant parties and work is planned for completion in a few weeks.

### **Blocked Drain in Village**

**Cllr S Corben** to send photographs of the remaining blocked drain to the Clerk.

**The Clerk** to report this to Dorset Council again as unsatisfactory.

### **Outdoor Table Tennis**

**Cllr Jay** confirmed that the table is ready for delivery, once concrete plinth laid – weather permitting. Correspondence was received from a member of the public asking if a risk assessment be carried out. Cllr S Corben suggested that perhaps appropriate signs be placed once work completed.

### **Resurfacing of Village Hall Car Park**

Nothing new to report. Following a previous discussion with the chairman of the village hall Cllr Plummer agreed to look for a drainage plan of the site prior to meeting to discuss options.

### **Speed Indicator Device for Castle Lane**

**To be looked at again in January 2022.**

### **Outdoor Gym Equipment**

**Cllr S Corben** looking at estimates for gym equipment. Signs need renewing making people aware that dogs must be kept on a lead on the footpath and walked on the footpath only. Cllr S Corben agreed to look at this and also the potential for a Zipwire, which had been suggested by a resident. Costs for zip wire and signs to be also be looked into.

**To be discussed further at November 2021 meeting.**

### **Overgrown Hedge on Castle Lane near Ridouts**

The Clerk was advised by Dorset Council that at present the vegetation did not meet their intervention levels causing highway users to deviate their course and therefore was not a

hazard to highway users. **Cllr Light** informed the Council that it had also been trimmed back by the owners - **Discharged**

## 6. OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

### **Commemorative Tree for Ex-Cllr Ted Horton**

Been dealt with.

### **Broken Sign at Okeford Common**

No responses from Dorset Council Highways. **Cllr Gartside** to email. **To be added to Open Items.**

### **Speed Survey – Shillingstone Lane**

An email was received from the Clerk of Shillingstone Parish Council, asking for confirmation that Okeford Fitzpaine Parish Council contribute 50% of the total cost of this survey. This amounts to £125.

**Proposed: Cllr Jay, Seconded: Cllr Gartside. AGREED.**

### **Defibrillator – ongoing costs**

It was highlighted by Cllr Plummer, that in future if equipment is paid for by the Council, ongoing costs must be considered. Cllr Rowe stressed however that in relation to the defibrillator, concerns of ongoing costs are NOT to prevent anyone from using the device in an emergency. Cllr Rowe informed the Council that procurement companies should be looked in to for competitive consumable pricing, also the availability of periodic training and that laws are coming into place and so there will be a requirement for more defibrillators in public places in the future and these should be a consistent model. It was confirmed that there is no code required to gain access to the defibrillator.

It was proposed that the Council contribute to ongoing costs.

**Proposed: Cllr S Corben, Seconded Cllr Jay. AGREED.**

### **Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Celebrations – JUNE 2022**

**To be added to Open Items.** All community groups/committees to be contacted and meetings arranged – **Cllr Plummer.**

## 7. PLANNING MATTERS: Applications:

**P/LBC/2021/01798** May Cottage, Fiddleford Village Track

Internal & external alterations to replaster first floor ceilings, insertion of roof hatch, re-hang front door & replace bathroom window.

**NO OBJECTION**

**P/PAAC/2021/03335** - Land At Banbury Hill, Angers Lane, Fiddleford, Dorset - Change of use and conversion of agricultural building to 1 No. dwelling (Class C3)

**FOR INFO ONLY**

## 8. REPORT FROM PLANNING COMMITTEE:

**No meetings have taken place.**

## 9. CORRESPONDANCE RECEIVED:

- NALC – Newsletter x 2

- NALC – Online Events x 4
- NALC – Chief Executive’s Bulletin x 4
- NALC – Events x 3
- DAPTC E-News 10th September 2021
- Latest news from Dorset Council, Friday 10 September
- Availability of Council Grants for Defibrillators
- DCA Training Academy
- DAPTC - Code of Conduct | Digital Register of Interests | Dorset Council Complaints Process Relating to Conduct – Important
- DCA - Support, news and training that is just what you need!
- Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance – Request for recycling bin to be place at the Recreation Ground **As the clothing bins have become such a dumping ground in the past, the request was declined.**
- Dorset Council - Latest news from Dorset Council, Friday 17 September
- DAPTC E-News 17th September 2021
- NALC – Committee Elections
- DCA Networking Webinar
- DCA Training Academy
- Climate and Ecological Emergency support group, notes and next meeting
- DAPTC E-News 24th September 2021
- Latest news from Dorset Council, Friday 24 September
- DCA – Newsletter 30 September
- NALC – New publication – Points of Light
- Dorset Council - Latest information about the Planning Convergence and Transformation project
- NALC – Election Survey
- Dorset CPRE Newsletter including latest in the Planning Campaign
- LIVE CONSULTATION - Dorset Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2022-2032 - Deadline 31st October
- Latest news from Dorset Council, Friday 1 October
- DAPTC E-News 1st October 2021
- NALC STAR COUNCIL AWARDS 2021
- DCA Information Webinar

## 10. REPRESENTATIVES’ REPORT:

**Rights of Way/Footpaths:** NFTR

**Transport:** NFTR

**Football Club:** NFTR

**DAPTC:** NTR

**Village Community Group (VCG):**

Next meeting is on Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> November at the Mud Pie Café. This is a trial date to see if appropriate to combine both.

**Village Hall:**

AGM held and new committee elected. Mrs Burt stood down after serving on the committee for 42 years. The Chairman and Council thanked her for her dedication.

**History Society:**

First meeting held last week since lockdown and was well attended. Just a note that the gates to the Pavilion needs to be unlocked when the History Society are due to meet.

**11. FINANCIAL MATTERS:****11.1 Accounts for Payment:**

Okeford Fitzpaine resolve to approve the sum of £ 1334.61 as the Accounts for payment for September.

<b>Payee:</b>	<b>Cheque Nos:</b>	<b>Details:</b>	<b>Amount:</b>
British Gas	1342	Pavilion gas	£ 52.95
Mrs S Deary	1343	Salary/holiday pay	£ 497.05
Mr A Frampton	1344	Tractor Fuel	£ 367.24
HMRC	1345	Clerk PAYE	£ 277.00
SSE Southern Electric	1346	Electric bus shelter	£ 70.48
SSE Southern Electric	DirectDebit	Pavilion electric	£ 69.89

**11.2 Accounts to be Paid: None****11.3 Receipts:**

Okeford Fitzpaine Allotments	£ 550.00
Fippenny News (Parish Magazine) subs - £ 300.00 minus postage £7.92	£ 292.08

**12. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:**

Dog fowling

Digging up of the lane near 59 Greenhayes by BT Outreach for cable laying to Church.

Council representatives for Yeovil Hospital required - further details to be given.

Okeford Fitzpaine Council resolved to note the date of the next meeting as **Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 at 7.30pm to be held in The Pavilion, Castle Lane.**

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 9.05pm.