

PLEASE NOTE: These Minutes are in DRAFT form, until they are 'signed off' at the next meeting.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF OKEFORD FITZPAINE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE PAVILION, CASTLE LANE ON TUESDAY, 3rd May 2022 at 7.30pm.

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

In attendance: Mrs Sophie Pearce, Parish Clerk.

Also present: 23 members of the public.

1. Apologies: Dorset County Councillor P Batstone (called to another meeting)
Cllr F Light – no apology 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:
Cllr S Corben has been voted in as Treasurer of OF Village Hall Committee.

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 5th April 2022 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Proposed: Cllr R Corben; Seconded: Cllr Rowe

4. Dorset Councillor's Report

No report this month.

Public Question Time

A member of the public wished to highlight that many complaints had been made regarding using tarmac for the Village Hall car park. A letter was read out highlighting the huge cost, urbanisation of the village in an AONB, damage to wildlife in a conservation area, water run-off issues, inappropriateness of tarmac (while other suitable alternatives are available) and that alternatives were seemingly not discussed. The Village Hall light pollution was also brought to the Council's attention and concerns of the impact this also has on residents and the surrounding area. These bright lights are on during the entire night, even when the Village Hall is empty. The Chairman of the Village Hall spoke to address this issue and said that in some cases lights had been left on as the last people to leave had forgotten to switch them off and that the emergency exit signs were a legal requirement.

5. UPDATES ON OPEN ITEMS:

Neighbourhood Planning. Cllr Plummer: The Planning Statement will be sent to Cllr Jay and Cllr Rowe later this week for input.

Belchalwell and Fiddleford items: An incident was reported in which a speeding car through Okeford Fitzpaine village at around 2.30pm on Tuesday, 5th May knocked a pedestrian into a wall

causing a head injury. No registration was recorded. A similar car (small, black) was also seen speeding at a similar time in Belchalwell and caused another car to run off the road. It was agreed that the incident should be reported to the Police, although there are reports that there is nowhere for near misses to be logged but speeding reports do need to be made.

Darknoll Lane. Cllr Gartside: The results of the criticized questionnaire did trigger responses and letters/verbal opinions have now been received. A full list of those who are in agreement that something should be done to Darknoll Lane (around 14), and those who don't (2), will be sent to the Clerk for further discussion at the next PC meeting. Cllr S Corben questioned whether those supporting all lived in the village, as posts had been seen on social media expressing support from further afield.

Little/Mill Lane Crossing

Dorset Councillor Batstone was not at the meeting to give a report. To be reviewed in June.

Refurbishment of Historic Cross. Cllr Jay: The stonemason has completed the work. The cross looks much better with lime replacing the old concrete and the plaque is now legible. A letter of thanks with payment will be made.

To be taken off Open Items.

Museum. Cllr S Corben: Collecting more quotes for painting works.

Okeford Fitzpaine Climate Emergency Response. Cllr Gartside: No one attended the three sessions organised addressing reduction of energy, food and travel costs. There are no plans to reschedule.

Availability of Appropriate Grants. Cllr Rowe: No new appropriate grants available. Will continue to search.

Blocked Drains/flooding issues in Village

Lower Street: The Clerk read a report from Adam Steele from Dorset CC to inform the PC that *"unfortunately the budget for this type of work is very limited, however it is on their prioritised database until such funds become available. As there is no proper flooding, unfortunately this is low on the priority list. The ditch itself is on Parish land, so the investigation/maintenance work within the ditch can be commissioned by the Parish. The culvert itself, whilst not maintained by Dorset Council, was cleared, and checked 05/05/21"*. The PC will challenge this statement and gain further information.

Resurfacing of Village Hall Car Park

Cllr C Jay: In light of communications received from the public, alternative surfaces should be explored and it was generally felt that this subject should be explored further.

Cllr R Corben: On financial grounds, the costs are high and the play area is to be considered. As per Standing Order 10a(iii) - to defer consideration of a motion - this will be added to the agenda and discussed again at the next PC meeting.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations – JUNE 2022

Cllr Plummer: Plans coming along well with further meeting next week. Events have been communicated to the public and will be again with schedule and timings.

6. OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

A letter to the Village Hall Management Committee requesting a contribution to the cost of the car park. As further discussions are now required, it was agreed that this item is no longer appropriate at this time.

Ideas for making the Recreation Grounds more appealing to All: Cllr S Corben: The football club has been running for over 120 years. Over the years, there has been calls for cricket clubs/matches and other sports, but these clubs have never come to anything. The recreation ground is for everyone to use for sporting or recreational use, although due to its classification dogs are not permitted. **Cllr Jay:** Suggested a multi-use/all-weather pitch – although a major investment. This idea has been put forward in the past but was combined with a grass tennis court and did not receive enough support.

Cllr Gartside: Suggested a bike track. Low key and low cost.

Cllr Plummer proposed, seconded by **Cllr Jay**, that a new play/recreation area Working Party, to include representatives from the group of parents who recently met was formed to gather information and recommendations backed with evidence to support any suggestions for improvements. It was agreed that **Cllr Plummer, Cllr Rowe and Cllr S Corben** would join this Working Party. Dates to be set for initial meeting of the Working Party. The Council to receive all feedback for consideration.

This was agreed by the Council.

Looking at Ways to Reduce PC Energy Expenditure (eg mowing/lights in the Museum):

Cllr Gartside: Suggested reducing mowing around the village to help lower fuel consumption. Cllr R Corben disagreed as the Village looks untidy unless carefully managed.

ACTION: Cllr S Corben to look at the current strip lighting in the Museum, with replacement LED.

Clerk to contact DCC to clarify if street lights in the village could be switched off earlier at night.

Discussion on donation to the Child Okeford Hey Day Committee Tree Planting - 3 Oaks for 3 Okes (and the Queen). As part of the Queens Green Canopy 3 oak trees, to represent the 3 Okes: Okeford Fitzpaine, Shilling Okeford (alternative name for Shillingstone) and Child Okeford have been planted on the triangle of grass at the end of Haywards Lane just before the A357. Further improvement that might follow on this triangle is a path to link the car park with the trailway to Okeford Fitzpaine but that requires more input from the Highways Authority.

A donation of £ 125 was agreed to be made.

Proposed by Cllr Plummer and Seconded by Cllr S Corben. Clerk to contact Hey Day Committee to arrange payment.

FOR: 5 Votes; AGAINST: 1 (Location of tree planting).

7. PLANNING MATTERS:

7.1 Applications:

P/LBC/2022/01856 Proposal: Remove suspended timber floor to main sitting room and reinstate solid floor using insulated limecrete and stone. Location: May Cottage, Fiddleford Village Track DT10 2BX

Recommend: No Objection

P/HOU/2021/05661 Proposal: Erect two storey side extension Location: 5 Netherway Cottages, Lower Street Okeford Fitzpaine, DT11 0RW

Recommend: No Objection

7.2 Planning Decisions: April 2022 Planning Applications: Out to Consultation.

7.3 Other Planning Matters: None

8. REPORT FROM PLANNING COMMITTEE:

No meetings have taken place.

9. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR 3rd May 2022 MEETING:

- DAPTC Chief Exec bulletin x 4
- DAPTC E-News x 5
- Latest news from Dorset Council x 4
- Covid-19 update from Dorset Council
- NALC EVENTS x 5
- NALC NEWSLETTERS x4
- DCA News
- DCA's Latest News
- Email re Awareness of Alabama Rot, affecting Dogs in the area.
- P/LBC/2022/01856 Proposal: Remove suspended timber floor to main sitting room and reinstate solid floor using insulated limecrete and stone. Location: May Cottage, Fiddleford Village Track, DT10 2BX
- Village Hall Car Park: Dorset Planning Dept
- Village Hall Car Park: ANOB Dorset advice
- Village Hall Car Park: Conservation Dept DCC advice

- Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) - 2022 Resilient Communities Fund (South Central England)
- ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, TEMPORARY CLOSURE, SHILLINGSTONE LANE, OKEFORD FITZPAINE
- Child Okeford Hey Day Committee Tree Planting. 3 Oaks for 3 Okes (and the Queen). **A donation of £ 125 was agreed to be made. Clerk to contact Hey Day Committee to arrange payment.**
- P/HOU/2021/05661 Proposal: Erect two storey side extension Location: 5 Netherway Cottages, Lower Street DT11 0RW
- Dorset Council 20mph policy report rejected! Cllr Gartside statement attached
- Email complaint re Tarmacking Village Hall Car Park
- Email response from Chairman of VH re: Complaint of Tarmac and Village Hall Lights
- Bowey Park Working Group A request to introduce themselves to the PCC
- Email about suspicious spraying along edges of path behind 19 and 29 Nether Mead Close
- Updates from Adam Steele re drains and posts around village (OF)
- Letter of Complaint re tarmacking of VH car park
- Email from Adam Steele re: Warning road signage around the Okeford Fitzpaine school
- Email from Cllr Gartside re Ukrainian refugees
- Email from Roy Parsons re: Water discharging onto Lower Street at bottom of Bowey Field footpath – request for update
- Email enquiry into a Parish Council Hardship Fund **Cllr Rowe to put in touch with OF SOS group.**
- Letter of complaint re Car park and village hall lights
- Response from VH Chairman re lights
- Email to Chairman and PC: Notice from Cllr Gartside standing down as a Parish Councillor
- Complaint re VH car park and lights
- Response from Chairman of VH
- Email complaint from a member of public that issues raised to the PC were not on the Agenda as requested. **These issues were and are discussed routinely under Open Items, therefore do not need to be put onto the Agenda separately.**

10 REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT:

Bowey Field. Cllr R Corben: Still awaiting quotes.

Recreation Ground/Pavilion. Cllr S Corben: The developers are now using the top end of the car park (with rules in place), during the week only and donations are being made in lieu of this. The gate has now been locked with a code lock (instead of a pad lock), which will likely remain in place from now on.

Rights of Way/Footpaths. Jeremy Gartside: A working party improved the path through the bottom end of Darknoll Lane so that walkers can bypass the lake and wettest areas. The working party would like to put down some rubble to improve the drainage and will look to getting some costings for this.

Transport: NFTR

Football Club. Cllr S Corben: The season has now finished. The Youth section have a tournament on 13th June.

DAPTC: NFTR

Village Community Group (VCG). Sue Finklaire:

- AGM is to be held on 23rd July.
- Defib training on 20th May at the Pavilion. For a place, please book through Gail Morris.
- Online auction has raised over £ 535 which will go towards the new play area.
- BBQ arranged for August.
- 4th June Swing Band as part of the Jubilee celebrations. Tickets still available.
- All other clubs thriving.
- Waiting for the Welcome Packs to be completed.

Village Hall. Cllr Rowe: The AGM took place last week. Mr Burt was re-elected as Chairman, and is also covering the vacant Secretary position.

History Society. Andrew Vickers: Details of next meeting on noticeboards.

Okeford Fitzpaine Council – Ordinary Meeting on Tuesday, 3rd May 2022

Minutes approved as a true and accurate record, and signed as so by the Chairman presiding

..... Date:

11 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

11.1 Accounts for Payment:

Okeford Fitzpaine resolve to approve the sum of £ 2,003.78 as the Accounts for payment for April.

Payee:	Cheque Nos:	Details:	Amount:
SSE	D/D	Sports Pavilion	£ 112.85
Zurich Municipal	1504	Annual Insurance renewal	£ 978.59
Parish Mag Printers Ltd	1505	Fippenny News April edition	£ 227.00
British Gas	1506	Sports Pavilion	£ 260.26
Sophie Pearce	1507	Salary plus stationery	£ 425.08

It was Proposed by Cllr Rowe and Seconded by Cllr S Corben that these be paid. This was agreed by the Council.

11.2 Receipts: £ 80 in total (£ 30 donation for children's party and £ 50 donation from the Three Okeford's Preservation Society).

NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:

A Link from Castle Lane to the Playing Fields
Review of the Resurfacing of the Village Hall Car Park

Okeford Fitzpaine Council resolved to note the date of the next meeting as
Tuesday, 7th June 2022 at 7.30pm to be held in The Pavilion, Castle Lane.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 9.30pm.