

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF OKEFORD FITZPAINE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT THE PAVILION, CASTLE LANE ON TUESDAY, 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7.30pm.**

**PRESENT:** Cllr R Rowe (Vice-Chairman),  
Cllr C Jay, Cllr J Hunt, Cllr S Corben, Cllr R Corben, Cllr F Light,

**In attendance:** Mrs Karen Rhys, Parish Clerk, Dorset County Cllr Pauline Batstone

**Also present:** 12 members of the public.

1. **APOLOGIES** Cllr N Plummer (Chairman),  
In the absence of Cllr Plummer, Cllr Rowe was the Chairman of the meeting.
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:**
  - 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 4th July 2023 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.  
**Proposed: Cllr S Corben    Seconded: Cllr Jay                    ALL IN FAVOUR.**

4. **DORSET COUNCILLOR’S REPORT:** reminder cost of living help still available

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

3 questions/statements received by email with requests to be read out:

- Request to discuss gym equipment at school. Could it be relocated?
- What are the plans for playing fields at school – are they being sold too?
- Concerns and questions about school site and timings, suggestion for Parish Council to ask members of community for help as lots of untapped knowledge and expertise, concerns about jubilee bench (now installed) and village hall car park.

Statement read out by parishioner - school questions and concerns, query re footpath from Pavilion car park to back of school, who owns land at back of school and have they been approached? What are exact amounts of S106 funds and timescales before any is clawed back by Dorset Council?

**5. UPDATES ON OPEN ITEMS**

**Neighbourhood Planning: Cllr Rowe.** Cllr Rowe outlined the key points in the draft Planning Statement, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. Following a discussion, it was agreed that Councillors will review the document and give feedback to Cllr Rowe before the October 2023 meeting. Possibility of public meetings taking place in November 2023 to gather parishioner’s feedback.

**Darknoll Lane: Cllrs Rowe & Cllr Light.** Reply received from DC saying they will make a site visit to see what can be done. Clerk to contact and re offer support for a Councillor to also attend.

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**Little/Mill Lane Crossing: Cllr Rowe.** Ongoing

**Museum: Cllr S Corben** Further quote received £700 to include woodwork repair. Proposed by Cllr S Corben and Seconded by Cllr C Jay to accept ALL IN FAVOUR

**Availability of Appropriate Grants: Cllr Rowe** ongoing.

**Blocked Drains/flooding/Highways issues in Village: Cllr F Light.** Cllr Rowe has contacted DC who are investigating concerns about Castle Lane and also horse safety signage.

**Resurfacing of Village Hall Car Park: Cllr R Corben** – still concerns as to surface of car park especially with winter months approaching. Meeting between contractor and Cllr R Corben/Chairman has not taken place. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the Contractor requesting a reply within 14days with a detailed recovery plan.

**New Play Area Working Party:** Spider swing - statement and safety certificate received from supplier. RoSPA report to be recirculated by Clerk to ascertain if any other outstanding issues. Cllr Hunt advised we will possibly go out to tender in the Autumn for the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the new play area and was asked to bring draft plans to the October meeting.

**Fippenny News: Cllr Rowe** capacity of website could be an issue. Clerk to ascertain costs and report back at next meeting.

**The Village School: Cllr Rowe** Cllr Rowe presented a detailed report, which had been circulated to councillors before the meeting outlining the discussions which had taken place with both Salisbury Diocese and Dorset Council. Although the Asset of Community Value (ACV) application had been declined, there is now an opportunity to purchase the school site and hardstanding from Salisbury Diocese at market value within 6 months. The playing fields are owned by Dorset Council. A lengthy discussion took place regarding the feasibility on the practicalities of purchasing the site together with the playing fields, due diligence and also running costs and viability after purchase. It was PROPOSED by Cllr Rowe and SECONDED by Cllr Jay that the council proceed with a feasibility study with a view to purchase. ALL IN FAVOUR. Cllr S Corben thanked Cllr Rowe for her work to date on this and putting together the detailed report. Cllr Rowe to contact Salisbury Diocese to update them and convey decision to proceed. A Summary document to be put on website and noticeboards. Cllr Rowe to contact Dorset Council re possibility and details of sale of playing fields.

**Coronation Plans**, second quote received for commemorative stone at The Cross £940, size 710mm x 600mm Portland stone. Does not include installation as advised builder would be more cost effective. PROPOSED by Cllr S Corben and SECONDED by Cllr Light to accept quote. ALL IN FAVOUR.

**20mph & SID: Cllr C Jay** Cllr Jay presented a detailed business case to purchase and install the SID which was discussed. PROPOSED by Cllr Jay and SECONDED by Cllr Rowe that we proceed with application including cost of purchase and installation of £3,720 + VAT 5 Councillors IN FAVOUR, 1 Councillor ABSTAINED.

**Shillingstone Lane Development** – further communication with Hurst Estates who are adamant that the council have agreed to the site name, although no evidence received. Clerk to contact Dorset Council to ask again if there is any action that can be taken.

**Contractors Utilisation of Rec Car Park: Cllr N Plummer** Cllr Rowe has spoken recently to a further contractor who has made a site visit for a 2<sup>nd</sup> quote. Clerk to contact and confirm it's the 285m<sup>2</sup> area that the quote is for.

**D-Day celebrations** – Heart of Oak Stables have given permission for beacon lighting. A subcommittee to be formed, Cllr S Corben agreed to organise.

## 6. OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

- Pavilion Kitchen – after discussion, it was agreed for review in 6 months
- Noticeboards – problem with locks on all 3 boards. Cllr S Corben to go and investigate
- Clerks Expenses – after discussion it was agreed, in line with other Councils, to pay an allowance towards working from home expenses. PROPOSED by Cllr S Corben, SECONDED by Cllr C Jay that a sum of £35 a month to be paid. ALL IN FAVOUR

- Tree Survey - report and detailed quote received and distributed. £5,450 + VAT for all urgent/non urgent work. Cllr S Corben to obtain a second quote for the urgent works.

## 7. PLANNING MATTERS:

### 7.1 Applications:

- **P/HOU/2023/04065** Proposal: Demolish open porch and replace with new enclosed porch Location: Beech House Castle Lane Okeford Fitzpaine DT11 0RL **NO OBJECTION**
- **P/HOU/2023/04330** Proposal: Demolish existing side lean-to conservatory and erect single storey extension Location:4 Fippenny Hollow Okeford Fitzpaine DT11 0SD **NO OBJECTION**

### 7.2 Planning Decisions:

#### **P/FUL/2023/01698**

Location: The Old Farmhouse Darknoll Lane Okeford Fitzpaine Sturminster Newton DT11 0RP  
 Proposal: Demolish existing outbuilding. Erect carport & garage incorporating PV panels on south west elevation roof with associated landscaping. Works to annex to replace slate roof incorporating PV panels on south west elevation. (Amended description agreed 17 July 2023)  
 GRANTED 11/8/23

#### **P/LBC/2023/01699**

Location: The Old Farmhouse Darknoll Lane Okeford Fitzpaine Dorset DT11 0RP  
 Proposal: Demolish existing outbuilding. Erect carport & garage incorporating PV panels on south west elevation roof with associated landscaping. Works to annex to replace slate roof incorporating PV panels on south west elevation. (Amended description agreed 17 July 2023)  
 GRANTED 11/8/23

#### **P/FUL/2023/02845**

Location: Hill View House The Common Okeford Fitzpaine Blandford Forum DT11 0RT  
 Proposal: Change of use and conversion of garage & annexe to form a holiday let  
 GRANTED 7/8/23

#### **P/CLE/2023/03020**

Location: Brachers Garlands Lane Belchalwell Blandford Forum DT11 0EQ  
 Proposal: Certificate of Lawfulness to confirm use as a dwellinghouse within Use Class C3 without any restriction on types of occupant falling in that use class  
 GRANTED 21/7/23

### 7.3 Other Planning Matters: none

## 8. REPORT FROM PLANNING COMMITTEE: No meeting has taken place

## 9. CORRESPONDANCE RECEIVED

**Various newsletters** - DAPTC, Volunteer Centre Dorset , Dorset Council, NALC,DCA,CEE, Dorset CPRE, Keep Britain Tidy, Flood Wessex News, What's Happening in Stur, Fields in Trust

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- Zurich newsletter re playgrounds
- DC re road closure Shillingstone Lane
- DC re worn road markings A357
- Dorset COP event 9<sup>th</sup> Sept
- Email invite AJC re Comerwicke Fields opening (Cllr S Corben to attend)
- Email invite Nordcat AGM

#### **Correspondence - Open Items:**

- Email reply BHS Access Field Officer re Darknoll Lane
- Email reply Roland Skeats, DC re Darknoll Lane
- Email Parishioner re gates forced at rear of school (Cllr Jay actioned)
- Email from parishioner forwarding DC response to Rose Cottage query
- Email from parishioner of Winterbourne Stickland re traffic calming (Cllr Jay responded)
- Email from Huck Rope Play Equipment enclosing safety certificate for swing seat
- Email replies Hurst Estates re road names of development
- Email Parishioner re naming of Shillingstone Fields Development (sent to Hurst Estates & DC Planning) & reply
- Email AJC replies to chaser re car park quote at Pavilion
- Email Parishioner re gym equipment at school with images\*\*
- Email Parishioner re several issues/concerns - school, bench, car park \*\*
- Email Parishioner re school building concerns
- Email Parishioner re possible uses for school site
- Email Parishioner re possible uses for school site
- Email Parishioner asking for clarification if school playing fields will be sold \*\*

#### **Other:**

- Email Parishioner with detailed statement with questions raised (read out in public session)
  - Email Parishioner re egg thrown at property ( Cllr Rowe contacted)
  - Email parishioner re nuisance dog barking (Clerk replied)
  - Email parishioner re footpath across old chicken shed site (Footpaths Officer to reply)
  - Email re VCD Celebration evening nominations (Cllr S Corben made proposal)
  - Email VCG re new noticeboard leaking (Clerk responded with contact details)
- \*\* requested to be read out in public session

#### **10. REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTS:**

**Bowey Field: Cllr R Corben.** Nothing to report

**Recreation Ground/Pavilion: Cllr S Corben:.** Nothing to report

**Rights of Way/Footpaths: Jeremy Gartside:** Nothing to report

**Transport:** Nothing to report.

**Village Hall: Cllr Rowe:** Nothing to report

**Football Club: Cllr S Corben:** Fundraising event in aid of club and British Heart Foundation raised £6,037. New season just started.

**DAPTC:** Nothing to report

**Village Community Group (VCG): Sue Finklaire** 2 further auctions taken place with £1,400 raised. AGM 29<sup>th</sup> July officers re-elected. Bench now installed. Noticeboard leaking – contacted company purchased from who will be inspecting. Thank you event taking place in pub for regular volunteers.

**Church Matters: Cllr Jay:** Flyers distributed for flagstone appeal with disappointing result. 14<sup>th</sup> Oct recorder and flute music event, 17<sup>th</sup> November Curry night.

**Tree Warden: Cllr S Corben** – update given in Other Items

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## 11. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

### 11.1 Accounts for Payment:

Okeford Fitzpaine resolve to approve the sum of as the accounts for payment for **£2,158.14** July/August 2023.

Payee	DD/Chq No	Details	Amount £
Water 2 Business	DD	Water - Pavilion	60.50
Water 2 Business	DD	Water - Pavilion	60.50
Southern Electric	DD	Electric museum 4/7 – 8/8	57.04
British Gas	DD	Gas Pavilion 2/7 – 1/8	80.17
Clerk	001631	July Salary	372.16
Clerk	001633	August Salary £465.20 printer exps 2 months @£9.99	485.18
Clerk	001632	NFU policy renewal	624.51
St John Ambulance	001629	Fitz Fun Day (prev agreed £180)	190.08
4D Signs	001630	Fitz Fun day (prev agreed £180)	228.00
			<b>2158.14</b>

### 11.2

#### Accounts to be Paid:

**Fireline** £188.86

**Sarum Parish Mag Printers** – Aug/Sept Parish Mag £264.00

### 11.3 Receipts: none

### 11.4 Financial Review

Still unable to reconcile as Nat West have stopped sending statements. Cllr Rowe is in the case and will hopefully be resolved before Oct meeting.

### 11.5 Any other financial matters

External audit sign off imminent.

## 12. NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:

- Gym equipment at school – Open Items
- Library of Things
- Play Park- Open Items
- School site – Open Items
- Neighbourhood Plan – Open Items

Okeford Fitzpaine Council resolved to note the date of the next meeting as **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 at 7.30pm to be held in The Pavilion, Castle Lane.**

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 9.22 pm.

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