

CHETNOLE AND STOCKWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 9 November 2016 in Chetnole Village (Meeting Number 5 – 2016-2017 council year)

Present: Councillors O Pope (Chairman), S Darley,
M Gallimore, W Henry, J Hume

In Attendance: Mrs S Woodford (Clerk)
Cllr M Lawrence (WDDC)

Public Forum

Cllr Hall spoke briefly about the Government reorganisation consultation.

5.1 Apologies for Absence: Cllr G Ratcliffe and Cllr J Meier

5.2 Minutes of the Meetings held on 14 September 2016

RESOLVED: Proposed Cllr Pope and agreed unanimously – that the Minutes be signed as a correct record.

5.3 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

None raised.

5.4 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meetings held on 14 September 2016

None raised.

5.5 Planning:

5.1 WD/D/16/002170 (Full) – Erect single storey extension to the side and rear of the existing property and the removal of some existing ground floor walls to create an open plan living space. Osmond House, Batcombe Lane.
(The Parish Council had no objection)

5.2 WD/D/16/002218 (LBC) – Change approved glazed roof with a slate roof with conservation roof lights. 1 Grove Cottages, Mill Lane.
(The Parish Council had no objection)

5.3 It was agreed to ask Cllr Lawrence to make enquiries with regards to the progress of the applications relating to the Old Forge in Mill Lane (WD/D/16/0759 and 0760).

5.6 Finances

5.6.1 Accounts for Payment (See Appendix A for details)

It was resolved to approve payment of £1308.25 in total from the PC Current Account and £0 from the Playing Field Management Team Account.

Total assets at 9 November 2016:	Parish Council	£9,677.62
	Playing Field Fund	£2,140.02

RESOLVED: Proposed Cllr Pope and agreed unanimously to approve the accounts for payment and balances recorded.

5.7 Grants and Donations

None

5.8 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman spoke with regard to the 'Working Together' document produced by the Dorset County Council which details the functions which will no longer be carried out by the County Council. Parishes and Town Councils will need to develop strategies to cover these functions, perhaps working together to help to reduce costs and improve efficiency. Standing

Orders were suspended to allow Cllr Hall to speak, he pointed out that the County Council will assist with advice and insurance cover for working on the Highway; he suggested that Parishes could perhaps look to their local Town Councils for assistance as they have the manpower and expertise and may be prepared to work on behalf of a parish at cost (Parish and Town Councils are not permitted to profit from the sharing of resources). The Chairman confirmed that a meeting is to take place between the clerks of some local parishes and Sherborne Town Council to investigate what services might possibly be shared.

5.9 Reports from Members on other bodies

5.9.1 Flood Warden – Cllr Ratcliffe

The Environment Agency completed the commissioning of the 2 new automated warning signs in Deep Ford Lane at the beginning of October. Cllr Ratcliffe has reported back to the EA that they do not appear to operate satisfactorily. The signs are supposed to show "Ford" when a vehicle approaches in normal weather conditions and "Flood" when the level at the ford is about 18 inches or deeper. The sign at Dunch Lane end does not necessarily activate when driven past. The sign at Chubbs Farm end only activates when a vehicle enters the lane from Hamlet direction, and not always. The EA are investigating.

5.9.2 Home Watch – Nothing to report for Chetnole, but break-ins continue to be reported in nearby villages.

5.9.3 Boyles – nothing to report.

5.10 Highways Issues

Standing Orders were suspended to allow Cllr Hall to speak, he suggested that the Parish Council contact the local highways team as there may be some suitable materials available to fill the potholes in both Back Lane and Neals Lane, but a local volunteer workforce would be required to spread them. The Clerk agreed to contact DCC Highways.

5.11 Footpaths

5.11.1 Cllr Darley had previously highlighted the problems being experienced with the gate fastening at the entrance to Mrs Walker's paddock off Back Lane. The Clerk reported that this has been looked at and an alternative fastening could be purchased and this would be investigated.

5.11.2 Cllr Darley also reported on Footpath N9/23, which forms part of the track which was originally Bubb Down Lane that ran from Foy's Lodge to the top of Melbury Bubb (as can be seen from the 1962 Ordnance Survey Map ST 50 NE). The section of the track which runs from Foy's to the Stockwood Road is now heavily overgrown and fly tipping at each end has blocked access, although much of the lane is still relatively clear. If it were reopened it would provide an ideal pedestrian route to Chetnole Halt. Cllr Darley confirmed that a land registry search has indicated that no one owns the title and therefore the Parish Council could apply for ownership under an 'Adverse Possession Order'. If this were done, then the Parish Council, in conjunction with DCC, could restore the track sharing the costs on a 50/50 basis. Members agreed in principle that this should be followed up, Cllr Darley is working with the DCC local footpaths officer and will report back on progress, so that the Council can at a future meeting make a formal decision on whether it wishes to proceed with an application for an adverse possession order.

5.12 2017/18 Budget

Members noted that this has been postponed until the January 2017 meeting as no decision on precept request is required until 31 January 2017.

5.13 Playing Field

5.13.1 Playing Field Management Team meeting held on 22 September 2016, members were in receipt of the notes of the above meeting.

Resolved: To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2016.

5.13.2 Playing Field Committee meeting held on 26 October 2016, members were in receipt of the minutes of the above meeting.

Resolved: To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26 October 2016 and to the recommendations contained within.

5.13.3 Members noted the kind donation from the Chetnole Flower Show Committee to the Playing Field Management Team towards the adult exercise equipment.

5.14 Neighbourhood Plan

A meeting is to be held on 30 November 2016 in the village Hall and residents are invited to come along and assist with the formation of a Steering Group to begin the process of a Neighbourhood Plan. Standing Orders were suspended to allow Mr Ian Wood to speak. A group has been formed within the village to be known as ‘the Friends of Chetnole Halt’, they will take responsibility for improvements to the station and are working with the Heart of Wessex Transport Officer, work should start in the New Year. It is hoped that an element of the Neighbourhood Plan will include improvements to the access of Chetnole Halt and the provision of parking facilities.

5.15 Electronic distribution of Agenda and Minutes

As is it is now permissible for the summons to meetings and associated paperwork to be circulated to council members via email, Members were asked if they would be prepared receive the summons in electronic format.

Resolved: That the summons and associated paperwork would be circulated electronically unless a member requested to continue to receive it in paper form.

5.16 Electronic Distribution of Planning Applications by West Dorset District Council

WDDC will be ceasing to issue paper plans from 1 April 2017, they will operate entirely electronically, although the original paper plans will be available for the public to view at the head office in South Walks, Dorchester. Members were asked to approve the way in which the Council will consider and respond to applications in the future.

Resolved: That the Clerk will notify members when the council is consulted on an application, Members will be asked to view it on the dorsetforyou.com website and then respond via email to all members and the clerk (reply all), thus enabling an on-line discussion should that be desired. Once a consensus has been reached, the Clerk will respond to WDDC accordingly. Any member who does not have the ability to view the application on line will either be able to view the plans at Dorchester or contact the Clerk to view on-line.

5.17 Formation of ‘The Friends of Chetnole Halt’

As mentioned earlier at Item 5.14, the above group has been formed and members offered their support.

5.13 Matters requiring the attention of the Council

None raised.

5.14 Date of next Meeting: Wednesday 11 January 2017.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

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Chairman