

CHETNOLE AND STOCKWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

held on 8 November 2017 in Chetnole Village

(Meeting Number 4 – 2017-2018 council year)

Present: Councillors O Pope (Chairman), S Darley (Vice Chairman),
L Carroll, M Gallimore, W Henry and J Meier

In Attendance: Mrs S Woodford (Clerk)

Public Forum

Cllr Lawrence reported on a recent meeting of West Dorset District Council and informed Members of the recent correspondence from the Home Secretary confirming approval for the bid for the 9 authorities in Dorset to become two Unitary Authorities.

4.1 Apologies for Absence: Cllr J Hume, Cllrs R Legg (WDDC) and M Penfold (DCC)

4.2 Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 September 2017

RESOLVED: Proposed Cllr Gallimore and seconded Cllr Henry and agreed unanimously that the Minutes be signed as a correct record.

4.3 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

None

4.4 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meetings held on 19 July 2017

4.4.1 Confirmed that a Dog Waste Bin for the Playing Field is to be installed in the very near future.

4.5 Planning:

4.5.1 WD/D/17/002302 Erect single-storey extension to the side and rear of the existing property and the removal of some of the existing ground floor walls to create an open-plan living space (variation of condition 1 of planning permission ref WD/D/16/002170 - amended plans). OSMOND HOUSE, BATCOMBE LANE, CHETNOLE. **The Parish Council had no objection to this application.**

4.5.2 WD/D/17/000632 REFUSED Myrtle Cottage. Erection of 1no dwelling with associated parking. Members were in receipt of correspondence from Cllr Legg to the District Council Chief Planning Officer seeking justification for the delegation of the application.

4.5.3 Members were concerned that no further applications have been made for the Old Forge in Mill Lane. The building is deteriorating and need essential works. Agreed that, with the agreement of the owners, the Council write to the planning authority and English Heritage and express its concern about the deterioration of the building.

4.6 Finances

4.6.1 Accounts for Payment (See Appendix A for details)

It was resolved to approve payment of £ 2,177.20 in total from the PC Current Account and £299.00 from the Playing Field Management Team Account.

(Noted that £1,200 of the expenditure was from the Neighbourhood Plan budget,)

Total assets at 13 September 2017: Parish Council	£11,406.33
Playing Field Fund	£2,754.82
Neighbourhood Plan Grant	£1,275.50

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

4.7 Grants and Donations

4.7.1 NORDCAT – Cllr Owen has recently arranged with the NORDCAT bus organisers that the bus should be used for a trial period in Chetnole. If it is used sufficiently to justify its continuation, then that will be built into the timetables. The bus travels to Sherborne on Monday and Thursday each week, and also to Yeovil. Passengers must register and book the previous day. The service also offers days trips to Exeter and Taunton. The fee is £5 for a return trip.

Surrounding parishes, that use the bus regularly, are donating £500 per annum towards the running costs. It was agreed that £75 should be donated to cover this trial 6 week period. Cllr Meier suggested that passengers numbers are obtained from NORDCAT to assess the actual benefit to Chetnole.

RESOLVED: Proposed Cllr Pope, seconded Cllr Meier and agreed unanimously to approve a payment of £75 towards the running costs of the NORDCAT bus service.

4.8 Chairmans Announcements

No particular items to note

4.9 Reports from Members on other bodies

4.9.1 Flood Warden – Gordon Ratcliffe reported that that the inlet to the Mill Lane bridge bypass culvert is still potentially blocked by a build-up of fallen branches, it is becoming silted and needs clearing.

Cllr Henry noted that there is still a discrepancy between the markers at the Ford in Deep Ford Lane. The Environment Agency is aware of this but have not yet replaced the sign.

It was agreed with Homewatch co-ordinator that no more sand bags are required this year as there are plenty left over from last year. Noted that a new storage area should be found when more are obtained as Chetnole House will be back on the market in the Spring of 2018.

4.9.2 Home Watch – Nothing to report

4.9.3 Boyles Trust – No report this month

4.9.4 STAG (Sherborne Transport Action Group) – Cllr Darley reported on the STAG meeting held in September 2017. His report included the fact that South West Coaches now have the contract for the local schools and will not be opening their seats for public use, as they are now obliged to transport the over 16's.

On the ordinary bus service, there will no longer be any concessionary travel prior to 10 am. South West rail are equalising their fares on the Paddington/Taunton line which could lead to other increases. On the Wessex/Bristol/Weymouth line there is still pressure to speed up the trains and have an hourly service and this may ultimately lead to not stopping at the Halts, resulting in the closure.

4.10 Highways Issues

Cllr Meier noted a problem with the drains in Stockwood, which he will address.

4.11 Footpaths

4.11.1 It was noted that the gate at the end of the footpath from Church Close to Mill Lane is broken and it was generally agreed that a gate is no longer required there, so rather than repair it, just remove it.

4.11.2 The field adjacent to the path running up from the railway line to Melbury Bubb is poorly fenced and cattle are breaking down the hedge and treading the footpath, which is causing the footpath to deteriorate. It was agreed that Mr Samways should be approached with a view to installing an electric fence along that stretch whilst cattle are in the field.

4.11.3 Cllr Gallimore noted that the stile by the footpath near the stream at lowest point in the Stockwood Road is not dog friendly as there is barbed wire running across it.

4.12 Playing Field

4.12.1 Playing Field Trees

The Chairman read out the detail of the permission for the work to the trees adjacent to Church View, being to fell the Chestnut and to crown lift the two Norway Maples by 5m where they overhang the garden of Church View.

4.12.2 Playing Field Mowing

The Chairman referred to a letter he had received which expressed concern about the current mowing of the Chetnole Playing Field. Recent mowing has marginally marked the ground, especially on the corners where the vehicle and gangs turn, indicating that the driver was not slowing for the corners but driving at speed.

It was generally agreed that during the earlier part of the season the cut was reasonable, but throughout the autumn it has been worse. Cllr Henry reported that the last cut was of a better standard than the previous one, although the Clerk had asked Dorset Works not to do any more cuts this season.

Agreed that quotes should be sought from other companies to get a comparison before making the decision on whether to stay with Dorset Works for 2018 season.

4.12.3 Playing Field Management Team Meeting held on 7 November 2017

No minutes are yet available for this meeting, but the Chairman highlighted the main points of discussion.

- Five Aside Football goals are being sourced.
- Netball net for the hardstanding area is being sourced.
- Some further new benches are to be purchased by the PFMT
- Quotes for the work on the roof will be prepared in due course
- Agreed that a letter should be written to the two young men (Danny Orton and Will Beaumont) who are presently doing their Duke of Edinburgh Award and have made a wonderful job of tidying around the corner of the field by the Church.
- There was a proposal for a fence around the children's play area to keep the surface clean but this was not thought necessary by the members considered it unnecessary and were worried that maintenance might be a problem.

4.13 Neighbourhood Plan

Members were in receipt of a letter from Ned Kozowyk Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. The Group had decided that it no longer wished to proceed with the plan as it considered the WDDC Local Plan catered well for the needs of Chetnole would add nothing of use. Although some of the grant already been spent on a professional planning advisor, the remaining funds can be returned and there will be no cost to the Parish Council.

Standing Orders were suspended to allow Mr David Russell to speak as Secretary to the Steering Group, he reinforced the reasons given in the letter and clearly stated that a Neighbourhood Plan is about development only and he was concerned that this should be clear as there has been some confusion between Neighbourhood Planning with Parish Planning.

Members acknowledged the demise of the Steering Group and their desire to put the plan 'on-hold', and agreed that a letter should be written to Ned and the Steering Group to thank them for their efforts in attempting to get the Neighbourhood Plan underway.

4.14 Matters requiring the attention of the Council

4.14.1 Cllr Gallimore had been approached by a concerned resident because the Hunt were in the village during the week and the hounds were out and about and strayed into gardens. Cllr Meier pointed out that should any damage have been done by the Hunt, then contact them and they will reimburse where necessary. The village/parish

council could issue guidelines, but the Hunt itself has a right to use all highways and byways, but permission is required from the land owner should they wish to enter onto private property.

4.14.2 Cllr Darley showed members a photograph of an alternative use for an old public phone box and suggested members might consider it for the Chetnole Box, to use it as a 'garden' and fill it with plants/flowers. This item to be put onto the agenda for the January meeting for a formal decision.

4.15 Date of next Meeting: Wednesday 10 January 2018.

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Chairman