

CHETNOLE AND STOCKWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 12 September 2018 in Chetnole Village (Meeting Number 4 – 2018-2019 council year)

Present: Councillors O Pope (Chairman), A Darley (Vice Chairman),
M Gallimore, W Henry, J Hume and J Meier.
(Cllr M Lawrence WDDC)

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

Public Forum

Cllr Lawrence gave a brief report on the current situation with regards to the reorganisation of Local Government and the proposed formation of the new Unitary Authority for Dorset, referring to the 'Shaping Dorset Council' Newsletter which is to be sent out on a regular basis to all Clerks for distribution to Members. Cllr Lawrence also reported that all permitted development and any retrospective planning matters relating to the 'Rest and Welcome' (Sheaf of Arrows) Public House in the Stockwood Ward have now been approved.

4.1 Apologies for Absence: Cllr L Carroll and Cllr M Penfold (DCC)

4.2 Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 July 2018.

RESOLVED: Proposed Cllr Meier and seconded Cllr Pope 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 Meeting held on 11 July 2018

- The new entrance to be made off Church Path to access the Sandbag storage area in the rear of the Pavilion in the Playing Field has been cut through, but awaiting the gate and posts before completion of the work.
- With regards to the replacement or repair of the fingerpost signs, it was noted that these signs were replaced by a group of villagers a few years back. The Chairman agreed to make contact with the key person in this group to see if they would be prepared to again offer their assistance.
- The slats on the bridge to Melbury Bubb have been repaired, but there is still problem with cattle breaking through onto the path.

4.5 Planning:

The Clerk reported that no planning applications have been received for consideration. Members expressed concern about the deteriorating condition of the Old Forge in Mill Lane, on which planning permission was last refused in March 2017, noting that no new application has apparently been submitted.

There was discussion on whether an Appeal has yet been lodged for Myrtle Cottage, the Clerk agreed to investigate as no notification has been received.

Cllr Meier quoted an article, which in turn quoted the National Planning Policy Framework document, stating clearly the need for emphasis on the development in villages, allowing them to grow and thrive thus supporting local services. To find exception sites to allow affordable housing on identified land. He suggested that the policy guidelines in the NPPF were in conflict with those in the West Dorset and Weymouth Local Plan. Cllr Lawrence (WDDC) maintained

that the policies are in accordance with the NPPF, so Members requested that she report back to the Planning Committee the concerns of the Parish Council with regard to both this conflict in policy and Members concern that the comments made by the Parish Council are largely ignored by the Planning Authority at WDDC. Also that the democratic process is overridden when officers have the power to choose which applications are determined by the Planning Committee.

4.6 Finances

4.6.1 Accounts for Payment (See Appendix A for details)

It was resolved to approve payment of £846.73 in total from the PC Current Account and £20.00 from the Playing Field Management Team Account.

Total assets at 12 September 2018:	Parish Council	£10,812.08
	Playing Field Fund	£2,272.47
	Neighbourhood Plan Grant	£1,274.50

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

4.7 Grants and Donations

A request has been received from St Peter's Parochial Church Council for a donation towards the provision of a shed to be placed within the Churchyard to accommodate the tools used by the Chetnole Choppers. Also a possible donation to the Church organ fund. After discussion about the likely size and cost of a shed Members agreed to donate £200.

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr Gallimore and Seconded by Cllr Pope to unanimously approve a grant to the Chetnole PCC of £200 towards the provision of a shed, any remainder to go towards the Church Organ fund.

4.8 Chairmans Announcements

- 'Shaping Dorset Council' Newsletter – Cllr Pope noted the likely expense on the change of logo for the new Dorset Council.
- A letter has been received by the Chairman from Cllr Geoff Goater, the Chairman of Yetminster Parish Council, inviting Chetnole and other local parishes to join a discussion group on the re-organisation of Dorset Councils and the impact on the Parish Councils. It was agreed that Chetnole and Stockwood should be part of this, so the Chairman will respond.
- An email had been received from a resident concerned about traffic speeds in the village and the loss of the repeater signs. The Clerk had responded explaining that the repeater signs are no longer a legal requirement and the DCC no longer replace them, and the Parish Council do not have the authority to erect signs of this nature.

4.9 Reports from Members on other bodies

4.9.1 Flood Warden – Noting to report

4.9.2 Home Watch – Nothing to report

4.9.3 Boyles Trust – Nothing to report

4.9.4 STAG (Sherborne Transport Action Group) – Cllr Darley reported that the last STAG meeting focussed largely on Sherborne issues such as bus routes and cycle racks. He reported that the Chetnole Halt Project is making some progress in its attempt to get a level access to the platform with discussions taking place with the relevant authorities.

4.10 Highways Issues

4.10.1 Noted that although Back Lane has been repaired, it is barely adequate and the undulations are still bad enough to cause the underside of vehicles to hit the tarmac. Also the erosion of the Stockwood Road as the tarmac has melted and peeled off the surface of the road. As Cllr Lawrence had suggested, the Clerk will email both Cllr Penfold and the local highways officer, Paul Thatcher.

4.10.2 Cllr Hume again noted the use of Deep Ford Lane by unsuitable vehicles, suggesting that it is due to the continued use of Satellite Navigation. Members agreed that there is nothing the Council can do to change this, so Cllr Hume suggested she would take the matter up as an individual with the local MP.

4.11 Footpaths

Cllr Darley told Members that the self-closing gates (the same as the one fitted at Foys) are available at 'buy one and get the other free', suggesting that the Council take advantage of this offer and purchase some gates to be put on the footpaths within the village.

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr Pope and Seconded by Cllr Meier and unanimously agreed to support the provision of further gates and to take advantage of this offer. Cllr Darley to assess the number of gates required and report back to the Chair and Clerk.

4.12 Cleaner Air Consultation

Following a request from a concerned resident, Members were in receipt of a brief report and links to the Cleaner Air Consultation which is presently taking place. After discussion it was generally agreed that a representation should be made the Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils requesting that they make representations on behalf of rural Dorset with a view to making it clear that the level of pollution from wet wood in the countryside, where by the way we do not have the easy option of piped gas, does not merit the limitation it might merit in London? Clerk to draft a letter to be signed by the Chair noting the observations made by members.

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr Hume and Seconded by Cllr Pope and unanimously agreed to contact DAPTC with regards to the Cleaner Air Consultation.

4.13 Playing Field

No committee meetings have taken place and nothing to report.

4.14 Matters requiring the attention of the Council

Councillor Hume expressed concern about the security of the Playing Field in view of the changes to the Dorset Council. Agreed to take advice and report back to the next meeting.

4.15 Date of next Meeting: Wednesday 14 November 2018

Public Forum – Nothing raised.

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Chairman