

Iwerne Courtney & Stepleton Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 16 December 2020

Venue: Remote meeting – Google meet. meet.google.com/viu-fqqz-hhz

Present: Cllr Hewitt, Cllr Gredley, Cllr Barrett and Cllr Sullivan

In attendance: County Councillor Somper

Agenda item	Discussion points	Action
1. Apologies	Cllr Gibson Fleming	
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting	The Minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2020 having been previously circulated, were agreed; the presiding Chairman duly signed the minutes. Proposed by Cllr Barrett and seconded by Cllr Gredley.	
3. Chairman's announcements	Cllr Hewitt advised the council of the NALC legal advice sought by the Clerk about the offer from Wessex Internet. The issue in this request is whether the Parish Council can accept on behalf of the Play Area Refurbishment Fund a donation of £100 for each household that signs up for a full fibre internet service, in return for supporting the project. The advice is there are two issues: The first is straightforward; that under S.139 of the Local Government Act 1972, the council is able to receive gifts either for its functions or for the benefit of the area, which includes the council's function of providing recreational facilities. Secondly, the council needs to be mindful of the risk of reputational damage if either there is a problem with the service provided by the project, or that other providers complain that the council has effectively shut them out of an opportunity. If there are no other providers then the risk to the council is small. It is for the council to consider the risks and benefits to the community. Cllr Hewitt asked the council for their comments. Cllr Hewitt, Cllr Barrett and Cllr Gredley whilst supporting the project felt they needed more information on how the council can promote the project.	Clerk – NALC letter with council papers
4. Declaration of Interests	None taken	
5. Matters Arising	<p>a. The council decided not to re-order a supply rock salt as the parish salt bins where refilled at the start of the Winter season by Dorset Council Highways (DCH). The process for supply in Winter is that DCH will supply the parish salt bins with one free fill at the start of the season, and then subsequent refills are paid for by the parish.</p> <p>b. The Clerk has not had a reply from DAPTC to an enquiry about joining Aubergine (parish website) pilot scheme under DAPTC auspices. Cllr Barrett further explained that her research has identified a potential lead for assisting the council to meet the statutory requirements for accessibility and potential development of the parish website. Clerk advised the council to include any development of the parish website in the Precept setting 2021 – 2022.</p>	Cllr Barrett/Clerk DAPTC – pilot scheme for website accessibility.

	<p>c. The Clerk advised the council that the Glebe foot bridge (Main Street to the Glebe) will be replaced in March 2021 by the Dorset Council Structural Engineering Team. Cllr Gredley to provide the Clerk with information/details on the proposed bridge replacement process.</p> <p>d. The Clerk's employment contract and job description (revised November 2020) was signed and dated by the Chairman at Section 24. Item 6.2 of the contract has been adopted whereby the Clerk would be subject to the automatic option which is to be reviewed annually on 1 April hereafter.</p>	Cllr Gredley
6. Democratic Period - Dorset Council and Parish Council	<p>County Cllr Somper provided the Clerk with her monthly report for December 2020 prior to the meeting. The following points for note and reference.</p> <p>COVID19 - The government has announced that when the national lockdown measures end on 2 December Dorset Council and BCP Council areas will be in tier 2. For residents this means they can only mix with their own households or support bubbles indoors but, can meet with up to six people outdoors. These measures are designed to help us bring infection and transmission rates down as quickly as possible. Over the last few months, we have seen rising cases where household mixing has led to more positive cases of COVID-19. Planning – Agricultural Buildings - Following discussions with senior planning officers in relation to some agricultural building development and concerns around the impact on landscapes. Discussions North Dorset planning officers will be looking more robustly at these requests under permitted development and in future parishioners are likely to see a 'Request for Prior Approval' - whereby a notice is put up on the proposed site, with neighbours and the parishes being able to comment. This is not a blanket policy or to be a hinderance to our farmers, but a recognition that we live in an area where the landscapes are of special interest and this must not simply be a box ticking exercise. Free Car Parking in Towns In response to this year's exceptional circumstances, and in order to help local businesses, Dorset Council has agreed to allow for free parking in Town Centre Car Parks on Saturday 5th, 12th and 19th December 2020. As part of our ongoing review of car park charges, arrangements for Christmas 2021 and future years will be considered. The suspension of car parking charges during the first lockdown has cost Dorset Council much revenue and the councils finances have to be the prime priority. Dorset Council Climate Consultation Dorset Council has decided to extend the consultation period for their Climate and Ecological Emergency strategy until Mid-January 2021. The survey can be completed online https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/emergencies-severe-weather/climate-emergency/climate-ecological-emergency-strategy/the-climate-and-ecological-emergency-strategy.aspx paper copies of the survey are available from Dorset Council 01305 221000 and community libraires when they reopen. The current four-week lockdown may have prevented many people from receiving paper copies of this important survey or accessing this online via a local library, Dorset Councillors have chosen to extend the amount of time people have to complete the questionnaire both on and offline.</p>	<p>Clerk – Shroton Lines</p> <p>Clerk – Shroton Lines</p> <p>Clerk - information for village website, noticeboards, newsletter</p>
7. Correspondence	<p>a. Letter from Philip & Margaret Hodgkins – an invitation to read the 'The Watchtower'.</p> <p>b. Email from Nick Adams advising of his cessation of inspection work as RPII (Register of Play Inspectors International) for the Glebe play area. Cllr Hewitt and the Clerk to review the RPII for replacement inspection service.</p> <p>c. Email from Cllr Somper 30 November 2020 – The options consultation for the Dorset Local Plan scheduled for early 2021 – email sent to council on receipt. Matter not taken due to Cllr Somper's unexpected absence from the meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk – PC noticeboard</p> <p>Cllr Hewitt/Clerk</p> <p>Clerk January 2021 -Matters Arising</p>

	<p>d. Council in receipt of Dorset Council 'Precept tax base for your authority' to assist with 2021 – 2022 Precept setting.</p> <p>e. Council acknowledged receipt of the Clerk's email round-up 26/11, 29/11 and 13/12.</p>	
8. Parish Council Representatives	<p>Cllr Gibson Fleming – Parish website assistance: no report for this meeting. Cllr Hewitt – Footpaths and Bridleways representative: –no report for this meeting. Cllr Gredley – Dorset Council Highways representative: no report for this meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Hewitt – The Glebe Play Area: review of the Register of Play Inspectors to identify contact details for new play area inspector on the cessation of services from N W Adams Engineering Design Services. Current play inspection valid up to July 2021. Cllr Sullivan – The Glebe and Parish trees: no report for this meeting. Cllr Hewitt - Village Hall representative: no report for this meeting. Parish Clerk – DAPTC & A350/C13 Community Group: no report for this meeting.</p>	
9. Parish Council Projects	<p>Village Traffic Calming</p> <p>This matter was not discussed at the November 2020 council meeting. Cllr Hewitt advised the council of information on speed indicator device (£1495). Clerk to retain with village traffic calming papers.</p>	Council members can request access to information through Clerk
10. Finance Matters	<p>a. Precept discussion No 2. Clerk provided the council with the second draft of the 2021-2022 precept and advised the council that the figures were working figures and that it is the council members who determine the actual figures. The council discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Training costs – suggested £50 o The hire of the village hall £110 for 2021 usage o Funding for the developmental work to the parish website for statutory accessibility requirements - suggested £650 o Revised figure of £650 for the general contingency fund <p>Clerk to produce revised precept details for the council's information prior to January 2021 meeting.</p> <p>b. Council approved payment to Iwerne Valley lawn Maintenance – Glebe grass cutting £45. This is an error with details carried over from the November 2020 meeting.</p> <p>c. Council approved payment to DAPTC Invoice 20/217 Website Accessibility 11 November 2020.</p> <p>d. Council approved payment to Shroton Cricket Club – Play Area grass cutting 2020 £170</p> <p>e. Council approved payment to Mrs. E Kingsbury Clerks salary and costs 16 July – 16 December 2020 at the rate approved 1tem Item 10e/816 including back pay from 1 April – 15 July 2020 (E01-20 26/08/20 refers) £1495.33.</p> <p>f. Council approved payment to HMRC (PAYE) 16 July – 16 December 2020 including backpay from 1 April – 15 July 2020 £358.80.</p> <p>g. Record of expenditure to 16 December 2020 signed by Chairman for RFO retention</p>	<p>Clerk for council information after 16 December 2020 meeting.</p> <p>Clerk to destroy cheque approved at the meeting</p> <p>Clerk 4 cheque actions</p> <p>Finance items 10 b-f agreed by Cllr Gredley and Cllr Barrett</p>

11. Planning Matters	<p>a. 2/2020/0827/HOUSE - 25 Shroton Cross Shroton Blandford Forum Dorset DT11 8QG. Erect rear and side single storey extension, reinstate window and erect open porch. Cllr Gredley completed the council's observations and comments. Cllr Hewitt urged Cllr Gredley to advise local residents immediately opposite the above location of the applications. Cllr Gredley advised the council that the proposed developments were unobtrusive and in keeping with the appearance of this listed property. The council had no further comments to make. No objections to this application.</p> <p>b.2/2020/0947/LBC 25 - Shroton Cross Shroton Blandford Forum Dorset DT11 8QG. Erect rear and side single storey extension, reinstate window and erect open porch and carry out all internal and external alterations in association with this. Cllr Gredley completed the council's observations and comments. The council had no further comments to make. No objections to this application.</p>	Clerk – Dorset Council Planning
12. Other Matters for next PC meeting	The Clerk will provide planning matters information and details in her monthly Parish Council news update for publication in the Shroton Lines.	

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8:05pm.

The proposed date of the next meeting: Wednesday 20 January 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Chairman Date.....
Iwerne Courtney & Stepleton Parish Council

(To be signed and dated by the presiding Chairman after approval at the next Parish Council Meeting)

LK 16/12/20

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