

OWERMOIGNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on 15 July 2020 at 7.30pm in Owermoigne Village Hall

1 Present

Cllrs Bolt (DB), Buckingham (Vice Chair), Chilcott (JC), Frampton (AF), House (KH), Warren (PW) and Wormald (Chair), Dorset councillor Nick Ireland, the clerk and 10 members of the public

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting

Open Forum

- 2 Keith Skerman asked the council to formally thank the village hall committee, and all those in the village that had volunteered to support vulnerable people during the recent lockdown. He also asked if the parish council would consider making a one-off grant to the village hall, in recognition of the effort. The Chair thanked the village hall committee and all volunteers, saying the council recognised and appreciated the effort that had been put in. He agreed that parish council would consider the request.

Chair

The Chair also thanked the village hall for the allowing the council meeting to take place, noting the effort that had gone into risk assessing the event, planning and preparation. He also praised the risk assessment of the cricket club.

3 Apologies

There were no apologies

4 Minutes

The minutes of the last formal meeting dated 15 January 2020 were approved, proposed by the Vice Chair and seconded by KH and passed unanimously

5 Declarations of Interest

AF declared an interest in item 12, and the Chair declared an interest in item 15

6 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

7 Finance

- i) The payments on the agenda were considered, with the Chair amending the figure for the improvement grant for the village hall from £500 to £524.10.

The following payments were approved, proposed by the Vice Chair and seconded by PW:

Wessex Grounds Services (May & June)	£201.72
Staff salary	£423.35
DAPTC annual subscription	£168.35
Gratuity – review of accounts	£ 25.00
Grant to village hall for kitchen	£4,886.16
Rent of village hall	£18.00
Grant to village hall towards refurbishment	£524.10

Payments totalling £6,246.68 were approved, proposed by the Vice Chair and seconded by PW, and passed unanimously. **Clerk**

The Chair presented the chair of the village hall committee with a cheque for £524.10.

Receipts from Dorset Council for s106 monies (£1,085.93) and the precept (£5,600.00) were noted.

ii) Accounts: the financial statements (which had been previously circulated to councillors, and reviewed by an independent third party) were considered, as was the clerk's request for approval for smaller entity exemption from limited assurance review under s9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015. Approval and agreement was proposed by the Vice Chair, and seconded by PW. The accounts and exemption were approved unanimously, and the smaller entities exemption form was signed accordingly.

iii) Bank accounts: the Chair asked for agreement to increase the number of signatories for the NS & I account from two (Chair and JC) to three, and asked for a volunteer signatory. The Vice Chair volunteered, and this was approved unanimously. **Clerk**

iv) Internet banking: the clerk reported that internet banking had been set up, and electronic payments could now be made, although there were still some issues around getting access for councillors

8 Dorset Councillor's Report

Cllr Nick Ireland outlined some of the impact that the coronavirus outbreak and subsequent lockdown had had on the council, with most staff working from home, ensuring that most vital services could be maintained, and most meetings going ahead. He mentioned the recent Creek caravan park application, where conditions had been changed, and how some people had not understood the initial application. He informed those present that Dorset Council finances were currently running at £15M more per month than usual, mostly as a result of lost income, and the situation for next year was unknowable, as a huge amount of money was needed.

9 Parish Councillors' Reports

The Vice Chair outlined the issues around reopening the playground (inability to fence / lock it off, insurance implications, impending school holidays). After much discussion, it was agreed that the clerk should undertake a risk assessment and contact the insurers, with a view to reopening. Proposed by AF, and seconded by the Vice Chair. All were in favour. **Clerk**

AF raised the issue of dog fouling: she had picked up 94 piles of dog mess in a local field, and felt that people didn't appreciate that food for animals and people was grown in the fields. There was a discussion about increasing signage to ask people to clear up after their dogs. The council agreed to investigate proper signage, as well as putting a notice on the noticeboards. AF agreed to put some handmade signs around. **Clerk**
Clerk
AF

PW referred to recent correspondence regarding the diversion of footpaths 23 and 24, and a proposed meeting between himself, Mr Ross Skinner (land owner) and the Dorset County footpaths officer. He also mentioned a planning application – the Creek Caravan Park, where councillors had felt that there was no local opposition to the changes in conditions as nothing had been posted on the planning portal. Residents had subsequently informed him that they had been unaware of the application. He informed those present that residents of Newland, Wareham Road, had presented preliminary drawings of the view of the new build, though there had been no application as yet.

PW

PW went on to say that he understood that there was some issue about the level of noise the previous weekend coming from the AirBnB at Newland, apparently neighbours are planning to write to the owners. The parish council advised that the neighbours should contact Environmental Health.

10 Planning

i) The Chair outlined the planning applications that the parish council planning team had considered since the last meeting (WD/D/19/002543 WATERCOMBE HOUSE, WATERCOMBE DT2 8HJ, WD/D/20/000440 LAND NORTH OF EAST FARM LANE OWERMOIGNE, WD/D/20/000961 GALTON MANOR FARM, GALTON, WD/D/20/000831 30 KIT LANE, OWERMOIGNE, WD/D/20/001041 CREEK CARAVAN PARK, RINGSTEAD, WD/D/20/001066 20 WAREHAM ROAD, OWERMOIGNE, WD/D/20/1050 WEST FARM STABLES, OWERMOIGNE) and one planning appeal (WD/D/19/002259 BUILDING SW OF 29 MORETON ROAD OWERMOIGNE).

ii) The Chair discussed the proposed installation of photovoltaic solar farm development at Galton Manor Farm (and North Fossil Farm). He suggested that he, the Vice Chair and the clerk should meet with the developer to talk about the development and possible contributions to the Community Fund, and when restrictions eased there should be a public meeting. PW suggested that an agenda be sent to the developer in advance of the meeting, which should include the topic of contributions.

Clerk

Clerk

11 Highways Report

The Chair discussed the report on his and the Vice Chair's meeting with Dorset Highways which had been circulated in advance (and is appended to these minutes). He confirmed that the gully at the top of Parsons Lane had been cleared, and that Church Lane and Parsons Lane resurfacing are on the treatment plan for next year.

He added that the council would put a replacement seat with a plaque outside the church in memory of Margaret and Arthur Shackleton, for services to the community. He confirmed that money had been ringfenced by the parish council for that purpose.

Clerk

The report was accepted and agreed, proposed by KH, and seconded by the Vice Chair, and passed unanimously, and an order will be placed with Dorset Council to undertake the works on the verge as set out in the report

Clerk

12 Email from Mr P Scull re slurry spreading

The Chair gave a verbal report on his attempts to get clear procedures and contact details from DEFRA on what action residents can take when they have concerns

about slurry spreading. As yet, no answer has been received from either DEFRA or the MP

13 Email from Mr P Scull re speed limit on A352

Phil Scull spoke about the issue of the 50mph speed limit on the A352 after the dual carriageway, in particular how challenging it was for people to have to turn right against the traffic flow coming out of Kit Lane and the garage / shop. He informed the meeting that he had had 24 people sign his petition to reduce the speed limit from 50mph to 40mph, which would necessitate the speed limit on the dual carriageway being reduced to 60 mph.

The Chair had circulated a report to councillors in advance of the meeting, containing information from Dorset Police on collisions and speed records. The Chair notified the meeting that the view of the Dorset Council's Highway Officer, any request for a reduction in the speed limit was 'unlikely to be progressed'. He added that if DC did not support speed reduction measures, the parish council may have to pay, and even if the measures were supported, the parish council may have to contribute.

Councillors agreed that there was a problem with traffic on that stretch of road, particularly at certain times, and the Vice Chair proposed that the Road Safety Officer from Dorset Council be invited to attend a meeting to discuss the issue in the first instance. DB seconded this, all were in favour.

Clerk

The Chair offered to speak to Phil Goddard, from the Dorset Highways Dept, to ask about borrowing speed monitoring equipment.

Chair

14 Use of SID machine on A352

the Chair referred to his report on Speed Indicator Devices (SID) which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. He informed those present that such a device might be helpful if the speed limit is not reduced, however he did point out that if one was required, the parish council would have to buy it. DB suggested that this should be considered after the outcome of any meeting with the Road Safety Officer.

15 Parish Council Website

The clerk gave a verbal report on accessibility of the parish council website. By law, all statutory agencies are required to undertake an accessibility audit of their websites by September 2020. Government guidance was that if councils did not have the necessary skills in-house, a website developer should be deployed, and the cost of this was likely to be in excess of £1,300 per day. The clerk reported that, in fact, Mrs Susan Coombs had been able to undertake the work, and the audit was now complete, and the majority of the website was compliant with the laws on accessibility.

The Vice Chair proposed that Mrs Coombs be paid an ex-gratia payment of £100 for her work, and this was seconded by PW, and approved unanimously. The parish council asked for their thanks to Mrs Coombs be recorded.

Clerk

16 Other Reports none

17 Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 16 September 2020 at 7.30pm

REPORT ON MEETING WITH DORSET COUNTY HIGHWAYS

Meeting held on 9th March 2020

The Chairman and Vice Chairman met with two representatives from the Community Highways Department to look at the highway problems within the Parish,

As a result of the walkabout the following was agreed: -

Potholes to be filled in Parsons Lane, Top of Gallows Hill, Church Lane and Moreton Road.

Gully Cleaning at the top of Parson Lane at its junction with the A352, Church Lane, Bottom of Gallows Hill at its junction with the A352 and Moreton Road.

Clearing under concrete ramp over ditch in Moreton Road near to 14 Moreton Road.

Report to BT regarding water overflowing from concrete inspection chamber in Moreton Road

Provide an additional gully at the bottom of Gallows Hill to reduce the risk of road flooding at the bottom of Gallows Hill.

Remove and replace broken bollard in the central reservation on A352 at its junction with Gallows Hill.

Request as urgent the resurfacing of Church Lane with the County road surfacing department.

Other matters

Pollards Lane -

During the survey of the area, attention was drawn to the running water from Pollards Lane onto Moreton Road. This was due to heavy rain during the winter which has caused several underground springs to come to the surface and overflow. This was not unusual for this to happen during the winter, but this year was particularly bad. The owner of number 1 Moreton Road informed the Council on site that he had obtained permission of the owner of Pollards Lane to divert the spring water from his property into the ditch at the side of Pollards Lane. This water then runs into a ditch by the side of Moreton Road. This work would help to reduce the water running out of Pollards Lane on to the highways causing the road to flood.

Village Church Conservation Area -

Part of the conservation area surrounding the Village Church was considered to be in a poor state, in particular the verge in front of the Church, this has been caused by vehicles parking on the grass verge and heavy rain water then causing the surface to be washed away. As this is the 'Centre of the Village' it was felt that improvements to this area was necessary and would be in keeping with guidelines laid down for Conservation Areas. The erosion of the verge has also created difficulties for those wishing to read the public notice board and presents a health and safety issue.

It was agreed that the County Highways provide an estimate for carrying out kerbing and reinstatement work, in keeping with the Conservation Area, to the highway and grass verge to the area in front of the Church and the foot path to the village notice board.

RESULTS

As at the 1st July 2020

All potholes have been filled; the gully cleaning and under the ramp has been carried out.

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Request has been made to BT to rectify the overflowing of water. Work done.

Broken bollard on A352 has been removed and a new one erected.

The additional gully at Gallows Hill to be carried out later this year.

Resurfacing of Church Lane is on the list for action this year.

Regarding the kerbing etc in front of the Church a detailed estimate has been received from Dorset County in the sum of £8067.00 plus VAT.

As part of the improvements to this area the old concrete seat, which is in a poor condition, should be replaced by one matching the other existing seat. This seat to be dedicated to Margaret and Arthur Shackleton for service rendered to the Village of Owermoigne. A suitable plaque to be placed on the seat with suitable wording. Estimated cost of £600.00 plus VAT this includes a concrete base and installation.

Funding for these proposed improvements could be achieved from money ring fenced, money from Section 106 Agreement and the Community Benefit Fund.

Work on the trees, which are within the verge and covered by a Tree Preservation Order, is to be undertaken and has been approved by Council at its earlier meeting. Cost of the tree work being £650.00 plus VAT.

Councillor Tony Wormald, Chairman

Councillor Andrew Buckingham, Vice Chairman

1st July 2020

.....Chair

.....Date