

NETHERBURY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 26th NOVEMBER 2019 at THE READING ROOM, NETHERBURY

PRESENT: Cllr. Robert Bowditch; Cllr. Graham Hawkins; Cllr Bob Huxter; Cllr. Kevin Goodfellow; Cllr. Yvonne Dyke; Cllr. Clare Handford; Cllr. Caroline Pearce; Cllr. Peter Bailey; Cllr. Mark Rogers and Cllr. Anthony Alford.

ATTENDANCE: Jessica Teasdale (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES AND APPROVAL OF ABSENCE

Apologies were received from: Cllr. Richard King, Cllr. Chris David and PSCO Alex Bishop. This was approved by the Council.

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None received.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present.

a) Report from Ward Councillor Anthony Alford

Cllr Alford had shared a report with councillors prior to the meeting. During the run up to the election the council is not able to promote any political activity. However, it is business as usual for all council services and plans. Dorset Council has produced two new guides to help homeowners and landlords. These can be accessed from the council website. Cllr Alford reported that it is necessary for Netherbury Football Club to apply for planning for the proposed metal shed. As the site is non-domestic, permitted development does not apply. Councillors agreed to support the football club with the planning application as the land is owned by the council.

b) Report from Police Community Support Officer (PSCO)

A report had been received from the PSCO. There were no questions.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

A copy of the minutes from the Parish Council General Meeting held on the 24th September was confirmed as a true and accurate record and was signed by Cllr Bowditch.

5. MATTERS ARISING AND ACTIONS UPDATE (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)

All actions had been carried out. The planning application at the Hare and Hounds has been approved by Dorset Council planning committee. The tree work in Netherbury had been completed. Cllr Bowditch informed councillors that approximately three foot of the land owned by Palmers had encroached on to the boundary at Brandon Plot. Cllr Bowditch has spoken to Palmers about this.

6. UPDATE ON INSURANCE FOR BRANDON PLOT

A Netherbury resident, who carries out low level maintenance at Brandon Plot, had previously asked if they were covered under the council's insurance when carrying out this work. The Clerk reported that any accident that occurs on land owned by the parish council would be picked up under public liability of the parish council insurance policy, assuming the parish council can be proved to have been negligent.

7. DORSET COUNCIL'S DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN FOR DISCUSSION

Cllr Alford shared two pages of Dorset Council's draft plan with councillors and councillors had previously had access to the full plan. Cllr Alford discussed the five priorities for the council, their values, principles and behaviours. Dorset Council is asking for feedback on their priorities. The Clerk would complete a survey on behalf of the Parish Council, supporting the priorities. Councillors felt that the plan should include climate change as a one of their priorities.

8. SPELLING OF SALWAY ASH FOR DISCUSSION

The council had been contacted by Dorset Council about the spelling of Salway Ash. There are historic references to a number of different spellings and, as such, there is no definitive answer. The variety of spellings would continue.

9. CLIMATE CHANGE AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION

Cllr Bailey had attended a recent seminar for councils on climate change and reported the key information to councillors. Climate change is a human crisis. Humans are consuming too much. Economic growth does not fit with climate change and there needs to be a change in attitude. Councillors agreed to discuss what, as a council, they could do to promote and inform parishioners about the climate change agenda. This would be an item at the meeting in January. Councillors discussed planning and the Local Plan with Cllr Alford. The Local Plan is being drafted by the council and will be consulted on in autumn 2020.

10. CORRESPONDENCE AND NOTICES

a) St John Ambulance donation request

St John Ambulance had written to the council requesting a donation to support the work that they do. Cllr Huxter proposed £100, seconded by Cllr Goodfellow, approved by a show of hands.

b) Beaminster Charity- Request for Netherbury Parish Trustee

Beaminster Charity had requested a representative from the parish to be on the Beaminster Charity board of trustees. Councillors agreed to contact Mrs Brown, who is a trustee for Netherbury Charities, to ask if she would represent the parish.

c) Churchyard maintenance request from Salway Ash PCC

Salway Ash PCC had requested a donation towards the maintenance of the churchyard. Cllr Huxter proposed £250, seconded by Cllr Hanford, approved by a show of hands.

d) Upkeep of Melplash Church donation request from Melplash PCC

Melplash PCC had requested a donation towards the maintenance of the churchyard. Cllr Huxter proposed £250, seconded by Cllr Hanford, approved by a show of hands.

e) Request from Netherbury PCC for £200 donation for churchyard maintenance

Netherbury PCC had requested a donation towards the maintenance of the churchyard. Cllr Huxter proposed £250 (in line with the donations to the two other churches), seconded by Cllr Hanford, approved by a show of hands.

11. ACCOUNTS

a) To receive the finance report 2019/20

The finance report had been shared with councillors. Councillors discussed the income from the community levy.

Action: The clerk to update councillors at the next meeting on the community infrastructure levy regulations.

b) Internal auditors mid-year review of accounting processes and records

The internal auditor's mid-year report had been shared with Councillors. Councillors noted that there were no areas for concern.

c) To approve internal auditors invoice of £68.12

Payment of the invoice for Focus (HS) Limited, internal auditor, was proposed by Cllr Bailey, seconded by Cllr Hanford. Approved by a show of hands.

d) To note payment to Bowditch Countryside Management for invoice of £540

Councillors noted payment of the invoice for the tree work in Netherbury, as approved at the meeting on the 24th September.

e) To consider donation to Beaminster Town Council towards CB3 Saturday Bus

Councillors discussed making a donation to Beaminster Town Council towards the CB3. Passenger numbers remained steady. Cllr Hanford proposed £500, seconded by Cllr Goodfellow. Approved by a show of hands.

f) To approve invoice for the DAPTC for £40

Cllr Rogers had attended New Councillor training run by Dorset Association of Parish and Town Clerks. Cllr Bowditch proposed payment, seconded by Cllr David, agreed by a show of hands.

g) To approve clerks expenses of £35.46 (Mileage and Ink Toner)

Cllr Handford proposed payment, seconded by Cllr Goodfellow, agreed by a show of hands.

h) To approve CB Reid invoice if £31.20

The Clerk informed councillors that the council have a 1p credit with CB Reid. Therefore the request is to approve an invoice of £31.19. Cllr Handford proposed payment, seconded by Cllr Goodfellow, agreed by a show of hands.

i) To approve appointment of internal auditor for 2020/21

Councillors formally appointed Focus (HS) Limited as their internal auditor for 2020/21

12. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

The following planning applications had been received and reviewed by Councillors:

- a) WD/D/19/002394 BT Phone Box removal, Salway Ash (Consultation ended 18/10/2019)
- b) WD/D/19/002353 Waycroft House, Slape Hill, Waytown, DT6 5LQ (Consultation ended 12/11/2019)

Councillors discussed the proposal, by BT, to remove the phone box in Salway Ash. The proposed removal was based on no calls having been made within the last 12 months. Councillors voted in favour of objecting to the removal of the phone box. They wish to make arrangements to adopt the phone box from BT and to use it for the benefit of the community, for example as a location for a book swap for the village.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Action: The Clerk to follow up the delivery of salt/grit bags for the council grit spreader on behalf of Cllr Bailey. The Clerk to follow up, on behalf of Cllr Bowditch, delivery of skids for the tractors which are needed to clear roads of snow.

Cllr Bowditch had received a letter from a Netherbury resident who had witnessed a strike to the bridge by a lorry in Netherbury.

Action: The Clerk to report this to Dorset Council.

Safety concerns were raised by Councillors about the reintroduction of a gateway in Salway Ash. Since the gateway was last used the road layout has changed meaning the opening is on a corner and a pinch point in the road.

Action: The Clerk to raise the concerns with Dorset Highways.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.