

CHURCH KNOWLE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Church Knowle Parish Council
held at Furzebrook Village Hall on Tuesday 12th August, 2014

PRESENT

Council Members:

Cllr Mr Derek Burt
Cllr Mrs Kathryn Best
Cllr Anthony Higgins
Cllr Mr Ian Hollard
Cllr Mr Colin Page
Cllr Mrs. Jayne Wilson – Vice-chairman – in Chair

C. K Parishioners & Members of the public:

PDC Cllr Bridget Kenward (arrived at Agenda Item 11 – Past Planning)
DCC Cllr Mike Lovell (arrived at Agenda Item 11 – Past Planning)

(Note: Cllr Ward left meeting after end of Public Discussion period)

Clerk to the Council:

Dr. A. Wallace

APOLOGIES

158.14 Cllr Hazel Parker, Cllr Elizabeth (Billa) Edwards. As Cllr Parker could not attend, Cllr Wilson was In the Chair

PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

159.14 There being no Parishioners, visiting Councillors or members of the Public present at this point in proceedings, there was no public discussion.

COUNCILLORS' ANNUAL DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

160.14 Outstanding annual declarations of interest were provided to the Clerk.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR MEETING MATTERS

161.14 None were made.

MINUTES OF THE 08th July 2014 COUNCIL MEETING

162.14 The Minutes, which had been previously circulated amongst Members, were read. Cllr Page proposed that the Minutes were a true record of the proceedings. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hollard. Councillors unanimously agreed with the motion.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 08th July 2014 MEETING

163.14 The presentation and "Question & Answer" session by Dorset Police was discussed and it was decided to ask for another session with the Dorset Road Safety constable to discuss the cycling "events" taking place in the Parish. Cllr Best mentioned that the NFU was to be holding a meeting with the Dorset Police & Crime Commissioner in Wareham to discuss rural crime and it was felt that cycling events should also be put on the agenda. Cllr best suggested that as many people as possible attend on 22nd August as 20 was the minimum number to allow the meeting to proceed. Cllr Burt felt that such meetings were a bit of a waste of effort and Cllr Higgins pointed out the last meeting he attended where the representative of the constabulary did not even turn up. There was general discussion about marshals and a letter sent by the organiser of one such event sending information to Arne Parish Council – a parish where the cycling event was not being held. Cllr Burt also expressed his disappointment about a planned site meeting with the local constable (Ms Jephcott) which the constable did not attend. Cllr Wilson suggested that the matters should

be further discussed at the planned NFU – Dorset Police & Crime Commissioner meeting and reiterated Cllr Best’s suggestion that as many Members as possible attend.

- 164.14 Cllr Best commented on the overgrown bridleway between Furzebrook and Norden. She advised that the Furzebrook end had been cleared but that area – which the Clerk had previously members was in Corfe Castle parish – was still overgrown. The Clerk advised he would again contact DCC.

POSTPONEMENTS OF LESSER MATTERS TO SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

- 165.14 No matters of the Agenda were postponed for discussion in September at this point in the proceedings.

PLANNING MATTERS

- 166.14 The Clerk described the new planning system which had been adopted by Purbeck District Council. Members discussed the new process and were not impressed they felt that the new system was unwieldy and that it would result in delays. They felt that using another layer for parish councils to have to use in order to get their objections and concerns about applications raised was unnecessary, unwieldy, undemocratic and a waste of time and resources. Cllr Wilson opined that “They’ve just drawn up a process map to make it look as if they’ve been doing something”. Members were in agreement. They decided, without formal vote to note the new procedures adopted by the district council.

UNLAWFUL DEVELOPMENTS

- 167.14 There were no unlawful developments noted in the Parish

PAST PLANNING

- 168.14 Progress of applications was noted. **6/2014/0330 Icen Barrow, Grange Road** – Erect a 4-bay wooden garage/workshop to replace existing garage.

The matter had been discussed in July and there had been no objections from Members. However, the lack of formal notification by PDC was discussed and it was pointed out that it appeared that the consultation had been made with Steeple rather than Arne. Members unanimously agreed without formal vote that the staff at PDC should be made more aware of the parish boundaries within their territory.

The Clerk advised Members he would be in contact with PDC. The Clerk advised he was still awaiting acknowledgement of by the Planning Inspectorate of the Council’s objections to the wind farm in Swanage Bay and English Channel off the Isle of Wight.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

- 169.14 Overgrowths at Furzebrook to Norden which had been reported by Cllr Best earlier in the meeting were noted. Cllr Burt commented that there were overgrowths everywhere but added that it was summer and plants were growing in abundance. The Clerk advised he would take up Members’ concerns with the DCC Highways department.
- 170.14 The Clerk reported on changes in the definitive map of the routes of parish footpaths FP8, FP9 and FP 28. The confirmations of footpath change orders were noted.
- 171.14 The Clerk reported that trail bikes continue to use the BOAT at week-ends and Cllr Parker reported that 4x4 vehicles had again been seen using it.

- 172.14 The Clerk reported that the badger sett on the side of the road at Bucknowle Corner was again in use and that he had reported the matter to DCC highways.
- 173.14 Concern was again raised about the continued use of Parish roads by cycling event/sportif organisers and the failure of Dorset Police to control what is perceived by Members as cycle races. Cllr Page reported on the effect of parked cars and holiday traffic on the recent "event" held on 13th July. Cllr Burt reiterated Cllr Best's comments that as many Members as possible attend the NFU meeting with the Police & crime Commissioner on 22nd August. Cllr Best pointed out that the original agenda was for the discussion on rural crime. However, a note from Cllr Parker informed Members that she had asked for "Cycling" to be added to the agenda. This was noted by Members. There then followed a general discussion about cycling events. There were no motions following.

AFFORDABLE HOMES

- 174.14 Cllr Page reported on his attempts to co contact Mr Matthew Devereaux of Mgt Green Trust with a view to trying to sort out the apparent impasse with regard to the affordable housing project. It appeared to Cllr Page that Mgt Green Trust were no longer interested and the Parish Council should now be seriously looking at a "Plan B". The matter of building on land currently occupied by the village hall and playing field, together with re-siting of these elsewhere in the parish was quickly discussed, but it was pointed out that there would be problems regarding covenants, etc. There was general discussion about the playing field and whether or not part of it could be used as the affordable housing was for the benefit of the Parish. There was general disappointment amongst members about the apparent failure of the Mgt Green affordable housing project. PDC Cllr Kenward mentioned that she understood Synergy Housing would not consider developments of less than 10 housing units and that the proposed Church Knowle project was for 8. She offered to try her utmost to get things going. Cllr Higgins suggested that the Parish Council should investigate the use of the playing field as a possible site along with the Parish leasing another field to replace the current playing field. Members noted his idea.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

- 175.14 .Cllr Higgins also proposed that the accounts were in good order and should be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Page. The motion was passed and the accounts were agreed and accepted.
- 176.14 The Chairman presented the monthly invoices to be paid. They were examined and Cllr Higgins proposed that the invoices be paid. This was seconded by Cllr Page. The motion was passed and the invoices agreed for payment.
- 177.14 The matter relating to future maintenance of the playground and playing field following resignation of Les Bugler as a Councillor was postponed to the September meeting. Proposed by Cllr Wilson and seconded by Cllr Page. The motion was carried unanimously.

DAPTC

- 178.14 The Clerk reported that he had submitted an article describing "A Day in the Life of a Parish Clerk" to DAPTC for inclusion in its Summer Newsletter but it had not been published. The current issue was passed to Members.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 179.14 The Clerk presented a letter from DCC Trading Standards about rogue traders to Members. They agreed without vote to have the warning notices put on the notice boards where possible.

OTHER MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE

- 180.14 The Clerk reported on a telephone complaint he had received from a Parishioner about the dilapidated condition of the Furzebrook telephone box owned and operated by BT. The Parishioner had wondered what could be done to improve its condition and the Clerk had advised her about the previous attempt in improving the Church Knowle 'phone box by local interested parishioners and the somewhat negative and threatening attitude of BT to those who wished to provide free maintenance to the multinational telecommunications company. There followed general discussion amongst Members and Cllr Page offered to discuss the matter with the parishioner concerned .

CLOSING MATTERS OF DISCUSSION

- 181.14 Cllr Higgins opined that the current Chairman was under considerable pressure due to personal family commitments and running her farm and that he had spoken with her regarding Members giving her extra help with Parish matters. He suggested that to take some pressure of that a the Parish had a "Rolling Chairman" for year and then passing chairmanship to the Vice-chairman. The Clerk advised he could not see anything in Law to prevent this as whilst a Chairman and the other non-executive officers are elected generally on an annual basis, the Law does not require them to stay in post for 12 months. It could be possible for the Chairman to resign after a couple of months and a new Chairman elected who could resign after a couple of months and so ad infinitum. This could result in the "Rolling Chairman" suggested by Cllr Higgins. Cllr Wilson suggested this would be an admirable way to achieve a workable life-work balance and suggested the matter be put on October's agenda. This was seconded by Cllr Higgins and the motion carried unanimously.

CLOSURE

- 182.14 There being no further business, the Vice-chairman closed the meeting at 9.20 pm.