

CHURCH KNOWLE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Church Knowle Parish Council
held at Church Knowle Village Hall on Tuesday 08th July, 2014

PRESENT

Council Members:

Cllr Mrs Hazel Parker - Chairman
Cllr Mr Derek Burt
Cllr Mrs Kathryn Best
Cllr Anthony Higgins
Cllr Mr Ian Hollard
Cllr Mrs. Billa Edwards
Cllr Mr Colin Page
Cllr Mrs. Jayne Wilson – Vice-chairman

C. K Parishioners & Members of the public:

Ms Claire Jephcott (Dorset Police)
Mr Simon Edwards (Parishioner)
Cllr Ms Vivienne Ward (Arne Parish Council)
Ms Angela Fairchild (Parishioner)

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

Clerk to the Council:

Dr. A. Wallace

APOLOGIES

129.14 None received

PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

- 130.14 A presentation was given by the representative from Dorset Police on her role as a community police constable serving the Purbeck rural area. She apologised that the specialist in cycling safety could not attend the meeting and that she did not have all information requested by the Parish Council. She advised Members and Parishioners that Mrs Moxham – the police constable who CKPC had wished to attend the meeting – was the best person to deal with queries and that she would pass to her the comments of the Parish Council and Parishioners.
- 131.14 There was considerable disquiet amongst Members about why Dorset Police sent a community constable to act as its spokesperson and presenter of information to a meeting of an elected local authority despite having been asked to provide a member of its constabulary who was responsible for drawing up policies with regard to the safety of operation of cycling “events” in the Parish organised for what were seen as commercial purposes. Councillors had been made aware that that the “cycling specialist” could not attend due to family commitments, but they had expected her line manager at least to attend to answer questions of policy and enforcement which the constable attending admitted she could not answer. The constable advised Members she would pass on their comments. Cllr Wilson asked what the possibility was of Mrs Moxham speaking to the Council on specific issues relating to cycling “events”. Cllr Wilson had hoped that the presentation would be focussed on cycling and on behalf of Members expressed her concern and disappointment.
- 132.14 Cllr Parker asked PC Jephcott why her e-mails to senior members of the constabulary had gone unanswered. PC Jephcott did not know but would look into the matter. Cllr Burt expressed the view that it was a bit unfair that Dorset Police would send a community police constable to the meeting when a constable of at least inspector rank was expected due to level of concern raised by the Parish Council. He felt it somewhat disingenuous of the Constabulary’s management and that it did not seem that the Dorset Police force took the Council’s concerns seriously.
- 133.14 Councillors and Parishioners took part in a question and answer session where PC Jephcott answered as many questions as she could regarding the legality of cycle races and who decides whether a a cycling “event” is a race or a “sportive” (which is not covered by the Law relating to on-road racing). Concerns were raised about other road users and how the policing of the Highway Code was carried out. Dorset Police did not have the manpower to

police such events. Councillors expressed concern as to why farmers were “instructed” by Dorset Police to keep their farm vehicles (harvesters) etc. off roads during bank holidays and busy road use periods whereas the organisers of “events” were not requested to reorganise their events.

- 134.14 There was concern about how there appeared to be a lack of communication from the Police & organisers to the Parish Councils and that when the events are publicised the possible participants begin having “dummy runs” which also disrupt traffic in the weeks leading up to the events. Councillors explained that the roads in CK Parish were all narrow and had to cope with a large amount of large traffic in the summer months (caravan towers, and camper van drivers – many inexperienced, milk lorries, tractors with hay cutting and bailing equipment) together with the normal increase from trippers etc navigating narrow, winding roads with which they may not be accustomed. Speed trial cyclists often ride in bunches sometimes three abreast at speeds above the built-up 30 mph limit and are to a great extent silent. There was concern that the Highway Code was not followed in the majority of occasions in the run-up to, and during, the events. There were fears of human as well as animal fatalities occurring.
- 135.14 Following general lively discussion and argument, the PC from Dorset Police explained she would take the concerns back to Dorset Police and make them known and contact the Clerk with comments from the road safety team. She would also try to arrange for the Police force, “Wiggle” and parish councils to meet. At this [point Cllr Higgins pointed out that a Police & Crime Forum purported to have been organised by Dorset Police in Wareham on 24th June was abandoned because no-one from Dorset Police turned up.
- 136.14 Cllr Parker then thanked PC Jephcott for her attendance and the business meeting of the Council continued. PC Jephcott left as did Cllr Ward.

COUNCILLORS’ DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 137.14 Cllrs Edwards and Page advised the meeting they would complete their annual declarations and forward them to Purbeck District Council.

CONFIRMATIONS OF APPOINTMENTS TO AREAS OF INTEREST

- 138.14 The following members had their areas of interest confirmed and agreed to act as liaison Members for such areas if interest:

Area of Interest	Councillor
Highways & Rights of Way	Cllr Best
Tree Officer	Cllr Burt
Planning Co-ordinator	Cllr Higgins
Swanage Railway, DAPTC & Housing	Cllr Page
Cemetery matters	Cllr Parker
Police Liaison	Cllr Higgins
Furzebrook Village Hall	Cllrs Hollard & Wilson

Cllr Page proposed that the areas of interest and Councillors be confirmed and Cllr Wilson seconded the motion. Motion was carried unanimously.

MINUTES OF THE 03rd June 2014 COUNCIL MEETING

- 139.14 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 Best. Councillors unanimously agreed with the motion.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 03rd June 2014 MEETING

140.14 There were no matters arising from the minutes

POSTPONEMENTS OF LESSER MATTERS TO AUGUST COUNCIL MEETING

141.14 No matters of the Agenda were postponed for discussion in August at this point in the proceedings.

PLANNING MATTERS

142.14 **6/2014/0330 Icen Barrow, Grange Road** – Erect a 4-bay wooden garage/workshop to replace existing garage.

The application had been received from Purbeck District Council on 08th July despite PDC having received it on 30th June. Cllrs were concerned that yet again PDC are sending important consultation documents out late to avoid paying extra postage costs. The plans were examined and there were no objections voiced. Cllr Edwards proposed that there should be no objections from the Parish Council to the development and the motion was seconded by Cllr Parker. Motion Carried. No objection to the development.

UNLAWFUL DEVELOPMENTS

143.14 There were no unlawful developments noted in the Parish

PAST PLANNING

144.14 Progress of applications was noted. The Clerk advised that the Council's objections to the wind farm in Swanage Bay and English Channel off the Isle of Wight (Navitus Bay) had been sent by recorded delivery and he was still awaiting acknowledgement by the Planning Inspectorate.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

145.14 Overgrowths at Furzebrook to Norden which had been reported by Cllr Best at the previous meeting had still not been dealt with by DCC. The Clerk was asked to remind DCC Rights of Way officer of the unsolved problem.

146.14 The Clerk reported again on the proposed works by DCC Highways at Barnston Cross. The work would now commence on 14th July to avoid peak holiday period and be completed shortly afterwards.

147.14 The Clerk reported that trail bikes continue to use the BOAT at week-ends and Cllr Parker reported that a 4x4 vehicles had been seen again using it on 10th July.

148.14 Cllr Page advised the meeting that the white lines on the Furzebrook Road were in a poor state of repair. The Clerk advised him he would be in touch with the Highways works dept.

AFFORDABLE HOMES

149.14 Cllr Page reported that there appeared to be a stalemate between Raglan and Mgt Green Trustees regarding the building of affordable rented homes on the Church Knowle land. Members felt the whole project was carrying on too long and Cllr Page volunteered to

pursue the matter further with Mgt Green Trust. He suggested the Parish Council should look for other areas of land in the Parish which could be used and also using another housing association. Various possible sites were discussed including the use of the playing field on the basis that CKPC offered its field for development in exchange for land from MGT Green. Cllr Higgins queried the interpretation of legality of gifting of the playing field land which had been made for the benefit of the community. Cllr Page then suggested the Council might "look at the land next door". There was general discussion about land in the Parish and Cllr Parker proposed that all Members should investigate alternative sites and bring their ideas to the August meeting for discussion. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Page and unanimously carried. Cllr Page then told the meeting he would volunteer to contact the farmer Mr Randall to see if he could help. Councillors agreed (without vote) that this would be a good idea.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

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

DAPTC

- 153.14 The Clerk reported that at the request of the Chairman and Vicwe-chairman he had submitted an article describing "A Day in the Life of a Parish Clerk" to DAPTC for inclusion in its Summer Newsletter.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 154.14 The Clerk presented a letter from Purbeck Film Festival to Members. It was decided on this occasion not to contribute funds due to financial constraints on local authority budgets. Proposed by Cllr Parker and seconded by Cllr Wilson. Motion carried.

OTHER MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE

- 155.14 No matters came up for discussion.

CLOSING MATTERS OF DISCUSSION

- 156.14 It was felt by Cllr Burt that the police presentation was "a waste of time" since no member of the constabulary in a position of "authority" had attended and that the police force's senior management seemed not to take the Parish Council's fears and comments seriously. Cllr Wilson felt that PC Jephcott's "boss" was seriously at fault for sending her ill-prepared for the meeting which Dorset Police had been well aware of for 2 months. Cllr Higgins suggested that CKPC representatives could hold a meeting with Mrs Moxham and her superior officers including the force's Chief Constable to discuss the Council's concerns. Cllr Burt thought that PC Jephcott had been put up as a "scapegoat" to take "the flack" from the Parish Council. Cllr Wilson agreed; "Indeed she was". There was general discussion which ended up with the conclusion that no-one was listening to the Parish Council. There was concern mooted about the parking of camper vans at the Grange Road picnic site and the Councillor concerned wondered what could be done about it.

CLOSURE

157.14 There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00 pm.