

CHURCH KNOWLE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Church Knowle Parish Council
held at Furzebrook Village Hall on Tuesday 09th September, 2014

PRESENT

Council Members:

Cllr Mr Derek Burt
Cllr Mrs Kathryn Best
Cllr Mr Ian Hollard
Cllr Mr Colin Page
Cllr Elizabeth Edwards
Cllr Hazel Parker

C. K Parishioners & Members of the public:

None present

Clerk to the Council:

Dr. A. Wallace

APOLOGIES

183.14 Cllr Anthony Higgins, Cllr Jayne Wilson

PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

185.14 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

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

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR MEETING MATTERS

187.14 None were made.

MINUTES OF THE 12th August 2014 COUNCIL MEETING

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

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 12th August 2014 MEETING

189.14 There were no matters arising from the Minutes

POSTPONEMENTS OF LESSER MATTERS TO SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

190.14 No matters of the Agenda were postponed for discussion in October at this point in the proceedings.

PLANNING MATTERS

191.14 No planning applications for consultation had been received by the Clerk from Purbeck District Council before publication of the Agenda. However, one had been received between publication and the meeting.

06/14/0458 – 162 Furzebrook Road - Due to the late arrival of this application from PDC, it had not been possible to examine the planned alteration to the development in depth and Cllr Parker proposed that the matter be held over till the October meeting and PDC informed of the decision. This was unanimously agreed to without the need for a formal vote being taken.

UNLAWFUL DEVELOPMENTS

192.14 There were no unlawful developments noted in the Parish

PAST PLANNING

193.14 Progress of applications and appeals against PDC planning decisions were noted.

194.14 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

195.14 Overgrowths at Bridleway No 15 which appear to be in land under occupancy of farm holdings close to the Glebe camp site and which had been reported by Cllr Best at an earlier meeting were noted. Cllr Best advised that other areas of overgrowth of the bridleway had been cleared. The Clerk advised Members that the matter of the remaining overgrowth would be reported again to Dorset County Council, but advised that several areas were outwith the Parish and, consequently, the Parish Council had no jurisdiction over them.

196.14 Councillors commented that there continued to be overgrowths throughout the Parish and elsewhere but it appeared that landowners were in most cases "getting to grips" with the problem. There were some areas of continuing problem, in particular the infiltration of hedge onto the valley road outside the Church Knowle Animal Sanctuary. The Clerk advised he would take up Members' concerns with the DCC Highways department.

197.14 The Clerk reported on a report he had received from the resident of an adjoining parish about locked gates on the footpaths in the Newfoundland Copse and Orchard Farm areas. There was general discussion about the allegations made and the Clerk advised the meeting he would take the matter with the DCC Rights of Way inspector for him to investigate.

198.14 The Clerk reported that trail bikes continue to use the BOAT at week-ends, especially on Sundays, and Cllr Parker reported that four 4x4 vehicles had been seen using it. Members were pleased that, apparently, no field gates had been left open by the users.

199.14 The Clerk reported that the badger sett on the side of the road at Bucknowle Corner was still in use and that he had reported the matter to DCC highways who had advised him that eviction of the animals would be subject to new plans.

200.14 The Clerk reported on a request he had received from Dorset County Council to publicise a joint "Local Access Forum" which involved members of the community discussing and achieving ways of increasing access to to the countryside through rights of way, etc. Members expressed little interest in the proposal.

201.14 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.

202.14 Cllr Parker reported on a meeting with the Dorset Police & Crime Commissioner which had been organised by the local branch of the National Union of Farmers to discuss amongst

other matters, including rural crime, the problems caused when large numbers of racing cyclists use the Parish's (and neighbouring parishes') roads and by-ways for what the organisers described as "sportifs" and "time trials". Cllrs Burt, Parker, Page and Higgens, together with the Clerk had attended the meeting. She further reported that a large number of local farmers had been in attendance and concerns about such cycling events had been strongly and unanimously expressed by all at that meeting. It was suggested by the Police & Crime Commissioner that a working committee would be set up to include several parish councillors, farmers, district councillors and others with the view of submitting recommendations such that such events could be controlled to the benefit of other land and road users. Cllr Parker also reported on a proposal made at the meeting that a test prosecution could be taken by the constabulary against an organiser or, indeed, individuals taking part using legislation prohibiting unapproved road races.

- 203.14. Cllr Burt felt that some positive comments had come out of the meeting and that it "was a positive way forward" and that charity events, such as the Great Dorset Bike Ride, which were effectively family recreational cycling affairs, were very much different from time trials, races and sportifs and should be treated differently. All Members also expressed pleasure at this time in the way the previous week-end's charity cycling event had been organised. Cllr Burt opined that the "gripe" was very much with UK Cycling Events, firms such as Wiggle, time trial cyclist who appear to take little notice of the Highway Code and have little or no consideration for other road users including pedestrians, horse riders and farmers going about their work. Cllr Burt was also not sure if the route around Creech actually formed part of the Dorset Cycleway. There was, again, then general discussion and agreement about attitudes of a large proportion of the "sportif" cyclists and their and the organisers' perceived arrogance that appeared to be a "law unto themselves". Cllr Parker finished the discussion by saying that there probably was always going to be a problem on the narrow Parish roads unless something was done and that she had arranged to organise meetings of the "cycling committee" as soon as possible. She would report on progress at the next meeting.

AFFORDABLE HOMES

- 204.14 Cllr Page reported on a conversation he had had with Raglan and advised the meeting that the housing association has appointed a successor to Mr Nathan Cronk, the previous project manager. It was the intention of Raglan and the Margaret Green trustees to "revisit" the whole project and that unless the MGT was more positive than Raglan would "pull out" of the entire project. Councillors commented that the animal sanctuary site would have been a "rural exception site" and, consequently, could only be used for affordable low cost houses. There was a probability that a new project involving the sale of some low cost houses could result in an overall increase in "affordable" houses in the village. There was discussion about whether or not the local roads could cope with greater traffic and the capabilities of other infrastructure on an increase in the development planned.
- 205.14 Cllr Page suggested that CKPC looked seriously for alternative sites in the Parish and develop its own proposals for affordable rented houses for local people in need. Cllr Parker advised Members that she had contacted several farmers and other landowners about releasing land for such housing, but added that given the dallying of the past few years, by the time something got off the ground there may not be any children of the Church Knowle Parish to move into the houses once built.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

- 206.14 The Clerk presented the monthly accounts for examination. Cllr Edwards 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.

- 207.14 The Chairman presented the monthly invoices to be paid. They were examined and Cllr Edwards proposed that the invoices be paid. This was seconded by Cllr Page. The motion was passed and the invoices agreed for payment.
- 208.14 The matter relating to future maintenance of the playground and playing field following resignation of Les Bugler as a Councillor was postponed to the October meeting. Proposed by Cllr Page and seconded by Cllr Edwards. The motion was carried unanimously.

DAPTC

- 209.14 There was nothing to report from DAPTC

CORRESPONDENCE

- 210.14 The Clerk presented a letter from DCC recruiting Flood Wardens. Members agreed without vote to display the recruitment poster on the Furzebrook notice board; that area of the Parish being the area where flooding is most likely.

OTHER MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE

- 211.14 The Chairman had no matters to present to Members.

CLOSING MATTERS OF DISCUSSION

- 212.14 No matters for further discussion were raised by any Member present.

CLOSURE

- 213.14 There being no further business, the Vice-chairman advised Members that the next meeting would be at Furzebrook Village Hall on 14th October commencing at 7.30pm.
- 214.14 She then thanked all in attendance and closed the meeting at 8.35 pm.