

Minutes of a meeting of Church Knowle Parish Council
held at CHURCH Knowle Reading Room
on Tuesday 10th September, 2019

PRESENT

Council Members:

Cllr Mrs Hazel Parker
Cllr Mrs Jayne Wilson
Cllr Mrs Elizabeth Edwards
Cllr Mr Edward Ellwood
Cllr Mr Derek Burt (In Chair)
Cllr Mr Anthony Higgens

Clerk to the Council:

Dr Alastair Wallace

C. K Parishioners & Members of the public:

Dorset Council (DC) Cllr Mrs Cherry Brooks
Mrs Cameron
Mr G Talbot

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

263.19 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mr Leslie Bugler due to ill health. His apology was accepted.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL – (Current Meeting)

264.19 Cllr Ellwood declared a pecuniary interest in planning application No 6/2019/0440 to be discussed later in the meeting. The Clerk reminded him he would be required to leave the meeting at any time the application was discussed, including during any Public Discussion period. Cllr Ellwood expressed his intention to comply with the requirement.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

265.19 Mrs Cameron expressed concern that it appeared land at the “Old Blacksmith’s” site in Grange Road continues to appear to be used for residential purposes. She was also concerned about signage erected which, in her opinion, had a dominating visual effect on the site and surroundings. She informed the meeting that when planning permission was granted the furniture gallery was accepted as being ancillary to the manufacture of furniture and now the signage did not appear to mention the primary use of furniture-making. She felt that planning enforcement matters were “going round in circles and getting nowhere” Cllr Burt explained that the matter of the “Old Blacksmith’s” site had been discussed at length during many meetings of the Parish Council which was concerned about activities at the site which appeared to be in contravention of planning legislation. He advised her that at a previous meeting, DC Cllr Brooks had reported that there was a need to keep a log of the activities and submit it to the planning officer for further action. There was then general discussion about past collection of evidence which had been submitted to the now defunct Purbeck District Council (PDC) for action but alleged planning contraventions still continued. Cllr Brooks reiterated the planning officer’s request that a log be kept by the complainant and submitted so that formal evidence can be assessed. Further discussion about the history of alleged contraventions and the visual and road safety effects of signage within the Dorset AONB continued. It was felt that the Parish Council had done all it could having regard to its very limited powers and Mrs Cameron and Mr Talbot thanked the Parish Council for its past efforts in resolving the situation and would be seeking further advice from Cllr Brooks and DC’s planners.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL’S MEETING

266.19 Cllr Burt offered to continue as Chair of the Parish Council until the October meeting and declared his intention to “step down” in favour of another Councillor at the meeting. His offer and comments were noted and accepted and he remained in the the Chair for the meeting.

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ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

267.19 Cllr Parker proposed that no Vice-chairman be elected for the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Wilson and unanimously accepted. **RESOLVED that there would be no position of Vice-chairman for the period until the October meeting of the Parish Council.**

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13th AUGUST 2019

268.19 The Clerk presented the draft Minutes of the August meeting of the Parish Council having previously distributed them by electronic means to each Parish Councillor. Cllr Ellwood pointed out some typographical errors in draft Minute Nos 228.19, 244.19 and 255.19 and Cllr Higgens pointed out an error in draft Minute No 233.19 in which 'the' and 'that' were connected. The Clerk advised the connection was a typographical error where 'the' had remained typed rather than having been substituted during his original edit. Following correction of the typographical errors concerned Cllr Ellwood proposed that the August Minutes be accepted as a true record of the proceedings of the August Parish Council meeting. His proposal was seconded by Cllr Wilson and the motion unanimously carried. **RESOLVED that the Minutes, corrected of the typographical errors referred to in the motion, the draft Minutes for the August meeting of the Parish Council 2019 be approved and accepted as a true record of the proceedings of the Parish Council's August Meeting.**

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 13TH AUGUST 2019 MINUTES

269.19 The Chairman expressed his disappointment that Dorset Wildlife Trust (DWT) representatives were now unable to attend the Parish Council meeting until October despite notification that a representative from management that there may be attendance at the September meeting. The Clerk informed the meeting that he had been advised by DWT headquarters that the recently appointed DWT Rivers Officer had been in contact with Cllr Edwards with a view to talking at the October meeting. There was discussion about what would be the content of the Rivers Officer's presentation and Cllr Edwards felt that if the October meeting dealt with matters relating to DWT's financial management of the "environmental fund" there would be little time for discussion of the Corfe River project. She also felt that it would be unfair to bring the Rivers Officer into discussion about financial management of the various environmental projects of DWT. Cllr Higgens suggested that a separate meeting of CKPC be held to discuss DWT financial management of such projects. This was supported by Cllr Burt who proposed that the Rivers Officer attends the October meeting and that a separate meeting be arranged with DWT management. This was seconded by Cllr Higgens. The proposal was carried. **RESOLVED that the DWT Rivers Officer attends the October meeting of the Parish Council and that DWT management attend a separate meeting.**

270.19 At this point in the proceedings Cllr Higgens interjected and referred back to the approval of the August minutes. He was concerned that at August meeting which he did not attend. It was proposed by Cllr Parker that item 16 on the Agenda (Other Items which the Chairman Deems of Importance) be brought forward for discussion at this point. This was seconded by Cllr Wilson. **RESOLVED that Item 16 of the September Agenda be brought forward for discussion at this point.**

OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DEEMS OF IMPORTANCE

271.19 Cllr Burt opened discussion about Item 223.19 of the August agenda in which he had acted as Chair in the absence of Cllr Higgens who had been elected as Chairman for the July meeting. Cllr Higgens repeated his concern that he had appeared to have still been Chairman (absent) for the August meeting despite his intended resignation which had been minuted in the proceedings of the July meeting. Following discussions, it was proposed by Cllr Parker that: *Cllr Higgens, having previously stated his resignation for the August meeting and Cllr Burt having been elected the Vice-chairman for July, Cllr Burt was elected Chairman of the August meeting and that Cllr Higgens' resignation made in July should have been extant. Consequently, Cllr Higgens was not Chairman in absentia for the August Meeting as he had resigned that post by giving such notice in July.* Her proposal was seconded by Cllr Wilson and unanimously carried. **RESOLVED that Cllr Higgens, having previously stated his resignation for the August meeting and Cllr Burt having been elected the Vice-chairman for July, Cllr Burt was elected Chairman of the August meeting and that Cllr Higgens' resignation made in July should have been extant. Consequently, Cllr Higgens was not Chairman in absentia for the August Meeting as he had resigned that post by giving such notice in July.**

272.19 The meeting then returned to the Agenda as published.

POSTPONEMENT OF LESSER MATTERS ON THIS AGENDA TO OCTOBER 2019 MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

273.19 There were no postponements at this time

PLANNING MATTERS

Planning Applications

274.19 Cllr Ellwood had left the building before this matter was discussed. Refer to Minute No. 264/19

6/2019/0440 – 2 Cotness, East Creech, Wareham - Remove existing thatch. Construct new timber roof structure over existing, install fire board and water proof membrane and re-thatch. The Clerk reported that Cllr Bugler, who had been unable to attend the meeting, had advised him that he could see no reason for the Parish Council to object to the proposed re-thatching, etc., but that a recommendation be made that the thatch be constructed of reed. Following discussion amongst Members, Cllr Higgins proposed there should be no objection from the Parish Council and that a comment be made that the thatch should be of reed. This was seconded by Cllr Burt. **RESOLVED that there should be no objection from the Parish Council and that a comment be made that the thatch should be of reed.** The Clerk advised the meeting he would pass on the Council's comments to the planning officer.

PAST PLANNING MATTERS

275.19 Members noted results of recent applications and appeals made.

Unlawful Developments

276.19 No new unlawful developments were reported.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

277.19 No overgrowths were reported.

278.19 The Clerk referred enquiries about road closures in the county and reported that the Iron Man competition would result in a significant number of roads closures but should not significantly affect Church Knowle Parish. He also referred to an amended list of proposed road closures in the Parish due to geo-surveys to be carried out on behalf of Perenco. They were noted by Members.

279.19 Cllr Brooks advised Members that she had been to a site meeting with Dorset County's highways engineer to discuss signage for the Bradle road at Barnston Cross. Both she and the engineer had also spoken with caravan site management who have agreed to amend their websites to advise caravanners, etc., not to use the Bradle road to access the sites. An "A-board" would also be erected advising drivers of towed caravans, coach drivers and camper van drivers that the road is unsuitable for such traffic. Arrangements will be made for a permanent advisory sign to be erected.

280.19 Cllr Burt advised the meeting that he had inspected the finger posts at Barnston Cross and East Creech and concluded that the direction fingers had been snapped off, probably purposely. He felt that they were "not fit for purpose". The Clerk advised he had been in touch with Highways to get a quote/estimate for new fingers. He also reported that Tradewind Graphics are investigating how to produce more acceptable signs. Cllr Parker also suggested inserting "Smedmore" on the Bradle fingerpost. This was accepted by the meeting.

281.19 It was reported that a pothole in the Church Knowle-Corfe Castle road approximately 50m west of Glebe was caused by Scottish & Southern Electricity work. The Clerk advised he would report the matter to SEB for their action.

CEMETERY MATTERS

282.19 Cllr Parker advised the meeting she had been in contact with the Rector of Corfe Castle and ecclesiastical benefice regarding access to the new cemetery and he had suggested such access be formalised. Cllr Parker had been in contact with Salisbury Diocese who required evidence of access, etc. She advised the meeting that discussions would continue.

FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- 283.19 The Accounts from 10th August, 2019 to c.o.b. 06th September, 2019 were reviewed and Cllr Higgins proposed that they be accepted. Her proposal was seconded by Cllr Parker and carried. **RESOLVED that the accounts as presented are approved and that the Chairman of the meeting be authorised to sign them as such.**
- 284.19 The invoices due for payment were presented and it was proposed by Cllr Higgins that they should be paid and that that cheques for their payment to creditors be duly validated. Her proposal was seconded by Cllr Wilson and the motion carried. **RESOLVED that the invoices and fees as presented be paid.**
- 285.19 The Clerk reported that the annual return and certificate of exemption had been accepted by the external auditors and as soon as the accepted returns, etc., were received back from PKF Littlejohn LLP they would be posted on the website.
- 286.19 Cllr Parker reported that enquires were continuing for the provision of a sea container to hold the archives. Both she and Cllr Wilson were reviewing prices and costs of installation. They were also in contact with the CK village hall committee with regard to siting the unit. She would report again at the October meeting. Members noted her report.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 287.19 The Clerk reported on correspondence received. There had been none of significant importance for discussion.

ITEMS PROPOSED FOR OCTOBER 2019 AGENDA

- 288.19 The following additional items were suggested for discussion at the October 2019 meeting:

Cemetery Access,
Archives storage,
Finger Posts & Barnston Cross road signage
Dorset Wildlife Trust

OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DEEMS OF IMPORTANCE

- 289.19 There were no further items discussed at this point. Refer to Minute No 271.19

PERIOD FOR DISCUSSION

- 290.19 Cllr Parker advised the meeting that several 4X4 sports utility vehicles had been seen on the West Hill ridge. Cllr Higgins advised that a "voluntary restraint" notice on the BOAT was in force and if abused it is likely that the users concerned may be prohibited from using it. There was general discussion about rural road accident deaths and the need for a meeting to discuss implementation of speed limits throughout the Parish.
- 291.19 Cllr Higgins gave an update as Police Liaison Councillor on the Dorset Farmwatch and Ringmaster crime prevention system.
- 292.19 There was general discussion about the state of parish councils, with regard to low membership, in Dorset and the problems in councillor recruitment as it affects Church Knowle.

CLOSURE OF MEETING

- 293.19 There being no further business, Cllr Burt closed the meeting at 9:45pm and the Clerk told those present the next meeting of the new Parish Council would be at the Church Knowle Reading Room on 08th October 2019.