

CHIDEOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall, Chideock on Monday 25 September 2017 at 7 pm.

The Parish Council meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

Present: Cllr Roger Carey (Chair), Cllr Rob Murray, Cllr David Rogers, Cllr Peter Hunt, Cllr Laurie Elliot.

In attendance: The Clerk and 7 members of the public and DCC Cllr Daryl Turner.

The Clerk reported that Cllr Vanessa Glenn was unable to attend the meeting due to a family funeral. Cllr Glenn had signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of Cllr Murray and had completed her Register of Pecuniary Interests. Cllr Murray passed both documents to the Clerk.

2029 Apologies.

Cllr Kate Geraghty and Cllr Vanessa Glenn sent their apologies, which were accepted.

2030 Grants of Dispensations.

None.

2031 Declarations of Defined Pecuniary Interests.

Cllr Murray and Cllr Carey declared a pecuniary interest, as Trustees of the Village Hall, in agenda item 11 a) vii – payment of the grant to the Village Hall for the kitchen refurbishment and said that they would not take part in the vote and would not sign the cheque.

2032 Minutes.

a) **RESOLVED** to accept and sign, as a true record, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 31 July 2017.

b) **RESOLVED** to accept and sign, as a true record, the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 22 August 2017.

Proposed by Cllr Elliot, seconded by Cllr Hunt, carried unanimously.

2033 County and District Councillors' and Police Reports.

Cllr Turner reported as follows: -

- Buses – there have been many issues with the new contracts for both the school and the public services. The Clerk said that she is attending the Western Area Transport Action Group meeting on 28 September to raise concerns about the X51 and X53 services as it has been reported that passengers must change buses at Bridport bus station. Children aged 16+ do not get free transport to school / college even though the government encourages them to remain in full time education. DCC does not have money to subsidise them.
- DCC Budget – it seems likely that this year's DCC budget will balance
- The DCLG decision regarding 2 Unitary Authorities for Dorset has still not been received – it is now expected "soon".

Standing Orders were suspended for the following item.

2034 Democratic Period.

Members of the public spoke on the following matters: -

- There is now a charge made by the Dorset Waste Partnership at the Bridport recycling centre for the disposal of domestic DIY waste despite the government saying that no charge should be made. Cllr Turner said that the DWP are appealing against the government on this. He said that DWP had told him that there was no correlation with fly tipping. Cllr Turner said he would take this matter forward with DWP.

- Why were the minutes of the May quarterly meeting with Highways England not made available on the website prior to the Parish Meeting held on 24 July, as they contained information which was of importance to that meeting? The Clerk said that the minutes were not wilfully held back – she was waiting for feedback from HE before publishing them and did not know that Emma Bazeley had been temporarily seconded and was therefore unable to provide the feedback. The Clerk is awaiting feedback on the notes for the August meeting and will ensure that they are published before the next quarterly meeting in November, even if no feedback has been received.
- The Parish Council article in the September Chideock News implied blame on the A35 Bypass Working Group for an increase in next year's precept to cover the cost of the Parish Poll. The Clerk explained that this was a warning of a possible increase – the process of setting budget and precept for 2018 – 2019 will start in October and conclude by 31 January. There may be other items added to the budget which could increase the precept.
- Will Council Tax rise by the same amount as this year over the coming years? The Clerk said that it is likely that the precept (and therefore Council Tax) will be increased year on year but it will not be a significant increase.
- What is happening regarding a Safety Audit regarding the disabled exit from the Village Hall? The Clerk said that Emma Bazeley has confirmed that this will be part of the safety study currently being conducted.
- One of the possible routes available as an alternative to the A35 is the A37 (leading to the A303), which is not a strategic link i.e. not a Trunk Road. Cllr Turner said that the A37 is currently the responsibility of DCC and South Somerset, who are aware of the impact an improved A303 will have on the A37. He also said that there is pressure for a North – South route through Dorset from the ports, possibly via Shaftsbury, but this is at least 15 years in the future.
- If an LEZ is in place by 2020 where will the diverted traffic go?
- Seahill Lane passing places. The owner of land adjoining Sea Hill Lane said that there was a site meeting with DCC Highways on 8 September to look at possible locations for proper passing places but that there has been no feedback from DCC yet.

Standing Orders were resumed.

2035 Updates to the Follow-Up List.

AGREED that Actions & Information List items 21 (Average Speed Cameras) and 32 (Retrospective Planning Applications) should be added to the Follow-Up List.

2036 Reports / Updates by the Clerk and Councillors.

Items 1 – 5 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED** except for those detailed below, which were discussed in more detail.

Item 4 – Hedge cutting on Sea Hill Lane. **AGREED** that the Clerk draft letters to West Dorset Leisure Holidays and to the Police Wildlife Officer, to be approved by councillors. **CC**

Item 5 - Rural Policing. **AGREED** to invite Inspector Neil Wood (Bridport, Beaminster & Lyme Regis Territorial Policing) to attend a Parish Council meeting. **CC**

2037 A35 Matters.

Items 6 - 20 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED** except for those detailed below, which were discussed in more detail.

Item 10 – A35 Miles Cross Working Group. Cllr Elliot is unable to attend the meeting on 20 October. **AGREED** that the Clerk will attend in his place and that Cllr Murray will attend for Cllr Geraghty if she is unable to attend. **CC**

Item 21 – Average Speed Cameras. **AGREED** to ask if Dorset Road Safe will repair / replace the eastbound GATSO camera so that both cameras are functioning whilst funding is being sought for Average Speed Cameras, and to ask how the efforts to obtain funding are progressing. **CC**

Item 25 – Letter from Mr and Mrs Hipkiss. **AGREED** that the Clerk will draft a response for approval by councillors. **CC**

Cllr Elliot suggested that a slight change be made to the priorities from the Low Emission Zone meeting held on 15 September: -

- Phase 1 – Identify and implement any measures that may reduce emission levels in Chideock to a legal level
- Phase 2 – If Phase 1 is unsuccessful, introduce a Low Emission Zone to cover HGV and heavy van traffic
- Phase 3 – If Phase 2 is unsuccessful, extend coverage in Phase 2 to include all vehicles.
- Cllr Elliot said that this approach saves the cost of setting up a model to predict emissions levels after a LEZ covering HGV and heavy van traffic.

LE

AGREED that Cllr Elliot draft a letter to this effect to Oliver Letwin MP.

Cllr Elliot summarised the recent correspondence on A35 patching / resurfacing and suggested that a letter is sent to Andy Kirby (Balfour Beatty / South West Highways) asking how can a judgement be made the patching is not required without an inspection or talking to affected residents. **AGREED** that Cllr Elliot draft a letter to this effect.

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After discussion, the motion to define Chideock Parish Council's ongoing A35 policy following the Parish Poll held on 14 August 2017 was amended to replace "Sub-Committee" by "Advisory Group". The amendment was proposed by Cllr Hunt, seconded by Cllr Rogers and carried unanimously.

It was then **RESOLVED** to adopt the Policy Statement, with the above amendment: -

1. The Parish Council's current priorities are a Low Emission Zone and an Average Speed Camera and implementation is expected to be achieved by 2020 at the latest.
2. The Parish Council notes the Poll results, the level of turnout, and the YES endorsement of both Poll questions.
3. The Parish Council notes that the perception of limited progress has fuelled frustration.
4. The Parish Council acknowledge that the short-term solutions need to be pursued right away.
5. The Parish Council acknowledge the need for coordination, open mindedness, and diplomacy.
6. Chideock's A35 problems are simply stated; the solutions and actions are complex and involve many organisations and agencies.
7. Hence the need for a Chideock Parish Council A35 Advisory Group to draw up the strategy.
8. The Parish Council recognises that the Delivery bodies prefer Statements of Problems, not solutions, and that the Parish Council's task is to provide Evidence.
9. The Parish Council acknowledges that there are 3 parts to the Strategy: -
 - a) Statement of the problems on the A35 in Chideock
 - b) Action Plans for their solution with Timescales, the Delivery Body and Funding
 - c) A Monitoring Process to ensure delivery on schedule and within Budget.

Proposed by Cllr Carey, seconded by Cllr Murray, carried unanimously.

The draft Terms of Reference for the Advisory Group were **AGREED**.

2038 Motions Received with Notice.

None.

2039 Planning Matters.

Cllr Elliot raised concerns about the comment submitted by the Parish Council for application WD/D/17/001515 Yew Tree House. He felt that too much reliance had been placed on information provided by a resident which had not been verified by the council.

AGREED that the Clerk recirculates information on "Material Planning Considerations" to all councillors.

CC

a) Applications.

None.

b) Determinations.

WD/D/17/001515 Yew Tree House - Change of Use. **APPROVED**

WD/D/17/001137 BROADMEAD, MAIN STREET Erect front extension and create vehicle access and raised parking area (Full) **APPROVED**

WD/D/17/000189 DOGHOUSE FARM, DOGHOUSE LANE Change of use of land for the siting of 4 no. safari tents for tourism accommodation & associated works (Full) **REFUSED**. Clerk to circulate the Officer's Report and the Refusal Notice to all councillors/ **CC**

c) **Appeals**. None.

d) **Any Other Planning Matters**.

- i. **AONB / Lighting & Dark Skies, Dorset National Park, Conservation Areas.**
No update.
- ii. **Enforcement and Retrospective Planning Applications.**
Items 30 to 32 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.
- iii. **Mill Lane Bridleway 18.**
Items 33 to 35 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.
- iv. **Bullen's Lane Bridleway 20 at Junction with A35.**
Items 36 - 38 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.
- v. **All Weather Footpath.**
No update.
- vi. **Seatown.**
Item 38A on the Actions & Information List was **NOTED**.
- vii. **Seatown Regeneration Feasibility Study Project.**
Items 38B to 38D on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.
- viii. **Other**
Item 39 on the Actions & Information List was **NOTED**.

2040 **Finances.**

Items 40 and 41 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.

a) **Payments.**

- i. Clerk's Salary for September & Expenses for August & September £237.10
- ii. PAYE for July, August and September £164.20
- iii. Chideock Village Hall Hire – August & September £52.00
- iv. Theresa Mudford – hire of mower x 8 – August & September £80.00
- v. BDO for External Audit £120.00
- vi. PNW Services for Bus Shelter Cleaning April - September £40.00
- vii. Donation to Allington Hill Volunteers for Fencing for Clapp's Mead £30.00
Proposed by Cllr Murray seconded by Cllr Carey, carried unanimously.
- viii. Village Hall Grant for Kitchen Refurbishment £5,000.00
Proposed by Cllr Hunt seconded by Cllr Elliot, carried with Cllr Murray and Cllr Carey abstaining due to a pecuniary interest.

b) **External Audit.**

Cllr Carey proposed a vote of appreciation for the Clerk's success with the external audit, this was seconded by Cllr Murray and carried unanimously.

As per the External Audit requirements, **RESOLVED** to approve and accept the completed Annual Return for 2016 – 2017.

Proposed by Cllr Murray, seconded by Cllr Rogers, carried unanimously.

c) **Foss Orchard Car Park.**

Items 42 – 44A on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED** except for those detailed below, which were discussed in more detail.

Item 42 – Car Parking Charges and Ticket Machine.

- i. **RESOLVED** to increase daytime parking ticket charges:
20 minutes – 20p, no change
1 hour - was 30p, increase to 40p
4 hours – was 60p, increase to £1
All Day – was £1, increase to £2.
Proposed by Cllr Rogers, seconded by Cllr Hunt, carried unanimously.
Changes to Season Ticket prices will be considered at the next meeting.
- ii. **RESOLVED** to purchase a renovated ticket machine from WDDC at a cost of £500 for the machine and £500 for calibration, installation, removal and **CC**

disposal of the old machine, ongoing maintenance to be carried out by WDDC at a cost of £30 per call-out.

Proposed by Cllr Murray, seconded by Cllr Hunt, carried unanimously.

- iii. Clerk to ask if a charge will be made to adjust the clock twice a year for British Summer Time, and to ask for the cost of tickets for the machine. **CC**
- iv. This expenditure on a new machine will be considered when setting the budget and precept for 2018 – 2019 – the Foss Orchard Maintenance Fund was originally set up for future resurfacing costs but at that time the car park was operated by West Dorset District Council and so no capital costs for equipment were envisaged. **CC**

Items 43 and 44 – Waste bin for dog poo. Cllr Murray reported that the bin has been removed.

Item 44A – Season Ticket Request. AGREED to allow the purchase of a Season Ticket. **CC**

2041 Clapps Mead Playing Field.

Items 45 to 49 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.

It was **NOTED** that the older play equipment is looking “tired” and in need of repainting. Again, the Clerk will ask the Playing Field Management Committee for this to be carried out in the Spring of 2018. **CC**

2042 Dorset Highways and Flood Management.

Items 50 - 52 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.

2043 Current Consultations.

AGREED that Cllr Murray will draft a response to the DCLG “Planning for the right homes in the right places” consultation for consideration at the next meeting. **RM/CC**

2044 Correspondence.

There were no other items of correspondence to be brought to Councillors’ notice.

2045 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting of Chideock Parish Council.

The next scheduled meeting is at 10 am on Tuesday 31 October 2017.

The meeting closed at **9:15 pm**.