

STURMINSTER MARSHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council on Thursday 7th April 2022 at
7.30pm at the Memorial Hall

Present: Chairman Cllr Palmer; Cllr S Cade; Cllr J Jackson; Cllr H Fookes, Cllr L Seare and Cllr A Godfrey.

Also in attendance: Clerk Mrs Alison Clothier;

1 **MEMBERS OF PUBLIC** – There were 2 members of the public present.

A member of the public spoke about wanting to understand how the Parish Council is prioritising climate change in terms of its decision making, budget setting and projects. It was questioned whether climate change was considered in every decision that is being made. It was also questioned whether there is guidance on what Parish Council's can and cannot do in terms of climate change actions. It was advised that any contractors used by the Parish Council should be asked for their environmental credentials.

It was also noted that the new fencing works at Bartons Ground had destroyed valuable wildlife habitat

The Parish Council explained some of the decisions and projects that have been moved forward to take action against climate change including investigating installing an electric car charging point, rewilding and tree planting and requirements for new homes in the Neighbourhood Plan.

2 **APOLOGIES – MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.**

Cllr M Steel and Dorset Cllr Cook gave their apologies and these were accepted by the committee.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

4 **POLICE REPORT**

See report attached as Appendix 1

5 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 3rd March 2022 were approved as true record of the meeting.

6 **COOPTION TO THE PARISH COUNCIL**

- i. To consider applications for new Parish Councillors – one application was received for the two positions vacant on the Parish Council. Councillors felt that this was a strong application and were all in agreement to welcome Mrs Purtill onto the Parish Council. Cllr Purtill signed the Acceptance of Office and joined the Parish Council for the remainder of the meeting.

MATTERS ARISING

7 A report from the Clerk which had been circulated was read by the Clerk and is attached to these minutes as **Appendix 2**. Ongoing issues from the Clerks Report are:

8	<p>i. Highways</p> <p>ii. Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p><u>AMENITIES AND FACILITIES</u></p> <p>i. Playground – The playground repairs are underway and will be complete in April.</p> <p>ii. Noticeboards – The noticeboard repairs will be carried out as soon as possible.</p> <p>iii. Churchill Close Green – Following a direct comparison of the quotes received by BCP and Dorset Council it was agreed that Dorset Council would be chosen to maintain Churchill Close Green. The Service Level Agreement was signed. The Sports Association will no longer operate and Parish Council agreed to formally take over the assets, including any remaining money and the two mowers, from the Sports Association and a decision will be made in forthcoming meetings as to what will be done with these assets.</p> <p>iv. Village Greens –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maypole Green – the seats will be moved and fixed into place to prevent parking. The kerbing was discussed and a new concrete kerb on the southern edge of Maypole Green would cost £6,290 at a minimum (a requote would be needed). It was concluded that the budget was not available for this but a bund would be investigated with stones inset. • To discuss a strategy for the maintenance of village greens –the quote from Greenscape Countryside Ltd was discussed at £190 per cut. Although this is more expensive than Dorset Council, there is no guarantee with the Council that all 7 cuts per year will be undertaken as the contract is for ‘up to’ 7. The Parish Council concluded that this was unacceptable and more control would be possible with a private contractor. On that basis it was agreed that the quote from Greenscape was approved. • To discuss the Sturminster Marshall Village Project – the quotes for the waymarkers and signs were discussed with each post costing £20 and the individual signs costing £6. These costs were agreed and the posts will be ordered after Easter. A quote for a website for the leaflet will be sought. An email from a local resident was received with concerns about the trail but was reassured when the project was explained. <p>v. Johnnies Ditch – new sign in progress. There is a possible need to re-establish the fence between Johnnie Ditch and the adjacent property as this may be sold. The land should have access from the front. Clerk to check fencing with Conservation Officer.</p> <p>vi. Bartons Ground – The signs for Bartons Ground have now been fitted. The fence is complete however a hole has already been cut through to the Golf Course. This has been reported to the Police. There was a discussion whether CCTV signs could be put up – these would be £38.50 per sign. Clerk to check legality of this on public land.</p> <p>vii. Youth Club - this is being moved forwards however income is an issue as a youth worker would need to be employed. The money from the Parish Council has been offered.</p> <p>viii. Trees – Clerk to chase Aster Housing Association regarding the tree at Churchill Close.</p> <p>ix. Platinum Jubilee Celebrations – a quote for a plaque for the Jubilee Tree has been requested. A mock up of the mugs is awaited and will</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
---	---	--

	<p>be circulated by email as the order will need to be in at the end of April. The event will be covered under the Parish Council insurance but there may be a surcharge because of the numbers involved. This will come out of the sponsorship money.</p> <p>x. Village Bier – Clerk to speak to blacksmith as he is retiring and may not be able to carry out the work. Kingston Maurward college may take this on.</p> <p>xi. Walnut Tree – the branch of the Walnut Tree has been looked at by a local carpenter and there it is a not a sizable piece. Three small items may be possible.</p> <p>xii. Fingerposts – the AONB team have collected the metal letters and will now progress with repairing the post.</p> <p>xiii. Book Box – the restoration work to the Book Box will be completed as soon as possible.</p> <p>xiv. WI Bench – the repair work to the bench is complete.</p> <p>xv. Maypole – the use of the Maypole on Monday 2nd May for the Maypole dancing was ratified with all in agreement.</p> <p>xvi. School Swimming Pool – The School Society would like a statement from the Parish Council about the refurbishment of the school swimming pool. The Parish Council discussed the pool and concluded that they were supportive of the refurbishment of the pool as a community asset. Clerk to write to the Chair of Governors to reflect this.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
9	<p><u>ENVIRONMENT</u></p> <p>i. Drainage Ditches –Awaiting quote for the remainder of the ditch at Moor Lane. Dorset Council have written to the landowner regarding the A350 ditch.</p> <p>iii. Electric Car Charge Point – Clerk and Memorial Hall committee to meet with a local installer on the 26th April.</p> <p>iii. Pack Horse Bridge – the damage to the bridge has been reported to Dorset Council</p>	
10	<p><u>TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT</u></p> <p>i A31/A350 – the Parish Council received a letter from Frogwell Magna PC regarding road safety and 20mph limits.</p> <p>ii. Highways – the resurfacing of Balls Lane has had a very positive result. White Mill Bridge continues to be shut.</p>	
11	<p><u>REPORTS</u></p> <p>To receive reports from representatives of the following:</p> <p>i Alms House Charity – no update</p> <p>ii Memorial Hall – no update</p> <p>iii. Sports Association – no update</p> <p>iv P A C T – currently suspended. Cllr Cade to contact Andy Flannigan</p> <p>v DAPTC - no update</p> <p>vi Flood Wardens – no update</p> <p>vii. School – a parent’s survey has taken place and an action plan has been created out of this.</p> <p>vii Dorset Councillor – see Appendix 3</p>	
12	<p><u>FINANCE</u></p> <p>i Accounts for payment. To receive invoices and approve payments as per Schedule of payments. These invoices will be paid via bank transfer and the PDFs of the transfer will be printed out. See</p>	

	<p>Appendix 4.</p> <p>ii. Clerks Pay 2022/23 – it was agreed that the Clerk would progress from SCP 22 to SCP 23.</p> <p>iii. To discuss taking ownership of the Village History Site – Clerk to chase the quote for the website hosting.</p> <p>iv. To discuss the Risk Assessment and Asset Register – to be updated in April.</p> <p>v. To discuss the purchase of an accountancy package – Clerk to speak to Internal Auditor about using the Scribe package.</p>	
13	<p><u>BENCH POLICY</u></p> <p>i. To consider a Bench Policy – a draft policy will be circulated by email.</p>	
14	<p><u>OPEN MEETING 2022</u></p> <p>i. To discuss agenda for May Open Meeting – Clerk to ask Cllr Cook for speaker suggestions. Cllr Fookes to contact Environment Agency to see if they would speak about river management.</p>	
15	<p><u>LITTER PICK</u></p> <p>i. To take place on 9th April 2022.</p>	
16	<p><u>NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN</u></p> <p>i. To receive an update on progress with the Neighbourhood Plan – the team continue to work with AECOM to advance the Master Planning package. The drafting of the plan is now underway.</p> <p>ii. To discuss a submission of suggestions for the local list of undesignated heritage assets. The following sites were suggested for nomination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baillie Lease , 8 Station road • Churchill Arms, 45 High Street • Johnnie and Joes cottages High Street • Churchill Close • Locks Cottage, High Street • Floodwater stone outside Firenze Cottage • Thatches 148 High Street • Baillie House, Dullar Lane • Henbury Cottages, Dorchester road • Vines Close House, Dorchester road • Forest Hill House, Rushall lane • Sandstones – Balls Lane and Sheriden Way • Wheelwrights Bonding Stone <p>Clerk to submit nominations.</p>	
17	<p><u>CORRESPONDENCE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laurels at Elm Gardens – the Parish Council were made aware of a private dispute regarding the laurels at Elms Gardens. • School Transportation Consultation – Cllr Jackson to complete • NALC smaller Councils letter – this was noted. • Ukrainian Refugee Meeting – it was noted that the Church had organised a meeting regarding how to help any refugees. 	
18	<p><u>PARISH MATTERS</u></p> <p><u>The Parish Council meeting was suspended at 9.10pm whilst the Planning Committee</u></p>	

	<p><u>took place. See minutes 7th April 2022 for details.</u></p> <p><u>The Parish meeting re-convened at 9.55pm</u></p> <p><u>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING</u> – Thursday 5th May 2022 at 7.30pm</p> <p>There being no other business the meeting closed at 21.55</p> <p>Signed _____ Chairman 5th May 2022.</p>	
--	--	--

--	--	--