

PUNCKNOWLE & SWYRE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 2nd April 2019 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Councillors G. Fry (Chairman), D. Heaver, B. Pye, J. Marsh, T Taylor & M. Buckland.

IN ATTENDANCE:

S.Bowsher (Parish Clerk), A. Lovell (Transport), D. Legg (Allotments).
J Russell (Councillor Former West Dorset District Council) and Mark Roberts (County Councillor former DCC)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

E. Sinclair, J. Arak-Newman, D Bird

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3. PUBLIC TIME

There was some discussion about the reduction and removal of hedges around Paddock Lodge since work has begun. Councillor Mark Roberts noted that Dorset County Council formerly came to an end on 31 March and is replaced by the new Dorset Council. Puncknowle, Swyre and West Bexington now come under Chesil Bank Ward.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

At Councillor Robert's request, in paragraph 3 the word "fees" was amended to read "council tax". It was then **resolved** that the Minutes of the Council's meeting held on 5 March 2019 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

None.

6. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Councillor Geoff Fry offered a vote of thanks to John Russell who has served as District Councillor to the parish for 8 years. His attendance and support over this period have been appreciated. Thanks was also recorded to Derek Heaver who, as Parish Councillor over the same period has achieved a transformation of the playing fields in his role as Chairman of the Playing Fields Committee. The chairman urged everyone to vote in the forthcoming elections.

7. REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

i. Homewatch and Community Police Report

Nothing from PCSO A Bishop. DH has been circulating emails regarding any known issues as they arise.

ii. Allotments

DH has publicised that there are some empty plots available to rent. Some plot boundaries had been re-established. The trees have now been cut down but the work is incomplete until the wood is cut up into smaller sizes so that it can be sold. Some buildings have been erected on the Allotments without prior permission, and it was noted that permission must be sought beforehand.

- iii. **Footpaths**
Nothing to report.
- iv. **Playing Field Committee**
This was Derek Heaver's last meeting as a Parish Councillor, and he submitted a report of the huge progress that was achieved by the Playing Field Committee under his chairmanship. Their fund raising led to 7 new substantial pieces of equipment, and the playing field has been transformed into an area that can be enjoyed by everybody. All items on the schedule of repairs have been undertaken with the exception of one item which is in hand with GF. The report is available through the clerk. A vote of thanks was proposed by TT, seconded by MB.
- v. **Transport**
AL reported ongoing discussion at WATAG meetings about moving hospital clinic appointments from Bridport. Of particular concern is the inaccessibility of Blandford by public transport for people from West Dorset. A third consultation meeting will take place on 11 April.
- vi. **Village Hall**
Fund raising events are being organised to enable the repair works.
- vii. **Bridport Local Area Partnership**
Nothing to report.
- viii. **DAPTC**
Nothing to report
- ix. **Puncknowle, Swyre & West Bexington Web Site**
Administration of the web site is to stay with current manager until the clerk is able to take over.

8. PLANNING

Applications on which the Parish Council were consulted: -
None.

Decisions:

Application No: WD/D/18/001210 – Paddock Lodge, Swyre- Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and erection of replacement dwelling, new outbuildings and altered access.
Consent Granted.

Other Planning Issues:
None

9. HIGHWAYS ISSUES

It was noted that recent potholes had been filled within a week of being reported.

10. ALL ASPECTS OF THE ALLOTMENT FIELD

DH has undertaken a huge amount of work on the Tenancy Agreement. It is hoped that this can be approved by the Trustees of the Napper Charity before the Allotment Association AGM in September once any final amendments are made. It was noted that the right of appeal against eviction needs to be referenced.

It was **resolved** that the Allotment Headlands continue to be administered by the Landlord in order to facilitate hedge management, and provide insurance. Allotment Holders are allowed to mow and keep this tidy. Proposed MB, seconded TT. Three in favour, two against, one abstention. The Napper Charity is responsible for the hedges and ditches.

The parking area is separate from the Headland and is the responsibility of the Allotment Holders who will be charged a peppercorn rent. The Orchard and Willow Plantation are also the

responsibility of the Allotment Holders for a pepper corn rent. The orchard will be managed by the Orchard Rules passed at the Allotment Association AGM on 27 September 2018.

The Allotment Holders have already paid for some water charges this year but will undertake to be formally liable for all of these after their next AGM.

11. NOTICE BOARDS AT WEST BEXINGTON

GF said that no written quotes have been received. A ready-made noticeboard would cost in the region of £1200. A superior version in hard wood with reinforced glass can be sourced locally by a reputable craftsman for £750 and it was **resolved** that this should go ahead: Proposed MB, Seconded JM. All in favour.

12. DORSET BEST VILLAGE COMPETITION

It was suggested that all three villages should enter with Councillors to submit entries by 29 April.

13. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

A schedule of correspondence received since 1st March 2019 had been circulated to all Councillors in advance of the Council's meeting. No matters arising.

14. FINANCE

I. **Payments for Approval PSPC: Resolved** that the five invoices listed below be authorised for payment: -

Mrs Sally Bowsher (Clerk's salary, March)	£303.21
Mrs D. Sinclair (Website Management)	£25.00
Karl Ives (Grass Cutting)	£100.00
Annual Rent for Hire of Village hall	£192.00
Mrs Sarah Bowsher, Clerk's expenses	£96.49

Total Cheques £716.70

II. **Payments for Approval P&S Napper Charity: Resolved** that the invoice listed below be authorised for payment: -

Water Usage for Allotments	£28.00
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15. INFORMATION ITEMS

- i. Council & Local Council Elections on Thursday 2nd May 2019 – Nomination Forms deadline to County Council– 3rd April 2019
- ii. The Annual Parish Assembly will take place on Tuesday 30 April at Puncknowle Village Hall at 7.30pm

16. PUBLIC TIME

There is no Homewatch coordinator in Puncknowle and Swyre, and DH currently circulates any concerns he is aware of via email to a large group of residents. Whilst he will be happy to carry on in the short term, in the long run it was felt this should pass to another councillor.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED to note that the Council's next meeting would take place on Tuesday 7th May 2019 commencing at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting ended at 9.30pm.

Signed:

Dated: