

Motcombe Parish Council

Minutes of the Motcombe Parish Council held at the Pavilion, Motcombe Memorial Hall

On Tuesday 14th September 2021 at 7pm

Present: Cllr L Stacey – Chairman, Cllr P Mouncey - Vice Chairman, Cllr J Taylor, Cllr J Hood, Cllr B Mauleverer and Cllr R Craigmile

In attendance: Mrs N Phillips (Parish Clerk), There were 9 members of the public Keri from This is Alfred and Dorset Councillor Belinda Ridout

The Chairman asked if any persons are recording the meeting, Keri from This is Alfred is recording the meeting

Public Consultation period.

Concerns regarding building activity at the Old Post House was raised by a neighbour. A small old barn has been demolished and a new very large timber framed building is being erected in the rear garden of Old Post House. It was noted that there is no planning application or building regulations for this building. The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council have reported this matter to Dorset Council Planning enforcement team for their action. The Parish Council are waiting for confirmation of when the enforcement team can visit the site. As the building works are progressing at a great rate, the Parish Council have asked for the support of Dorset Councillor Belinda Ridout to see if she can follow up the Council's request to the enforcement team.

Mr P Lever reported that Tag energy with Tesla clean energy will build a storage unit at Hawker Hill to provide electric supply for commercial vehicles. This will store 20 wats of energy, which is an equivalent to 50 acres of solar panels. Tag is happy to meet with the Parish Council if they have any questions regarding this project.

Mr Stuart Irwin introduced himself as the new trust governor at Motcombe School. Mr Irwin raised the ongoing concerns over the safety of the Children attending the school and the ongoing matter of congested traffic at school run times. Mr Irwin stated that the situation becoming worse before it gets better as the school have plans to increase numbers from 180 to 219, and asked the Parish Council to support a working group, to consist of Parish Councillors, Governors, Headmaster, Dorset Council, the MP, and the academy for the school to work towards a resolution to ensure the children have a safe passage to school. It was reported that there had been an incident where a car had hit a pram with a small child in. Thankfully the child was not injured, but this has highlighted the severity of the safety of the Children. The Chairman confirmed that the working party had been meeting before Covid restrictions came into place and is happy for this matter to be revisited. This matter will be an agenda item for the meeting in October to discuss the working groups recommendations.

22/21. To receive and accept apologies of absence.

Cllr S Rogers and Cllr M Mason

23/21. Co-option for new members – There were no applications

24/21. Approve minutes from the meeting dated the 17th of August 2021.

Cllr Mauleverer proposed the minutes dated the 17th of August 2021, this was seconded by Cllr Mouncey all members in favour. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

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RESOLVED to approve the minutes dated the 17th of August 2021 (24/21 – no budgetary provision required)

Matters arising:

Update on Memorial bench for Allistair Leask – The Clerk confirmed that the bench should be delivered in the next few weeks. It was also agreed to investigate the price for a hard standing for the bench once it has been delivered and agreed to where the bench will be installed in the front field.

Action - Clerk

Update on overgrown hedges around the village – the Chairman thanked the villagers for cutting their hedges back. There are still a few issues regarding the hedges in the village and it was agreed for Cllr Hood to produce a suggested maintenance programme for hedge cutting for the Council and residents in the village to use as a guide.

Action – Cllr Hood

To consider tenders for path/woodwork at the Meadows – Cllr Mouncey had circulated quotes for path and fence works at the meadows. After debate, Cllr Mouncey proposed to award the following contracts:

J.S. Rose: To supply and fit hard surface paths for the sum of £10750.00

Hindon Fencing: To supply and fit oak gates and softwood fencing for the sum of £7450.00

This was seconded by Cllr Mauleverer, all Councillors were in favour.

RESOLVED: to award the contracts above for works to the Meadows (24/21 – MM)

J.S. Rose will also be asked to supply a quote for a small area of soft surfacing for the Parish Council to consider.

25/ 21. Report from Dorset Council Councillor Ridout.

The full report can be seen on the Parish Council's website, Facebook page and a copy can be obtained by the Clerk:

COVID update – Latest available update, 10th September 2021, the case rate for the Dorset Council area is 321.0 per 100,000 population (up from 286.7 the week before) and for BCP, 298.7 per 100,000 population (down from 310.1 the week before).

K9 Firewise Patrols - this year, to help look after Dorset's precious heathlands, Firewise UK (Dorset), Dorset Dogs and the Dorset and Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service (DWFRS) have teamed up to launch the K9 Firewise Patrol Volunteer Scheme.

Local Plan Executive Advisory Panel, 9th September – members of the cross-party panel were briefed on the progress of the new Local Plan for Dorset. As reported previously, the 8-week Local Plan Consultation held in January 2021 was very successful in terms of responses.

Green Heat Network – The Green Heat Network Fund (GHNF) is a Government capital grant fund open to public, private and third sector organisations in England to support the commercialisation of low and zero carbon heat network projects.

Update on using office spaces again – with the relaxation of Covid restrictions, discussions have begun to enable more Dorset employees to use the offices again and hybrid working, providing additional IT equipment to enable people in an office and those working at home to work and collaborate effectively.

Waste Collections – as recently reported, the effects of the national HGV driver shortage, coupled with the continuing impact of the pandemic, are starting to be felt across the Dorset Council's waste collection service, on the back of a year of increased household waste amounts as more people stay and work from home. There are currently multiple vacancies for drivers and loaders across the waste services team. Residents are being asked to:

- Always report a missed collection, even if your whole street is affected.
- Ensure your bins are out by 6am on your collection day.
- If you find a litter

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bin is full, do not try to leave your litter on top/next to it or on the floor nearby – please take it home and place in your household bin. •Report over-filled bins on the DC website. •If any garden waste collections must be cancelled/stood down, we will contact customers directly to advise them. •Rubbish, recycling, garden, and food waste can be dropped off free of charge at any of Dorset's household recycling centres.

Customer Access/Digital champions – Six customer service points opened across Dorset earlier this summer, our closest being Blandford, with 200 plus customers per week through the doors. However, customers are encouraged to self-serve online or use the telephone whenever possible. Contact your local library (Gillingham) for Digital Champion help. 01747 822180. For those residents not online, who have important questions or concerns, call Dorset Council on 01305 221000, 8am to 8pm, 7 days a week or communityresponse@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk.

26/21. Finance.

With one additional payment to Masons for the trees work for the sum of £4500.00, the Clerk amended the tabled payment schedule, now for the sum of £7194.49, detail listed below:

N Phillips	Clerk wages for Aug	£ 1,247.35
N Phillips	Clerk expense for Aug	£ 65.14
HMR	employers NI payment	£ 54.04
Nest	Pension	£ 74.40
Southern Electric	Supply	£ 99.02
Memorial Hall	Hall Hire solar farm	£ 52.00
Scott Jackson -	Party in the Park don	£ 500.00
Viking Direct	Stationery	£ 91.69
Chris Berwick Ltd	Grass cutting	£ 510.85
countryside	Tree works at MM	£ 4,500.00
Total		£ 7,194.49

The Clerk had tabled the bank reconciliation for the Councillors approval.

Cllr Taylor proposed that the bills on the payment schedule be paid and the bank reconciliation is correct, Cllr Stacey seconded the proposal, all in favour.

RESOLVED: to pay the bills on the schedule above (26/21 – accounts)

27/21 Planning: Review of Working Group recommendations:

- **P/HOU/2021/02020 – Motcombe Leigh Court - Extend front porch** – No objection
- **P/FUL/2021/02046 – Solar Farm** – the Parish Council objected to this application, full details of the objection can be obtained by the Clerk on viewed on Dorset Council planning applications site, using the planning number as reference.
- **P/HOU/2021/02630 – Coppers Elm Hill – extension to link existing annexe and front porch** – No objections.

Cllr Taylor reported on an application that the Parish Council have not received, due to it being an agricultural application, Dorset Council have not obligation to request the Parish Councils comments on. The application is to convert barns from 4 buildings to 5 dwellings next to Larking Glass Farm. Cllr Mouncey expressed concerns over the access to the new dwellings as there are public rights of way, which must not be closed off.

Cllr Taylor expressed his concern that neighbours to people applying for planning are no longer receiving notifications from Dorset Council. The Councillors agreed that all applications received will

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be put out to the public on the Parish Council Facebook page, the website, and some notice boards around the village.

28/21 Chairman's report.

The Chairman reported that he attended Motcombe Allotment Association AGM with Cllr Hood. Concerns were expressed that it was noted some of the allotment holders live outside the Parish. The Clerk will speak to the Association, as the allotments are made available for residents of the parish only.

Action - Clerk

29/21 Officers reports.

All reports that had been circulated; a hard copy can be obtained by the Clerk.

Cllr Mauleverer reported the following:

- The party in the park and the Queen tribute that took place on the Village Hall recreation ground, had great attendance.
- Shaftesbury Fringe weekend was also had great attendance.
- The Blackmore Vale art trails was successful, with a local artist selling 11 figurines.

Cllr R Craigmile reported the following:

Cllr Craigmile tabled the following Highways and Road Safety report:

- Had received a phone call and email from our Community Highways Officer on 10th September, this was to discuss and forward an email he had received from a concerned parent of a child at Motcombe Primary School that had been hit by a car. The parent of the child had parked at the Memorial Hall and walked to the school with an older child with a younger one in a push chair. The parent reported that while saying goodbye to the older child a driver seemed to take an opportunity while there was a gap in traffic to exit a parking space, while being reversed the car nudged her younger child's leg and pushed the buggy backwards. The driver heard the shouts from parents and stopped before the child was injured, this could very easily have led to a much more serious outcome. Cllr Craigmile has since engaged in communication with the school on the Working Group and possible mitigation methods, I put forward a list of possible traffic reducing options that the school could explore further but was disappointed with the response, as well as the suggestion that Dorset County Council needed to provide the solution to the issues. Mr Barge has agreed that the Working Group should recommence soon though. The school needs to be successful and to attract parents from outside of the village, but not at the increasing risk of injury or death. Many feel it is only a matter of time before a child is seriously injured, I can't see that inaction is an option. If vehicle movements outside of the school could be reduced to a minimum, as well as the painted walkway being kept clear for pedestrians and push chairs this would be the best outcome. It is also perfectly possible to reduce the amount of roadway that the children need to walk on. If the Highways Act allowed for parking restrictions to be put in place outside of the school this could expose children to faster moving traffic, it appears that school staff and residents parking forms a shield at present. In my opinion it would be better if parents had alternatives to parking in the remaining spaces outside of the school, rather than cause congestion and the hazard caused by manoeuvring into parking spaces, or by having to driving past the school at all. Cllr Craigmile has asked that a report from the Working Party be submitted for each PC meeting so that they can monitor actions and provide support and assistance as and when required. It has been reported that the Memorial Hall car park is often full of parents dropping their children off. This does not help parents and it would be worth

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discussing improvements to the car park with the Hall Trustees. Parent parking could also hinder hall users which would not be ideal. I suggest that the Working Group should include a study on car park use and requirements in their first report. The Hall should not have to bear the cost of car park maintenance or improvements to facilitate parking for the school without compensation. No other Highways matters have arisen this month, there are capital works to North End that are recorded but these are unlikely to be carried out during this financial year.

Cllr Hood reported the following:

- Is obtaining quotes to remove the old chain linked fencing and posts that were next to the trees that had been felled.
- The area along the allotments have been cleared and look great.
- Will work with Cllr Mouncey and the Clerk to produce a schedule of works for the meadows on an annual basis. This will help with organising any volunteers that wish to help with the maintenance of the meadows.
- Has secured tree for the spring, a tree planning event will be organised for people in the village to come along and help with the tree planting.
- The village hall management committee and trustees are keen to engage more with the public. The village hall management committee meetings are held the last Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in the main hall, everyone is welcome. The village hall management committee are obtaining prices and looking at grants to provide broadband for the Hall.
- It has been agreed that the fate for 2022 will be held on the 4th of June to co-inside with the Queens jubilee.
- Cllr Manson has reported that a meeting will take place at Shaftesbury Town Hall, to promote a hedgehog project on the 30th of September.

Cllr Taylor reported the following:

- The new bus timetable is now available, and it has not been changed. Details are on the Parish Council's website.

Cllr Mouncey reported the following:

- The bridleway work is progressing forward.
- Is keeping brambles under control & registering any necessary repairs on Dorset for You.
- Dorset Wildlife Trust project for the stiles is progressing forward.
- A footpath diversion for the existing diversion at Keeper Cottage will be applied for.
- Cllr Mauleverer asked Cllr Mouncey if there had been any progress on including an environmental plan into the neighbourhood plan? Cllr Mouncey has obtained information on this and will forward details to all Councillors for their attention.

30/21. Clerk Report – Correspondence – Matters of interest

The Clerk had nothing to report on new correspondence.

31/21. Items for next agenda and date of next meeting

School Safety

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **TUESDAY the 12th of October 2021 at 7pm at the Pavilion, Motcombe Village Hall.** There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.45

Signed by the Chairman.....

Motcombe Parish Council

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