

Minutes of the Motcombe Parish Council Held at The Pavilion, Motcombe Memorial Hall On Tuesday 8th February 2022 at 7pm

Present: Cllr L Stacey – Chairman, Cllr P Mouncey - Vice Chairman, Cllr S Rogers, Cllr J Taylor, Cllr J Hood and Cllr M Mason

In attendance: Mrs N Phillips (Parish Clerk), There were 11 members of the public and a recording device send from Kerri from This is Alfred

The Chairman asked if any persons are recording the meeting, this is Alfred will be recording this meeting. There were no other recordings.

Public Consultation period.

Mrs Odell reported that she has expressed concern over the lack of lighting on the scaffolding outside the Forge, to the Builders, as it is a very dark area along the path. The Parish Council will also contact the builders to request some lighting is put on the scaffolding to prevent people walking into it.

Mrs Odell also suggested that the school warning sign for Port Regis is moved further away from the entrance, as at the moment the sign is so close to the entrance, it is not giving much notice of the school. The other school warning signs also need to be looked at to ensure they are in the correct position for Motcombe School. The Clerk will speak to Cllr Craigmile and Dorset Council highways department to request these actions. **Action – Clerk**

Mrs Odell raised concerns that the Motcombe logo is being used for other organisations within the Parish and has in the past suggested a disclaimer for the Parish Council, on the other organisations using the logo. The Clerk will ask Cllr Mauleverer to make sure a disclaimer is used. **Action - Clerk**

64/21. To receive and accept apologies of absence.

Cllr B Mauleverer, Cllr R Craigmile and Dorset Councillor Belinda Ridout sent their apologies.

65/21. Declarations of interest.

There were none.

66/21. Co-option for new members – There were no applications at this time.

67/21. Approve minutes from the meeting dated the 14th of December 2021.

Cllr Mouncey proposed the minutes dated the 14th of December 2021, this was seconded by Cllr Rogers, members in favour that the minutes were a true and arcuate account of the meeting. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

RESOLVED to approve the minutes dated the 14th of December 2022 (67/21 – no budgetary provision required)

Matters arising:

Update on action plan for flooding: The Chairman reported that the Parish Council have met with Dorset Council and the Environment team regarding the flooding back in October 2021. The Chairman confirmed that Dorset Council have Motcombe on their priority list to investigate why the houses got flooded. Dorset Council will be surveying the drains and flood defences and will report back to the Parish Council with their findings. Cllr Mouncey suggest that the Parish Council wait for Dorset Council's findings and those from the Environment Agency before taking any actions, as working on some areas could make things worse rather than better.

Update on tree works application for the Limes – The Clerk confirmed that Dorset Council have acknowledged the request for works on the trees that TPO's at the Limes and will get back to the Parish Council will a decision as soon as possible. The Clerk has also contact Persimmon to let them know, so as soon as permission is sort, they can do the works.

Update from the school safety working group – A meeting of the working party is yet to be confirmed. There was no update to report.

To consider speed indicator devices for the Village – The Chairman confirmed that Dorset Council have completed their road surveys and it does prove that speeding is an issue in the village, therefore may warrant a speed indicator device. The Clerk stated that the preferred device was not approved by Dorset Council and therefore a

further review of options was needed. In the absence of Cllr Craigmile, this item will be discussed at the meeting in March.

To receive report from a meeting held with TAG energy (Hawkers Hill) – The Clerk had circulated her report to the Councillors on the meeting. In summary, TAG energy, (a venture of renewable energy passionate individuals willing to participate to the decarbonisation of the electricity sector). They contacted the Parish Council to ask if there are any projects, they could financially support for promoting improving the Village's carbone footprint. At the moment they have started a project at Hawkerc Hill that will provide batteries for storage from unused electric from the sub- station. They are very interested in supporting the local community. The environment team will be looking at options, but the one that has been agreed is for the Clerk to obtain a quote from Southern Electric to replace the remaining old streetlights in the Village. This will benefit the Village as the new lights are a lot more energy efficient and once the Parish Council have replaced all of the lights they own to the new low energy lights, Dorset Council will adopt them all, which will save the cost for repairs/maintenance and electric bills for the Parish Council. The Clerk will contact TAG with a proposal.

Action – Clerk

Grants – The Chairman reminded everyone that the Parish Council grants awards will be agreed at the meeting in March. If you run a local organisation and would like to apply for a small grant, please contact the Parish Clerk.

68/21. 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 – Good news on this front. Infection rates in Dorset have fallen steeply from a peak in early January

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022, 2nd - 5th June – The search is on for the ultimate 'Platinum Pudding'!!!

Fortnum & Mason is inviting you to invent the Jubilee Pudding for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Go to fortnumandmason.com for more information. Dame Mary Berry is one of the judges.

Junction work for new road in Gillingham – work is set to start to link the B3092 to the western end of the new Principal Street. Work starts on Monday, 14th February for two weeks, with 2-way traffic lights between Lodden Bridge and Cole Street Lane junction. From Tuesday, 1st March, this section of road will be fully closed to all vehicles for around 6 weeks. Due to the nature of works, it's not possible to keep the road open.

New Grant for Community Projects – DC has launched a new grant, the Capital Leverage Fund, to support not-for-profit organisations to deliver new and improved facilities for local communities, eg. Village hall/community building enhancements, renovations, maintenance, or new build projects, including car parks, play areas, multi-use games areas, theatres, community sports clubs, sports pitches, and landscaping. Also applications that help address climate change themes, new public art, or heritage capital projects including accredited museums. Grants available up to £25,000. Applications can only be accepted via the DC online application form. Applications close 12pm on Friday 6th January, 2023. For more information: Community and Voluntary applicants: communities@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk and for Cultural applicants (arts, museums, heritage, sports, and physical activity): leisureWDWP@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk.

Supporting Dorset's Families this winter – DC has been awarded £2,294,941.45 from the Government's Household Support Fund to help vulnerable households across the county in need of financial support.

South West Trains emergency timetable changes – the changes are in place from Monday, 17th January.

Apparently because of staff shortages due to the Omicron variant and driver shortages. The changes directly affect the Waterloo to Exeter line. One main change the Exeter to Salisbury service reduced to 2-hourly, Monday to Friday with no through services, passengers having to change at Salisbury for onwards travel to London. The Great British Railways is calling for evidence to shape its 30 year strategic plan for the railways. Please add your voices to this, details and how to do this can be found at <https://gbrtt.co.uk/wisp/>

Digital Dorset has launched the new Digital Doorway Scheme - People across the DC area that are in digital need can now apply for a free device and data. To apply for a device or to refer someone for a device, go to the council's online application form: <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/digital-doorway-application-form> or call the Digital Hotline on 01305 221048 (open Mon-Fri, 10am to noon) and a volunteer digital champion will help you.

Dorset Council Budget 2022/23 – Budget proposals prioritise vital frontline services for residents,

Cllr. Belinda Ridout, Cllrbelinda.ridout@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk 07496413114

69/21. Finance.

The Clerk had circulated the payment schedule for December's payments for the sum of £1782.64, which was agreed to pay via email, as listed below.

Name	Category	Expense Amount
N Phillips	Clerk wages Dec	£ 1,247.35
N Phillips	Clerk expenses	£ 65.14
HMR	employers NI payment	£ 70.43
Southern Electric	Electric Supply Nov	£ 114.08
Southern Electric	Electric maintenance	£ 211.24
Nest	Clerk pension	£ 74.40
Total		£ 1,782.64

The Clerk circulated the payment schedule for January's invoices for the sum of £ 1921.84 Cllr Rogers proposed to pay the invoices on the payment schedule, this was seconded by Cllr Mouncey, all member in favour.

RESOLVED: to pay invoices on payment schedule for the sum of £1921.84 (69/21 current account)

Name	Category	Expense Amount
N Phillips So	Clerk wages Jan	£ 1,247.35
N Phillips	Clerk expenses Jan	£ 65.14
HMR DD	employers NI payment	£ 70.43
Nest DD	Clerk pension	£ 74.40
Dorset Council	Road signs	£ 269.52
I Bristol	Hedge Cutting	£ 120.00
Memorial Hall	Hall hire 3 months	£ 75.00
Total		£ 1,921.84

The Clerk had tabled the bank reconciliation, Cllr Rogers approved it.

70/21 Planning: Review of Working Group recommendations:

Planning: Review of Working Group recommendations:

P/PABA/2021/05274 - Land At E 384571 N 125126 Turnpike Road - No objection – Dorset Council refused

P/RES/2021/01124 - Sunset Ridge Lodge Lane – reserved matters – No objection

P/PARD/2021/05525 - Thaness Lane Yard – Change of use – Objection under the ground of commercial site

P/FUL/2021/05619 – Tomenda, The Street – erect 1 dwelling and garage – No objection

P/FUL/2021/02046 – Land at Park Farm – Solar photovoltaic farm – Committee - Dorset Council refused. The Parish Council thanked Dorset Councillor Belinda Ridout for supporting the Parish Council on their objections at Committee.

P/NMA/2022/00222 – Land south of Lake Mead – amendment – No objection

Cllr Taylor reported that there are a few very old planning applications still waiting for Dorset Councils decision, which Cllr Taylor will monitor and report back.

71/21 Chairman's report.

Nothing to report

72/21 Officers reports.

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

Cllr Mouncey reported the following:

Meadows/bridleway - The dead elm trunks have been stripped of branches and stacked in the 'wild area' behind The Grange. The brash has also been left as habitat. Weather permitting, all the fruit trees in the main orchard area will all have been pruned. The next task will be to strim round the trees in the orchard and prune the fruit trees across the path from the main orchard, but these are mixed in with other types of trees. This will be followed by tidying round the saplings planted last winter and marking the gaps to be filled with new ones. A fixed date for a community day to plant the whips provided by the Woodland Trust, has not yet been confirmed. Cllr Hood reported that there are about 400 whips to plant. There is a delay on completing the work on resurfacing the bridleway across the back of the Meadows. This is part of the Dorset Council 106 funded improvements to the whole bridleway from Kingscourt to Motcombe. The old fence was removed, and the overgrowth cut back last autumn by the contractor, before the Rangers decided to postpone further work as the ground had become too soft to work on. The bridleway itself is not on land owned by Motcombe Parish Council, and a new fence will be erected between the bridleway and the Meadows as part of the scheduled work. We will then plant a new hedge along the fenceline. Unfortunately, this is leading to horse riders encroaching on the Meadows until the work is completed as the route is partially blocked and needs to dry out before

resurfacing. We could erect signs to try and keep riders as close to the bridleway route as possible, but it is preferable to allow the main route to settle. Based on the state of it last winter, it would already be impassable to horses, which used the Meadows last winter – hence the need for this essential, long overdue, improvement work. This has also affected some of the work already carried out on the bridleway below Donedge Lodge where a further layer of top dressing will be added as the ground there is still very soft. Looking at the extent of the damage so far, it will recover in the spring. The section of bridleway that crosses the corner of the Meadows to Corner Lane is also scheduled for improvement as part of the work. The final part of these 106 funded works will include replacing the bridge over the stream at the back of the Meadows, even though that is not part of the bridleway (but is on the route of the White Hart Link).

Once the surfaces dry out in the spring, it is expected to undertake the planned work to improve the most heavily walked paths in the Meadows itself.

Rights of way – The new White Hart Link fingerpost has been erected Lower Pensbury, funded by Redrow (building the Littledown estate in Shaftesbury). After months of pressing the Rangers, it is hoped the catch will be replaced on the gate off the Mem Hall field, and a step installed in the field just beyond the new gate off the bridge towards Kingsettle on the path off Frog Lane. Finally, there were several mentions of the adverse effects to the White Hart Link in the Dorset Council debate on the solar farm proposed for land at Park Farm, with permission refused.

Cllr Hood reported the following:

The Village Hall are in the process of installing broadband in the Hall. The Village Hall are also still looking at the possibilities of increasing the parking area. The Village Hall Committee are looking for additional members to join them.

The blocked drains down the Hollow and in Bittles Green have been reported to Dorset Council. Cllr Hood expressed his concerns over the amount of litter being thrown out of vehicles, in the Hollow. Cllr Hood suggested that the Parish Council work together with the resident from the Parish to arrange a litter pick, where the road could be closed or managed whilst a group clean the Hollow and down through the Village. The Councillors agreed that this would be a good project. The Clerk to contact the relevant organisations at Dorset Council for their guidance. **Action – Clerk**

Cllr Taylor reported the following:

The timetable for Southwest Trains have changed, there is no direct line from Exeter to London and the trains only go every two hours. Southwest Trains state this is due to staff off with Covid. It was noted the West Dorset MP has shared his thoughts of disappointment regarding the reduction. However, it is now believed that the normal service is to be reinstated from February 19th.

The Dorset Council bus back scheme will only have a little affect due to funding.

Dorset Councillor Derek Beer reported that at a meeting he attended, Southwest Coaches expressed how difficult it is to manoeuvre through the traffic along the road to Motcombe School at School times. Cllr Derek Beer will be happy to hear of any ideas from the School Safety Working Group going forward.

73/21. Clerk Report – Correspondence

The Clerk asked the Councillors what they wish to do to commemorate the Queens Jubilee. The Parish Council will investigate what tree to plant and where. The Clerk will obtain prices to supply the Children living in the Parish will a commemorative coin. It was also noted that the Parish Council will support local organisation with their celebrations.

Action - Clerk

The Clerk had reported the damaged Welcome to Motcombe road signs to Dorset Council. Dorset Council no longer replace these signs and the Parish Council will need to foot the bill if replacements are required. As this being the case, it was suggested perhaps the Parish Council hold a competition for the Children of the village to design some Welcome to Motcombe Signs. The Clerk will obtain more information on cost for the meeting in March. **Action - Clerk**

74/21. Items for next agenda and date of next meeting

School Safety - Speed Indicator devices – Grants – Welcome Signs – Litter Pick

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **TUESDAY the 8th of March 2022 at 7pm at the Pavilion, Motcombe Village Hall.** There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.15

Signed by the Chairman.....

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