**Motcombe Parish Council**

**Minutes of Motcombe Parish Council Meeting of the Parish Council held at the Pavilion, Motcombe Village Hall**

**On Tuesday 9th April 2024 at 7.00pm**

**Present: Cllr L Stacey – Chairman, Cllr P Mouncey – Vice Chairman, Cllr V Moore, Cllr J Taylor, Cllr W Dunlop,**

**In attendance: Mrs N Phillips (Parish Clerk), Dorset Councillors Cllr V Pothecary. There were 8 members of the public present. Kerri Jones from This is Alfred recorded the meeting.**

**Public period.**

Sue Newman reported that the scrape along the back of the Turks field behind the bungalows along the street no longer does its job. The scrape was dug by contractors from Dorset Council in 2018 to try and guide the water to the new French drain they installed at the top of the footpath going into the field, which was funded, 50% by the previous landowner and 50% by Mr Colin House. It was agreed for the Clerk to speak to Graham Stanley at Dorset Council to ask what can be done with the landowner to ensure the water is directed away from the bungalows. **Action - Clerk**

Jenny Rose expressed concerns that the dropped curb opposite the village hall, encourages drivers to mount the pavement, which could be very dangerous. It was agreed for the Clerk to speak to the Highways Team to see what the rules are for a dropped kerb and request the kerb is raised. **Action – Clerk**

**23/115. To receive and accept apologies of absence.**

Cllr S Rogers, Cllr F Burney and Cllr M Mason and all Dorset Council Cllr B Ridout and Cllr D Walsh

**23/116. Declaration of Interest and Dispensations.**

There were none.

**23/117. Approve minutes dated the 12th of March 2024**

Cllr Mouncey proposed the Minutes from the meeting dated the 12th of March 2024, this was seconded by Cllr Taylor, all members in favour. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

**RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes from the meeting dated 12th of March 2024 (23/117 – no budgetary provision required)

**Matters arising: Update on to do list –** The Clerk read out the to do list, where no actions needed to be approved or resolved.

**The following were new or actioned from the to do list:**

* The Parish Council are working with Dorset Council to produce a proposal to Persimmon Homes for the Parish Council to adopt the grassed areas and the trees at Willow Way and the Limes.
* The Parish Council have received an update from the environment team stating that they are continuing to work on the report on flooding for the village and once it is complete a public meeting will be arranged.
* SSE have been instructed to complete the works to the streetlights that Dorset Council have requested before adopting them from the Parish Council

**Dorset Council speed survey for outside the school for 20MPH scheme –** the Chairman reported that Dorset Council have completed the speed/traffic survey for outside the school and they have also suggested that others area could be looked at for the scheme, which is promising. The Clerk reported that she has received correspondence from residents requesting a 20MPH in other areas in the village. After debate, it was felt more beneficial to tie this up with updating the Neighbourhood plan as a public meeting needs to be arranged for both projects and the cost will be covered by granting funding for updating the Plan.

**23/118. Report from Dorset Councillors**

**Cllr V Pothecary reported the following:**

There has not been many meetings at Dorset Council in the past month, so from a Councillors perspective there is not a lot to report. Cllr Pothecary has been continuing to attend civic events and town citizenship events.

**23/119.** **Finance**

**To agree: Payment Schedule.** The Clerk tabled the payment schedule for March 2024 for the sum of £1983.00.

details listed below:



It was proposed by Cllr Mouncey and seconded by Cllr Stacey that the bills on the schedule be paid, all in favour. **RESOLVED**: to pay the bills on the schedule above (23/119– accounts).

All agreed the payment schedule and bank reconciliation.

**23/120. Planning - Review of Working Group recommendations.**

**P/FUL/2022/06095 – Land South of Motcombe Road – Erect 12 no dwellings – Appeal –** Cllr Dunlop is finalising a submission , which restated the Parish Councils original objections to this application, to be submitted to the appeal, which is written submissions only, for consideration.

**P/FUL/2024/014194 – Corner Lane Barn – Motcombe – Erect 1 dwelling and agricultural store –** the Parish Council have not objection to this application, but has requested that a condition is added to ensure the footpath along side the area is not affected.

**23/121. Chairmans report**

The Chairman reported that there has been 9 nominations for Councillors in Motcombe, so there is no need for a local election for the Parish Council. There are still 2 vacancies that can be filled by co-options after the AGM in May. The Chairman thanked his fellow Councillors and Clerk for their support and hard work.

The Chairman reported that after volunteering as a Councillor for the Parish Council for the past 14 years, Cllr J Taylor is retiring his chair. Cllr J Taylor has been very devoted and hard working in his roles and very modest whilst doing so, throughout his time on the Parish Council and has led and helped with large projects, especially the Neighbourhood Plan and chairing the Planning Sub-Committee, and attended meetings with other groups on behalf of the Parish Council. We thank Cllr J Taylor for all he has done for the Parish and he will be missed. Everyone gave Cllr J Taylor a round of applause.

Cllr J Taylor thanked everyone and stated that he felt one of his greater achievements was helping with producing the Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish.

**23/122. Officers’ reports**

**Cllr P Mouncey reported the following:**

**Meadows -** The hedge laying project is now completed and the brash will be chipped and removed in early June. The Contractor that has been awarded the job is not available until then, due to a back log of work resulting from the bad weather. The other Contractors quotes were a lot higher, saving the Parish money.

**Cllr J Taylor reported the following:**

Had attended the Transport Forum Group, where it was reported that South Western Railway have a new manager appointed to improve the West of England line. It was also reported that funding for this financial year for the bus services are under review, but there will not be any funding for additional services only managing existing ones. The Transport Forum Group feel frustrated they are no longer being supported by Dorset Council.

**Cllr W Dunlop reported the following:**

The Environment Agency recently published nation-wide statistics on sewer overflows for 2023, and we should take note. The overflow in the middle of the village released on 29 occasions for a total of 278 hours or the equivalent of about 12 days non-stop. This is just over a 25% increase on the previous year. 2023 was considerably wetter than 2022 but I suspect not 25% wetter. I think I would be right in saying that Chantry Mews was finished and occupied in that time, which may be another factor. While shocking, this is by no means unusual in the area. (For comparison, the major overflow of the three in Gillingham spilled 90 times for a total of 827 hours or the equivalent of around 34 days, and there is one upstream near Silton that spilled for the equivalent of 103 days).

Have moved the SIDS last week so it is currently on the north-bound side of the road. Now that it's a bit drier it should be possible to move it more frequently - doing it in the rain turns out to be a somewhat entertaining experience. Depending on where we end up with the 20mph issue we may need to consider SIDS locations and calibration but fell it can wait until we have a more definite proposal.

**23/123. Clerk Report**

The Clerk received a letter from a resident expressing concerns over the verges along Frog Lane being churned up and there are no passing places at the top of the lane. The resident has requested that Dorset Council Highway extend the road width by 50cm outside Woodpeckers to act as a stopping/passing space for cars. After debate it was agreed that the Parish Council support the residents request and will ask the Highways Team for a meeting to discuss the state of the whole of Frog Lane. **Action - Clerk**

**23/124. Items for next agenda and date of next meeting**

AGM.

The Annual Parish, Annual General and Parish Council meeting will be held on **TUESDAY the 14th of May at 6.30pm the Pavilion, Motcombe Village Hall.** There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 19.45

Signed by the Chairman…………………….............................................

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