

# CHIDEOCK PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Chideock Village Hall on Tuesday 28 June 2022 at 7 pm.

The Parish Council meeting commenced at 7pm.

**Present:** Cllr McAra, Cllr Anna Dunn, Cllr George Dunn, Cllr Coates, Cllr Peter Hunt,

**In attendance:** The Clerk, Mr Giles Watts of Deserves Better, Cllr Simon Christopher and 1 member of the public..

**2758 Apologies.**

Cllr Downes had sent his apologies, which were accepted.  
PCSO Bishop sent his apologies.

**2759 Grants of Dispensations.**

None.

**2760 Declarations of Defined Pecuniary Interests.**

None declared.

**2761 Minutes.**

**RESOLVED** to accept and sign, as a true record,

a) the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 24 May 2022.

Proposed by Cllr George Dunn, seconded by Cllr Coates. carried unanimously..

*Standing Orders were suspended for the following item.*

**2762 Democratic Period.**

Mr Giles Watts (from Dorset Deserves Better) gave an overview of why the group was formed and what it has achieved and wants to achieve. He then answered questions.

He suggested that the Parish Council might like to join the group – **AGREED** that this be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

He also suggested that Chideock should have a Neighbourhood Plan. The Clerk said that her understanding is that a Neighbourhood Plan must include the desire for development within the Plan Area – to her knowledge there is no such desire within Chideock.

A member of the public spoke of his concerns regarding the speed of traffic on Duck Street / Seahill Lane, from the junction with Main Street to Pettycrate Lane. There are a number of elderly residents who have to walk this section on a regular basis, which is narrow with no footways, and he fears that there will soon be a serious accident. He asked the Parish Council to

a) ask for police enforcement

b) lobby Dorset Council to reduce the speed limit from 30mph to 10mph

The Parish Council will also consider how to liaise with businesses based at Seatown on communicating to their customers the need for care when driving up to Chideock.

Speed on North Road will also be raised with the Police and Dorset Council.

*Standing Orders were resumed.*

**2763 Dorset Ward Councillor and Police Reports.**

a) **Cllr Christopher:** -

- At the recent Audit and Governance Committee meeting on 22 June he raised the issue of police cars parking in the Dorset Council owned West Street long stay car park in Bridport and whether they pay parking charges to do so.

- At a recent meeting with Rebecca Pow on development concerns about pollution from phosphates etc, the impact of the Levelling Up bill, etc., were discussed
- The Environment Agency is recruiting inspectors to monitor farm pollution
- Chideock Parish Council must press Dorset Council on the need for 20mph speed limits in villages, including those on a trunk road e.g. Chideock. **CC**

There was some discussion as to how the government would deal with the loss of income due to electric cars not paying vehicle tax and the recent government proposal for the Right to Buy to be extended to Housing Association tenants – given that the money raised by the sale is less than the cost of building replacements, this cannot be sustainable.

Cllr Christopher asked the Clerk to e-mail him regarding the serious issues regarding Hell Lane, which continues to deteriorate, and Dorset Highways the lack of progress in determining what can be done. **CC**

Cllr Coates expressed her frustration that, in the 3 years she has been a councillor, the Parish Council has been unable to achieve anything of any significance.

**b) PSCO Bishop.**

PSCO Bishop's e-mailed report was **NOTED**.

**2764 Reports / Updates by the Clerk and Councillors.**

Items 1 to 12 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED** with those detailed below discussed in more detail.

**Item 2 – BLAP Parish Liaison Meeting and Item 3 – BLAP Steering Group Meeting.**

There was some confusion over who were the representatives for these meetings. The representatives are

- BLAP Parish Liaison Meeting – Cllr McAra and Cllr George Dunn
- BLAP Steering Group Meeting – Cllr Coates.

**Item 5 – Letter to West Dorset Conservative Association re visit by Chris Loder MP to Chideock – Clerk to chase if no response by 1 July.** **CC**

**Item 11 - Freedom of Information Request - Water Quality to the Environment Agency – Clerk to chase if no reply by 4 July (20 working days from 6 June.** **CC**

**AGREED** that the various responses received from Dorset Council, the Environment Agency, and Wessex Water regarding water quality (both sea and River Winniford) and sewage discharges be put on the website and sent to Professor Brunnsden, who raised the issue at the Annual Village Meeting on 10 May 2022. **CC**

**Item 12 – “No Dogs” signs for Seatown – Cllr George Dunn reported that the signs have been put up. The following deficiencies in the signage were noted and will be followed up with Dorset Council. In the meantime amendments will be placed on the notices.** **CC**

- a) The Public Space Protection Order (Dogs) is in operation from 1 May to 30 September – there are no dates on the notice.
- b) Dogs are banned only from the beach at Seatown between those dates – this is not specified – the signs simply say, “No dogs except assistance dogs.”

**Chideock Bridge repair – AGREED** that the Clerk requests an update from Connect Balfour Beatty. **CC**

**Village Hall Committee meeting – Cllr McAra said she will attend the next meeting as Cllr Hunt is away.**

**2765 A35 Matters.**

Items 13 – 19A on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED** with those detailed below discussed in more detail.

**Item 13 – Air Quality Improvement Suggestions to Dorset Council.** No update from Cllr Christopher has been received. **AGREED** that the Clerk asks John Sellgren, Dorset Council Director of Place, for an update. **CC**

**Air Quality Monitoring.**

Clerk to check the Dorset Council website for up-to-date diffusion tube data. **CC**

Cllr Anna Dunn reported that she is in communication with Earth Sense, who offer Zephyr monitors. Purchasing a monitor with 1 year's license costs £4050 including VAT. Further 1-year licenses can be bought. **AGREED** that she obtains more details from Earth Sense. **AD**

**AGREED** that the Parish Council should consider approaching external bodies such as National Highways, DEFRA, Dorset Council, Bristol University, Client Earth, to ask if they would be willing to contribute towards the costs. At least 2 monitors would be required.

**2766 Motions Received with Notice.** None.

**2767 Planning Matters.**

Items 23 to 24B on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.

**a) Applications.**

**P/CLP/2022/03854** St Marys Pettycrate Lane - Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed : The demolition of existing garage and construction of new garage

**NOTED** that this application is for information only – there is no consultation. This is a matter for the legal team – it is not an application for permission to develop.

**b) Determinations.**

**P/HOU/2022/00749** Turnpike Cottage West Road - Demolition of lean-to extension & summer house & erection of two-storey side extension. **REFUSED**

**c) Appeals.** None

**d) Other Planning Matters.**

i. AONB, Lighting / Dark Skies, Dorset National Park, Conservation Areas.

Nothing to report.

ii. Enforcement, Retrospective Planning Applications.

Item 20 on the Actions & Information List was **NOTED**.

Cllr McAra asked the Clerk about the shepherd's hut in a field at North Chideock. The Clerk said that if it is to be used for more than 28 days in any one year then a Certificate of Lawful Use is required as it is sited on agricultural land

iii. Other.

Items 21 - 23 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.

The Clerk will draft an item for the Chideock News regarding the need to check if planning permission is required when considering any proposed action affecting a building or land use. To only be submitted for publication if agreed by councillors.

**2768 Finances.**

Items 24 - 27 on the Actions and Information List were **NOTED**.

**a) Payments.**

**RESOLVED** to make the following payments: -

i. Clerk's Salary and Expenses for June	£295.09
ii. HMRC – PAYE for April, May, and June	£187.40
iii. Village Hall Hire – 21 and 28 June	£40.00
iv. Friends of Clapp's Mead – refund of VAT for marquee hire	£268.63
v. CPRE Subscription	£36.00
vi. Bridport Town Council – Foss Orchard Car Park Garden	£108.00

Proposed by Cllr Anna Dunn, seconded by Cllr George Dunn, carried unanimously.

**b) Foss Orchard Car Park.**

**RESOLVED to**

i. Accept Mr Rob Murray's offer to resume cutting the "Chideock" in the Foss Orchard Car Park hedge

ii. Authorise the purchase of a battery powered hedge cutter for this purpose, maximum cost £150 including VAT (£125 ex VAT), to be paid for from the Foss Orchard Car Park Maintenance Fund.

Proposed by Cllr Anna Dunn, seconded by Cllr Peter Hunt, carried unanimously.

**2769 Clapps Mead Playing Field.**

Items 28 - 30 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.

**Actions from the April ROSPA Inspection.**

Cllr George Dunn reported that

- the small rubbish bin fixed to the fence inside the play area be removed
- the goal posts have been painted with "Hammerite" paint
- the goal nets have been washed and put back on the goal posts

- tent pegs have been purchased for the football nets
- The new “pick up dog poo” and dogs / leads signs have been fixed in suitable locations.

Clerk to ask Mr Ken Hussey when the matting under the seesaw will be installed.

**Friends of Clapp’s Mead.**

Cllr Anna Dunn reported that

- Lizzie Blott has resigned from the Committee, Ros Hipkiss has come onto the committee
- The Friends will no longer use the Village Hall for events owing to the need to obtain their own insurance
- The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee celebrations were a great success, and enjoyed by all
- The Friends thank the Parish Council for hosting the event and for assisting with a grant towards expenses
- The next event will be the Village Fete in August, with 10% of stall’s profits coming to the Parish Council for the Community Fund.

**2770 Dorset Rights of Way, Dorset Highways and Flood Management.**

**a) Rights of Way.**

Items 32 - 33 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED.**

**b) Dorset Highways.**

Items 34 to 37 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED.**

**c) Flood Management.**

Nothing to report.

**2771 Current Consultations.** None.

**2772 Correspondence.**

There were no other items of correspondence to be brought to Councillors’ notice.

**2773 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting of Chideock Parish Council.**

The next scheduled meeting is at 7pm on Tuesday 26 July 2022.

The meeting closed at **8.58pm.**

## **Cllr Christopher's E-mailed Report.**

A short interim report.

It was good to meet with you and Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner David Sidwick last week.

This week sees the first face to face Local Government Association Conference since 2019.

I will be contacting Dorset councillors Spencer Flower and Ray Bryan for an update on Trailway matters on their return from the LGA Conference.

One of the items that may exercise the mind of attendees at the LGA conference is the income to be received by HMG from electric cars.

I say this as I understand that HMG presently receives some £35 billion from motorists annually and the yield from the taxes is set to reduce as the UK transitions to electric vehicles.

Road pricing is much discussed and can cut congestion, It is interesting that the Transport Select Committee recommended that HMG set up an arm's length body to make proposals for a national road user charging system by the end of 2022.

The levelling up and Regeneration bill envisages that greater weight will be given to Local Authority local development plans where 5-year housing criteria have been met and the plan is up to date.

It is also interesting to learn of the intention to have mandatory infrastructure levy requirements.

The Social Housing Regulation Bill envisages the larger social housing providers facing regular inspections and unlimited fines.

There has been much coverage of plans to extend Right to buy to housing association tenants . This might help more people to own their own homes but at the expenses of more reductions in the number of affordable social houses (homes!).

Reducing the leaching of nitrates and phosphates into protected rivers, wetlands and streams and coastal habits in England and Wales has become a popular topic, especially so since a European Court of Justice decision in 2018 which determined that new development should not have a significant effect on any designated nature conservation site.

At the same time, the Environment Agency are I understand looking to recruit some 50 officers to undertake farm inspections to assess phosphate problems associated with agriculture on a farm-by-farm basis.

The last day of the LGA conference is also the first day of the Devon County Show Secretary of State George Eustace is scheduled to speak.

### **Act early with Cost-of-Living help**

People who wouldn't usually ask for help are being encouraged to reach out for support early as the cost-of-living rises. Cost of Living Help is a new webpage which puts advice and support on money, access to food, housing, support for children, mental health and wellbeing and employment, all in one place. Read the full story on how Dorset Council is working with its partners to signpost people to the right place to meet their circumstances.

#### **Dorset residents urged to act early with Cost-of-Living help**

Dorset residents urged to act early with Cost-of-Living help

Residents who wouldn't usually ask for help are being encouraged to reach out for support early as the cost of living rises and Dorset Council is working with its partners to signpost people to the right place to meet their circumstances.

While many people who have needed help before may be confident reaching out to government services and voluntary organisations for support, the cost of living is now impacting people who may not know where to start.

Cost of Living Help is a new webpage from the council which puts advice and support on money, access to food, housing, support for children, mental health and wellbeing and employment, all in one place. People can check if they're eligible for benefits, free school meals, low tariffs for their utilities, and charitable grant schemes. There's also advice on housing and employment.

Specialist help is also available over the phone, in person and online from Dorset Citizens Advice. The council is working with Dorset Citizens Advice who provide specialist help on the phone, in person and online. Citizens Advice provides free, confidential, and impartial advice on money, consumer, housing, and other issues and is available for everyone.

Older residents are being supported by Age UK (North, South and West Dorset), which the council also works with, to ensure older people can access advice and financial help. Those in fuel poverty (spending over 10 per cent of their household income on energy costs) or on a low income, can apply for supermarket vouchers. There is an online application form or help completing the form can be obtained from the council's Digital Champions. Visit Household Support Fund for more details and the application form.

Cllr Laura Beddow, Portfolio Holder for Culture, Communities and Customer Services said: "We are once again pulling together with our partners at Citizens Advice, Age UK, Help and Kindness and all the foodbanks, community shops and community fridges, to put in place help where it is needed most.

"I understand it is a particularly worrying time for people who do not usually ask for help but now is the time to act. Our website provides links to a wide range of information and financial advice, so I urge people to start there. If you need to talk to someone there's links to telephone and text support too."

Daniel Cadisch, Chief Officer Citizens Advice Central Dorset said:

"It's vital people do not worry alone and instead get expert advice and support early to prevent problems getting out of hand. We can help with money worries including applying for benefits, managing unpaid bills and repayments and advise people on employment and housing matters. Our advice is free, impartial, and confidential and available in person, online and over the phone. Call 0800 144 8848 or visit [www.citizensadvisedorset.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvisedorset.org.uk) to find our offices around Dorset."

David Thorp, Chief Executive Officer for Age UK North, South and West Dorset, said:

"The cost of living is a particular worry for older people who typically have fixed, and often, very low incomes. Many older residents are already choosing food or fuel but there is help, including financial support, available to prevent this. We are working with Dorset Council to ensure older residents of Dorset have access to the advice and support they need, as well as the benefits they should be claiming."

To contact Age UK North, South and West Dorset visit [www.ageuk.org.uk/northsouthwestdorset](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/northsouthwestdorset), email [enquiries@ageuknswd.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ageuknswd.org.uk) or call 01305 269444.

To contact Age UK in East Dorset, visit [www.ageuk.org.uk/bournemouthpooleeastdorset](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/bournemouthpooleeastdorset), email [enquiries@ageukbped.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ageukbped.org.uk) or call 01202 530530.

You can get advice and support for the cost of living at [www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/cost-of-living-help](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/cost-of-living-help)

Please let me know if you have concerns accessing this information.

Councillor Simon Christopher  
Dorset Councillor Marshwood Vale  
077988 33715