

CHIDEOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Chideock Village Hall on Tuesday 29 March 2022 at 10 am.

The Parish Council meeting commenced at **10am**.

Present: Cllr George Dunn, Cllr Downes, Cllr Peter Hunt, and Cllr Anna Dunn.

In attendance: The Clerk, Cllr Christopher, PCSO Bishop and 3 members of the public.

Cllr George Dunn took the Chair in the absence of Cllr McAra.

2704 Apologies.

Cllr McAra, Cllr Coates, and Cllr Peacock had sent their apologies, which were accepted..

2705 Grants of Dispensations.

None.

2706 Declarations of Defined Pecuniary Interests.

None declared. Cllr Anna Dunn has a pecuniary interest in the Friends of Clapp's Mead but has a dispensation to allow her to participate in discussion and to vote.

2707 Minutes.

RESOLVED to accept and sign, as a true record,

a) the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 22 February 2022.

Proposed by Cllr George Dunn, seconded by Cllr Downes, carried with abstention by Cllr Anna Dunn who was not present at the meeting..

2708 Dorset Ward Councillor and Police Reports.

a) Police Report. PCSO Bishop spoke as follows:-

He gave an update regarding resumption of the Community Speed Watch – it can recommence when the speed limit signage has been sorted out, as long as the eastbound camera is not operational.

He has sent the Clerk some information from Dorset Council about Fly-tipping.

Cllr Downes queried to Cllr Christopher as to why Dorset Council charges for the disposal of some type of domestic waste when the government have said that there should not be a charge. Cllr Christopher asked Clerk to e-mail him about this. CC

b) Cllr's Christopher's spoke as follows: -

- The Dorset Air Quality Action Plan and the responses to the public consultation will be considered by the Dorset Council Place and Resource Overview Committee on 21 April 2022.

- It will then go to Cabinet and finally to Full Council for formal adoption.

- He said that the creation of an all-purpose path between Chideock and Bridport is an important part of the action plan.

- He offered to meet with councillors prior to that date. ALL

- In answer to a question about it being a Dorset plan, he said that it is a Chideock plan.

- Graham Duggan and Janet Moore are meeting with air quality consultants next week.

Cllr George Dunn raised concerns about the high patient to doctor ratio in Bridport, reported in the Bridport News last week. Cllr Christopher asked the Clerk to e-mail him about this. CC
The figures have been amended since the meeting and an e-mail to Cllr Christopher is not needed.

Standing Orders were suspended for the following item.

2709 Democratic Period.

A member of the public spoke of her communications with National Highways and Connect Balfour Beatty – her report is appended to the minutes.

Mrs Lyn Crisp said that something needs to be done about the goal posts and nets at Clapps Mead. The posts need painting. She suggested perhaps having basketball nets in place of the goal posts.

A member of the public spoke about the Cains Farm planning application:-

- Cains Farm have consistently operated the site either without permission for use or, after a Certificate of Lawful Use was granted, have exceeded the permitted number of vehicles and the type of business conducted. The member of the public has reported this to Planning Enforcement many times over the years but nothing has been done. The Parish Council has not acted.
- In addition, this planning application is for a green-field site.

Standing Orders were resumed.

2710 Reports / Updates by the Clerk and Councillors.

Items 1 to 6 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.

2711 A35 Matters.

Items 7 to 12 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED** with those detailed below discussed in more detail.

AGREED to write to Chris Loder MP inviting him to meet in person with Chideock Parish Council. **CC**

2712 Motions Received with Notice.

None.

2713 Planning Matters.

a) Applications.

P/FUL/2021/04618 Cains Farm, Main Street - Erect dwelling with associated parking.
Chideock Parish Council supports the application.

b) Determinations.

P/FUL/2021/03251 Land North of Northdene, North Road - Erect 1.no dwelling and access. **REFUSED.**

P/HOU/2022/00158 and P/LBC/2022/00159 Hell Farmhouse, Hell Barn Holiday Cottages, Hell Lane - Erect extension to outbuilding and replacement windows.
GRANTED.

P/FUL/2021/03449 Garden Cottage, Sea Hill Lane - Demolition of dwelling and garage and erection of replacement dwelling and garage. **GRANTED.**

P/LBC/2021/03528 5 Mews Cottages - Replacement windows and rear porch.
GRANTED.

c) Appeals.

P/HOU/2021/00805 Stoke Cottage North Road - Erection of garage.

d) Other Planning Matters.

i. AONB, Lighting / Dark Skies, Dorset National Park, Conservation Areas.
Nothing to report.

ii. Enforcement, Retrospective Planning Applications.
Item 12B on the Actions and Information List was noted.

iii. Other.
Items 13 to 16B on the Actions and Information List were noted.

Item 14 -Dorset Deserves Better - Letter from Dorset Deserves Better Campaign to Spencer Flower. **AGREED** that a response be sent, as drafted by Cllr George. **CC**

2714 Finances.

Items 34 to 34C on the Actions and Information List were **NOTED**.

a) Payments.

The Clerk reported that the Local Government Sector Pay Increase for 2021 – 2022 has finally been agreed and that backpay is included in her payment for March.

RESOLVED to make the following payments: -

| | | |
|------|---|---------|
| i. | Clerk's Salary and Expenses for March | £354.18 |
| ii. | PAYE – Jan, Feb, and Mar | £205.60 |
| iii. | Village Hall Hire – 29 March | £14.00 |
| iv. | Mr Kenneth Hussey for Quarterly Play Equipment Inspection | £47.50 |
| v. | St Giles PCC – Tree Removal from Cemetery | £60.00 |

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

b) Budget Monitoring Prediction to 31 March 2022.

Noted.

c) Actions to be taken at Financial Year End.

RESOLVED that the following financial actions be taken by the at Financial Year End.

- Clerk's Salary Contingency budget of £500 to be transferred to a restricted reserve
- Clapp's Mead Reserve budget of £1,000 to be transferred to the Clapp's Mead Reserve Fund
- Foss Orchard Car Park Resurfacing budget of £833.34 to be transferred to Foss Orchard Car Park Maintenance Fund
- Foss Orchard Riverbank budget of £800 to be transferred to Foss Orchard Riverbank Fund
- Community Fund budget of £500 to be transferred to the Community Fund
- Village Clock Service budget of £230 to be transferred to a restricted reserve for payment of the clock service contract for 2020 – 2022, under the power granted by the Parish Councils Act 1957, s.2.
- Recharge of Parish Election Costs budget of £2,500 to be transferred to a restricted reserve
- War Memorial Maintenance budget of £500 to be transferred to a restricted reserve
- Unspent Bus Shelter Maintenance budget of £100 to be transferred to a restricted reserve, which, if not spent during 2022-2023, can be vired to another purpose.
- Any budget underspend to be transferred to the General Reserve, on the understanding that a decision as to whether it should be then transferred to **one** the following: -
 - Community Fund
 - Clapp's Mead Reserve Fund
 - General Reserve.

will be taken when all councillors are present at a meeting.

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

d) Grants to external bodies, to be paid at Financial Year End.

RESOLVED to make the following grants

- £200 to Bridport Citizen's Advice Bureau under the power granted by the Local Government Act 1972 section 142.
- £200 to the Chideock News under the power granted by the Local Government Act 1972, s.142
- £100 to Bridport Leisure Centre under the power granted by Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19.
- A Village Hall Repair Grant of £700 to the Village Hall Committee under the power granted by the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 section 19, with the proviso that it is only used towards major repairs i.e., is held as a restricted fund.
- £500 to the Friends of Clapp's Mead towards the costs of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebration, to be taken from the Community Fund. N.B. At the meeting of 30 November it was resolved to make a grant to the Friends of Clapp's Mead towards the costs of the celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebration.

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

- e) **As per Audit requirements, RESOLVED** to reaffirm acceptance of Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, and the Risk Register. The Risk Register will be reviewed at the end of May when the insurance is renewed.
Proposed by Cllr Hunt, seconded by Cllr Downes, carried unanimously.
- f) **Responsible Financial Officer.**
RESOLVED to re-appoint the Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer.
Proposed by Cllr Anna Dunn, seconded by Cllr Hunt, carried unanimously.
- g) **Foss Orchard Car Park – see Actions and Information List.**
A decision on expenditure to the Foss Orchard River Bank was deferred as not all councillors were present at the meeting.

2715 Clapps Mead Playing Field.

Given the public support via the Chideock News survey for dogs to be off lead in Clapps Mead Playing Field **RESOLVED** that dogs can be off lead in the playing field (but not in the fenced children’s play area which is covered by the Dorset-wide Public Space Protection Order banning dogs), provided that they are under control and there are no children playing in the field. **CC**

Proposed by Cllr Hunt, seconded by Cllr Downes, carried unanimously.

The Clerk will obtain cost estimates for suitable signage. **CC**

The Clerk was **AUTHORISED** purchase additional “pick up dog poo” signs. **CC**

RESOLVED to instruct Mr Hussey to supply and fit Grass Mats at each end of the seesaw to prevent further wear and compaction of the surface at a cost of £85. **CC**

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

AGREED that the Clerk seeks quotes for the remedial tree work required as identified in the Tree Inspection Report and applied for the necessary Tree Work Permission given the Clapp’s Mead Playing Field is within the Chideock Conservation Area. **CC**

AGREED that the Clerk will investigate goal post replacement. **CC**

Friends of Clapps Mead.

Cllr Anna Dunn gave a brief update: -

- Th cancelled Christmas Party will be held on 14 May.
- Preparations for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee event are on schedule. The Friends of Clapp’s Mead committee may run a burger bar, as they did at the Fete last August. There will be events for children on the Saturday and Sunday. Village groups are invited to show off their achievements on the Sunday and tea and cake will be on offer. St Giles church will hold a light-hearted service at Clapp’s Mead on the Sunday.
- A Fete is planned for 14 August 2022. 10% of proceeds will be donated to the Parish Council’s Community Fund. The Friend’s ask the Parish Council for their permission for this to be held.

2716 Dorset Rights of Way, Dorset Highways and Flood Management.

a) Rights of Way.

Items 23 to 27 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.

b) Dorset Highways.

Items 28 to 31 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.

Given the public responses to the Chideock News survey (1 person against, 33 people in favour) regarding improved signage at the junction of Duck Street / Mill Lane / Sea Hill Lane, at a cost of £288.14, the money to be taken from the Highways Contingency reserve, it was **RESOLVED** to instruct Dorset Highways to undertake this work. **CC**

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

c) Flood Management.

Nothing to report.

RESOLVED to make formal complaints to Dorset Council regarding the extremely poor service received from Dorset Highways and Rights of Way in relation to reported problems. **CC/ MD**
Proposed by Cllr Downes, seconded by Cllr Hunt, carried unanimously.

2717 Current Consultations.

- a) **Government consultation on the Glover Landscapes Review)** – by 9 April.

- AGREED** that councillors will make individual responses if they so desire.
- b) Nature Recovery Green Paper Consultation / **Environmental Targets Consultation** / Nutrient neutrality guidance – by 11 May 2022.
AGREED to ask Cllr Peacock to draft a response on Environmental Targets.
- c) **Local Heritage List Project** – no apparent end date.
AGREED that the Clerk puts forward the assets identified so far: -
- i. Pack Horse Bridge
 - ii. Hell Lane and Shutes Lane
 - iii. Medieval Strip Lynchets Ridge Cliff, near Seatown.

2718 Correspondence.

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

2719 Annual Village Meeting.

Items 2 and 3 on the Actions & Information List were **NOTED**.

Mrs Lyn Crisp said she will help with refreshments prior to the meeting.

AGREED that Village organisations be asked to give updates on their activities since the last Annual Village Meeting in 2019.

2720 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting of Chideock Parish Council.

The next scheduled meeting is at 10 am on Tuesday 26 April 2022.

The meeting closed at **12.30pm**.

Notes from a member of the public reporting in the Democratic Period.

Notes to Chideock Parish Council on a conversation on 28th March following my contact by email with National Highways

The response from National highways was from Andrew Kirby himself. He works for Balfour Beatty who have the maintenance contract. He is still there! I expressed pleasure in this since I have always found him very reasonable and helpful. He said he would be happy to come to talk to the Parish Council but would need an invitation to do so.

On the specific points I had raised:

Large bad dangerous pothole on eastbound Morecombelake to Chard turnoff
Mended

Chideock Bridge - he is awaiting a quote from a stonemason re repairs
Re sign to say narrow bridge this has to come from National Highways

Pothole due to collapsed drain westbound between end of village and Quarr Hill top.
Explained that the trouble with these collapsing as soon as they are "repaired" is that the concrete does not have enough time to go "off". The road would need to be closed for the next day for this.
I think this needs discussion

He said that Chris Loder had gone to considerable trouble to badger National Highways to get the white lines done all over Dorset A35 which is why the A35 was shut the week before last at night

Speed cameras and speed limit - National Highways

Cllr Christopher's E-mailed Report.

This is a shorter report than normal.

I am particularly concerned that it deals with facts as I see them and does not make overtly political points at the expense of others at this stressful time.

I note with interest your agenda and an item therein in relation to inviting our Member of Parliament, Chris Loder to meet with you.

It is my further understanding that Dorset Council Place and Resource Overview Committee will meet on 21 April 2022 to consider a report on the Draft Air Quality Action Plan consultation and Draft Air Quality Action Plan proposals.

I have attended meetings for businesses convened by Dorset Members of Parliament in both Dorchester and Blandford. At the meetings employers stressed both labour supply shortages and cost push i.e. input inflation. These meetings were held before the Chancellors Spring Statement.

The increase in the employers National Insurance Allowance announced in the statement is particularly welcome in the County where employment in the private sector is dominated by small firms.

I have met with Police and Crime Commissioner David Sidwick on more than one occasion . I always stress my concern in respect of speeding in and around Chideock
David has meanwhile stressed how Southwest Police Forces are co-operating well in arresting those thought to be at the heart of the criminal gang drug distribution networks. This work involves co-operation across force boundaries as gangs clearly do not recognise County borders.

It is my understanding that the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Rt Hon George Eustace, will be addressing Members of the local Melpash Show next month.
Some of us will remember that George, when Minister of State at the Department around five years ago, commented that post Brexit Agriculture Ministers etc. would no longer be able to continue with the post 1973 trick of blaming all U K farming's ills on Brussels!
Now clearly there is huge concern for farmers about the price of tractor fuel and fertiliser and there will be a great deal of interest in what Mr Eustice has to say. There have been calls from farming organisations for a two-year halt to the reduction in area based agricultural subsidies and the corresponding move towards environmental subsidies.

When I was asked to become a local councillor some 7 years ago, I did not expect that we would see war in Europe or a pandemic.

Clearly in Dorset those impacted most by the increase in the cost of living are those in the most challenging financial position.

I am sure that we all recognise those that do so much to assist and pray for peace to be restored to Ukraine .

I have received e mails involving concerns about the switch to a digital landline service and where resident's concerns are compounded by the paucity of a mobile signal within parts of the Dorset Council Marshwood Vale Ward. I am liaising with both our MP and rural business organisations.

The most recent article I have read on this matter was in the Daily Telegraph of
Saturday 26 March 2022

“ Isolated and vulnerable people are being forced to spend hundreds of pounds to ensure they can still make calls after.. landlines were torn out.

BT and other phone companies are replacing Britain's copper-based landline network with a new “voice over internet “ system which connects calls using broadband technology .

All homes will lose their old existing connections by 2025 and will be forced to use digital phones ,which unlike traditional landlines ,are dependent on the supply of electricity and the internet

The reliability of the new technology has been called into question after digital phones left some unable to dial 999 after their power was cut off in the recent stormy weather “

I will now move to discuss Adult Social Care

Dorset Council is creating a new company to provide adult social care for residents now and in the future. The council will end its current contract with Tricuro and ensure the safe transfer of adult social care services provided to its residents to the new company, Care Dorset.

Dorset Council is responsible for arranging the social care for around 4,000 residents at any one time. Not all care for those residents is provided by Tricuro.

Dorset Council is working closely with the regulator and all stakeholders, to ensure Care Dorset is set up correctly and meets the required standards.

The transfer of care service to the new company will happen later this year but will not be before October. Tricuro will continue to provide care services to residents in Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Poole residents.

Dorset Council residents will continue to receive the same level of care by Care Dorset and residents who currently receive care are being contacted directly about the changes.

Members of Tricuro staff who support Dorset Council residents will transfer to the new company without changes to their existing employment contracts.

The council is working closely with Tricuro and with Trade Unions regarding all employees, including care workers, to manage the transition to Care Dorset.

Dorset Council Cabinet members believe social care services will be better provided by a new company which serves just the Dorset Council area, which is large, rural and whose residents have different needs.

Councillor Peter Wharf, Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Health, said:

“We are in the process of ensuring we can continue to provide high quality social care to our residents, while also achieving the best possible value for money.

The needs of residents in the Dorset Council area are at the heart of the decisions being made. We want to be able to tailor our social care services to best meet those needs.

Employees of Tricuro have our profound respect and thanks for working with some of the most vulnerable members of the community who need assistance to live a fulfilling life. We value these colleagues hugely and will continue to do so as they transfer.”

Tricuro was set up in 2015 as a provider for social care services under the former council structures, to cover the whole of Dorset. Since then, there have been significant changes including the creation of the two new unitary authorities – Dorset Council and Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Poole Council. These two councils are very different, geographically, and demographically.

The council will keep residents and colleagues updated on the plans.

Dorset Council has decided to act, as spending on adult social care represents around half of all Dorset Council expenditure which will be £141m in the 2022/23 budget. In addition, demand for adult social care is growing year on year, and Dorset Council has the highest percentage of residents aged 85 and over of any county or unitary authority in the country.

Finally, I would comment that I have met with a local headteacher who has stressed the impact that news coverage is having on young people and this should not be forgotten as we adults carry on with our duties as Councillors .

Best regards

Simon

Councillor Simon Christopher
Dorset Councillor Marshwood Vale
077988 33715