

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CORFE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER 2014 AT 6PM**

PRESENT: Cllr Mr J Harrison (Chairman), Cllr Mr B Lenthall (Vice Chairman), Cllr Mrs J Richards, Cllr Mr C George.
Cllr Mr J Williams TDBC, Mr D Royle Treasurer Village Hall Committee, Mrs A Finchett Clerk Charity for Allotments.

3034: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs J Hope and K Brown.

3035: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr J Richards – Village Hall Committee

Cllr J Harrison – Almshouse Trust Committee

3036: MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on July 1st 2014 were approved and signed.

3037: MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES.

The clearing of the area around the Millennium poplars had been delayed and Cllr Harrison would discuss with Gaynor Lewis.

School catchment areas: The Adjudicator was in possession of all the information and a decision was awaited. An acceptable resolution had been reached for the Pickles family who had initially brought this matter to the Council's attention.

3038: FLOODING/FIELD MANAGEMENT

This item was delayed to the end of the meeting in order to allow interested parties Mr Neil Bailey and Mr Chris Pickles to attend, however no further members of the public arrived during the course of the meeting.

Cllr Harrison summarised the steps taken to date. A flood committee was formed comprising Cllr K Brown, Cllr J Hope and Mr Neil Bailey. Cllrs Harrison and Lenthall proceeded to involve Highways, Greenslade Taylor Hunt and Corfe Estate's Managing Agents ; kerb alterations (now implemented) and gully clearance were agreed upon.

Field drainage was investigated and some clearance to tackle run off from the top field (Corfe Estate) to the lower, roadside field (Mr Small) was agreed, along with deep ploughing across after the crops have been harvested.

A drain was found and cleared but its final point of outlet and functionality not established.

Agreement for clearance works was obtained by Cllr Lenthall supported by the occupants of Corfe House which also backs on to the field. Diverting the flood water to cause a knock on effect on other residents was not an option. Cllr Harrison showed photographs to identify the problems areas and that a large pile of cleared vegetation on the field side of the new fence to the rear of Meadow House could itself contribute to the problem and should be cleared. Cllr Lenthall explained that gully clearance was delayed until the maize crop had been taken out after which the clearings from the ditch would be placed

for ploughing-in so as not to affect the public footpath, but stated that the previous bund could not be fully effective owing to the gate in the walled fence at Meadow House. The Councillors agreed that the effectiveness of the measures would not be known until winter. A lot of effort had gone in to helping two specific households.

Cllr Lenthall had received a complaint about a rope swing in a tree at this location.

3039: REPORTS OF PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

- a) **Planning.** Cllr Harrison reported an application had been submitted to fell one cypress and one eucalyptus at The Old Vicarage as damage was being caused to the house and drains. Whilst it was a shame that further trees were being lost from the village the reasons were valid and no objections were raised. Native replanting was recommended.
- b) **Highways.** Cllr Lenthall reported that the corner of Corfe Hill and Pickeridge Lane had been cut back improving visibility to road users.
- c) **Rights of Way.** Nothing to report.
- d) **Website.** Cllr Hope's computer had crashed and the website was not up to date. Rebuilding of both is underway.
- e) **Speedwatch.**
The Clerk confirmed that a SID was in operation, with further weeks, commencing 8th September and 27th October.
- f) **Village Hall.** Cllr Richards reported that the August Bank Holiday Flower Show was well attended, raising more than £300 on the day. A Family Quiz Night was scheduled for 7th November and the Christmas Party for 12th December.
Mr David Royle reported that the inspection of the play area raised 29 findings, six of which were deemed to be 'important'. The report does not advise on specific ongoing maintenance and as the work of volunteers is heavily relied upon a new approach was now required. Enquiries would be made with Parsons Landscapes Ltd, responsible for grass cutting of Queens Acre as they are authorised playground installers.

3040: FINANCES.

The Clerk reported that the 2013/14 Accounts had been signed off by the auditors, Grant Thornton.

TDBC Grant received £605 (Burial ground/Footpaths/Playing Field)
Ongoing VAT to reclaim: £101.54

Current balances prior to authorised payments:

Santander: £5426.64 (incl £2433.56 Village Gateway)

Britannia: £612.34

The Council authorised payments:

Clerk's salary June /July	£200
Parsons Landscaping June/July	£214.90
B. Lenthall – cutting footpaths	£140
Play Inspection Company	£71.94
Corfe Church burial ground maintenance grant	£140

3041 REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS.

No report received from County Councillor Mr R Henley.

Borough Councillor John Williams reported that an under spend of last year's budget means an additional £20k for playgrounds and Parish schemes.

Applications were invited although maintenance was not covered.

Subject to negotiations TDBC is to relocate from Belvedere Road to County Hall with significant financial savings, creating a public sector hub with the possibility of the library and the Registry Office also moving to the shared site. Car parking would still be available.

Funds from the sale of Deane House should be invested in an income based asset and would not be spent on annual revenue matters.

A grant of £4.6 million towards the £22 million development site of Taunton railway station had been confirmed. Network Rail would switch the focus of the station to the higher level allowing access to Firepool, the riverside and the County cricket ground. The scheme would act as a magnet for future development.

The Northern Inner Distributer Road is the key to unlocking the Firepool site, a main junction being by the station. A £15 million Government grant tops up the construction costs. Building of 49 houses is due to start on the Priory Bridge Road car park site, with the construction of a new bridge. There had been serious expressions of interest from a major store and other retail units as well as a cinema for the northern side of the river, subject to planning.

92 new Council homes would result from the redevelopment of 46 former flats at Creechbarrow Road. Planning dictates that 25% of a scheme should be affordable housing, and 200 had been built p.a. over the last three years.

3042 CORRESPONDENCE.

The Clerk had forwarded details of volunteer sites for The Community Barn Owl Project to Chris Sperring of Somerset Wildlife Trust who is to contact them individually to assess suitability.

Gaynor Lewis would like to thank those who planted poppies in the village to commemorate WW1 especially around the War Memorial.

Cllr Harrison invited nominations for SCC Chairman's Award for Service to the Community 2014.

The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 came in to force on August 6th and permitted the filming and recording of Council meetings. Whilst these obligations had been fulfilled for some time at County and Borough level it had yet to affect Corfe Parish Council. The regulations upon agreement prevented filming focusing on any individual who objected.

The provision of a dog waste bin had been raised by a resident. Purchase and ongoing costs of emptying would have to be met by the Parish. Cllr Williams

would arrange for advice to the Parish. The area around the church has a problem with dog waste but Councillors felt the provision of a bin would not change the habits of individuals who do not currently 'pick up' and education by display of posters was necessary.

3043 ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

The Council approved the re-nomination of Mrs Audrey Derrick and Mrs Pat Evans as Trustees of the Charity for Allotments for a four year term and the Council thanked them for their work.

Parish Council elections will take place in 2015. Cllr Harrison requested that existing Councillor's intentions should be announced in good time. New candidates were encouraged to stand for election.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO DISCUSS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7PM.

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday November 4th 2014 at 6pm.

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J Harrison (Chairman)

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Louise Mackley (Clerk)