

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CORFE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 4th NOVEMBER 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 K Brown, Cllr Mr C Brown, Cllr Mrs J Hope.

Cllr Mr J Williams TDBC, Mr D Royle Treasurer Village Hall Committee, Trudi Morgan, Chairperson Blackdown Youth Club.

Three members of the public.

3044: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

3045: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr J Richards & Cllr C Brown – Village Hall Committee

Cllr J Harrison – Almshouse Trust Committee, Adviser Taunton CAB.

3046: MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on September 2nd were approved and signed.

3047: MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES.

No matters arising.

3048: BLACKDOWN YOUTH CLUB.

Trudi Morgan explained that the club now meets at Corfe Village Hall and is proving very popular. Meeting dates were posted on the notice board and there was capacity for more 11 year olds/Year 7s to join. Football is a popular activity and the provision of external lighting would ensure Queens Acre could be used throughout the darker months. The Council raised no objections and it was agreed that Trudi would seek quotes and liaise with the Village Hall Committee.

3049: LIME TREES OUTSIDE CHURCH COTTAGES.

Concerns had previously been raised about the safety of the trees. Cllr Harrison's enquiries with Land Registry showed that the strip of land is unregistered and not within the curtilage of the adjacent properties. The occupants of Pickeridge Cottage regularly clear the area of fallen branches. The trees had recently been trimmed on behalf of Western Power following a 3 hour loss of power. Hi-Line concentrates on the growth around power lines and not the roadside. Enquiries had already been made with TDBC and action was required to ensure the safety of pedestrians and road users. It was discussed that this was a Highways issue rather than one of ownership. A quote of £900 had been obtained for removal of the mistletoe growth. Cllr Harrison would continue to discuss the situation with TDBC.

3050: S.106 FUNDING – CORFE FARM DEVELOPMENT.

Cllr Harrison and Mr David Royle were in discussions regarding plans for the allocation of funding and would be able to report in more detail at the next meeting. Six properties first needed to be sold and it was anticipated that funds

would not be available until February 2016 at the earliest. The funds would be for a village amenity and to date an extended parking area and patio doors for the hall had been discussed. Cllr Harrison welcomed suggestions from residents for any community based proposals.

3051: REPORTS OF PORTFOLIO HOLDERS.

- a) **Planning.** Nothing to report, Corfe and surrounding parishes were very quiet.
- b) **Highways.** Cllr Lenthall reported that patching was being kept up. Some salt bags had already been delivered but new routes and depots had still to be confirmed. The closure of Corfe Hill for resurfacing due to commence 4th November had not happened.
He would inspect the ditch and drainage to the rear of Meadow Cottage.
- c) **Rights of Way.** Nothing to report.
- d) **Website.** The site had been rebuilt and is up to date but Cllr Hope reported that she was not always informed of local events in good time to post details.
- e) **Speedwatch.**
Cllr C Brown reported that volunteers had attended a training event with the Police and learnt a great deal. One Speedwatch session had then taken place with Police support, and 10 offenders' details had been recorded. Police letters had been sent to them, with one driver being on a 2nd such warning. SID installation dates at Newton Lane had not taken place as initially notified to the Clerk.
- f) **Village Hall.** Cllr Richards reported that tickets for the Christmas Party on 12th December were now on sale. New tables had been purchased for the hall which are lighter and safer to stack. Cllr Harrison asked if there was a written risk assessment for the hall. This would be checked. Regular PAT testing is done on the kitchen appliances.

3052: FINANCES.

Ongoing VAT to reclaim: £146.31
Current balances prior to authorised payments:
Santander: £4659.83 (incl £2433.56 Village Gateway)
Britannia: £612.34

The Chief Officer of Taunton Citizens Advice Bureau had written to request a donation towards their funding for 2015/2016. Last year the Council donated £100 and this was approved again, in recognition of the important work they do.

The Council authorised payments:

Clerk's salary Aug/Sept	£200
Remembrance wreath (reimburse Clerk)	£17
Parsons Landscaping Aug/Sept	£268.62
Taunton CAB donation	£100

3053 REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS.

No report received from County Councillor Mr R Henley.

Borough Councillor John Williams reported on the problem of ‘legal highs’. Two Taunton shops were selling these but as packaging described them as not for human consumption no laws were being broken and the Council was powerless to close them down. Recent seizures revealed no banned substances in the products. The Council was working closely with the Police and Cllr Williams was seeking assurances from Government for legal changes to prevent such sales.

Cllr Williams was due to attend a TDBC meeting this evening regarding a report on the long term effect of flooding. The report would make proposals covering the next 100 years. The recommendations include a large flood alleviation pond at Bradford on Tone with a capacity of 2 million cubic meters, reducing town centre levels by 300mm. This would be dispersed at a controlled rate. This scheme would help those properties now at risk, the 1960s flood defences having served Taunton well to date. If approved, Government assistance towards the £11-15 million costs would be sought. Taunton was running out of areas for employment development, Blackbrook being fully developed but businesses wanting proximity to the M5. Current infrastructure must be improved and a positive meeting had taken place with the Secretary of State for Transport. Any investment must be shown to be providing housing or employment. The Autumn Statement was awaited. Proposals include a bypass for Henlade, and upgrades for J25 and the Toneway ‘corridor’.

3054 CORRESPONDENCE.

Nothing to report.

3055 ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

It had been brought to the attention of Cllr Richards that bollards were being placed in the hall’s parking area at the church in order to assist access to The Old Vicarage. Public parking in the village ought not to be restricted. It was agreed this was probably an ad hoc, temporary measure as access could be difficult if the car park was full but Cllr Harrison would check with the residents.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO DISCUSS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 6.40PM.

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 6TH January 2015 at 6pm.

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J Harrison (Chairman)

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Louise Mackley (Clerk)