

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CORFE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 6TH JANUARY 2015 AT 6PM**

PRESENT: Cllr Mr J Harrison (Chairman), Cllr Mr C Brown, Cllr Mr K Brown.

Cllr Mr J Williams TDBC, Mr D Royle Treasurer Village Hall Committee, Mrs T Morgan, Chairperson Blackdown Youth Club & Village Agent.

One member of the public.

3056: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Hope, Cllr Richards, Cllr George, Cllr Lenthall.

3057: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr C Brown – Village Hall Committee.

Cllr J Harrison – Almshouse Trust Committee.

3058: MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on November 4th 2014 were approved and signed.

3059: MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES.

Lime Trees: Persistent enquiries by Cllr Harrison had successfully resulted in County Council Highways accepting responsibility and liability for the maintenance of the trees. They are afforded protection by the Conservation Area and Cllr Williams provided the Chairman with a copy of an application made for routine works.

S106 Funding: Cllr Harrison and David Royle had held a positive Meeting with Mr & Mrs Halliday to discuss a draft proposal to extend Queens Acre creating a new parking area and access point opposite Newton Grange (Corfe Farm Devt) . The Hallidays had met with their advisors and were supportive. Cllr K Brown stressed that the hall was an important village amenity and needed to remain viable. Increased parking would benefit larger events and also relieve parking obstruction for Newton Lane residents. Cllr C Brown suggested planting improvements to Queens Acre. Rough costings suggested the scheme would, subject to approval, be affordable within anticipated S106 funds. In previous correspondence Cllr Hope had raised the issue of a road crossing and improved village lighting or extending the hall but no suggestions for community projects had been received from residents despite such a request in previous minutes. The car park proposal would be explored further.

Mill Lane Parking: Cllr Harrison had spoken with the occupants of The Old Vicarage about their placing of cones in Mill Lane restricting public parking. They own long wheel based vehicles and have access problems to their driveway if the car park is in use. The parking area is Parish Council property and is for the use of the village, having been in existence for a long time without prior problems. The matter was discussed and it was agreed that a formal advisory letter would be sent. (Chairman/Clerk)

3060: BLACKDOWN YOUTH CLUB/VILLAGE AGENT

Trudi Morgan explained that having explored the installation of external lighting to aid use of Queens Acre after dark the proposal was not feasible as it would impact on neighbouring homes. As the youth club was not a sports club as such it was accepted that outdoor play would not be possible year round. A membership drive was underway to improve numbers.

Village Agent: Two successful First Aid courses had been held with another scheduled for April 14th in the village hall. This is free to over 18s and would be publicised.

SW Ambulance Service was conducting a postcode analysis looking at funding support and the provision of defibrillators in public areas. Trudi offered to explore this further with the council's agreement. Cllr Williams emphasised the value of this resource to communities. Since being in post Trudi had dealt with 130 client cases.

(Trudi Morgan and a member of the public then left the meeting)

3061: PRECEPT 2015/ELECTION EXPENSES.

Previous years' precept levels were discussed and although it was not yet known if there would be a contested Parish Council election in 2015 an allowance should be made for the additional expenses this could incur. It was agreed that a precept of £2000 would be requested.

3062: REPORTS OF PORTFOLIO HOLDERS.

- a) **Planning.** Cllr K Brown reported that an application had been approved by TDBC without any objections, to fell some trees at South Woodside. The removals would prevent further damage to the property and assist the growth of other trees.
Wessex Water had completed their works without the need to remove a length of hedging opposite the White Hart which had been subject of an application in 2014.
- b) **Highways.** Cllr Harrison reported that the ditch clearance and deep cross ploughing had taken place. Water was still running to the road despite all efforts. The new raised kerbs were helping but run off water was being displaced further along the road.
- c) **Rights of Way.** Nothing to report.
- d) **Website.** The Clerk reported that the website was up to date. A £60 payment to Clearsky had previously been authorised for annual hosting/domain services. A link to the new admissions criteria for Thurlbear School was underway.
- e) **Speedwatch.** Cllr C Brown reported new SID installation dates of 30 March and 9 November 2015 but this would be checked as it was agreed the village had missed at least one proposed installation week in 2014. Cllr Harrison* had looked at installation costs of illuminated speed warning devices of approximately £850 per device. Cllr Williams confirmed no TDBC grants would be available but that County Councillor Ross Henley could advise on small projects funding for community benefits. Cllr Brown would explore this further and also

contact the Somerset Road Safety Partnership. It was agreed that any project would be with the consensus of the village. Cllr K Brown stated that they had proved very effective in Devon and the ring fenced village gateway funding may be appropriate.

The Police would be running another speed gun training course and volunteers should contact Cllr C Brown or the Clerk. The teams would be reinstated when the evenings were lighter and safer but any trained person could request daytime use of the speed gun via Cllr Brown.

- f) **Village Hall.** David Royle reported that the Christmas Party saw low numbers attending but was a success for those that did. There would be a future need for a maintenance grant for Queens Acre if paving, lighting, parking and landscaping was to be developed. All works were currently on a voluntary basis. The hall's hire costs were competitively priced for users from outside the village and the use of Queens Acre was a bonus.

3063: FINANCES.

2014 VAT claim submitted on 24 December for £146.31

Current balances prior to authorised payments:

Santander: £4084.29 incl £3327.87 Village Gateway*

Britannia: £612.34

The Council authorised payments:

Clerk's salary Nov/Dec 2104	£200
Stationery/Stamps (reimburse Clerk)	£8.44
Somerset Playing Fields Assoc. subscription	£15
(Clearsky £60 authorised pre meeting)	

3064 REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS.

No report received from County Councillor Mr R Henley.

Borough Councillor John Williams provided an up date on the November meeting's minutes. He reported that one shop selling 'legal highs' had closed voluntarily. The Police had collated evidence of anti social behaviour connected to sales by a second shop resulting in a forced three month closure. That shop had now ceased trading. The Autumn Statement had confirmed funding for an 'expressway' from the S. Coast via the A303, A358 to J25 of the M5. This would mean close to motorway standard but with intermittent hard shoulder and not intersection grade junctions. This would include dual carriageway for the A358. The Highways Agency has a prescribed budget with a responsibility to deliver.

The continued provision of high speed internet across Devon, Somerset and N. Devon remains a massive engineering project. There was a commitment to 2mb speeds by 2016 and a lot of homes had already seen an improvement, highest nearer to the exchanges. The value to the community is recognised. Corfe had now been upgraded and individuals should contact their providers. Cllr K Brown reported speeds of 16mb in the centre of the village but this dropped significantly for those homes on the extremities of the exchange.

3065 : CORRESPONDENCE.

- Admissions Criteria for Thurlbear School – an email had been received from Chris Pickles raising a number of questions. This has been forwarded to Cllr Richards who is preparing a report for the next meeting.
- The Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2 outlined future goals and volunteers were sought for the Somerset Local Access Forum for a 3 year term commencing in May.
- The Police Commissioner’s Newsletter was circulated.
- The Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities had been circulated. This removed the need for an external annual audit but various accounts etc would need publishing via the village website.
- The Modernisation of Parish Polls consultation paper had been circulated.
- A thank you letter had been received from The Royal British Legion for the remembrance wreath donation.

3066 ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Cllr K Brown reported that the previous week’s power cut had necessitated the installation of a temporary generator for the village for 48 hours. Power had been lost for 2 hours affecting 51 houses in the area. The service and customer advice provided by Western Power had been excellent.

(*corrections made 3/3/15)

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 7.25pm.

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 3rd March 2015 at 6pm.

.....
J Harrison (Chairman)

.....
Louise Mackley (Clerk)