

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CORFE PARISH COUNCIL  
TUESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2017 AT 6PM CORFE VILLAGE HALL.**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Harrison (Chair) Cllr B Lenthall (Vice Chair) Cllr K Brown, Cllr C Brown, Cllr J Jackson, Cllr D Bradbeer, Cllr T Hosie. David Royle (Treasurer V H Committee), Cllr J Williams & three members of the public.

**3217: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

All present.

**3218: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

Cllr Harrison – Almshouse Trust, Cllr C Brown – Village Hall, Cllr Lenthall – Queens Acre & footpath maintenance.

**3219: MINUTES OF MEETING HELD JANUARY 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017.**

A copy of the Minutes were circulated prior to the meeting and were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

**3220: MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES.**

None.

**3221: DOG FOULING/ROADSIDE TIDYING.**

Cllr Jackson had received a complaint regarding dog fouling in the village and local fields. Councillors agreed it was irresponsible of owners who should be carrying bags to remove waste and dispose of accordingly. Barbara Fierek was invited to discuss her concerns and recommended advice notices and/or placing bins at three sites (Mill Lane, opp Old Post Office, Barton Grange/village hall). Concerns were expressed that it was not the absence of bins causing dog walkers to leave mess, as the village has two normal waste bins and it can also be carried home to be disposed of. Council bins cost approx £345, private approx £210. Weekly Council bin emptying £2.77 per bin/£144p.a. It was agreed that it was expensive and this matter would be reviewed after a period of displaying warning notices. Cllr Jackson and B Fierek to organise.

Cllr Harrison requested residents tidy areas of weeds between garden walls and the footpaths to improve the appearance of the village. Cllr Lenthall believed people should accept responsibility for weeding and sweeping paths outside their own homes. Cllr Hosie stated warmer weather would encourage people to do this .

**3222: UPDATE ON PHASE 1 OF S106 FUNDING.**

The rotabounce is nearly complete. Although Playdale had stipulated the area required, upon day of installation it needed to be larger still for safety reasons, but poor weather has prevented groundworks. Cllr Lenthall hoped to have this completed before the end of March. Mats for the zip wire have been purchased. PlayQuest sent instructions on adjusting the tension of the zip wire. D Royle stated this did not fall within their maintenance contract. Cllr Harrison and Cllr Lenthall agreed to deal with this.

### **3223: UPDATE ON PHASE 2 OF S106 FUNDING – ACTIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION.**

Cllr Harrison apologised to the Council for having provided inaccurate information on the allocation of S106 funds for French doors. TDBC had in the absence of Debbie Arscott advised this was a viable expenditure. This was wrong and the funds **cannot** be used. There is however another grant available which could fund a third of the costs. Cllr K Brown has been approached by residents questioning what the Fete money would be spent on. All agreed that the French doors could be financed from the Fete proceeds with a retrospective grant application, hoping for installation in time for this year's Fete.

Cllr C Brown secured a TDBC grant of £1900 and thanked D Royle and the Clerk for their assistance. This reflected 50% of the rotabounce and additional matting costs rather than drawing further on S106.

Cllr Williams confirmed that the loss of grant funding from Central Govt would result in discontinuance of various TDBC grants too.

The storage container had been sourced but can not be installed until the base is prepared and the ground firm enough to support the delivery lorry.

### **3224: REPORTS OF PORTFOLIO HOLDERS..**

**PLANNING:** Cllr K Brown reported Feltham Park Farm had applied for permission for an agricultural barn - a predictable incremental development after the permission for the farmhouse. No objections were submitted as these had previously been recorded. Cllr Lenthall stated the farm is being run as an agricultural business at this time.

Cllr K Brown attended a meeting with Rebecca Pow MP discussing planning and infrastructure issues. Strong feelings were expressed, with other parishes being affected far more than Corfe by the development of Taunton. Concerns were raised that infrastructure does not match housing development. Cllr Williams explained that infrastructure funding was not provided by Govt unless delivery of economic benefit and housing was evidenced. Garden Town status would ensure priority in allocation of funding. A discussion took place of the infrastructure needs of Taunton and improvements planned for Toneway, A358 and J25 of M5.

**HIGHWAYS:** Cllr Lenthall reported that the crossroads on Corfe Hill should have signing and rumble strips improved soon. A signpost had recently been knocked down.

**RIGHTS OF WAY:** Cllr Bradbeer had advised Hurley Farm to contact TDBC about diverting the public footpath there. Cllr K Brown raised concerns that horse riders are using local field footpaths near Mill Lane and Barton Grange. Cllr Hosie had almost been knocked over by a horse being ridden fast at dusk in the Mill Lane field. Riders would require landowners' permission if not on a bridleway. Cllr Bradbeer would enquire with Duncan Leaney..

**WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA:** Cllr Jackson reported that the hosting/domain was paid up for the coming year. Advertisers were renewing. Stags did wish to renew and he would collect their overdue July 2016 payment in person.

**SPEEDWATCH:** Cllr C Brown stated that he would be stepping down from his role Speedwatch Coordinator due to other commitments. A new coordinator is sought but needn't be a Parish Councillor. Patrols can begin now that evenings are lighter and volunteers should email him [clothebrowns@talktalk.net](mailto:clothebrowns@talktalk.net). Little action seems to be taken by the Police, with a driver not being prosecuted until their third recorded offence of speeding. It is unclear who the Police contact is now. SIDs are installed twice yearly and the Police motorcyclist deploys a speed gun in the village. Yellow rumble strips will be installed on the village approach from Taunton later this month. Funding for a village gateway may be available via SCC 'small projects' budget, although bids for 2017/18 are closed. Enquiries to be made with Cllr Henley.

**VILLAGE HALL:** David Royle reported a successful wine tasting evening, the upcoming Spring Flower Show. He was looking forward to the completion of new projects – French doors, rotabounce, storage container.

### **3225: FINANCES.**

**Current balance: £6495.06**

**(after tonight's cheques & future receipt of £348.60 VAT : £6572.06)**

**Income:** s106 grant £2000, Website adverts £30, Charity for Allotments £300, VAT refund £541.52

**Payments to authorise:** Clerk wages £230 (incl £10 underpaid last meeting) , refund Clerk ink/stationery/postage £41.60.

2017 Contract renewed with Parsons , £48.21 per cut (71p increase on 2016)

### **3226: REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS.**

No report received from SCC.

Cllr Williams reported the business plan for the new amalgamated Council area has been submitted to the Secretary of State. Councillor numbers would reduce from 84 to approx 50-60. The Boundaries Commission would need to adjust the wards. If approved, a shadow authority would be established in 2018 for the 2019 elections. Taunton's lost borough status could be reinstated with 70% Councillors' support. The location of the new HQ is undecided..

A new employment site of 60+ acres adjacent to J25 would be opening as 'Nexus 25', with direct M5 access and a link to the new A358, pending changes at Henlade/Thornfalcon to be provided by Highways England. A Local Development Order would give planning consent to the site and businesses within set parameters would be granted certificates without the need for individual planning applications.

The development of the old market site should commence end of 2017 subject to planning permission. Taunton's Garden Town status does not involve any new housing in addition to that already in the Local Plan. A necklace of green spaces will link those areas of development. TDBC is exploring transport solutions. 50%+ of peak hour commuting journeys are under 2 miles. These could be alleviated by a frequent reliable public transport system. Parking provision was discussed. Cllr Williams disagreed that it was poor. James St will lose 50+ spaces but there are 1500+ within 2 mins drive, and The Brewhouse was served far better than other theatre towns. A new vehicle messaging service will display available spaces.

### **3227: CORRESPONDENCE.**

- The BT phone box has been saved. The Clerk thanked Nigel (Shire House) for cleaning it and tidying the area. Ancillary uses for the box would be discussed at a future meeting.
- Ann Finchett, Clerk to the Charity for Allotments had written to request the PC approve the re-nomination of Ann Jeffery as Nominative Trustee for a four year period. This was confirmed. The Clerk thanked the Trustees for their donation towards the upkeep of Queens Acre.
- Cllr Harrison and Judith Richards would attend the TDBC Community Defibrillator Event on March 22.
- The Blackdown Youth Club has agreed to help fund the installation of the storage container and have been forwarded invoice details.
- Details of the Annual Safety Management Programme by Somerset Playing Fields Assoc. had been forwarded to D. Royle – approx £80.
- Neil Bailey had suggested additional NHW signs for the village. This would be discussed at a future meeting.
- Museum of Somerset – 'Art on the Blackdown Hills 1909- 1925'. New exhibition opens 25 March.
- Launch event 16 May – Somerset West Lottery and 2017 Local Community Grant Funds.

**3228: ANY OTHER BUSINESS.**

- Cllr Harrison received a quote just prior to the meeting for measures to stop the flooding etc by the village hall - £3800. D.Royle stated this was not the responsibility of the Hall committee. The Cllrs agreed that as owners of the hall the Parish Council would need to take measures. The proposal would be circulated but additional quotes would have to be obtained. Nobody was aware who had filled the puddle hole outside the hall with sand.

There being nothing further to report , the meeting was closed at 7.35pm

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING : TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> May  
Annual Meeting of the Parish of Corfe 6.30pm followed by the  
Annual Meeting of Corfe Parish Council.**