

CHILTHORNE DOMER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 7 MARCH 2024, 7.30pm, VILLAGE HALL, CHILTHORNE DOMER

Emma Meecham, Clerk, 15 Meadow Road, Yeovil, Somerset BA21 5PB
Tel: 01935 415361

Mr K Woodman
Mr T Brandt

Mr M Batstone
Mrs K Taylor

2 Members of the public

Miss E Meecham (Clerk)

Ms Honnor raised the issue of the allotments; she requested again that the Parish Council take over the running of the allotments. The Parish Council discussed the issue again and reiterated that until such time that the legal issues of a business being run from the allotments, they could not take on the running of them.

The issue of the overgrown vegetation impeding the pavement near Castle Cottage was raised. Mrs Taylor offered to knock on the neighbouring doors to inform them that they are to be cleared. Mr Melvin offered to organise a working party to clear them.

AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Apologies were received from Mr Seib and Mr Rowsell
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Mr Batstone declared an interest in agenda item 10c – the grant request from the church, Mr Woodman declared an interest in item 10b for the gate materials payment as this payment is due to him.
- 3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** – The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record.
- 4. SOMERSET COUNCIL COUNCILLOR’S REPORT** – Cllr Seib had previously circulated a report by email.
- 5. HIGHWAY MATTERS**
 - a) SID – The SID is currently installed near the Halfway House. The batteries are lasting about a week so new batteries haven’t yet been purchased.
 - b) Report from site meeting with Somerset Council Highways – Mr Batstone and Mr Brandt gave a report from the site meeting with the Highways Officer. The drain from the pond to the ditch on Chilthorne Hill Lane has collapsed, the landowner is willing to complete the works to the ditch, but the drain needs to be mended before this work is done. The clerk is to write to Mr Harvey to seek written confirmation so that this can be passed on to Highways.
The issue at the S bend on Tintinhull Road is also due to a collapsed drain, this is within Yeovil Without Parish, the clerk is to write to Yeovil Without Parish Council to ask them to add pressure to Highways to get this drain mended, particularly as there are 6 accidents recorded during this season.
The potholes on Chilthorne Hill Lane need to be reported to Highways as and when they occur and they will be patched/repaired.

Highways have provided a map of the gulleys within the Parish, the clerk is to source better scaled versions of these and circulate them to the Parish Councillors.

It was agreed that an update on the highways issues and these minutes should be sent to Mr Ferguson.

- c) Village gateway signs – Mr Batstone and MR Brandt have identified two possible locations for village gateway signs, further investigations are required for one location and the clerk is to check with Highways regarding the one nearest the buffalo farm once the location is sent to her on a drawing.

Other –

Environmental Health may have to attend to look at an issue on Tintinhull Road, the clerk is to ask Highways if they could inform us when this might occur.

Cole Cross Cottage – due to the recent replacement of a sewage treatment plant there seems to be a significant amount of rubbish/spoil that has been deposited on the Leyland Trail. This is to be reported.

The gulleys on Main Street have been swept this week, there is still quite a bit of vegetation growing in the gulleys. Could the Council consider spraying it? Dependant on the response this may have to be something that the Parish Council consider contracting to someone to complete.

6. COMMUNITY SAFETY & POLICE MATTERS – Nothing received.

7. LCN UPDATE – The LCN meeting is happening this evening, Cllr Seib is attending and will report back at the next Parish Council meeting.

8. DEVOLUTION OF RESPONSIBILITIES FROM SOMERSET COUNCIL

- a) Report from meeting with YTC – Mr Woodman and the clerk gave a report following the meeting with YTC. YTC are asking surrounding parishes to consider financial support for the services that they have taken/are taking on from Somerset Council – The Octagon/Westlands, Yeovil Recreation Ground, CCTV and the Museum. Any financial support would be gratefully received but not mandatory and not expected until after the chance to increase the precept should Parish Councils wish to. Mr Brandt offered to look into the budgets for local comparable Parish Councils.

9. FOOTPATHS

- a) Gate repairs – Mr Brandt has confirmed what the Parish Council was allowed to fund. Following a brief discussion Mr Brandt proposed that the Parish Council cover 50% of the costs of the materials and works, Mrs Taylor seconded the motion and it was agreed unanimously.

10. FINANCIAL MATTERS AND ACCOUNTS

- a) Receipts: None
- b) Payments: Clerks Salary, HMRC, Gate repairs, Wix £108, Railings to war memorial. – Mr Woodman excused himself from the discussion regarding the gate repairs item. All items for consideration were agreed unanimously, including £140 to Mr Woodman for the materials for the gate repairs. Mr Woodman returned to the meeting.
- c) Grant requests: Church – Mr Batstone excused himself from the discussion. Following clarification on the previous legal concerns on Parish Councils financially contributing to churches the Church have applied for financial assistance with maintenance to the railings to the front of the church. The meeting agreed unanimously to the financial request. There was a discussion regarding the colour for the railings, it was agreed that the Church should be consulted, and all railings should be the same colour.

11. PLANNING MATTERS

- a) Applications: None – Noted.
- b) Decisions: None – Noted.
- c) Appeals: None – Noted.

12. CLERKS REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE

An email had been received from Mrs Ferguson and circulated to the Councillors regarding the possibility of applying for funding for an additional defibrillator to be sited along Chilthorne Hill Lane. The Parish Council discussed the proposal and concluded that the gains were not outweighed by the ongoing costs in this location. The clerk is to write to Mrs Ferguson.

The email received regarding the LCN working group was unclear regarding the purpose of the group and as such nobody attended from Chilthorne Domer.

13. **BROADBAND** – The initial survey of the village hall has been carried out by Wessex Internet, the connection is likely to happen within a week or so. No survey has been carried out as yet for the Recreation Area hall.
14. **VILLAGE HALL** – Nothing to report.
15. **RECREATION TRUST** – Mr Brandt informed the meeting that he is still looking at the grass cutting costs for the pitches.
16. **ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS RAISED BY PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRMAN** – None.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.16pm

17. **DATE AND TIME OF MEETINGS – 4 APRIL 2024 19:30.**