

CHILTHORNE DOMER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 2 MARCH 2023, 7.30pm, VILLAGE HALL, CHILTHORNE DOMER

Emma Meecham, Clerk, 15 Meadow Road, Yeovil, Somerset BA21 3RE
Tel: 01935 415361

Mr K Woodman
Mrs K Taylor
Mr P Rowsell

Mr T Brandt
Mr P Seib
Mrs R Parsons

1 Members of the public

Miss E Meecham (Clerk)

The meeting commenced after an Open Session for Chilthorne Domer Parishioners only. The meeting was informed that the Skool Beanz project now has 4 allotment plots, Lara has been in touch with SSDC but finding it very difficult to get in touch, however, last time the SSDC Officer suggested that the Parish Council may take on the responsibility of the running of the allotments. Following some discussion the Parish Council agreed to look into it further. Lara confirmed that there are currently 10 allotments of which Skool Beanz currently use 4 and are about to take on a fifth. Mr Woodman expressed some concerns regarding the balance in terms of use. The Parish Council agreed that they would try to get some thoughts together by June which should give the new Unitary Council some time to settle.

AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Apologies were received from Mr Batstone and Cllr Jenny Snell.
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Cllr Seib reconfirmed his interests were – County Councillor, District Councillor, Parish Councillor for Brympton Parish Council, Planning Chair for SSDC.
- 3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** – The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
- 4. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** – Cllr Seib informed the meeting that he had recently shared Somerset Council's Council Plan with the clerk and was sure it would soon be distributed. Cllr Seib informed the meeting that the budget for Somerset Council had been set with efficiency improvements, amongst other things, being considered. Cllr Seib also informed the meeting that within the SSDC area approximately 20,000 had approached the CAB regarding financial issues and that there had been more than 850 Council Tax support applications, compared to 300 previously. Most local capital projects have been protected within the new budget, including the Octagon Theatre improvements, these have drawn down from Central Government funding and as such is now on the national radar for other arts funding opportunities. Mr Brandt asked Cllr Seib if any monies had been set aside in the budget for a repeat of the Climate Change Emergency funding, Cllr Seib replied that unfortunately no funding would be available centrally, however the Local Community Networks may have access to some monies for similar schemes. Cllr Seib also confirmed that he will be the Chair of the Planning Committee for Somerset Council's Area South (current SSDC area). The first LCN meetings will be in June. Following the raising of safeguarding issues relating to the housing of asylum seekers at the Halfway House it had been confirmed that they will no longer be housed there.

5. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** – Cllr Rowsell informed the meeting that he had attended the regulation committee meeting where the application for the Octagon Theatre was discussed, and permission granted. Cllr Rowsell also informed the meeting that an underspend of approximately £417000 had been reported at the District Executive meeting, this was largely due to the monies coming in from the battery storage facility that SSDC had invested in.
6. **CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR** – This item included on Agenda by error of the clerk.
7. **HIGHWAY MATTERS** -
 - a) SID – Mr Brandt gave the SID report, between 2nd and 13th February the SID was installed on the A37 looking North. During this time there were 8 occurrences of speeding above 70mph, with one at 114mph, generally the speeds recorded seem to have been affected by the traffic lights on the A37. After the 13th February the SID was moved to Tintinhull Road, during the closure of the A3088. There was a general increase of approximately 40% in vehicle movements during this time. One vehicle was recorded at 104mph, but the 85th showed speeds of 39mph in the 40mph zone, this is thought to be due to the increase in traffic causing lower speeds. A need for a location part way down Main Street has been identified, Mr Brandt will look at options.
8. **COMMUNITY SAFETY & POLICE MATTERS** – No report has been received from Avon and Somerset Constabulary. There was, however, an incident at the Recreation Ground. An event had been well attended and unfortunately an argument broke out. The Recreation Area Committee will be looking into the options for security. Mr Seib reported that he had recently attended a Police and Crime Commissioner meeting and the Police will be attempting to attend Parish Council meetings where they match shift patterns, they will be involved in LCN meetings.
9. **FOOTPATHS** – The works necessary to the footpaths/bridges has been completed although the notification to do the work had been received after it was complete.
10. **FINANCIAL MATTERS AND ACCOUNTS**
 - a) Receipts: None – Noted.
 - b) Payments: Clerks Salary, HMRC, £93.60 Website hosting, £23.36 Website domain. – All agreed unanimously
 - c) Grant requests: None – Noted.
 - d) Grant request budget – The Clerk reminded the meeting that they include monies in the budget for S137 donations. Following discussion the meeting agreed to donate £50 to each of CAB, Air Ambulance, The Samaritans and St Margaret's Hospice.
11. **PLANNING MATTERS**
 - a) Applications:
23/00323/HSE - Demolition of existing rear single storey playroom and porch and erection of new rear single storey extension and front porch together with associated internal alterations. Tall Trees, Main Street, Chilthorne Domer – The meeting discussed the application and explained to Mrs Parsons what the Parish Council role is in planning matters. Following the discussion the meeting unanimously agreed that they had no objections to the proposal.
 - b) Decisions: None – Noted.
 - c) Appeals: None – Noted.
12. **CLERKS REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE** – Nothing to report.
13. **BROADBAND** – Wessex Internet are starting to contact users. The trench is just this side of Yeovil Marsh currently and has come up Balls Hill.
14. **VILLAGE HALL** – Still waiting for further information regarding alternative funding options for the audio/visual equipment.

15. **RECREATION TRUST** – The committee are still watching electricity bills, the uptake/use of the area is pretty good but it is a constant effort to get money in. Mr Brandt informed the meeting that there have been some changes to the committee.
16. **ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS RAISED BY PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRMAN** – None.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:40pm

17. **DATE AND TIME OF MEETINGS – 6 APRIL 2023.** – Apologies for the next meeting were received from Mr Seib and Mr Rowsell.