

## **CHILTHORNE DOMER PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 3 MARCH 2022, 7.30pm, VILLAGE HALL, CHILTHORNE DOMER**

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

Mr K Woodman  
Mr T Brandt

Mr M Batstone  
Mr P Rowsell

Cllr Capozzoli

4 Members of the public

Miss E Meecham (Clerk)

The meeting commenced after an open session for Chilthorne Domer parishioners only.

Lyn Luscombe, as a member of the Recreation Trust committee asked if a new representative from the Council would be appointed following Mr Tasker's retirement, Mr Brandt volunteered to join the committee as the Parish Council representative. Lyn also requested that the Parish Council consider funding the replacement pads for the defibrillator at a cost of £43.20 and informed the Parish Council that the defib instructions would soon need replacing at a cost of approximately £100. As the Parish Council had previously discussed and agreed to fund the replacement pads a cheque was written, signed and handed to Lyn.

Lyn informed the Parish Council that there is to be a Jubilee celebration at the Rec and asked if the Parish Council be willing to help fund it, the Chairman requested that a formal figure was presented to the Council for consideration.

Lyn also informed the Parish Council that the Recreation Trust was considering purchasing additional play equipment aimed at toddlers and although the Community Grants function at SSDC is still available the Recreation Trust requested that the Parish Council consider some funding toward this purchase.

Lara Honnor asked for an update regarding the Community Orchard. The clerk advised that she had very recently received permission from SSDC for the planting of the trees. Ms Honnor informed the Parish Council that she had been successful in an application to Thatchers for some free trees.

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Apologies were received from Mr Welch
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None declared.
- 3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** – Subject to a typo on item 10b fund/find the minutes were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
- 4. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** – None received.
- 5. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** – Cllr Rowsell informed the Parish Council that although he had been unable to attend physical meetings several Local Government Reform meetings had been held. It is currently proposed that all licensing and planning is to be dealt with in Taunton, the process seems to be going well and this decision has not yet been set in stone and with the looming election could easily be changed by the new council. Cllr Rowsell noted that the SSDC model of planning (split into areas with committees for each area) is unusual for the County and nationally. The Parish Council were informed that the Planning service is currently determining 990% of applications within time, although

there is a large backlog of applications in the 'Extension of Time' pile mainly due to the issue with phosphates affecting most of the District. An additional £1.2 million has been set aside in the budget to allow for additional staff to deal with the backlog when an answer to the phosphates issue has been found. Cllr Capozzoli confirmed that the phosphates issue is causing other concerns including the lack of 5-year land supply for the Council.

6. **CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR** – Two members of the public in attendance, Karen Taylor and Peter Seib expressed an interest in being co-opted into the two vacancies currently on the council. Both were duly co-opted.
7. **HIGHWAY MATTERS**
  - a) SID – The SID has been received. A small group will gather at Mr Woodman's house on Saturday at 2pm to investigate and familiarise themselves with the equipment. The Chapter 8 training is being chased up, but it is proving tricky to get hold of anyone on the phone to discuss the options of dates.
8. **COMMUNITY SAFETY & POLICE MATTERS** – The latest newsletter and figures have been received from Avon and Somerset Police and have been distributed by email. Mr Seib informed the meeting that data is also available at [www.crimerate.co.uk](http://www.crimerate.co.uk), it should be noted that good news is rarely reported.
9. **VILLAGE AND COMMUNITY ISSUES**
  - a) Village Broadband – Mr Woodman gave a report on his recent conversation with Wessex Internet, it is hoped that a representative will be able to attend a Parish Council meeting in the near future to give more information.
  - b) Orchard – As reported in the Open Session section.
10. **FINANCIAL MATTERS AND ACCOUNTS**
  - a) Receipts: - Noted.
  - b) Payments: Clerks Salary, HMRC, SID – Noted.
  - c) Grant requests: Request received at short notice that the Parish Council consider granting some money to help with the invasion in the Ukraine. – The clerk informed the meeting that as the Parish Council doesn't have the Power of General Competence there is no legislation under which they are able to donate to this worthy cause.
11. **PLANNING MATTERS**
  - a) Applications: - It was noted that the Parish Council comments on the application for housing near the Carpenters Arms did not mention the colours of the roofs as proposed.
  - b) Decisions: None – noted.
  - c) Appeals: None – noted.
12. **CLERKS REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE** – None.
13. **FOOTPATHS** – The various issues with footpaths throughout the Parish and in Brympton Parish were discussed. Mr Seib asked if footpaths could be closed under the Town and Police Act to ensure safety and potentially allow works to be carried out by the Parish Council. Mr Batstone offered to get some quotes for new gateposts to be installed. The clerk is to chase up SCC issue number 64048 on footpath Y4/8.
14. **VILLAGE HALL**
  - a) Broadband – Previously discussed under item 10a. For the time being the Parish Council have decided not to progress a portable solution for the Village Hall.
15. **RECREATION TRUST** – The Recreation Trust have requested that the Parish Council consider waiving the necessary bylaws to allow an event in aid of Able2achieve to take place in July. Following a brief discussion the Parish Council agreed unanimously to waive the bylaws.

The recent issues with access to the defibrillator were discussed, Mrs Taylor offered to look into this further.
16. **CLIMATE CHANGE** – Mr Brandt informed the meeting that he had recently attended a seminar regarding the Climate Change Emergency and briefed the members on the content

thereof. A discussion regarding content and the possibility of creating a Climate Change Emergency Policy and a Neighbourhood Plan. Mrs Taylor proposed that the Parish Council were in favour of the principle of a Climate Change Emergency Policy, Mr Rowsell seconded the proposal and the meeting agreed unanimously.

17. **ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS RAISED BY PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRMAN** – Mr Woodman raised the issue of a contact page on the website for the Recreation Trust, Mr Brandt offered to take this up.

**There being no further business the meeting was closed.**

18. **DATE AND TIME OF MEETINGS – 7 APRIL 2022.** Mr Rowsell gave his apologies in advance, Mrs Taylor informed the meeting that she may not be in attendance.