

## Minutes of a meeting of Affpuddle and Turnerspuddle Parish Council (A&TPC) held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2020, remotely via Zoom

**Present:** Cllrs Graham Lightfoot, Trevor Poole, Lizzie Guinn, Stuart Chorley, and Andrew Monro.

**Chair:** Cllr Sue Jones

**Clerk:** Anna Bendall

**Also in Attendance:** Dorset Cllr Peter Wharf

**Minute Number**      **Comments**

20/054      **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Charles Barter (Vice-Chair) and Emily Hall.

20/055      **Declarations of Interest and dispensations requested**

Cllr Lightfoot declared an interest in the item relating to the agreements with Amenity Complex tenants (20/060 below).

Cllr Monro declared an interest in the item of correspondence relating to the campsite at Throop. (20/067 below).

Cllr Poole declared an interest in the item of correspondence relating to the stones on the grass verge at Shop Field. (20/067 below).

Cllr Chorley declared an interest in the item relating to the tree works application at Bladen Valley (20/061 below).

For those Councillors declaring the above interests they determined not to participate in any discussion or vote on the items they had declared an interest in.

Cllr Chorley declared an interest in the item relating to the agreements with Amenity Complex tenants (20/060 below). Cllr Chorley advised that he had discussed his interest with the Corporate Director of Legal & Democratic Services at Dorset Council, Jonathan Mair. Cllr Chorley's preference was to take part in the debate but not to vote on any proposal and he had been advised that this approach was a valid option by Jonathan Mair.

20/056      **Public Participation**

No members of the public were in attendance.

20/057      **Confirmation of minutes of the A&TPC meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> August 2020**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes for the A&TPC meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> August 2020 be approved. Due to social distancing measures in place as a result of the Covid-19 outbreak, and the need to hold meetings remotely, minutes will be signed at the next physical meeting of the Parish Council.

Councillors have agreed to place minutes and agendas on noticeboards but have also asked for a notice to advise of the website address and contact details for accessing all minutes.

**Action: Clerk**

**20/058 Matters arising from the minutes of previous meetings**

The review of conservation verges is underway, and Cllr Lightfoot is liaising with the highways authority on this subject.

**20/059 Dorset Councillor's report**

The Dorset Councillor's report was discussed.

The bus leaving Dorchester at approximately 4pm that passes through Briantspuddle is no longer available for the public on school days and is only for use of school pupils.

Cllr Wharf advised that he is aware that there is currently an enforcement investigation underway relating to the campsite at Throop.

The Dorset Council plans to construct an energy installation on DC land are still in the early stages but a site at Winfrith is being initially considered.

The full Dorset Councillor's report is available on the Briantspuddle Community website. For residents who do not have internet connection, a copy can be obtained from the Clerk. The Dorset Council Website continues to be updated regularly, with the latest information and guidance about Covid-19, as does the Briantspuddle Community Website, [www.briantspuddle.info](http://www.briantspuddle.info).

**20/060 Agreements with Tenants**

The Heads of Agreement between The Parish Council, Bladen Social Club and Briantspuddle Village Hall Committee dated 20<sup>th</sup> March 1986, and the Memorandum of Agreement between Bladen Social Club and Briantspuddle Village Hall Committee dated 20 February 2019, were reviewed and discussed.

These agreements contain a least one contradictory clause and Councillors expressed a desire to set up a working group to include representatives from all three organisations in order to resolve this matter. However, it was also agreed that this forum would be a good opportunity to look to the future of the amenity by working together for the benefit of the whole community during these difficult and challenging times.

Councillors resolved to send letters to the Bladen Social Club and the Village Hall Committee requesting both organisations nominate representatives to join a Working Group.

**20/061 Planning and other applications**

The two following tree works applications were considered and it was agreed that no comments would be submitted:

TPO/2020/088 (Tree works on tree with a preservation order)

Proposal: (T1) Lime - crown lift to 4m above ground level; (T2) Horse chestnut - crown lift to 4m above ground level, reduce lowest branch growing in a north-easterly direction towards neighbouring property by up to 3m.

Location: 9 Bladen Valley, Briantspuddle, DT2 7HP

TWA/2020/087 (Tree works in a conservation area)

Description: (T1) Apple - reduce canopy by up to 2m, thin canopy by up to 10%

Location: The Old Post House, 2 Bladen Valley, Briantspuddle, DT2 7HP

**20/062 Fence at the boundary between 36 Briantspuddle and the Village Hall**

The chain-link fence at the boundary belongs to and must be maintained by 36 Briantspuddle. The owners were unaware of this and have erected an alternative fence on their side. The chain-link fence is now in need of repair/replacement. The owners have suggested that the boundary markers remain in place but that the chain-link fence be removed. Later, when the remaining fence needs to be replaced, a suitable alternative can be re-erected on the boundary.

Councillors considered this request to be reasonable and presents no risk to the Parish Council as there would be no loss of land on the Village Hall side of the fence. A formal agreement is needed, and it was agreed this would be drafted by Cllr Poole and discussed at the next meeting. **Action: Cllr Poole**

**20/063 Litter at the layby on Dorchester Road**

A quote was considered for installing and servicing a litter bin in the bus stop layby along Dorchester Road between the B3390 and the turning for the A35. Dorset Council will not consider placing a bin on the informal layby as it is not large enough for the waste collection vehicle. It was agreed to ask the highways authority if they can prevent the 'informal -layby' from being used. Cllr Guinn will monitor the litter problem over the next month to see if it is worthwhile to have a litter bin installed at the bus stop. **Action: Clerk and Cllr Guinn**

**20/064 Drains and Gullies**

Following heavy rainfall on the 27<sup>th</sup> August, several drainage issues were identified. Cllr Lightfoot has reported these to Dorset Council and has also written to suggest that an overflow system be considered.

(Cllr Guinn left the meeting)

**20/065 Fingerpost Damage**

The Culpepper's Dish fingerpost was damaged by a vehicle after the driver lost control. The Parish Council's insurer has advised that two repair quotes are required to process the claim. Cllr Poole is gathering quotes and then the Clerk will handle the insurance claim.

**Action: Clerk & Cllr Poole**

**20/066 Payments and accounts**

It was noted that on the 30<sup>th</sup> August 2020 the Barclays Account balance was £21,705.50 and the NS&I account balance was £6,812.89.

The new NALC pay scales for 2020/21, to be backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> April were noted.

The following spending authorised by the Chair and Clerk in line with financial regulations was noted: £300 for vouchers for a hardship fund from Briantspuddle Village Shop. £160 for hall hire for pop up cafés to support wellbeing. Both items of expenditure will be covered by the grant obtained for the work of the Coronavirus Support Group.

**RESOLVED** to approve the following payments totalling £907.51:

- Cheque No: 100754 – Briantspuddle Village Shop £300
- Cheque No: 100755 – Braintspuddle Village Hall £150
- Cheque No: 100756 – A Bendall (Clerk’s salary & expenses) £387.51
- Cheque No: 100757 – D. Griffith (reimbursement, support group) £60

20/067 **Correspondence received**

Several letters and emails have been received regarding concerns about the camp site in Throop. It was agreed that this would be an agenda item at the October meeting.

A ramblers group have requested use of the Village Hall car park while they are walking one day in November however they were unable to give an exact date. Cllrs agreed that it would not be possible with the shop in use and the Hall open once again and will suggest the car park at Culpepper’s Dish.

An email was received from a concerned resident with a suggestion for managing the dog fouling issue in the parish. The Council hopes that the recent magazine article will encourage more responsible behaviour from owners but will keep the situation under review and consider other solutions if deemed necessary.

A response was received from the Highways Authority to an email from the Clerk regarding traffic and road safety on the B3390. Several solutions were suggested including replacement of a missing signs, repainting faded road markings and hedge cutting. Cllr Poole will liaise with Highways to ensure that the appropriate action is taken and to work with Highways to explore additional safety measures.

Prior to the meeting Cllr Poole reported that he has placed rocks on the grass near Shop field to prevent damage resulting from vehicles mounting the verge. The Parish Council pays for the maintenance of this verge because the bus shelter and the Jubilee Tree are located on this land. Cllr Poole did not think the that the cost of this maintenance would be affected by the need to remove stones before grass cutting and replacing them afterwards. The Council’s contractor would be consulted about this change. **Action: Clerk**

20/068 **Date of next meeting and items for the agenda**

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020, 7.00 pm. This meeting is also likely to be held remotely using Zoom. Members of the public will be able to participate and details of how to access the meeting will be included on the agenda which will be on the website.

Agenda items to include the campsite at Throop, the track at The Hollow and quotes for maintenance of the Jubilee tree (Clerk to acquire further quotes).

Meeting closed at 9:30 pm.

**SIGNED ON ORIGINAL**

.....Chair

Date:

Sue Jones