

Minutes of a meeting of Affpuddle and Turnerspudde Parish Council (A&TPC) held on Wednesday 14th July 2021 in Briantspuddle Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Charles Barter (Vice-Chair), Graham Lightfoot, Lizzie Guinn, Stuart Chorley, Emily Hall and David Leigh-Ewers.

Chair: Cllr Sue Jones

Clerk: Anna Bendall

Also, in attendance: Four members of the public.

Minute Number	Comments
----------------------	-----------------

21/035	Apologies for absence
--------	------------------------------

None.

21/036	Declarations of interest and dispensations requested
--------	---

None.

21/037	Public participation
--------	-----------------------------

The Chairman of the Briantspuddle Post Office and Village Shop Committee raised concerns regarding the Parish Council's involvement in recent discussion around advertising the shop at Throop Hollow Campsite. The Parish Council was approached by the campsite to ask if it would like the shop advertised there given the ongoing pandemic. Councillors deliberated via email before writing to the Shop Committee to request that if they choose to advertise at the campsite, they keep the decision under review and inform the Parish Council of any changes. A reply from the Committee agreed to do so but questioned whether the Parish Council's involvement was appropriate. Parish Councillors reiterated that the Parish Council has a duty to consider the interests of the wider community and at the time the significant rise in cases of coronavirus was a cause for concern.

21/038	Confirmation of minutes of the A&TPC meeting held 14th July 2021
--------	--

RESOLVED that the minutes for the A&TPC meeting held 14th July 2021 be approved and signed in the presence of the meeting.

21/039	Matters arising from the minutes of previous meetings
--------	--

Cllr Lightfoot has gained agreement that a tree roughly 5 feet tall could be planted on the Erica Trust land to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee which is due to take place next year.

Dorset Council have provided a link to a web page about the cut and collect scheme for cutting verges. This doesn't provide information that the Parish Council sought, and it was agreed to make enquiries directly to the appropriate officer to seek further detail about the policy on verge cutting.

Action: Clerk

21/040	Dorset Councillor's report
--------	-----------------------------------

The Dorset Councillor's report was received and noted.

Cllr Lightfoot has received an email newsletter from Dorset Council which mentions new machinery for clearing out gullies and un-blocking drains as well as a proactive approach to drainage. The Clerk will make enquiries to establish how this machinery could be put to use in the Parish.

Action: Clerk

The full Dorset Councillor's report is available on the Briantspuddle community website. For residents who cannot access this, a copy can be obtained from the Clerk.

21/041 **Community Speed Watch**

There are enough volunteers in Affpuddle to set up a Community Speedwatch group. Volunteers have been sent information as well as a registration form. Once enough forms have been returned, the group can be established with Dorset Police.

Equipment costs in the region of £320 for a group. To keep costs down, the possibility of creating a group jointly with Puddletown was discussed. This cost, as well as the equipment, could then be shared by both Councils. Puddletown Council has indicated that it would be happy to do so if the arrangement could work for both villages. The group could expand, and additional equipment could be purchased later if the initiative is successful and extra equipment deemed necessary.

RESOLVED to seek to establish a single Community Speed Watch group with Puddletown Area Parish Council, initially covering Affpuddle and Puddletown. **Action: Clerk**

21/042 **B3390 Affpuddle**

Traffic concerns have been raised by several residents following property damage and near misses.

It is hoped that the Community Speedwatch group will be helpful in controlling traffic speed.

It was agreed that the Clerk would find out process for reducing a speed limit and acquire an example of a traffic survey which Dorset Council will carry out for a fee so that this can be considered for the B3390. **Action: Clerk**

21/043 **Dog Fouling**

Cllr Chorley reported that he had taken a number of walks through the Parish recently and had not found evidence of dog fouling with the exception of walks around Throop. However, should Parishioner wish to report evidence of dog fouling this can be done via the Dorset Council website. It is understood that action taken by dog wardens is based on the reports they receive. The Parish Council will continue to monitor the issue.

21/044 **Grit**

A resident contacted the Parish Council previously requesting grit bins for key locations around the Parish. The Council currently has enough grit for spreading on roads to last at least two years. It was agreed that the Clerk would find out the cost of purchasing grit bins and keeping them filled. **Action: Clerk**

21/045 **Jubilee Celebration**

It was agreed that the Parish Council would have a designated time during the Parish Council meeting next month to invite ideas from Parishioners about how they would like to celebrate or mark this unique occasion.

21/046 **Pedestrian Road Safety**

Concerns have been raised regarding the fence erected along the road to the north of Briantspuddle as residents will not now have space on the verge to step out of the way of traffic. It was agreed that Dorset Council would be asked to supply a map of the road showing the extent of the verge which the highways authority is responsible for. This will inform further discussion.

Concerns have been expressed to the Parish Council about on road parking in Briantspuddle. Whilst the lack of off-road parking is recognised, the concerns expressed centre around the need for emergency vehicles to have access. The Parish Council's article in the Parish Magazine will seek to encourage people to park allowing space for emergency vehicles to pass.

21/043 **Planning and other applications/notifications**

6/2021/0241 (Householder Planning Application)
Proposal: Erect single storey extension
Location: Greatfield House Affpuddle Dorset DT2 7HH
RESOLVED to support the application.

The following road closure was noted:

Road Closure Notification
Location: B3309 at Waddock Cross, Waddock
Dates and times: 11th October 2021, 9:30 am to 3:30 pm.

21/044 **Insurance Claim**

One of the stone bollards at the Briantspuddle War Memorial was damaged recently by a Damory bus. The Council was able to acquire photographic evidence of the bus and damage caused and the Parish Council's insurance should cover the repairs. The insurance claim and all supporting information has been submitted and a response from the underwriter is expected shortly.

21/045 **Decisions outside of meetings**

It was considered necessary, giving the unusual circumstance that still prevailed because of the pandemic, to make a decision between meetings. This decision concerned whether or not to advertise the Village Shop at Throop Hollow Farm Campsite. This decision was made via emailed communication between Parish Councillors. The correspondence sent was approved unanimously via email. The decision was to send a letter to the Village Shop Committee. Councillor Stuart Chorley had sent his approved (via email) after the letter had been sent, however at the meeting stated he did not agree with the content of the letter.

The difficulties of making decisions outside of the meeting were discussed including the danger of missing emails, the lack of opportunity to fully debate the issue and the speed with which the decision was required.

RESOLVED that correspondence sent to the Shop and Post Office Committee regarding advertising at Throop Hollow Farm be retrospectively approved.

RESOLVED that a letter be sent to the Committee in response to their reply, expressing gratitude for their continued efforts to support the community through a challenging time and for agreeing to keep the matter of advertising under review.

An item of correspondence was received by the Chairman from a parishioner regarding the letter that Councillors sent to the Committee. The email expressed concern about the Council's involvement in the matter. The email was acknowledged. As the parishioner proposed not to get into further correspondence and also expressed that there was no need for a response, Councillors agreed not to send a reply.

On reflection, Councillors agreed that making decisions outside of meetings was problematic and as a result any future decisions would be delayed until the next Council meeting. However, should an urgent decision be required an emergency meeting would be called.

RESOLVED that an emergency meeting will be called for any urgent matters arising between meetings unless authority has been specifically delegated.

21/046 **The Hollow**

Concerns have been raised by several residents regarding water runoff from the Hollow Track leading to flooding and other highway issues.

RESOLVED that Councillors Lightfoot (designated responsibility for Flooding and Rights of Way) and Barter (designated responsibility for Highways) would seek to organise a meeting of a working group between representatives from Dorset Council, the Erica Trust as landowner, and residents. The Parish Council has no authority in the matter but hopes to be able to bring interested parties together to agree solutions to ongoing problems. Councillors will facilitate the meeting and the Clerk will provide administrative support. **Action: Cllrs Lightfoot and Barter**

21/047 **Payments and accounts**

A financial statement for the 1st quarter of 2021-2022 was received and considered.

RESOLVED to approve the following payments:

11/08/2021	A. Bendall	Salary	£369.13
11/08/2021	A. Bendall	Home working allowance	£10.00
11/08/2021	A. Bendall	Reimburse for Microsoft office	£59.99
11/08/2021	DAPTC	Training	£30.00
11/08/2021	Community Heartbeat Trust	Annual Support (Node 4495)	£165.00
11/08/2021	Community Heartbeat Trust	Annual Support (Node 4495) (VAT)	£20.00
Total			£654.12

21/048 **Correspondence received**

Dorset Council have provided a map confirming that they are not responsible for the roadside verge where the bus shelter and Coronation Tree in Briantspuddle are located. This land is private and the tenant has contacted the Parish Council to confirm that the landowner has delegated decisions regarding the management of plants to the tenant who wishes to preserve the ash trees growing near to the Coronation Tree. It was agreed that given the Parish Councils responsibility for the Coronation Tree, a long-term care plan should be created for the tree and the Dorset Council Tree Officer would be asked to give an opinion on this.

A resident has reported concerns about ash trees along roadsides to Dorset Council. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask for the reference number for this report so that the issue can be monitored, and that Dorset Council would be asked if they have a policy for dealing with ash die back.

Residents of Peony Cottage contacted the Parish Council following the Council's objections to their planning application. They queried why Councillors had not made an effort to visit the property as the outbuildings are not visible from the road and extended an invitation for Councillors to do so. Councillor Jones accepted this invitation and visited. It was explained that the decision regarding the planning application is in the hands of the planning authority who will consider all comments. The Parish Councils comments were also explained to the homeowners.

21/049 **Date of next meeting and items for the agenda**

The next meeting is due to be held on Wednesday 8th September 2021, at 7.00 pm in Briantspuddle Village Hall and will include a discussion regarding Jubilee celebrations.

Meeting closed at 9:10 pm.

.....Chair
Sue Jones

Date: