

## Minutes of a meeting of Affpuddle and Turnerspudde Parish Council (A&TPC) held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021 in Briantspuddle Village Hall

**Chair:** Cllr Sue Jones

**Other Councillors Present:** Cllrs Charles Barter (Vice-Chair), Stuart Chorley, Graham Lightfoot, Emily Hall, Lizzie Guinn, David Neudegg and Damon Green.

**Clerk:** Anna Bendall and Michelle Berry

**Also, in attendance:** 3 members of the public.

### **Minute Number**      **Comments**

#### 21/142      **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Councillor David Leigh-Ewers.

#### 21/143      **Co-option**

**RESOLVED** to approve the appointment of Damon Green as a co-opted member of the Council. The Chair invited Councillor Green to join the other members and welcomed him as a new Parish Councillor.

#### 21/144      **Declarations of interest and dispensations requested**

Cllr Chorley and Cllr Lightfoot both declared a non-pecuniary interest in the agenda item related to tree works at 6 Bladen Valley. Cllrs Chorley and Lightfoot did not participate in either the discussion or the decision.

Cllr Green declared an interest in the planning application for Weatherby House. Cllr Green later left the room during this agenda item.

#### 21/145      **Public participation**

A resident queried the opening of a new savings account and transfer of reserves (both items included on the agenda). The savings account is being opened in order to earn some interest on funds held and to close the NS&I account which has been difficult to administrate. The general reserve fund is held to cover payments made before precept instalments are received, as well as any VAT paid before it is reclaimed. Reserves are held for specific purposes, the largest of which is for maintenance of the Old Granary building, which is leased by the Parish Council to the Village Shop. The terms of the lease mean that some responsibility for repair and maintenance continues to rest with the Parish Council.

A resident commented that he and others were upset by the article in the Parish Magazine about straw spillage in The Hollow. The Chairman explained that it was not intended to cause offence, its purpose was to purely reflect the discussion at the previous PC meeting and to collect more information. He went on to explain that he thought the issues were caused by overhanging trees and asked the Parish Council to make arrangements for the work necessary to comply with highway clearance guidelines.

It was agreed to include this matter as a specific Agenda item at the May meeting.

#### 21/133      **Confirmation of minutes of the A&TPC meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes for the A&TPC meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021 be approved and signed in the presence of the meeting.

## 21/134 **Matters arising from the minutes of previous meetings**

21/134 – The Erica Trust is now able to benefit from a visit from a Natural England expert to discuss plans for the Hollow Track. No date had yet been set.

The Jubilee plaque to commemorate the planting of the parish oak tree is now in place. Deer protective fencing has also been installed.

The Southover Farm Slurry Community Liaison Group was not able to hold its scheduled meeting because of a Covid case. No date has yet been agreed for the rescheduled meeting. A letter has been sent to the Chairman of the Group by Community representatives requesting the landowner to confirm certain information prior to the meeting.

Leakage of sewage at The Hollow track is still being investigated.

## 21/135 **Dorset Councillor's report**

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

## 21/136 **Planning and other applications/notifications**

[P/HOU/2022/01384](#) (Householder Planning Application)

Proposal: Erect workshop, garage with ancillary bedroom above (demolish existing workshop & garage).

Location: Chapel Cottage, 4 The Hollow, Briantspuddle, Dorset, DT2 7HX

**RESOLVED** to submit "no objection".

[P/FUL/2022/01728](#) (Full Planning Application)

Proposal: Change of use of existing annexe to allow residential and holiday letting.

Location: Weatherby House, Briantspuddle, Dorchester. DT2 7HL

**RESOLVED** to submit "no objection".

[P/TRC/2022/01607](#) (Tree Works in a Conservation area)

Proposal: T1 Ash with ash die back – Fell. T2 Cherry – Crown lift to provide 3m clearance from ground and 2m clearance from outbuilding.

Location: 6 Bladen Valley Briantspuddle Dorchester DT2 7HP

**RESOLVED** to make no comment.

## **Grass cutting and Grounds Maintenance**

The hourly rate for maintenance has been increased from £17 per hour to £22 per hour. This is the first increase in several years and includes all fuel and disposal of arisings.

The contractor has included an option to pay an additional £4 per hour if the Parish Council wish for eco-friendly fuel to be used. Cllr Lightfoot will first investigate the difference in CO2 emissions and environmental impact before a decision is made. **Action: Cllr Lightfoot**

The maintenance contract will be reviewed at the May meeting. In the meantime the Clerk will provide a map to show the areas across the Parish that are included in the contract.

## **Noticeboards**

Two additional keys are to be purchased for the Briantspuddle Noticeboards to allow easier access to add and remove Parish Council notices.

A letter has been received from a resident regarding condition of noticeboards. This will be discussed at the May meeting but in the meantime Councillors have been asked to consider their condition in advance of the next meeting.

21/138 **Payments and accounts**

RESOLVED to approve training costs of £45 (Clerk) and £49 (Councillor).

The Financial Statement for the end of financial year 2021-2022 was received and discussed.

RESOLVED to approve the transfer of £6,000 from the general reserve fund into the reserve for the Old Granary and £1,000 from the general reserve fund into the reserve for elections.

RESOLVED to authorise the opening of an instant access savings account with the Unity Trust Bank and transfer of £15,000 into the account.

**RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:

Payee	Description	Amount	Total to Payee
Briantspuddle VHC	Room hire	£80.00	£80.00
A. Bendall	Salary	£375.71	£400.10
	Home working allowance	£10.00	
	Zoom subscription	£11.99	
	Zoom subscription (VAT)	£2.40	

Total payments            £480.10

21/140 **Correspondence received**

A request for £300 to help fund the Jubilee celebrations was received from the Village Shop. It was proposed to purchase mugs as a gift for young parishioners under 18 and £200 was requested to support this initiative. A further £100 was requested for bunting. **RESOLVED** To approve the request for £300.

Ideally this request would have been set out as an Agenda item but the request had not been received in time for the Agenda and as such the request was considered too urgent to wait until the May meeting.

Cllr Chorley has reported that the VHC is looking at organising a street party.

The Village Shop Chairman notified the Parish Council that a number of roof tiles had slipped and asked the Council to investigate the matter. Councillor Green agreed to help facilitate any necessary repair work.

An email had been received by a resident objecting to the Parish Magazine article about The Hollow and Straw Spillage. It was agreed that opening a dialogue would be desirable to build a better understanding of the issues. A reply will be sent making this suggestion.

21/141 **Date of next meeting and items for the agenda**

The next meeting is due to be held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022, at 7.00 pm in Briantspuddle Village Hall.

21/142 **Resignation**

The resignation of the Clerk and RFO was noted. Employment is to cease on 22/04/2022.

Parish Councillors expressed their thanks and appreciation for all the hard work and support that Anna had provided as our Parish Clerk and wished her well as she furthers her career in finance.

21/143 **Appointment**

**RESOLVED** to appoint Michelle Berry as Clerk/RFO. The draft contract and all included terms were approved.

21/144 **Bank**

**RESOLVED** to authorise a change to the bank account adding the new Clerk as the administrator of the account and removing the outgoing Clerk.

Meeting closed at 8:50 pm.

.....Chair  
Sue Jones

Date: