

## LITTON CHENEY PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Litton Cheney Parish Council held on 7:30pm on Tuesday 14 May 2024 At Litton and Thorner's Community Hall

Present: Bill Orchard (Chairman); Quentin Blacke; John Firrell; Andy King; Rob Matthews; Andrew Price; Lucy Beasley (Clerk).

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Sally Holland (Dorset Council)

2. Welcome to Cllr Rob Matthews and returning Councillors.

Cllr. Orchard thanked returning and new Councillors.

3. Declarations of interest

None recorded.

4. Election of Chairman

Cllr Orchard was proposed by Cllr Firrell, seconded by Cllr. King. Unanimously agreed.

It was noted that at some point Cllrs Orchard and Firrell may wish to step down as Chair and Vice-Chair and that the next few years should hopefully identify and train someone to both positions.

The lack of gender balance was noted and it was hoped that female parishioners would step forward to become councillors soon.

5. Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr Firrell was proposed by Cllr King, seconded by Cllr Matthews and unanimously agreed.

6. Democratic time

None.

7. Co-option of Andrew Price to fill vacancy on the Parish Council

Mr. Andrew Price was put forward as a candidate for co-option. He had previously served as a Councillor and indicated he would like to see two matters concluded: an unresolved outstanding enforcement notice at Parks Farm and a traffic regulation order to impose a weight limit on Whiteway, the latter being in progress for several years.

Proposed Cllr Firrell seconded Cllr Matthews and unanimously agreed.

Cllr Orchard welcomed Cllr Price back to the council and thanked him for his previous hard work.

8. Approval of Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 12 March 2024

Proposed by Cllr Orchard, seconded by Cllr Firrell and unanimously agreed to be a true record of the meeting held 12 March 2024.

9. Matters arising since previous meeting not part of this Agenda

None recorded.

10. Dorset Council overview - Ward Councillor for Chesil Bank (Cllr Sally Holland). N/A

11. Clerk's/RFO's report including:

- The Parish Council was asked to note the Annual Internal Audit Report dated 30 April 2024. A delay in producing the End of Year Accounts had been noted by the auditor. The council thanked auditor Lesley Salvetti for her time and expertise.
- The Parish Council was asked to note that the Inventory has been updated.

- The Parish Council was asked to approve the recently reviewed Risk Assessment Proposed Cllr Firrell, seconded Cllr King and unanimously agreed.
- The Parish Council is asked to note that the following policies and public documents have been reviewed and updated, with no significant amendments: Model Publication Scheme; Transparency Checklist;
- The Parish Council reviewed the Year-to-Date finance report.
- Approval of invoices for payment:

DAPTC	Annual Membership	196.65
R Sorrell	Grass Cutting	253.8
	Total	450.45

Proposed Cllr Orchard, seconded Cllr Firrell and unanimously agreed. **LB**

- Approval of Schedule of Regular Payments.  
No regular payments were proposed.
- The PC was asked to note that the Parish Council has appropriate insurance. The Insurance renewal quote for the year commencing May 2024 was £418.36 and it was noted that this was year 3 of a 3 year agreement.

#### 8. Councillors' Portfolios:

Planning (Cllr Orchard): No new planning apps other than for tree work. Cllr Orchard agreed to contact those involved with Charity Farm and find out what works were in progress. **BO**  
Affordable housing provision had been integral to the council's initial neutral comment on the application seven years prior, but those homes had not yet been provided to the village. Cllr Orchard asked the Clerk to draft a letter to DC planning officers requesting an update. **LB**

It was noted that a large industrial chimney had been erected on Fry's paint store. Cllr Orchard agreed to contact the company to discuss a possible mitigation to help it blend in. **BO**

Highways/Transport Cllr Price: No further update.

Playground/ Playing Field/Allotments Cllr A. King: It was noted that the substrate under the swings would require replacement. The picnic benches had been repaired and maintained. There had been no reports of littering or vandalism, showing how important the public space was to parishioners. There is potential for an outdoor gym area and Cllr King agreed to investigate how well used they were locally. **AK**

Countryside Matters/Footpaths/Rights of Way Cllr Blacke: No further update.

Village Fabric/ Maintenance/ DAPTC/BLAP/Administration and Probity Cllr J. Firrell: It was confirmed that LATCH had been awarded £8k from Low Carbon Dorset to put toward the cost of installing solar panels on the hall. Total cost of installation was noted as £16k. Cllr Firrell suggested a point for the next meeting should be raised to discuss whether the CIL could be used to meet the shortfall. **LB**

Telecommunications/IT Cllr Matthews: Cllr Matthews had received the historical information on the full fibre proposal and was pleased to take that forward in the coming months.

9. Planning matters –new applications: none received.

10. Correspondence not dealt with as part of agenda. None received.

11. Date of next meeting: The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 9 July 2024.

Meeting closed 21:39

Lucy Beasley, Parish Clerk