

LITTON CHENEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Tuesday 10th July 2012 at Litton and Thorner's
Community Hall, Litton Cheney

Present: S. Kourik (Chairman), I. Homer, W. Orchard, Clerk J. Firrell, and four local residents.

1. **Apologies:** Mrs S. Dyke (Deputy Chairman), D. Bowen, H. Lantos, Mrs A. Spurrier and Cllrs Coatsworth and Bartlett.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
3. **Democratic Time:** Mr F. Spicer requested that action be taken to clear back the overgrown greenery on Church Path. The Chairman said that DCC produce a leaflet for such occasions indicating that if residents do not control such growth the county council will remove it and charge the occupants. This leaflet will be distributed to the occupants of Church Path in the hope they will take action without the need for further intervention.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8th May 2012:**
Proposed by S. Kourik, seconded by I. Homer and carried unanimously that the Minutes reflected a true record of the meeting.
5. **Matters arising:** Lengthsman – Two people had indicated an interest in the position of temporary village lengthsman. One had already carried out several jobs on a trial basis and the other was in the process of doing the same. The PC would make a decision once the trials had been completed.
6. **Finance Report:** Current funds stood at £4477.57 with income since May being £981.02 and expenditure £1983.62. Income was derived from bank interest (17p); re-imburement from LATCH (£894.35) and Vat refund (£86.50). Expenditure covered hire of hall for PC meetings (£71.00), seminars/courses for councillors (£50), insurance (£626.49), BV Scouts (£75), Hall extension planning fees (£930 – re-imbursed by LATCH) and Clerk's salary. A further Vat refund of £178.87 was due. The following invoices were approved for payment: - Purchase of materials for BV Scouts to carry out their tasks within the village (D. Bowen) £47.98, DAPTC annual subscription £121.20, Flagpole Express £78.00, R. Randall (ditch clearing) £180 and Village Lengthsman £45. Proposed by W. Orchard, seconded by I. Homer and carried unanimously. Bridport & District Tourism Association had written inviting the village to become a member at £20 per annum. After some discussion it was decided not to pursue the matter. Internal Audit – There were still a number of items still to address including a re-signing of the Annual Report and this would be completed over the coming days. VAT – Mr R. Dewar (Internal Auditor) drew the attention of the council to the question of Vat. It was important to ensure that the correct procedure was being carried out when the council were paying for services whereby other parties were involved. The Council agreed to consider this at their next meeting. Mr Dewar also provided some clarification concerning Localisation of Council

Tax Support. Much of its relevance is down to how many people in the community are receiving benefits outside of state pensions.

7. **Draft Local Plan:** A Draft Local Plan (DLP) had been produced by WDDC and observations/objections were required by 27th July. Mr F. Spicer was invited to comment concerning the possible need to take account of brownfield sites in the DLP which it did not appear to do, and was particularly relevant to Litton Cheney. The Chairman indicated that he and other councillors had attended various seminars and meetings and had also investigated what could be done to address this situation. It was agreed a form of words would be drafted and circulated that would properly reflect the PC's views and also take into account the general consensus in the village. After note: A Village Meeting was held on 19th July and over 45 people attended. All were given a chance to have their say. The PC then drafted a response reflecting the view of the meeting and this response was posted on the village website prior to the end of the consultation period.
8. **Code of Conduct:** The NALC's draft Code of Conduct together with annexes A & B had previously been circulated to councillors. It was the recommendation of the Dorset Association of Parish & Town Councils that this Code be adopted together with Annex A. Annex B could be considered once experience of the code had been tested. It was proposed by I. Homer, seconded by W. Orchard and carried unanimously that the NALC Code of Conduct be adopted, together with Annex A.
9. **Councillors Portfolios:** Highways/Traffic/Transport – W. Orchard indicated that as a result of the recent torrential downpours and flooding there were an increasing number of potholes and roads breaking up. Local residents were urged to report these defects rather than wait for other people or bodies to make the report so that repairs could take place soonest. Rights of Way – S Kourik updated the meeting about the footpath that goes from the White Horse to Puncknowle. Once agreed with Andy Romans a boardwalk/decking would be put down by DCC where the pathway becomes marshy. Allotments/Playing Field – In the absence of D. Bowen, J. Firrell indicated that things were on an even keel as far as the allotments were concerned although more work would now be required after the constant deluge. The playing fields were now being cut on a regular basis.
10. **Planning Applications:** Bride Valley Nurseries – The PC had objected to the application to build a 3-bedroom dwelling on the site believing it to set a most dangerous precedent. The full report can be found on the Dorset for You website. Barges Cottage – The PC had supported this application with a note to take account of local resident's comments.
11. **Correspondence:** None as dealt with in other matters on this agenda.
12. **AOB:** Letter from Resident about the Triangle – A letter had been received decrying the removal of a shrub from the Triangle. This matter had already been discussed by the PC and relevant parties had been involved in the decision to remove the shrub. The Chairman would respond in writing to the local resident. Register of Interests – a new form had

been produced and this required councillors to complete the form within 28 days (by 9 August) and return it to the Clerk. Copies of the form had been passed to councillors.

13.Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 11th September, 7.30 pm.

14. There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9 pm.

John Firrell - Parish Clerk