

LITTON CHENEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Litton Cheney Parish Council Meeting Held on Tuesday 11th November 2014 At Litton and Thorner's Community Hall

Present: S. Kourik (Chairman), Dr. H. Lantos, W. Orchard, Mrs A. Spurrier and J. Firrell (Clerk). Also present Cllr R. Coatsworth and initially two local residents.

1. **Apologies:** D. Bowen, Mrs S. Dyke (Deputy Chairman) and I. Homer.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
3. **Democratic Time:** Mr J. Rowlands brought to the notice of the Parish Council the matter regarding the recently constructed gully in Hines Mead Lane. The lane had undergone resurfacing work due to erosion from HGV's and agricultural vehicles. Sadly additional work to incorporate a ditch/gully allowing surface water to be drained from the road was deemed by Mr Rowlands and his neighbour Mr Wheeler to be inadequate. Discussions had taken place with DCC and it was thought an equitable solution had been arrived at. However, this turned out not to be the case. Considerable detail is available on this matter which has been fortunately documented by Messrs Rowlands and Wheeler. Mr Wheeler also raised the point that road planings had been dumped at two field entrances - one has since been removed. Cllr Coatsworth asked for location details of this site and said he would visit very shortly and if it was indeed inadequate, it would be fixed. After note - Cllr Coatsworth has visited. We await further information.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 9th September:** Proposed by W, Orchard, seconded by Dr. H. Lantos and carried, there being one abstention, that the minutes represented a true record of the meeting.
5. **Matters Arising: Defibrillator** - The location of this equipment has yet to be determined, the ideal place being the BT kiosk. BT had asked if the telephone equipment could be removed, and had offered the PC the ability to purchase the kiosk for £1. Until a radio mast was in place and a mobile signal received in the village/valley the PC could not contemplate the telephone being removed. It was agreed to write to BT informing them of the situation, the final outcome being determined by the state of play over the radio mast.
6. **Finance Report:** Current funds stood at **£6044.69**. Since September, income amounted to £1799.16p (16p interest and £1799 second-half of precept). Expenditure since September had amounted to £573.00 (Lengthsman £150, Clerk's salary £173 and Flagpole £250). **An invoice for £90** (Lengthsman) was approved proposed by Dr. H. Lantos, seconded by W. Orchard and carried unanimously. **A request** had been received from St Mary's Church PCC requesting financial assistance towards the upkeep of the churchyard. Proposed by W. Orchard, seconded by Mrs A. Spurrier and carried unanimously that St. Mary's be given £250. **Village Precept** - A lengthy discussion ensued as to the amount required to fulfil the PC's financial commitments in 2015/16. On balance the PC's finances were in good shape with limited commitments to take account of. It was decided to **increase the precept by £100**, bringing the annual precept up to £3600. In addition a grant will be paid to the PC of £74, reduced to £49 in 2016/17. Proposed by Dr. H. Lantos, seconded by Mrs A. Spurrier and carried unanimously.
7. **Councillors Portfolios: Highways** - W. Orchard suggested there was a need to meet with Long Bredy over the question of signage for HGV's. At the moment with there being no sign at all, HGV's on their way to the cheese dairy could turn left or right at Bredy Hut - by turning right they would drive through Litton Cheney, a totally inappropriate route. Further discussions would take place. **Main Street** inconsiderate parking on Main Street near The Orchard was making vehicles intent on going up to Charity Farm veer towards the stream, and running the risk of caving in the grass verge. If at all possible local residents should park their cars within their property. **Playing Fields/Allotments** - nothing to report in the absence of D. Bowen. **Sustainable Development** - nothing to report in the absence of Mrs Dyke.

Footpaths/Lengthsman - S. Kourik reported that cattle had escaped from a field in School Lane as a result of the gate being left open. The farmer had subsequently locked the gate with chain and padlocked. Given this was a public footpath that was not allowed and he had spoken with the farmer who, after some discussion, had unchained the gate. As a result of the gate being repaired it now opened and closed more easily. There was a need to chase the Dorset Countryside Ranger and coordinate over rights of way. **Magna Green** - The PC agreed in principle to increase their offer for the "Green" above that presently offered (£50) once legal costs had been established.

8. **BT Kiosk:** This matter had been covered under Matters Arising.
9. **Planning Matters: Local Plan Public Examination** - This would be held on Wednesday 26th November in Dorchester. LCPC had been invited to attend but confirmation would be sought if we would be allowed to comment or contribute. **Meeting with Director of Environment** - This would be held on Friday 19th December. The Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Clerk would attend, and from WDDC in addition to Dr David Evans, John Greenslade and Debbie Redding.
10. **Correspondence:** All dealt with within others parts of the agenda.
11. **Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday 13th January 2015 at 7.30 pm.
12. **AOB: DAPTC AGM** - The Clerk attended this meeting and informed councillors that a number of resolutions had been passed which ultimately, if adopted by WDDC, might bring about certain changes in planning. It was a well attended meeting with 46 councils represented. **Radio Mast** - S. Kourik updated the meeting stating that a 15 metre mast would be erected and at that height would not require formal planning approval, the planning authority being duly notified of its construction. Tests had been carried out and it seemed that the signal was strong. All that remained were administrative and legal and it was hoped these could be completed fairly quickly. **Cllr Coatsworth** - The Chairman asked the Cllr if he would like to address the meeting on any matter. It seemed that **WDDC** were to get an extra councillor bringing the number of councillors to 46. The extra one would be in North Dorset. **Gullies/Drains** would be emptied annually and there were to be more community linked signs erected highlighting the local aspect within communities. **Cllr Coatsworth** requested at future meetings if he might be allowed to speak earlier in the meeting. The Chairman readily agreed.
13. There being no further business the meeting was closed at **9.10 pm**.

J. Firrell
Parish Clerk.