

Litton Cheney Parish Council

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting Held on Tuesday 8th May 2012 At Litton and Thorner's Community Hall Litton Cheney

Present: S. Kourik, I. Homer, H. Lantos, W. Orchard, Mrs A. Spurrier and Parish Clerk J. Firrell.
Also present: Cllr R. Coatsworth and 3 residents.

1. **Apologies:** D. Bowen, Mrs S Dyke and Cllr Bartlett.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
3. **Election of Chairman:** It was proposed by H. Lantos, seconded by Mrs A. Spurrier that S. Kourik be elected Chairman. Carried unanimously.
4. **Election of Vice-Chairman:** It was proposed by S. Kourik, seconded by W. Orchard that Mrs S. Dyke be elected Vice-Chairman. Carried unanimously.
5. **Democratic Time:** The Chairman invited those present to raise any matters of local importance. The invitation was taken up by Mr F. Spicer on the subject of **Summer Hill**. Planning permission had been granted by WDDC on a second application altering the height of the boundary wall but concern had been expressed that the tactics employed in obtaining this permission were questionable and appeared to ride roughshod over planning procedures. Due consideration had not been given to the concerns of the Parish Council. The original planning application approved by WDDC and supported by the Parish Council had seemingly been ignored. After some discussion in which councillors expressed their disapproval in the way the application had been handled by WDDC, it was decided that a letter from the Parish Council expressing both concern and disapproval of the way the application was handled should be sent to the Chairman of West Dorset District Council. The council felt at the very least, given the Parish Council's strong objection to the second application, the matter should have been referred to West Dorset District Council's Planning Committee rather than seemingly gone through on the nod.
6. Mr B. Prentice raised the matter of the holiday accommodation being built at **Charity Farm** and suggested the roof ridge of the buildings was higher than that approved.
7. **Approval of the Village Assembly Minutes held on 10th May 2011:** Proposed by S. Kourik, seconded by W. Orchard and carried unanimously that the minutes represented a true reflection of the Meeting.
8. **Matters Arising:** None.
9. **Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th March 2012:** Proposed by H. Lantos, seconded by Mrs A. Spurrier and carried unanimously that the minutes be approved.
10. **Matters Arising:** All relevant matters would be discussed at this Meeting.
11. **Councillors Portfolios & Reports:** Allotments & Playing Field – In the absence of Cllr Bowen, the Clerk reported that things were in hand to have the rusting goal posts re-painted during a Scout initiative on 19 May – a modern day equivalent of Bob-a-Job – and the park benches renovated. It was agreed a sum of £75 would be donated to the Bride Valley Scouts. Highways – W. Orchard highlighted a large pothole appearing in the area of Four Meads farm – it would be reported to DCC. Broadband – H. Lantos updated the meeting on this scheme. A sum of £9.4 million matched by Dorset CC had been given to the county to assist with the installation of hi-speed broadband. Our bid to be used as a pilot scheme for a

Vodafone initiative which had been put forward by our MP, Oliver Letwin, had been turned down due to certain technical deficiencies relevant in the area.

- 12. Annual Finance Report: Funds** carried forward to 1st April 2012.were £3980.08. During 2011/12 income totaled £7739.37 and expenditure £8417.55, an excess over income of £678.18. Since 1st April a further £1585.09 had accrued to the Parish funds. A VAT refund of £86.50 was also due. **Invoices** requiring approval were: - Hall Hire (for meetings) £71, Insurance £626, DAPTC (Seminar & HMRC Surgery) £50, CG Fry & Son £143.22 and MCA Lawray £930. CG Fry & Son and MCA Lawray would be re-imbursed by LATCH and referred to car park hoggin and hall extension planning drawings. Proposed by Mrs A. Spurrier, seconded by I. Homer and carried unanimously. The Parish Council approved the quote for **grass cutting** submitted by R. Randall at £32.50 per cut plus Vat. **Sections 1 & 2 of the Annual Report** were approved by the Parish Council. Proposed by S. Kourik, seconded by W. Orchard and carried unanimously. The need for a new **Code of Conduct** was discussed and it was agreed this would be discussed further at the July meeting when more detailed guidance was available from government and local authority. **Lengthsman**- the services of a temporary village lengthsman was required and notices had been posted on the village website and BVN. After note: Local man Tom French had applied and was being given a month's trial.
- 13. Planning Applications:** C. G Fry & Son (1/D/12/000676) – Erection of extension to existing office and workshop building. – The Parish Council supports this application. Summer Hill – This application has been approved by WDDC. 1 Charity Farm House (1/D/12/000709) – Remove and install 7 no. replacement windows – The Parish Council would be supporting this application.
- 14. Correspondence** – Thank you letters had been received from the various charities and organisations that the Parish Council donated funds to. All other correspondence dealt with in other agenda items.
- 15. Any Other Business:** Lengthsman – It was suggested that if a lengthsman could not be found that we contact Puncknowle Parish Council to enquire if they would consider sharing. Armed Forces Day – It was proposed by W. Orchard, seconded by Mrs A. Spurrier and carried unanimously that the Parish Council purchase an Armed Forces Day flag that hopefully could be flown from St Mary's Church tower on Saturday 30 June. Thank You – Mr F Spicer asked that it be placed on record his thanks for the work that the Parish Council carries out during its period of office.
- 16.** There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

J. Firrell
Parish Clerk