

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 11th July 2024 at Maiden Newton Village Hall.**Present:**

Trena Fox (TF) (Chair)

Jeremy Edwards (JE) (Vice Chair)

Alan Goff (AG)

Anne Clements (AC)

Emma Moore (EM)

Lawrie Goff (LG)

Carol King (CK)

Toni C-M (TC)

In attendance: Cllr Neil Eysenck (Ward Cllr) Clerk- Mrs M Harding and 15 members of the Public

24/07-1. Welcome and opening remarks from the Chair.

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the five candidates for coming forward to fill the two vacancies on the current Group Parish Council.

Trena commented that councillors met for a budget meeting update, which was very helpful.

During the meeting, they discussed how the money would be spent for the coming year, and this gave an insight for new Cllrs.

Trena also attended the trailway meeting with Anne Clements, Toller Porcorum PC and our ward councillor. This will be discussed later in the meeting.

24/07-2. To receive and approve apologies for absence. Bekkie Webb**24/07-3. To receive declarations of interest or grants of dispensation-** None.**24/07-4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 6th June 2024 and sign.** These minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed AG Seconded AC All agreed.

24/07-5. To receive any matters arising from the minutes for information only-

The Service level agreements will be sent to groups in September/October.

The land at Black bridge is private land, so no works will take place in this area unless the landowner approves.

24/07-6. To consider the Co-option of Councillors each for the vacancies for Frome Vauchurch and Maiden Newton parishes.

The Chair invited the candidates to speak at the meeting. Alison Blazeby, Ray D'Inverno, Toni Cussons-Mikutis, and Carol King all stood and spoke. Georgina Stephenson was unable to attend due to other commitments.

The Clerk explained how the voting would be carried out. This would be done by paper ballot, which would be available for viewing by members and attendees at the meeting if desired. As there were four candidates from Frome Vauchurch Parish, the voting would be done in rounds, with the candidate receiving the lowest votes in each round being eliminated until one candidate with a majority remains.

The voting process took place, and a majority was reached in the first round. Toni Cussons-Mikutis was co-opted to the vacancy in Frome Vauchurch. This was verified by Ward Cllr Neil Eysenck.

There was one candidate for MN: Carol King, who was proposed by JE and seconded by LG, with 5 votes in favour and one abstention (due to a conflict of interest).

The new councillors were welcomed to the Council, signed their declarations of interest, and joined the meeting.

24/07-7. To receive a report from the Eggardon Ward Councillor for Dorset Council

Neil Eysenck provided an update based on information from Dorset Council. He mentioned that there is to be a Cabinet meeting and that there's further funding for EV charging points. He hopes that the Parish Council has been consulted on this matter, which was confirmed.

Neil also discussed the new Audit Committee, which is considering the disclosure of councillors' interests. However, this is being put out for further discussion to determine what should and shouldn't be included.

He mentioned that there has been a change to the delegation of planning to make it easier for ward councillors to delegate planning matters to committee.

Neil also commented on an item for discussion at the meeting on the 18th of July regarding a nature emergency. Although he would like to support this proposal, he is unsure if it has been widely consulted with parish and town councils. It was confirmed that the parish council has not been consulted and that many other parishes have also not been notified. Further information will be gathered before the Council can make any comments.

24/07-8. Democratic Forum (15 minutes)

A resident of the village commented on a nomination they had received from Dorset Community Transport to become their hero for the county. The resident has been elected to this role for her dedication to transport for the village and Dorset. The resident was thanked for all her support and help and congratulated.

A resident thanked whoever was concerned for the cutting of the railway track. Additionally, they asked if there had been any further inquiries into a zebra crossing at the school. It was explained that Becky has met with Highways regarding the issues of traffic safety, and surveys are to be discussed later in the meeting.

A resident asked about overflow from sewers into the river. The council was not aware of this information.

AC commented on an item that has been brought to her attention regarding a community car scheme or car share scheme for shopping and trips. She is making inquiries to see if there is a scheme available for people to use on behalf of the PC.

AG commented that the verge cutting is becoming quite ridiculous and asked when it is going to start as it is now very dangerous. Neil Eysenck will look into this. The Clerk was able to pull up a list of verge cutting dates from the Dorset Council website. Neil Eysenck was asked to confirm if these dates were correct.

24/07-9. Finance:

i. To receive the report and recommendations from the finance meeting

A useful meeting was held of Cllrs at the fire station to discuss the budget, financial regulations and how the Council manages the budget and projects. Items for decision are:

- To gather costs for the moving of the Allotment water tank and repairs to the access track.

- To prepare a spec for the MUGA after site meetings- site meetings have been booked with MUGA contractors in order to prepare a suitable spec, the types of surfacing to be considered are 2G and 3G so that the surface is flexible. A further report and costs are hoped to be available for the September meeting.
- To approve the Financial regs- the new model version 2024 was sent out from NALC in May 2024. This version was updated to meet the needs of MN&FVPC.
- To arrange a site meeting of assets a new date to be agreed so that new Cllrs can attend.

The report circulated and recommendations were agreed.

Proposed EM, seconded by AC All agreed

ii. To consider a grant towards grass cutting at FV churchyard.

The Council considered the application form and request for £500, noting that £42 was paid for the upkeep of the churchyard last year. Currently, no grass cutting costs are paid to contractors as this work is done by volunteers. The Council discussed how a donation could be monitored to ensure it is spent on grass cutting.

Councillors proposed not to support a donation at this time but to ask the PCC to come back to the Council should a contractor be engaged, and support be required for the grass cutting of the churchyard in the future.

iii. To consider all payments and receipts due or paid since the last meeting.

Payee	Detail	Receipt	Payment
Lloyds bank	Reserve account interest	47.08	
Lloyds Bank	32-day account interest	48.47	
BWP Creative	Website costs		72.00
National Allotment Society	Subscription		66.00
SSE	Electricity at the MUGA hut		10.22
Admin costs			1003.96
MN Village Hall	Hall hire FV parish meeting		8.00
J Carver	Grass contract		406.66
Debbie Wiltshire	Internal Audit		80.00

Proposed JE, seconded AG Bank balances as at 30th June 2024 £71,363.47

24/07-10. Council property:

i. To receive the monthly property risk assessment reports (ALL)

Play Area- ok, whale springer has been repaired, MUGA and Playing field- maintenance required at the entrance to remove overhanging vegetation LG to action, Monuments, bus shelters are ok, Rock Pit car park is going to need some work shortly, but tree works need to be carried out first, the Dorset Council countryside team are dealing with this. Allotments- An inspection of those plots that had not been cultivated last time were reinspected prior to the meeting and further letters will be sent. There are still vacant plots at this time.

ii. To consider the quotes for the fence at Harvey's green.

Three quotes had been gathered to replace the broken fence at Harvey Green. The quote for £1243.75 including vat was agreed. The contactor confirmed was Mintern Fencing. Proposed EM seconded by TCM -All agreed

24/07-11. To consider all planning applications in circulation any other planning matters.

- P/TRC/2024/03141 Proposal: T1 Cypress - Fell, T2 Hazel - Coppice to ground level
Location: Walnut Tree Cottage- *no objections*
- P/HOU/2024/03134 Proposal: Erect single storey side extension
Location: Walnut Tree Cottage, 3 Kingsley Paddock- *no objections*
- P/MPO/2024/03546 Proposal: Discharge requirements of Planning Obligation dated 30 January 2024 relating to planning permission number P/FUL/2023/03001 for Construction of a new 2-bedroom domestic dwelling. Remove the requirement for phosphate neutrality in the Poole Harbour area as this is no longer required
Location: 14 & 14A Hill View- Maiden Newton- *no objections*
- EN/2024/00255- BT exchange being investigated as a potential change of use- for information.
- P/CLE/2024/03666 Proposal: Use of part of barn for stationing a vehicle for residential purposes
Location: Ananda Norden Lane, Maiden Newton- *the PC can find no evidence to the contrary but raises concerns on the management of waste from the site.*
- P/HOU/2024/03500 Proposal: Works to garage including insertion of roof light and construction of external stair access; balcony and access door to first floor ancillary accommodation- *No objections*

24/07-12. To receive any Highways reports-**i. To consider the sites and costs of the traffic surveys to promote traffic calming measures, for a SID and 20mph limits**

BW was unable to attend the meeting but had provided a report prior to the meeting of the suggested sites and costs for the surveys, these were agreed at a cost of £1100 plus vat. Proposed LG Seconded AC- all agreed

24/07-13. To receive any Rights of way reports-**i. To consider supporting the development of the old Toller Porcorum to Maiden Newton section of the old railway into a trailway for use by cyclists, walkers and horse riders east of Toller Porcorum to Maiden Newton. TF and AC attended the site meeting and walked part of the route; they recommended that the council supports this project using the following statement:**

“Maiden Newton and Frome Vauchurch Parish Council supports the development of the old Toller Porcorum to Maiden Newton section of the old railway into a trailway for use by cyclists, walkers and horse riders east of Toller Porcorum to Maiden Newton. The Council asks Dorset Council to consider using all means at its disposal to secure

the necessary land to advance this project including Section 16 of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965.”

The Council supported this proposal Proposed JE, seconded AC- all agreed

Chris Slade reported that FP9 the drift to the nature area has been reported several times to RoW but has been noted as low priority, the PC will follow this up and ask that natural England also report the right of way.

24/07-14. To consider items of correspondence received or for noting.

A complaint was received regarding the lack of toilets at the station. Cllrs discussed the issue and noted that the issue of managing toilets is the cost of maintenance. The PC had looked into waterless toilets at the allotments, but there was no support for them. This has been the only complaint at this time, therefore the PC agreed to no further action.

24/07-15. To confirm items for the next Parish Council meeting to be held on 5th September.

MUGA quotes and further items to be advised.

24/07-16. Democratic forum 15 minutes- members of the public to raise any other items that may form future agenda items.

A resident asked that the War Memorial be cleaned as it has been some time since it was last cleaned and it's looking quite dirty. The Council commented that it was cleaned about five years ago, and the advice was not to do it too often in order to preserve the writing on the memorial.

A resident also inquired about the Trailway and the Council's support for it. They asked if this initiative would allow children and visitors to cycle and possibly complete a loop. It was confirmed that if the project goes ahead, this would be possible.

Another resident raised concerns about Back Lane, noting that it currently has a national speed limit. They asked what speed reductions and traffic calming measures could be implemented. It was noted that this road is under a national speed limit, and currently, Highways are not planning to make any changes to the speed limits on C&D roads in any of the parishes. However, Neil Eysenck commented that he is looking into some of these issues at Highways and will happily follow this up for the Parish Council.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 20.02