

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Thursday 5th September 2024 at
Maiden Newton Village Hall.**

Present:

Trena Fox (TF) (Chair)

Jeremy Edwards (JE) (Vice Chair)

Alan Goff (AG)

Bekkie Webb

Anne Clements (AC)

Carol King (CK)

Toni C-M (TC)

In attendance: Clerk- Mrs M Harding and 5 members of the Public

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

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, since the last meeting Cllrs had a site meeting of all the PC assets, also the Cross has been weeded and the Millennium stone has been cleaned.

24/07-2. To receive and approve apologies for absence Emma Moore, Lawrie Goff, and Cllr Neil Eysenck (Ward Cllr)**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 11th July 2024 and sign.** These minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed JE Seconded AG All agreed.

24/07-5. To receive any matters arising from the minutes for information only-none**24/07-6. To receive a report from the Eggardon Ward Councillor for Dorset Council-** none as Neil Eysenck was unwell but would review any requests form the meeting.**24/07-7. Democratic Forum (15 minutes)**

A resident reported that the rubbish bin on Church Road is overflowing and not being emptied frequently. JE will look into this. CK commented on the path by the school, which will be reported to highways online for clearing.

BW reported on the PPG, who met the previous week. Volunteers are needed for the book exchange and for delivering prescriptions. Communications have improved, and vaccination clinics are about to start for RSV for those over 75's. Flu vaccinations will commence on the 5th of October, complaint forms can be found online or at reception.

Councillors noted that things seemed to have improved at the surgery but highlighted the issue of 81 hours lost in appointment time due to people not cancelling their appointments in time.

JE thanked the chairman and her husband for all their work in the village over the summer.

24/07-8. Finance:**i. To confirm support of the Country Cars mobile phone service and to receive and manage a grant payment on behalf of Country Cars**

The Clerk explained the request to assist Country Cars again this year with mobile phone costs, with the support of some surrounding parishes who also benefit from the service.

Cllrs agreed to support this cost again, then request a contribution from Toller Porcorum and Frome Valley Parish Council's Proposed JE, seconded by AC All agreed

ii. To agree to act as the bank for Country Cars to receive their grant of £500

Country Cars do not have a bank account and have applied for a grant for costs to advertise their services, the PC have been asked to act as the bank for this purpose and ring fence the money until needed. Cllrs agreed to support this request.

Proposed TC-M Seconded AC all agreed.

iii. To ratify the new electricity contract for the MUGA electric supply

The contract was up for renewal with SSE on 31st August, quotes had been gathered using U Switch and a contract was agreed with Valda a 100% green energy company.

This was agreed by Cllrs Proposed BW Seconded CK All agreed.

iv. To ratify the Annual Insurance.

The Annual Insurance was due on 2nd September, quotes had been gathered from a broker and a 3-year long term agreement was agreed at a cost of £1056.65. It was noted that the annual insurance covers employer liability, public liability on all assets, the MUGA and MUGA hut, play equipment and street furniture also events organised by the PC is covered.

Proposed CK Seconded TC-M All agreed.

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

Payee	Detail	Receipt	Payment
Lloyds bank	Reserve account interest	80.82	
Lloyds Bank	32-day account interest	109.52	
Allotment rent		30.20	
SSE	Electricity at the MUGA hut		13.02
Admin costs			1056.61
J Carver	Grass Contract		406.66
Mintern Fencing	Fence at Harveys Green		1243.75
MN Village Hall	Hall hire		16.00
K Hussey	Play inspection		120.00
SSE	Electricity at the MUGA hut		13.08
Admin			991.17
Clear Councils	Annual Ins		1056.65
BDO LLP	External audit		252.00
DAPTC	Training- Cllrs		80.00
J Carver	Grass contract		406.66

Proposed JE, seconded AG Bank balances as at 31st August 2024 **£65,983.41**

24/07-9. Council property:

i. To consider a tree survey of all trees on PC land and a Cllr rep for trees

This will be deferred until November.

ii. To consider a Cherry tree for the car park near the VH and play area.

Cllrs agreed in principle to a tree in memory of Cherri to be located in the Car park area adjacent to the picket fence at a cost of £100, CK and EM will look at suitable trees for this location-Proposed CK Seconded AC All agreed

iii. To consider an update on the Old Fire House repairs

At the site meeting in July Cllrs raised concerns at the state of repair of the Old Fire House and contacted the group who rent it to follow up on scheduled repairs not yet completed. A response was received, and grants are being gathered to carry out work, AG offered to meet them to take a look inside and discuss this further with them. Report at the Oct meeting.

iv. To consider the removal of waste bins from the play area

At the site meeting in July, it was reported that the bins in the play area are a hazard for young children, so it was suggested that they are removed. TF reported that the bins are currently emptied by the treasurer at the VH. AG will remove the bins in due course for a trial period and this will be placed in our newsletter. The bin can be used on the road outside the village hall. This will be monitored.

v. To arrange for the Netball posts to be installed in the MUGA and a booking system

The netball posts are in the MUGA hut and have not been used at all, JE and T-CM will take a look to see how difficult they are to set up as they will be in the sockets of the goal area. This could cause a hazard for small children running into them. To report back at the Oct meeting.

vi. To consider a track for cycling and walking around the outside of the playing field

Given the projects under discussion at the moment this will be put back to future meeting as this may have implications on the cutting of the perimeter hedges on a regular basis. The PC will put the project to the Annual parish meeting in April.

vii. To consider a Christmas Tree to be located by the Cross and installation of a stand, by Dorset Council designed by the PC

The PC are pursuing the installation of a stand for the Christmas tree by the Cross, we are currently waiting on a site meeting with the highways officer to discuss the location and design. The PC have had an offer of batteries for the lights for the tree. The PC supported the installation and hoped to have this completed in time for Christmas 2024.

viii. MUGA Surface quotes deferred until Oct/Nov to allow for more quotes

A couple of quotes have been gathered, but more work needs to be done on this before a decision can be made as we need to ensure we have the right surface for the use of the MUGA.

24/07-10. To consider all planning applications in circulation any other planning matters.

P/MPO/2024/04756 Proposal: Discharge of legal agreement dated 25 April 2009 relating to planning permission 1/D/09/000922 which is outdated and overly restrictive.
Location: Cruyton Manor Farm Cruyton Lane- *no objections*

24/07-11. To receive any Highways reports-

BW reported that the PC is waiting for the speed surveys to be carried at the 6 locations in the village.

The CSW team are keen and welcome new volunteers, the CSW police team are due to carry out training of new recruits shortly. BW noted that the visual aspect of hi viz jackets slow vehicles down and suggested that a scarecrow competition could be organised with them all wearing hi viz jackets.

24/07-12. To receive any Rights of way reports-

Chris Slade again reported that FP9 the drift to the nature area is impassable, this will be forwarded to the ward Cllr and contact the rangers direct to follow up.

24/07-13. To consider items of correspondence received or for noting.

i. Suggestions for the name of the new development above Webbers Piece

The name cannot be a living person, so the PC suggested “Thompson’s View” being the previous owners of the land. The second choice was Quarry View.

ii. To consider a skate park in the village

The PC received an email from a young person requesting a skate park, being something for the older children to do, Cllr discussed the previous discussions and ideas for a skate park outside the Community centre, but due to legalities with the CLT this was not possible. The PC will reply to the email and in the newsletter ask for any potential sites for a skate park.

iii. To consider the naming of the plot off Harvey’s Close Maiden Newton

The site off Harveys Green is to be named “Kingsley Orchard” no objections were raised on this suggestion.

24/07-14. To confirm items for the next Parish Council meeting to be held on 3rd October.

Old Fire House and Outdoor Gym equipment, further items to be advised.

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

A resident thanked the Parish Council for replacing the posts at the memorial and also thanked the chair for carrying out the weeding.

A resident raised concerns about the lack of analogue telephone service and BT's transition to digital. There have been a couple of events in September organised by Dorset Council for people to ask questions on this topic. It was noted that some vulnerable individuals, who rely on analogue phones and do not have digital or mobile alternatives, could be left without communication if analogue services are discontinued.

There was a discussion about VoIP phone systems, and the Council will look into gathering more information on this topic to share in their newsletter.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 20.00