

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HAZELBURY BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL HELD BY THE MEANS OF A REMOTE
CONFERENCING FACILITY USING ZOOM ON TUESDAY 12th JANUARY 2021 AT 7.15 PM UNDER THE LOCAL
AUTHORITIES AND POLICE AND CRIME PANELS (CORONAVIRUS) (FLEXIBILITY OF AUTHORITY AND POLICE
AND CRIME PANEL MEETINGS) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 2020.**

Present: Councillors Steve Murcer (SM), Martin Richards (MR), Sarah Meeks (SaM)), Val Rubie (VR), Ken Huggins (KH), Phil Dimmock (PD); Dorset Council councillor Pauline Batstone (PB) Members of the public – 10

Minutes: Malcolm Wilson (MW) – parish clerk

001/21 - Apologies: None

002/21 - Declarations of interest: None

003/21 – Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2020: The minutes were approved as drafted.

004/21 – Matters arising from these minutes: All covered in the agenda

005/22 – Public open session: No comments at this stage

006/21 – Finance: i) to approve the following payments: The following payments were approved:

Cheque		Payee		Net	VAT	Total
SO	Dec	IK Services	Dog bin emptying	126.50		126.50
DD	Dec	Dorset Council	Cemetery business rates	25.00		25.00
	1305	S Murcer	Gift for D Maughan	40.00		40.00
	1306	SSE	Pavilion electricity	148.65	7.43	156.08
	1307	Motley	Web hosting	144.00	28.80	172.80
	1308	Parish Mag Printers	Bryan Bytes	43.00		43.00
	1309	JB Gardens	Cemetery/play grass	120.00	24.00	144.00
		M				
	1310	Wilson	January pay	353.74		353.74
		M				
	1311	Wilson	Expenses	44.79		44.79
			Total			1105.91

ii) to note the bank reconciliation and financial summary as at 31st December 2020: This had been circulated in advance and was approved for signature by the Chairman

007/21 – Planning: a) to consider any applications received: None received **b) Solar Farm at Pulham – to note any developments in the application process:** SM reminded councillors that it was agreed policy to await a full application before coming to a decision on whether to support or object. Ian Bryan from the Save Hardy's Vale campaign commented on the proposal. He recognises the parish council's position and referred to the November minutes that set this out. He argued that the site is species rich with mammals and invertebrates and he doesn't believe that covering the site in solar panels leaving just grass underneath for sheep grazing will improve bio-diversity, even if some banks of wild flowers are planted in places. He understands the PC will be guided by its Neighbourhood Plan when it comes to planning matters and he believes this development is contrary to much of the wording in the Plan, especially with regard to views and protecting the wider environment and local settings. He made the point that in October the Government view was that offshore wind farms would provide all green energy needs for the UK.

Another resident pressed to know what the council's view is on the possible application. It was made clear that the PC doesn't yet have a view, it is waiting for the application. PB stressed the need for councillors to avoid the trap of "pre-determination" which might be allow any decision made by the council to be challenged. PB said individuals should submit their views to DC when an application is received. Any responses already made via the BSR survey are not taken into account by DC planners.

David Bland believes the site is far too big. It would be 8% of the size of Hazelbury and Pulham and 10% of Mappowder, He referred to a site in Tandridge in Surrey where an application for a large-scale site had been turned down as it was regarded as "creeping industrialisation of the countryside". He could see no gains or benefits for locals.

008/21 – Co-option of a new parish councillor – to agree a way forward to fill the vacancy: Two names have been suggested to SM. He will make contact with the potential candidates. If there is more than one candidate

then councillors vote in public at a parish council meeting to choose. Asking candidates to prepare a resume is often useful and they can be invited to attend the meeting for questions, but nothing specific is laid down in legislation.

009/21 – Village Hall Committee – to agree a replacement for David Maughan: With the hall still closed there is no urgency to deal with this so it will be deferred until a new councillor is appointed

010/21 – Cemetery – i) update on recent car crash and damage: The rubble from the wall has kindly been removed at no charge by Dave Griffin, JB Gardens did a fine job tidying the site just before Christmas and have been formally thanked. They have now erected a temporary fence and gate which will allow visitor access but keep out unwanted stock. MW has made contact with the loss adjuster and is pressing for progress so a proper repair can be made. **ii) to consider undertaking a review of the cemetery including capacity, rules on monuments and headstones and charges:** MW is proposing to undertake a full review of the cemetery capacity, charges and rules in comparison with other local cemeteries. This was agreed

011/21 – Covid 19 – to review the current situation and any action required locally, especially in the light of the new lockdown: SM reported that the Reads and Umplebys are delivering parcels to those shielding, 14 at the last count. He will confirm they are happy to continue and see if more support is required. VR has had no more food bank referrals. SM will see how the food-bank is faring when he delivers potatoes next week.

012/21 - Climate and ecological emergency: Update on: i) organising a live online session of the “Still heading for extinction?” presentation, open to both parish councillors and parishioners: KH reported on a successful event on 11th January, about 25 people had attended to listen to a powerful presentation from Caz Dennett. MW has prepared minutes which will be on the web site soon **ii) organising a small sub-committee or working group (of councillors and non-councillors) to look at what other parish councils have done to address the CEE, and to make recommendations to the Parish Council of actions that it might take:** It was agreed to establish a slightly more informal working group. There are 8 volunteers at present, which is fine, but does leave room if more want to join in due course. A meeting, open to the public, will be arranged in the next few weeks. **iii) changes to the web site to support this initiative:** There is an embryonic new section on the web site for this initiative.

013/21 - To consider the draft proposals to develop a social media policy: SM will discuss with SaM.

014/21 – Neighbourhood Plan: Nothing to report.

015/21 - Footpath and highways matters: Problems with flooding and speeding had been raised by a resident of Park Gate with PB, with the parish council copied in. In the Neighbourhood Plan the location had been earmarked for some better signage at some stage but the legal and administrative costs of changing the speed limit to 20 mph are significant (unspecified, but “thousands”). There is likely to be little or no enforcement from the Police. MW will try and ascertain from Dorset Council a better idea of the actual cost. SM suggested that the residents might be prepared to pay depending on the figure, maybe with some PC support. The prospect of other hamlets saying “us too” needs to be borne in mind. PB was unsure what, if any, plans DC had for surface water flooding problems.

MR reported that some farmers were upset at being blamed for a gate post at Park Gate being hit by a farming vehicle when there was no evidence to support the claim – noted.

Ian Stevenson raised the question of muddy footpaths – were councillors undertaking the monthly check as they committed to do some time back in 2019? The paths are getting lots of use in the lockdown and some are slippery. It was agreed to approach the Rangers to see if they could help with chippings etc in the worst places.

016/21 – The Keep – update: SM noted the entrance to the allotments was very muddy. Some chippings had been put down to help but he asked MW to speak to Angela Chatters to see if an area of rigid plastic mesh might be laid to make a more permanent solution. He will check out costs as well.

KH reported that Nigel Spring hoped to be able to move some of the ponies from Alners Gorse in the next couple of weeks to graze the grass in the Keep to help the wild flowers to flourish.

017/21 -Recreation Field i) to note any relevant Committee minutes: No meeting held **ii) update on other relevant matters:** There have been some incidents of youngsters drinking and lighting fires. Jim Bettle and the pub landlord have spoken to some of the kids; benches have been removed into the pavilion and hopefully lockdown will help. Police have been advised and PCSO's should be adding the site to their rounds.

018/21 – Village hall – report: The hall remains closed. The cones across the car park are a matter for the Committee to deal with as they see fit.

019/21 – Dorset Council Cllr Batstone: Her report had been circulated in advance. Some staff are being redeployed to other tasks in the Covid lockdown, but she thought not planners. St Mary's school near Shaftesbury might be purchased as a special needs school for Dorset children as a longer term cost effective way of providing support rather than sending them out of the area to independent third party service providers. The new Dorset Council Local Plan is about to come out for public consultation.

020/21 - Public open session: Ian Stevenson asked if the "what's on" section of the web site could be update. Jan Marriott congratulated JB Gardens on their work at the cemetery. Ian Stevenson asked if a new Vice-Chairman was to be appointed – no plans at present. If SM is absent then councillors will appoint an acting chairman for that meeting as per the usual rules. Morrisons apparently have slots available for home delivery.

021/21 – Correspondence to note: None

022/21 – Date of next meeting: The next formal parish council meeting will be on Tuesday 9th February 2021 at 7.15pm. It will be another remote internet meeting. If more frequent meetings are needed because of Covid they will be arranged.

023/21 – Close of meeting: With no further business to discuss SM closed the meeting at 8.45 pm.