

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HAZELBURY BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 8th NOVEMBER 2022
AT 7.15 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL.**

Present: Councillors Steve Murcer (SM), Liz Stockley (LS); Martin Richards (MR), Phil Dimmock (PD) and Ken Huggins (KH); Dorset Council councillor Pauline Batstone (PB); Members of the public – 4; **Minutes:** Malcolm Wilson (MW) – parish clerk.

197/22 - Apologies: Received from Val Rubie (VR)

198/22 - Declarations of interest: None

199/22 – Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 11th October 2022: The minutes were approved as drafted.

200/22 – Matters arising from these minutes: All covered in the agenda

201/22 – Public open session: None

202/22 – Finance: i) to approve accounts for payment: The following payments were approved:

Cheque	Payee		Net	VAT	Total
	IK				
SO	Services	Dog bin emptying	£136.50		£136.50
DD	Dorset Council	Cemetery rates	£25.00		£25.00
DD	SSE	Pavilion electricity	£300.74	£15.03	£315.77
	M				
1423	Wilson	Oct pay	£344.95		£344.95
	M				
1424	Wilson	Nov pay	£344.95		£344.95
1425	J Bettel	Play bark	£40.00	£8.00	£48.00
	M				
1426	Wilson	Expenses	£63.13	£11.83	£74.96
		Total			£1,290.13

ii) to consider the first draft budget, including pavilion hire charges and precept, for 2023/24: This had been circulated in advance for consideration. A final budget needs to be approved before the end of January to allow the precept to be demanded from Dorset Council. The initial budget saw a precept rise of 7% to cover anticipated increases in running costs, and a break-even position. There was a wide-ranging but inconclusive discussion, mainly focussing on the pavilion hiring fees and running costs. MW had to remind some councillors that the pavilion is a parish council asset and the income and expenditure are controlled and managed by the parish council, not the Recreation Ground Committee. MW was asked to prepare a historic profit and loss account for pavilion expenditure. Pre-pandemic, the running costs had been pretty much covered by income, but bookings have been slow to recover and the sudden increase in electricity costs are unprecedented. MW will add this matter to the agenda for the next Recreation Ground Committee. There was a suggestion that parish council meetings might be moved to the pavilion to save costs. This is not as straightforward as it might appear. Consideration of the budget will continue at the next meeting.

iii) to note revised pay scales for parish clerks from 1st April 2022: New national pay scales have been agreed and the clerks pay will rise to £12.06 an hour. It was agreed to implement the new scales, which will be backdated to 1st April 2022.

203/22 – Planning: a) to consider any applications received: i) P/PACD/2022/06403 -Change of use from Commercial, Business and Service to 1 No. dwellinghouse (Class C3) - Woodrow Dairy, DT10 2AH – the merits or otherwise of losing a small-size commercial unit were discussed but ultimately the parish council agreed not to object. ii) P/FUL/2022/03994 - Retain storage/maintenance structure for agricultural vehicles - Woodrow Dairy, The Common, Woodrow, DT10 2AH no objections iii) P/HOU/2022/06506 -Erection of a rear elevation oak framed garden room - Old Causeway Bakery, The Causeway, DT10 2BH – no objections iv) P/FUL/2022/06542 - Barn at Moores Farm, West Lane, Hazelbury Bryan - Replacement Dwelling – no objections

204/22 – To consider and approve the annual risk assessment: This had been revised and prepared by MW and circulated in advance. It was agreed to approve the assessment as drafted.

205/22 - Climate and ecological emergency: i) to note the minutes of the Hazelbury Climate Group on 31st

October 2022: The minutes had been circulated and were noted. MR raised the matter of the generator switch for the village hall -was this going to be installed before the winter as a community resilience expense? SM will speak to Ivana Booker (IB). MR also raised the matter of the village trust fund and that IB was hopeful funds might become available from the fund for the village hall project. Given the long and much discussed essential due diligence required to be undertaken by any potential replacement trustees of the fund, SM will also alert IB to the potential hazards. A point was made suggesting that the pavilion could be used as a resilience hub. However, no councillors could see themselves volunteering to run it and it was unlikely the village hall committee would do it in the pavilion!

206/22 – Neighbourhood Plan: MW had spoken to Ed Gerry of Dorset Council’s planning policy team and Jo Witherden. There was agreement that a revised NP which has gone through an Examination does carry extra planning “weight” for 2 years, but whether it is worth the effort and the cost will be dependent on many factors – availability of grant funding, appetite of volunteers to get involved etc etc. Both EG and JW talked about the Pimperne experience. Both have been involved. Pimperne decided to do a review to help combat plans for an extension of Blandford Forum housing development into the western edge of the parish. JW said it took her and parish volunteers 18 months of work and at cost in excess of £10k. A full housing needs assessment was undertaken and this was compared to site capacity in the original Plan. As it was judged that existing allocated sites delivered sufficient capacity there was no need to assess or allocate other sites. This avoided the need for a referendum, but not Examination. (If the housing need assessment had identified a shortfall, then additional site allocations would be needed and a referendum too). JW thought that Locality had judged the review to be a “new Plan” and this had opened up the grant pot again. MW will check with Locality to see if this would apply to HBPC.

With VR unable to commit to any more N Plan work, and Ian Stevenson (IS) also apparently doubtful, and other councillors either unable (KH) or unwilling (MR, PD) to give their time, community volunteers will be needed. Are they available?

The current Plan has been very successful in repelling unwanted development. Does it still carry sufficient planning “weight” to repel a large application from those with historic interest in such schemes? It was agreed to ask VR, IS and JW to attend a parish council meeting in the near future to try and answer this question.

207/22 - Footpath and highways matters, including i) school parking: PB is still to follow up with the relevant officer at Dorset Council **ii) Speed watch update report:** To be carried forward to next meeting **iii) other matters:** SM, PM and Geraldine Hobson have had a frustrating and disappointing response from the new Community Highways Officer, and her boss, over the lack of markings on the bend between the war memorial and the Antelope. DC seems not to want to take any responsibility.

208/22 – The Keep – update: i) encroachment: After much prompting, a response was received from the Burroughs shortly before the meeting. The offers within the e mail need to be carefully considered and advice taken from Dorset Council’s Flood Management team and potentially the parish council’s solicitors. MW will follow up as needed. **ii) memorial tree planting:** An oak tree is to be planted in the Keep on Remembrance Sunday to commemorate the life of Queen Elizabeth II. SM will represent the parish council at the ceremony. The precise site for the tree has not been agreed and KH will liaise with the Legion to find a spot that won’t adversely impact on the wild flower meadow in years to come. A second tree will be planted to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III.

209/22 - Recreation Field i) to note any relevant Committee minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on 18th October had been circulated and were noted. LS, as Chairman of the Recreation Ground Committee, agreed she will meet the pump track designer with MW to see if a sensible way forward can be found. **ii) to consider proposals for long term support for the Methodist “Encounter” project:** Proposals from Rebekah-Joy Spinks had been included in the minutes for decisions by the parish council. The parish council a) did not feel able to agree to take on the role of overseeing and managing the volunteers when RJS moves on in the summer of 2023. b) has no appetite to take control of the project’s laptop computers at that time. c) expects the project to pay the usual hire charges applicable at the time

210/22 – Village hall - report including i) grant funding: project: The Lottery and DC Capital Leverage Fund grant applications have not been successful. The South-West Trains application will be determined in early 2023. As requested, MW is considering a re-application to the Lottery having compared our application with that of Broadwindsor, which was successful. A “side-by-side” comparison of the text used in the applications had been drafted and circulated to councillors asking for ideas and suggestions but as yet no concrete suggestions have come forward.

211/22 – Report from Dorset Council Cllr Batstone: DC is facing a £30m budget shortfall. Efforts continue to better integrate NHS and social care services to deliver better outcomes for patients and reduce costs.

212/22 - Public open session: No comments

213/22 – Correspondence to note: None

214/22 – Date of next meeting: This will be on Tuesday 13th December at 7.15pm, venue to be decided

215/22 – Close of meeting: With no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10 pm.

DRAFT