

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HAZELBURY BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 2023 AT 7.15 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL.

Present: Councillors Steve Murcer (SM), Liz Stockley (LS), Val Rubie (VR), Martin Richards (MR) and Ken Huggins (KH); Members of the public – 9; **Minutes:** Malcolm Wilson (MW) – parish clerk.

022/23 - Apologies: Received from Phil Dimmock and Dorset Council councillor Pauline Batstone (PB)

023/23 - Declarations of interest: MR declared a pecuniary interest in planning application 2023/00265.

024/23 – Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 10th January 2023: The minutes were approved as drafted.

025/23 – Matters arising from these minutes: Covered in the agenda

026/23 – Public open session: No comments

027/23 – Finance: i) to approve accounts for payment: The following payments were approved:

Cheque	Payee		Net	VAT	Total
SO	IKServices	Dog bin emptying	£136.50		£136.50
DD	Dorset Council	Cemetery rates	£25.00		£25.00
DD	SSE	Pavilion electricity	£299.36	£14.96	£314.32
1441	Farnfields	Keep letter	£385.00	£77.00	£462.00
1442	JB Gardens	Hedges, grass cuts	£521.00	£104.20	£625.20
1443	A Read	Pavilion diary	£59.99		£59.99
1444	M Wilson	February pay	£376.34		£376.34
		Total			£1,999.35

ii) to agree the bank reconciliation and financial summary as at 31st January 2023: This had been circulated and was agreed and signed by the chairman

iii) pension auto-enrolment: MW has previously opted out of an employer's pension scheme. The opt-out needs to be renewed for 3 more years and he will complete the necessary exemption forms.

028/23 – Planning: a) to consider any applications received: i) P/RES/2023/00265 – Land east of Kings Stag Mill – Erect 2 commercial buildings, yard and display area and erect one dwelling (reserved matters regarding appearance, landscaping etc following grant of outline permission 2/2019/0599/OUT): MR was asked some questions and then took no part in the discussions. SM wondered if the display area is big enough and perhaps the commercial buildings could be moved further back in the plot. The aim is to avoid any queuing on the highway by traffic attempting to enter the site, which is on a fast section of road fairly near a bend. Some of the hedge is to be removed to improve sight lines, it will be replanted. This site is in the Neighbourhood Plan and it was agreed to support the application.

ii) Neighbourhood Plan – update: a) grant application: MW reported that the grant application to Locality has been successful and the money paid into the PC's bank account. This will enable the Jo Witherden (JW) invoice for the housing needs assessment to be paid in full. **b) housing needs assessment:** JW has suggested a work plan for this and has already approached Dorset Council for information on housing lists etc. A small working group – JW, MW, LS and Ian Stevenson – will be established and meet shortly.

iii) NPPF consultation response: JW had drafted words for a parish council response. Key benefits outlined in the consultation are that a made NP will carry full planning "weight" for 5 years rather than 2 years; and a NP will still carry full "weight" whether or not the relevant planning authority has a 3 or 5 year housing supply. It was agreed MW should submit comments as drafted by JW. Councillors can also respond in their individual capacity.

029/23 – Co-option of a new parish councillor – update: SM has highlighted the vacancies in the current edition of Bryan Bytes, which will be delivered over the next few days. A possible role as "webmaster" has also been advertised.

030/23 – Allocation of parish councillor responsibilities, including Bryan Bytes distribution rounds: MR has agreed to be the PC's village hall representative. MW has rejigged the Bytes delivery round so it is equally split – about 125 each – for SM, LS, KH and MW

031/23 - Climate and ecological emergency: i) update: KH reported on two informal sessions. The first had related to the river of flowers and Hazelbury Abuzz. Nigel Spring from Butterfly Conservation also attended.

The second meeting is due this coming Friday to brainstorm ideas for future initiatives. An article in Bytes asks the community for their ideas and views.

032/23 - Footpath and highways matters, including i) school parking: Nothing to report

ii) Poor Lands field path: SM continues to pursue the trustees to give permission for the path to be improved

iii) other matters: Damaged finger posts have been reported to MW. He will review the stock within the parish to get a full picture of the condition and see what might be done, and at what cost, to get them all in good shape. MR reported that the recently surfaced Frizzells Hill is starting to degrade – as predicted, as the old potholes were not filled properly before re-surfacing. Partway Lane is scheduled for some repairs on 8th February, but it will only gloss over the fundamental structural issues. SM is shortly to meet Dorset Council's Lead Member for Highways, Simon Gibson, to discuss the white lines near the war memorial, and he will raise these other issues.

033/23 – The Keep – update: i) update on meadow and future strategy for the land: KH has met with Nigel Spring and he has started planning the path through the meadow. There are also plans to work on the margin of the Keep, where it abuts the playing field, to create a “prettier” wild flower area to mollify those with more suburban tastes for neatness and colour.

ii) update on encroachment: A solicitor's letter has been sent – response awaited. If nothing is heard back from the Burroughs in the next week then MW will chase.

034/23 - Recreation Field i) to note any relevant Committee minutes: The January meeting was postponed due to bad weather – ice. The Committee is now meeting on 9th February. LS and MW had had a very useful site visit with the cycle track contractor about the pump track. A formal proposal will come forward for the next parish council meeting.

ii) Coronation weekend plans: James Porter outlined the plans, which will pretty much replicate the Jubilee weekend except the food may be coronation chicken rather than a BBQ. He has a working committee including VR. Alec's Field is booked for the weekend to allow for the erection and dismantling of marquees etc, with the main event on Sunday 7th May. The event should be cost neutral with food and drink sales covering any costs. Hopefully the weather will be kind and allow games and the like into the afternoon. The Coronation oak will also be planted in a spot to be agreed with KH and Nigel Spring.

035/23 – Village hall - report including i) decarbonisation project: SM has asked to see all the paperwork so he and MW can undertake a due diligence exercise.

ii) defibrillator cabinet and heater: In the cold snap before Christmas the defibrillator was not in good working order. John Lewis, the regional co-ordinator who lives in HB, has recommended a new heated cabinet. This will cost in the region of £500/£600, plus the cost of an electrician to install at the hall. The parish council agreed to split the cost with the village hall, assuming the village hall committee agrees. MW will liaise with James Porter.

iii) notice board: MW reported that the lock is stuck and he'll need to get a locksmith to open it.

036/23 – Village web site proposals: See minute 029/23 above

037/23 – Report from Dorset Council Cllr Batstone: PB had sent her apologies

038/23 - Public open session: The Government is due to make a payment of £200 to all householders not using gas, so oil heating users etc. This will come via the electricity provider. SSE has a priority user data base to help the most vulnerable in power outages. James Porter urged the PC to improve the web site offering, to help clubs and societies. LS highlighted that the “village trust fund” might be nearing a point where the funds could be distributed – a third each to the village hall, the recreation ground and the school. SM will discuss some procedural matters with LS.

039/23 – Correspondence to note: None

040/23 – Date of next meeting: This will be on Tuesday 14th March 2023 at 7.15pm in the village hall

041/23 – Close of meeting: With no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm