

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HAZELBURY BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 14th NOVEMBER 2023
AT 7.15 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL.**

Present: Councillors Steve Murcer (SM), Liz Stockley (LS) and Neil Robson (NR); Dorset Council councillor Pauline Batstone (PB); Members of the public – 10; **Minutes:** Malcolm Wilson (MW) – parish clerk.

202/23 - Apologies: Received from Martin Richards (MR), Val Rubie (VR), Ivana Booker (IV) and Ken Huggins (KH)

203/23 - Declarations of interest: None declared

204/23 – Wessex Water – presentation and question and answer session with Eddie Rant, Director of Construction and Infrastructure Management: SM welcomed ER to the meeting. He explained the difficulties faced by the community during the water main replacement project. Clearly the project was a necessary and welcome improvement to community infrastructure but a more targeted road closure would have made life easier. In hindsight, it would have been helpful to have this meeting before the project started.

ER gave some background to the project to replace the sixty years old water main, which had suffered 44 bursts, 15 in recent times. The new main has a life of 80 years and much of it was laid using trenchless techniques as far as possible. Once a road is formally “Closed” there are certain procedures and protocols that must be followed. Wessex tried to be as flexible as possible and ER admitted that the performance of Chevron, the signage contractor, had not been up to scratch. As the work moved closer to the Antelope junction, more open trench work was needed and there was no alternative but to close the road completely. This had led to the closure of the shop. Communication with the shop, about closures and the financial compensation scheme, had not been as timely as it might have been, but ultimately the confidential compensation agreement with the shop was fair all round (confirmed by the shop). Wessex has made a donation of £400 to the Royal British Legion Poppy appeal to acknowledge the loss of income from the collecting tins at the shop. In addition, Wessex will also make a payment of £5k towards improvements to community infrastructure projects.

There was a brief Q&A session. ER said lessons had been learned about earlier community consultation on the practical impacts on daily life. James Porter thanked Wessex on behalf of the RBL and SM concluded the session by thanking ER for attending and for the donation made by Wessex.

205/23 – Adoption of the minutes of the meetings held on 10th October 2023: The minutes were approved as drafted.

206/23 – Matters arising from these minutes: Covered in the agenda

207/23 – Public open session: A number of points were raised – the apparent existence of a group of volunteers anonymously improving and refurbishing signage in villages, including village name sign and fingerposts; the fingerpost between Locketts Farm and the church only has letters on one side of the arms – this has been the case for time immemorial; the Commonwealth War Graves plot in the church churchyard had been identified by SM; it is thought there will be a map of the plots held by the PCC; the hedge at the bottom of the cemetery remains uncut, and the footpath entrance onto the road has poor visibility – MW will chase up the contractor.

208/23 – Finance and risk:

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	£19.00		£19.00
DD	SSE	Pavilion electricity	£374.76	£18.74	£393.50
1515	M Wilson	Defibrillator leads	£92.00	£18.40	£110.40
1516	M Wilson	November pay	£376.34		£376.34
1517	M Wilson	Expenses	£256.44	£30.87	£287.31

1518	HB village hall	Hall hire 2023	£120.00	£120.00
1519	N Robson	Instal hall defib cabinet	£91.18	£91.18
1520	N Robson	Pavilion heating switches	£164.84	£164.84
1514	Dorset Planning	N Plan consultancy	£829.85	£165.97 £995.82

ii) to consider the Section 106 community feedback and consider a way forward: Although the meeting is quorate, with four councillors absent it was agreed to defer this matter until the next meeting.

iii) 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.

209/23 – Planning:

a) to consider any applications received: P/HOU/2023/06040 – 3 Partway Lane, DT10 2DP – instal 2 dormer windows: No objections

b) Neighbourhood Plan;

i) to consider and agree to submit the revised Neighbourhood Plan and supporting documents to Dorset Council for examination: Minor points of clarification and typos and been made and the revised final Neighbourhood Plan was agreed and approved for Dorset Council’s formal consultation to begin.

ii) to agree that delegated powers be given to the Neighbourhood Plan Review Steering Group to agree the Examiner choice with Dorset Council and respond to any queries raised as part of the Examination process: It was agreed to delegate powers as described.

210/23 – Website and social media – update: Vanessa Weddell encouraged people with events, clubs etc to publicise to send her details for the web site. Twenty-four events have been publicised since July. The strategy of using “Next Door” to highlight how information could be found on the website with no option to engage thereafter continues. It is accepted that the site will always be somewhat “clunky”, but you get what you pay for.

210/23 - Climate and ecological emergency update: Nothing to report

211/23 - Footpath and highways matters:

i) the Causeway road-closure: See above, minute 204/2023. The payment of £5k towards village projects as a goodwill gesture to recognise the inconvenience caused is a fine gesture. A suggestion that this be shared amongst every household by way of a credit at the shop was thought to be unworkable and would mainly benefit the shop’s wholesale suppliers rather than the shop itself. It was agreed this would best be given to the village hall towards capital projects to benefit the building. MW will make the arrangements with Wessex Water.

ii) car parked at Marsh Lane junction: Once again, a car is frequently parked illegally and dangerously opposite the junction. SM will speak to the appropriate home-owner

iii) road markings on road to Sturminster Newton: A web site enquiry bemoaning the lack of white lines and cat’s eyes on the road to Sturminster has been received. MW will pass on to the Community Highways Officer for (in)action.

iv) footpaths: The Rangers have this on their list, but no timescale for action – probably too wet and muddy now for remedial work.

212/23 – The Keep – update on meadow and future strategy for the land: Nothing new to report.

213/23 - Recreation Field - to note the Committee minutes: Next Committee meeting is imminent. MW has received the annual safety inspection reports and these will be reviewed and action taken as necessary. The pump track has been inspected for the first time and only minor tidying matters were highlighted.

214/23 – Village Hall – report: The new heated cabinet for the defibrillator has been fitted. IB has provided an updated quote for the pv panels and battery storage. There are a number of other projects being considered including a kitchen upgrade and general re-decoration.

215/23 – Report from Dorset Council Cllr Batstone: Financial pressures caused by extra requirements and need for demand-led services for social care and emergency housing have broken budget limits and will need to be met from reserves. DC may introduce the honorary title of Alderman for councillors with more than 16 years of service.

216/23 - Public open session: There has allegedly been an increase in the size and frequency of lorries visiting the Hunt's cold store site. The Royal British Legion Remembrance Parade and community lunch went extremely well and was brilliantly supported by troops from Bovington Camp and the community itself. The RBL was delighted with the donation from Wessex Water of £400 to compensate for loss of income from Poppy sales whilst the shop was closed.

217/23 – Correspondence to note: None

218/23 – Date of next meeting: This will be on Tuesday 12th December 2023 at 7.15pm in the village hall

219/23 – Close of meeting: With no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm