

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HAZELBURY BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 12th MARCH 2024 AT 7.15 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL.

Present: Councillors Steve Murcer (SM), Neil Robson (NR), Liz Stockley (LS), Ken Huggins (KH), Martin Richards (MR), Ivana Booker (IB), Val Rubie (VR); Dorset Council councillor Pauline Batstone (PB); Members of the public – 7; **Minutes:** Malcolm Wilson (MW) – parish clerk.

043/24 - Apologies: None

044/24 - Declarations of interest: MR declared a pecuniary interest regarding Neighbourhood Plan matters

045/24 – Adoption of the minutes of the meetings held on 13th February 2024: The minutes were approved as drafted.

046/24 – Matters arising from these minutes: MW has reported the potential planning enforcement issue at the My Tan site to Dorset Council. Response awaited.

047/24 – Public open session: Two neighbours of the North Dorset Industrial site reported problems with burning rubbish, scrap cars piling up, people residing on the site in vans and general noise at anti-social times. These matters have been reported to Environmental Health (Zoe Harvey). PB will follow up with ZH and planning

Given she needed to leave early to go to another meeting, PB gave her report. Activity amongst elected members is running down in advance of “purdah” before the elections in May. She reported on frustrations felt by her and the Police and Crime Commissioner in the hopeless response from the Neighbourhood Police Inspector and the team to requests for meetings. Other local parishes have significant incidents of anti-social behaviour, largely a non-problem in Hazelbury.

048/24 – Planning:

a) To consider any planning applications received: None received

b) Neighbourhood Plan – update on progress: At it’s Cabinet meeting this morning, Dorset Council “made” the Neighbourhood Plan, so it’s policies are now fully integrated in the planning structure for the next five years. Following a change to the National Planning Policy Framework rules, the Plan will carry full planning weight even if Dorset Council’s housing supply is adjudged to be too low. SM thanked all involved for their efforts in getting this done in such a short time frame.

049/24 – Finance:

i) to approve accounts for payment: The following payments were approved:

Cheque	Payee		Net	VAT	Total
SO	IKServices	Dog bin emptying	£150.15		£150.15
DD	SSE	Pavilion electricity	£184.05	£9.20	£193.25
1541	M Wilson	March pay	£470.36		£470.36
1542	N Robson	Defib cabinet fitting	£217.86		£217.86
1543	R Simpson	Playing field grass	£75.00		£75.00
1544	Dorset Planning	N Plan consultancy	£829.85	£165.97	£995.82
1545	Empower	pv panels deposit	£4,375.00		£4,375.00
1546	Parish Mag Printers	Bryan Bytes	£63.00		£63.00
1548	Dorset Planning	N Plan consultancy	£887.45	£177.49	£1,064.94

ii) update on grant and Section 106 community funding: We have a DC Capital Leverage Fund Grant of £3850 and DC S 106 funding of £13650 (plus a 10% contingency if needed) for the full amount of the pv panels and battery. The CLF funds are due any day, S 106 money will be paid once the final invoice is received. MW is taking measures to maximise cash flow, including early submission of the VAT reclaim for 2023/24.

A grant application for £15k has been submitted to the Lottery for play project. Once the result is known we can apply for the remaining S 106 monies to be released for the project. MW will arrange

for supplier quotes once the outcome of the Lottery application is known as this will influence the final budget we have.

050/24 – Elections May 2024: There is the chance that a couple of new people might be interested in standing for election so a contested election is a possibility. Nominations close on 5th April and we'll be advised of nominated candidates on 8th April. If there is an election then it will be appropriate to give all candidates an equal chance of telling the public who they are and what they will bring to the role of councillor. It was agreed to publish a personal statement from candidates on the web site and alert people via Next Door. The format will be up to the individual but with an upper limit of 150 words. These statements ought to go on the web site by Wednesday 20th April so MW suggested councillors might begin to consider what they will say

051/24 – Website and social media – update: Vanessa Weddell (VW) had confirmed things were ticking over nicely.

052/24 - Climate and ecological emergency update: KH has circulated the latest minutes. An open day is planned for Sunday 6th October, between 2pm – 4pm in the village hall. This will be a drop-in event with stalls, information boards etc.

053/24 - Footpath and highways matters: i) **“gateway” at Park Gate:** DC has still to provide a costing, and it's worth stressing the parish council has made no commitment about funding a sign. ii)

SID device maintenance: This is back working, but a new battery might be required in the future. lii)

Speedwatch: NR reported that the latest Speedwatch deployment had clocked more than 80% of those passing through exceeding the speed limit. iv) **Drains and potholes, including Badger Cottage, Partway Lane:** The owner of Badger Cottage has told us that the road drain outside his house has been broken for many years and this is causing problems for his front wall. The Highways Officer has been advised – action, well that's unlikely. SM raised his experience of reporting potholes and blocked drains to Highways on the web site. Potholes seem to be filled quite quickly, blocked drains less so. Much of the blockage is the result of hedge-cutting by contractors, but the chance of them sweeping up after their work is zero. SM suggest that the roads in the parish are shared amongst councillors with each taking responsibility for reporting pothole and blocked drains for their area. MW was asked to allocate roads and advise councillors. v) **other matters:** The footpath before the gate into the Poor Lands field from the Keep is really muddy. Once the field has dried out to allow deliver by truck some pebbles/gravel will be laid to try and help walkers

054/24 – The Keep – i) update on meadow including the Keep budget for 2023/24: This had been brought forward from February. As the budget for 2023/24 had been agreed at £1k, MR realised there was nothing further he could do to reduce the expenditure as no other councillors supported his ideas. KH had raised with Nigel Spring the idea of community volunteers helping with the work. This might be possible but they would have to turn up at the appointed hour on the appointed day.

ii) **The Willows boundary issue:** MW has been contacted by Keith Marsh (KM), the new owner of The Willows (Richard Bray's former home). KM has been told by the Land Registry that the plans are wrong and it appears he, and the owners of 1 Partway Lane next door, have been “given” a narrow strip of land that truly belongs to the parish council. This is the obvious “kink” in all the plans of the site. The parish council has no claim on the strip but it does not want to incur unnecessary expenditure on solving a problem that isn't the parish councils. MW will liaise with KM and will help where possible to resolve and clarify the issue provided there is no cost to the parish council

055/24 - Recreation Field - to note any Committee minutes and actions arising: The next Committee is on 19th March. LS reported she has sold the old gang mower on e-bay for £195, with a deposit received of £100. It's been bought by a farmer who will collect when the ground is drier. MR has been approached by a lady with small children over the plans to improve and extend the play area. She would come more often with her children if there was a toilet available. The Committee was asked to consider the possibility of this – clearly there are a number of significant practical matters to consider. LS will consider a sign for the gates asking people, probably pub customers or Alec's Field users, not to park in front of the gates as it restricts vehicular access for the disabled coming to the pavilion.

056/24 – Village Hall – report: IB reported that Empower will install the pv panels and battery on 23/24 April. She will also ask them about the cost of installing the emergency generator switchover function. This is about £750. MW was asked to check to see if the parish council has agreed to fund this in a previous meeting. Following a get together of SM with James Porter and Clive Rance, MW has been investigating land ownership of the rough area used for parking where a couple of people have taken a tumble. Ownership is unclear. It does not form part of the registered land owned by the Hammans – this ends at the line of tyres. The Edward Ayres field is unregistered land, maybe it includes the rough ground? MW was asked to explore with Framfields what avenues might be explored to confirm ownership and rights of way and access over the land.

IB mentioned an informal discussion between Clive Rance and Edward Ayres about possible additional parking in the latter's field. MR is going to suggest marking parking spaces in the car park. Some low-level lights are also to be fitted.

057/24 – Defibrillator site in Kingston: NR has completed the installation of the defibrillator cabinet in Kingston and John Lewis has the equipment up and running and added to the appropriate data bases. MW will write to formally thank the Standings. Some more training might be organised.

058/24 - Report from Dorset Council Cllr Batstone: See minute 047/24 above.

059/24 - Public open session: Ian Stevenson raised the introduction of 20 mph speed limits in many local villages. There had never been clear enthusiasm for this when it has arisen before but MW was asked to investigate the costs and work involved to achieve this. Unlikely this will apply to the whole community, but the lanes near the school might be suitable. Enforcement, or the lack of it, is always an issue. It will be on next month's agenda.

060/24 – Correspondence to note: Mark West had complained about the removal of the BT phone box and the Locator Index maps – some 4 or 5 years ago perhaps? He asked if the parish council had the wit to make them available for delivery drivers. MW has responded that they are on the home page of the web site, and there are also printed copies in the village shop.

061/24 – Date of next meeting: This will be on Tuesday 9th April 2024 at 7.15pm in the village hall. NR gave his apologies.

062/24 – Close of meeting: With no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm