

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HAZELBURY BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024  
AT 7.15 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL.**

**Present:** Councillors Steve Murcer (SM), Neil Robson (NR), Ivana Booker (IB), Liz Stockley (LS), Martin Richards (MR), Ken Huggins (KH), Val Rubie (VR); Members of the public – 12; **Minutes:** Malcolm Wilson (MW) – parish clerk.

**161/24 - Apologies:** None

**162/24 - Declarations of interest:** None declared

**163/24 – Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2024:** The minutes were approved as drafted.

**164/24 – Matters arising from these minutes:** Dorset Council has advised us that a retrospective planning application ref P/FUL/2024/04373 is being processed through the system for the residential traveller site at Pidney.

**165/24 – Public open session:** No comments at this stage.

**166/24 – Finance: i) accounts for payment:** The following payments were approved.

| Cheque | Payee               |                           | Net     | VAT    | Total   |
|--------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------|--------|---------|
| SO     | IKServices          | Dog bin emptying          | £150.15 |        | £150.15 |
| DD     | Dorset Council      | Cemetery rates            | £19.00  |        | £19.00  |
| 1579   | Fireline            | Pavilion fire checks      | £156.70 | £31.34 | £188.04 |
| 1580   | M Wilson            | September pay             | £305.34 |        | £305.34 |
| 1581   | R Simpson           | Field grass cutting       | £240.00 |        | £240.00 |
| 1582   | DAPTC               | Training course           | £40.00  |        | £40.00  |
| 1583   | J Bettle            | Aggregate for cycle track | £89.58  | £17.92 | £107.50 |
| 1584   | M Wilson            | Play repair deposit       | £332.24 | £66.45 | £398.69 |
| 1585   | Parish Mag Printers | Bryan Bytes               | £63.00  |        | £63.00  |

**ii) To consider the purchase of a new defibrillator for Kingston:** This is a complicated story, but in essence the defibrillator fitted a few months ago in Kingston needs to be returned to the school for use on school trips etc. It was agreed the parish council will fund a replacement, at a cost of about £1k. MW will take advice from John Lewis, the local co-ordinator, over the best model.

**167/24 – Planning: a) to consider any applications received: i) P/FUL/2024/03602 – Hazelbury Bryan primary school, DT10 2ED – Creation of a school car park and alterations to passing place to allow occasional use for coach parking:** The Head Teacher explained the background to the current proposal, which has the backing of Dorset Council and Sport England. She is certain it is the best available solution and the parish council agreed to fully support the application,

**ii) P/CLE/2024/04830 – Kingston Farm, Silly Hill, DT10 2AR – Certificate of lawfulness to continue using land as residential garden:** No objections, supported

**168/24 - Footpath and highways matters:**

**i) to consider possible changes to the Causeway hedge on land owned by Hall and Woodhouse, taking into account safety issues and Policy HB2 – Protecting and Enhancing Local Biodiversity - of the Neighbourhood Plan:** SM summarised the background to this which follows a meeting with Highways in August. Full details are in August's minutes. It was agreed MW should make contact with Hall and Woodhouse to see if they would trim or remove the nearest part of the hedge adjacent to the carriageway to improve visibility for pedestrians and drivers and provide a potential safe refuge for pedestrians in an emergency. It was felt the loss of hedgerow would not be crucial given the width of the double hedge.

**ii) rights of way – to consider progress by the Rangers on cutting paths as agreed under the SLA:**

The work has now been completed but it is likely there will only be one cut this year. The Rangers have confirmed we will not be charged for this year. MW will try to seek confirmation that the normal, contracted service will resume in 2025. He will also check the routes being cut to ensure that the Violet Cross to Kingston is included.

**iii) dog poo signs for the village – a suggestion to install more widely:** After a discussion on the effectiveness or otherwise of signs, it was agreed to put up more information posters highlighting the dangers to livestock if they eat dog waste uncollected by owners. LS will source from the NFU

**iv) Commercial vehicles at the Hunt's depot in Back Lane:** There was some public concern over a perceived increase in size and number of HGVs using the old Hunt's depot in Back Lane. It's not possible to imagine how this can be stopped without also impacting other lorries – milk tankers, farm vehicles, deliveries to other businesses etc, but SM will speak to Highways to see if they have any words of wisdom. He also asked to be advised by e mail if a member of the community had a specific incident to report.

**169/24 – Legal land matters: i) The Willows:** MW had complained to the Land Registry about their decision to unilaterally alter the boundary and asked for an explanation and rectification. The Land Registry's response had been totally unhelpful, but did point out the route to a Stage 2 complaint, which MW will make. **ii) Land adjacent to the village hall:** As requested the village hall committee had considered options for the rough land in front of the hall – do nothing, tarmac some or all of it; prepare a statutory long-use declaration; and take out a caution against first registration. The committee felt doing nothing was not an option. Tarmac is too expensive – even to do just the small area in front of the gate to the Ayres field would cost £3k. The long-use declaration was not felt to be necessary because of the terms of the Trust Deed. It was felt the caution against first registration would be a useful warning of possible issues to come. None of these solve the intractable problem of the rough surface, although it was noted that the recent tarmac spraying by Highway's velocity patcher had helped a little. Although it will cost approx. £450, the parish council agreed to ask Farnfields to take out the caution against first registration.

**170/24 – The Keep – update: i) update on meadow:** A dry spell is needed to enable the grass to be cut and collected. The poor summer has not helped the wildflowers to flourish.

**171/24 - Recreation Field i) to note and agree the minutes of the Committee meeting on 19<sup>th</sup>**

**August 2024, consider the results of a meeting with Creative Play and agree the appointment of a preferred contractor arrangement with Creative Play Ltd:** The minutes, which contained detailed progress on the play project, had been circulated and were approved. MW updated the meeting on progress. Three contractors had been approached – Creative Play (CP), HAGS and Wickstead (W). CP had provided a first quote for a new Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) 2 months ago. HAGS had quoted for a basketball facility, but with the bulk of the budget on new play surfaces. W had yet to provide a full quote 9 weeks on from their site visit despite many promises for it to be “coming soon”. Their initial incomplete quote for a MUGA and some repairs was received 2 days ago. This is very slightly cheaper than CP, but isn't fully enclosed and their overall performance to date has not built any confidence in the company. Our intention now is to create a small earth “bund” for the swings/slide area and the space under the Burundi climber. This will be filled as a safety surface with new bark at a cost of approx. £3k. The bund will keep the bark in place. Other minor works like adjusting the gates and some routine maintenance on some equipment can be done by the Committee. This will leave a budget of about £37k for the MUGA. Given the significant one-off opportunity that the Section 106 funding provides, it is expected this will be enough to deliver a fully functioning new MUGA for everyone to enjoy. Depending on the final specification it might be necessary or desirable to dip very slightly into reserves to ensure the final facility is what we want.

It was agreed to appoint Creative Play as our preferred contractor for the project. It was agreed that the Recreation Ground Committee should continue to act as the point of contact with CP and work and agree on a final design and price with CP which reflects our available resources. This will then be brought back to the parish council to formally ratify and agree.

**ii) update on any other relevant matters:** None

**172/24 – Web site – update:** Vanessa Weddell (VW) now has access to Google analytics and was pleased to report big increases in year-on-year views of the web site. The “News” section was now the second most visited with 1192 in the year (previously it was not in the top 10); views of PC minutes were up from 471 to 2042; “Whats-on” views were up from 419 to 1046. She is in liaison with the web host to get the village hall minutes onto the site. VW’s work and enthusiasm has clearly paid dividends and she was thanked by SM for her success.

**173/24 – Climate group:** KH advised that the Open Day is still planned for 6<sup>th</sup> October but the time had been extended from 1pm – 4pm.

**174/24 – Cemetery – progress on safety inspection:** MW is awaiting information from the Diocese of Salisbury about precisely which part of the cemetery is consecrated ground. For graves in this area, the diocese will need to be involved with the safety inspection scheme.

**175/24 – Community Resilience:** SM reprised the comments made at August’s parish council meeting, summarised in the minutes. There is a call for volunteers in Bryan Bytes and once the responses are received SM will move forward. Vanessa Weddell is interested in getting involved if her time allows.

**176/24 – Bryan Bytes – September edition:** This is now back from the printers and will be delivered in the coming days.

**177/24 – Village hall:** IB reported that over the summer the hall had been almost completely self-sufficient in electricity through the pv panels and battery. Octopus Energy have been dilatory over paying for surplus energy exported to the Grid. To compensate they have cancelled the last bill and made a compensation credit of £200. The last scheduled film night was cancelled as there were not enough volunteers to manage the event.

**178/24 – Report from Dorset Council Cllr Murcer:** His report for August and September had been circulated. The potential adverse impacts of changes to Government housing targets will need to be closely monitored, but the refreshed Neighbourhood Plan provides the best protection we can muster.

**179/24 – Correspondence to note:** None

**180/24 – Date of next meeting:** This will be on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 7.15pm in the village hall

**181/24 – Close of meeting:** With no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm