

CHETNOLE AND STOCKWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10 May 2023 in the Chetnole Village Hall

Present: Cllr O Pope (Chairman), Cllrs M Gallimore, N Hewitt, J Hume, J Meier and R Owen

Cllr M Penfold – Member of Dorset Council

In attendance: Mrs S Woodford (Clerk).

PUBLIC FORUM

- a) Cllr Penfold informed the meeting of Dorset Council grants that are available for Community Organisations for projects to improve facilities, such as car parks, playgrounds, etc.
- b) It was suggested that the children's play area within the Playing Field could be fenced off, which is something already under consideration by the playing Field Management Team.

1.1 Election of Chairman - It was proposed by Cllr Hume and seconded by Cllr Meier and resolved that **Councillor O Pope should continue as Chairman.**

1.2 Election of Deputy Chairman It was proposed by Councillor Meier and seconded by Cllr Hume that **Councillor Gallimore should continue as Deputy Chairman.**

1.3 Apologies for Absence: Cllr J Troupe

1.4 Playing Field Committee: To confirm membership of Playing Field Committee and Sub-Committee.

1.4.1 RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr Meier and seconded by Cllr Hume that Cllr Owen (Chairman) along with Cllr Gallimore and Cllr Pope shall form the membership of the Playing Field Committee.

1.4.2 RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr Pope and seconded by Cllr Owen to approve the membership of the Playing Management Team as: **Mr D Orton (Chairman), Mr J Woodford, Mr J Beaumont, Mr D Russell and Mr H Woodford.** The Parish Clerk will continue to act as Clerk supporting as a team member.

1.5 Representatives on outside bodies – confirmed as follows:

Boyles Trust	Cllr R Owen
Floodwatch	Cllr O Pope
STAG	Cllr R Owen
Homewatch	TBA
FOCH	Cllr N Hewitt

1.6 Minutes of Meeting held on 8 March 2023.

It was proposed by Cllr Meier and seconded by Cllr Hewitt that the Minutes of the meeting of 8 March 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record. It was suggested that the Minutes be placed on the website between meetings before official approval at the next meeting.

1.7 Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Owen declared an interest in Item 13 – Chetnole Halt as he is Chairman of the South West Rail Partnership.

Cllr Hume declared an interest in Item 9, as she lives adjacent to the site in question.

1.8 Matters Arising from the Minutes of 9th March 2022.

Cllr Hewitt spoke of revisiting the Parish Plan and taking it forward to the present day with a new revised Plan. There are now many different residents in the village with different requirements, also the need to address the wider issues such as climate change, etc. It was noted that specific funding may no longer be available. Cllr Owen suggested that a strong committee is formed in advance to formalise the plan and take it forward. It was agreed that this would form part of the agenda for the July meeting.

1.9 Planning

1.9.1 P/HOU/2023/01818 Kenley House, Yetminster Road, Chetnole.

Erect single storey side and rear extensions.

Chetnole Parish Council supported this application

1.9.2 To discuss the situation relating to the plot of land to the South of Deep Ford Lane.

Since adding this item to the agenda, the Clerk contacted the Dorset Council Monitoring Officer to check whether discussion on this item might lead to predetermination should there be a planning application submitted for this site. The Monitoring Officer confirmed that in order for members to avoid any risk of appearing to predetermine any application, it would be prudent to avoid any debate on the merit or otherwise of the development until Council has seen an actual planning application that it may comment upon. The Chairman continued to give a brief report on the situation to date noting that there may well be a retrospective planning application submitted in due course.

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr Owen and seconded by Cllr Gallimore to follow the advice given by the Monitoring Officer and avoid any debate on the works undertaken at the South of Deep Ford Lane.

1.10 Accounts

1.10.1 Accounts for Payment (See Appendix A for details)

Payment of **£3,284.90** in total from the PC Current Account and **£0** from the Playing Field Fund Account.

Total assets at 10 May 2023: **Parish Council: £25,762.10**

Playing Field Fund: £2,608.51

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr Pope and seconded by Cllr Meier to approve the accounts for payment and balances recorded.

1.11 Playing Field:

It was noted that a bench is soon to be placed in the field in memory of Chris Hardy, who spent many hours maintaining the field and was a long standing Chair of the PFMT.

The PFMT are presently assessing the need for an electricity supply in to the Pavilion and seeking a cheaper option.

1.12 Annual Approval of Parish Council Policy Documents and Arrangements:

Members were in receipt of copies of the following policy documents and arrangements:-

1.12.1 Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

1.12.2 Council's Complaints Procedure

1.12.3 Risk Management Policy

1.12.4 Freedom of Information policy and GDPR

1.12.5 Asset Register

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr Owen and seconded by Cllr Pope to approve Items 1.12.1 to 1.12.5 for 2023/24.

1.12.6 Details of Insurance Cover for 2022/23

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr Gallimore and seconded by Cllr Hume to approve Item 1.12.6 for 2023/24.

1.12.7 Meeting Calendar for 22/23 council year.

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr Owen and seconded by Cllr Hewitt to approve Item 1.12.7 for 2023/24.

1.12.8 Internet Banking, BACS and CHAPS payments and the use of Direct Debits

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr Owen and seconded by Cllr Hume to approve Item 1.12.8 for 2023/24

1.13 To consider any matters arising from the Parish Meetings held on 10 May 2023 (prior to the present meeting).

Clerk to report to Dorset Council the raised manhole in Chetnole main street and a pothole in Hamlet and in Stockwood, to report further potholes and collapsed verges. Cllr Meier will raise with the Estate the problem of stones being dragged into the road at the entrance to Manor Farm.

1.14 Report put forward by the Friends of Chetnole Halt (FOCH)

FOCH put forward a proposal which was circulated to all members, to provide a relatively level, step free access to the platform with either a car park or an accessible safe drop-off point. This would mean the station would become accessible to the disabled and those with prams etc. The owner of the land is aware of the proposal but is yet to be formally approached. Grant funding is being sought. If the land is available and the project supported by the Parish Council then a formal proposal will be submitted to the Community Rail Partnership, Dorset Council, GWR, Network Rail and other organisations involved.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Hewitt and seconded by Cllr Pope that the Chairman should sign the FOCH proposal indicating the Parish Council's approval and support of the schemes put forward by FOCH.

1.15 A report from the Coronation Committee

Members were in receipt of a report from the Coronation Committee on proposed bio-diversity projects within the village, being tree planting, wildflower and hedge planting. purchasing trees for planting and making some available to people within the village. Various hedges were discussed and it was established that the hedge around playing field belongs to the Parish Council and is in hand with the PFMT. The hedge at Lamb Plot belongs to Magna Housing. Tree planting is in hand with a number of sites identified by the Council earlier this

year. It is proposed that new trees are planted this autumn, that a team of volunteers is used to plant them under the guidance of a tree surgeon. Cllr Meier will contact a local and reliable tree surgeon that he frequently works with to help with this. There was a suggestion to use the local guides and scouts who would be able to gain a badge for tree planting. Agreed that all trees should be sourced locally if possible. Seedling Horse Chestnuts are fallen in the Churchyard and there is a proposal to use these, although apparently there is now Horse Chestnut die-back to contend with. It was agreed that some wildflower seed should be ordered and Cllr Hewitt agreed to purchase these on behalf of the Council, to be sown at the appropriate time of year along the Batcombe road, T junction, corners of the playing field and verge opposite the playing field.

1.16 Reports from External Bodies

1.16.1 Flood Warden - Cllr Pope gave the Flood Warden report. Yeovil rivers Community Trust met in January and out of that a committee has been formed involving the local stakeholders involved with the Wriggle, seven or eight members, some landowners, some parish councillors from Leigh and Yetminster. Communications are set up and minutes of their meetings should become available. Cllr Pope is keen to see a result with the provision of leaky dams and solutions to the local flooding and pollution problems. Discussion then turned to local pollution and how frequently the EA test for it.

1.16.2 Boyles - Cllr Owen had submitted a written report on the Boyles Trust which was circulated to all members and read to the meeting. The Trust has not yet found a new Governor, but hopefully has found a new Clerk. A sum is in place to provide a hardship fund for Yetminster School, payments can be made on a low-key basis so as not to make parents feel as if they are in need of charity.

1.16.3 STAG – Buses - initial plans have been seen by Dorset Council and some services have restarted. New transport plans, guidelines due in June. NORDCAT have been subject to a damning report by the Traffic Commissioner, resulting in the withdrawal of most permissions and therefore sadly most services have ceased. One important fact for Chetnole residents, the new 1700 hourly service from Bristol to Weymouth will not stop at Chetnole or Thornford, so do not go aboard if you want to get out at Chetnole Station.

1.16.4 FOCH Report – It is planned to plant bulbs, honeysuckle and herbs around the station and wildflowers are also being introduced where possible. Poster frames on rear panels to show village artwork, the first theme ‘a day in the life of Chetnole’. A new ‘To the Station’ sign is now installed. Lastly the new GWR timetable takes effect from 21 May.

1.17 Matters requiring the attention of the Council (that may be brought forward for resolution at a subsequent meeting).

Cllr Owen asked the Clerk to check up on the permissions for a recently erected building within the village.

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

.....
Chairman