

**MINUTES OF THE PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 16TH APRIL
2009 AT TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllrs C Leonard, A Bower, T White, P Drake, P Stockley, M Oddy, B Legg
County Cllr Mr D Crowhurst

Chair: Mrs D Foreman

Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

6 members of the public including Mr R Howard and PCSO Vicky Hedges

The Chairman opened the meeting asking if any of those members of the public present had anything they would like to say or ask. Mr Howard informed the meeting that this year was the 175th anniversary of the Martyrs' transportation and a special event to commemorate this would be taking place in London on the 25th April. Fliers were left for those who might be interested in attending.

There being no other comments at this stage, the Chairman closed the public meeting and opened the Parish Council meeting.

9/1 To receive and approve apologies for absence and to welcome Mrs B Legg to the Parish Council

Apologies had been received from S Buck (family commitments), A Sheppard, M Cooke & P Cooke (work commitments) and M Crankshaw (illness). These were all approved. The Chairman then welcomed Mrs Bridget Legg to the Parish Council as a co-opted Councillor representing Puddletown. This now brings our numbers up to 13 out of a possible 16 seats.

9/2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 17th March 2009

The Clerk reported that, following requests from A Sheppard and M Cooke, the following amendments should be made to the minutes:

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| 8/145 (b) | Jan Hopkin also attended the meeting |
| 8/146 (d) | This should read Chris Rampton |
| 8/147 (a) | Should read the Wessex River & Salmon Trust |
| 8/147 (b) | To read "a majority of 8 members were in favour of the Exemption Certificate, subject to receiving comparable prices on comparable pieces of equipment. A Sheppard wished to record his objection. |
| 8/148 (b) | A Sheppard did not report the kerb at Long Cowleaze – this should read D Foreman |

Once the above amendments were made, the minutes were proposed to be a true and accurate record of the meeting by J Hopkin and seconded by C Leonard. The Clerk will forward amended copies of the minutes to all members, prior to lodging them in the public library.

9/3. Matters arising from the minutes – for report only

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| 8/146 (d) | Broken tap at the Recreation Ground has been repaired. |
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9/4. To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972

There were no interests declared at this stage.

Before proceeding with the meeting, the Chairman asked Cllr Crowhurst if he had anything he would like to say (a copy of his April report had been e-mailed to members earlier in the day). Cllr Crowhurst briefly ran through his report and drew members attention to the Highway Maintenance section dealing with further highway resurfacing and surface dressing consultations. This would be a prime opportunity for the Parish Council to have a say in what work they would like to take place, when it should happen (ie taking account of local events, etc), the method of working and the traffic management of such works. This would take advantage of our local knowledge and enable the Highways Agency to work in conjunction with the Parish Councils affording the minimum amount of disruption to highway users.

There being no questions for Cllr Crowhurst, the Chairman asked PCSO Vicky Hedges if she would like to address the meeting.

Vicky extended the thanks of the Police to the villagers for their assistance in catching a burglar on the 9th April and also for their assistance in apprehending the perpetrator of the road accident on the by-pass which sadly resulted in the death of a local farm worker. She reported that there are ongoing antisocial behavioural problems at the Recreation Ground in Puddletown and in front of the Library and warned people to be aware of on-going shed crime – ensure your shed is locked. Speed checks were carried out in Tolpuddle on the 6th April and one villager was caught. Vicky showed a Speed Awareness poster that had been designed by children from Puddletown First School and said that copies of the poster were available for display in windows and on notice boards, etc. If anyone would like one, please contact Vicky.

Cllr Crowhurst informed the meeting that, if members felt truly strongly enough about the instigation of a 20mph speed limit in certain areas such as in front of the First School or in front of the Tolpuddle Open Space, a letter should be sent to Tim Westward in Traffic Management with a copy to him and he would support it. This was not a guarantee that it would be done but it would be an opportunity to lodge our concerns and make the request. A letter will be sent by the Clerk.

9/5. To consider the placement of containers for the Puddletown Carnival on the Recreation Ground

No further communication has been received by the Carnival Committee although it was noted that the Brymer Estate have still not held their meeting so the proposed new access could not be confirmed at this stage. We will wait to hear from them in due course.

9/6. Reports from meetings attended:

(a) Rural Roads Roadshow – Thursday 25th March (A Sheppard): as Mr Sheppard was unable to attend this meeting, this item will be put forward to the May meeting.

9/7. Puddletown Matters:

(a) Kick Wall: confirmation has been received from Portwey and the work is due to be carried out on the 7th and 8th May.

(b) Notice Board: a quotation has been received from Neil Barrett for the replacement of the Puddletown notice board at a cost of £295 to include fitting, etc. It was proposed by A Bower and seconded by C Leonard that we accept this quote.

(c) Puddletown Recreation Ground: P Drake informed the meeting that the black topping of the path from the car park to the Pavilion has now been completed.

(d) Coombe Road bus shelter: it was reported that the Perspex in this shelter was going green and it was agreed that Dan Buxton (window cleaner) should be asked to clean it. Although the exact cost was not known, it was felt that it should not be more than about £50.

9/8. Tolpuddle Topics:

(a) Open Space update: J Hopkin reported that the TOSCA committee met on Wednesday 15th April and the funding was beginning to come in. Phase 1 of the cost of work is now largely covered and Dorset Works should start site clearance by the end of next week – weather permitting. The committee was now moving on to secure the funding for the play equipment. The youths of the village have put together an application to Dorset Play Builders for funding. A grant of £12,500 has been confirmed.

(b) Play equipment: Andy Frost met with youths of all ages from the village and ran several workshops to decide what each age group wanted from the site. This proved very informative and Andy will now pull together some quotes for the various pieces of equipment.

(c) A site meeting was held prior to the start of this meeting for all Parish Councillors who wished to visit the site first hand.

(d) C Leonard informed members that he had taken his grandchildren to Puddletown Recreation Ground the previous week, shortly after it had been raining and found that the equipment made of wood proved to be very slippery. He asked if would be possible for the wooden surfaces that would be trodden on could be made non-slip. J Hopkin reported that Andy Frost has done many such projects, including that at Morden Country Park, and most of the equipment would not be made of wood but would have wooden casings. The designs were due to be completed by the end of the week at which point he would put all the designs before an independent Health and Safety Officer before going any further.

(e) The question of the path surface was raised – would it be made of a tightly compact material in order to prevent chips flying up when the gang mowers went over it. It was felt that Dorset Works would be the best people to approach in this regard. A Bower expressed concern that a crushed limestone path could prove difficult for wheelchair users to push on and also for children with bikes. Again it was agreed that Dorset Works should be consulted as they would be used to dealing with various different materials for pathways and would know the best type to use.

9/9. Rights of Way

(a) Rod Hill Way: this has yet to be cleaned up and a letter will be sent to the Enforcement Officer.

9/10. Drain, Hedges and Roads

(a) Tolpuddle: the footpath in front of number 10 Main Road, Tolpuddle has sunk. It was felt that this was the result of electricity cable repair works. This will be added to the general list being sent to Highways, together with the general state of repair of the road through Tolpuddle. Following the various building work that has taken place and the sewage pipe work, various areas seem to have sunk along its length and several of the manhole covers are now standing proud of the road surface.

9/11. Training Courses

None at present.

9/12. To consider planning applications

(a) 1/D/09/000360: Beehcote, 1 The Green, Tolpuddle – erect greenhouse: members have no objection to this application

(b) 1/D/09/000339: Plot 1, Former Tolpuddle Garage – change of use to dwelling: the Chairman asked members of the public if they had anything they would like to say on this application before the Parish Council considered it. It was generally felt that this change of use should not be allowed and a commercial unit would be preferable. However, with the current economic climate as it is, it was understood why a commercial unit would seem unlikely. That said, if a commercial unit was not possible, then villagers would prefer to see two smaller starter homes.

The Chairman closed the public discussion and asked members for their thoughts:

P Drake said he felt that perhaps insufficient time had elapsed to give up on a commercial unit. Once an employment area was lost, it would be gone for good.

It was noted that several villagers had expressed an interest in the commercial unit but had been unable to find where it was being advertised.

C Leonard proposed that, as a Parish Council, we should lodge an objection to this application and state that we feel there should be affordable homes put on the site. As we will not be getting a community benefit in the form of an employment unit, we should get a benefit in another form. It was seconded by J Hopkin that this be our response.

(c) 1/D/09/000448: White Cottage, Athelhampton – form additional car parking: members have no objection to this application

(d) River View, 12 Main Road, Tolpuddle: although not the subject of a planning application, attention has been brought to the Parish Council because of the timber cladding on the outside of the building and the seeming conversion of the property to two dwellings. It is felt that due to the drastic nature of the works a planning application should have been submitted and put before the Parish Council before allowing this work to be undertaken. Jan Hopkin reported that she had spoken to the owner of the property who had furnished her with letters going back to May 2007 when a formal planning application was submitted but returned by WDDC saying that no planning permission was required. It was felt that a letter should be sent to the Planning Department lodging our concern regarding this as, had an application been put before the Parish Council, we would most certainly have objected to it.

9/13. To consider the accounts:

(a) To authorise payment of accounts: The following cheque payments were requested:-

Puddletown Cricket Club	Payment of 106 monies re new nets	100042	2500.00
WDDC	March wheelie bin collections	100043	15.72
Mrs A Crocker	April wages + stationery	100044	512.65
DAPTC	Subs for year to 31.03.10	100045	491.81
Total amount requested			3520.18

Payment of the amounts was proposed by C Leonard and seconded by A Bower and the cheques were signed in the presence of the meeting.

(b) Comparison with budgets to date: a comparison spreadsheet was issued to all members at the start of the meeting. The Clerk highlighted the key points showing that overall we had taken £4514.42 through the year. This combined with the Precept gave us an income of £15214.42, against actual expenditure of £13931.68, leaving us in a profit situation of £1282.74 all of which was accounted for under committed expenditure such as the Rights of Way fund, etc. There were no questions raised regarding the accounts.

9/14. To adopt the Freedom of Information Act: review of charges

It was agreed that we adopt a similar format to that of over local Parish Council and the Clerk will draft something to go onto our website and into the Library.

9/15. To receive correspondence

The Clerk drew members attention to the items of correspondence received in particular a letter from DCC Western Highways Office. It is proposed that, in the first instance, Parish Councils approach and speak with any local property owner who needs reminding of their obligation to keep their trees and hedges cut back from footways and roadways. Should they be unable to persuade the property owners to cut back any offending hedge or tree, then the Parish Council would advise the highway maintenance team who would consider formal enforcement action. If this was something the Parish Council would be interested in taking up Dorset County Council would provide the appropriate advice, together with a leaflet containing an explanation of how trees and hedges, adjacent to the road or footway, should be managed. It was unanimously agreed that we take on this task and the Clerk will request the appropriate literature.

9/16 Items for the May meeting

- Tolpuddle Open Space
- Tolpuddle Parish Meeting – matters arising
- Road Show report – Thursday 25th March

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:30 p.m.

MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL AGM HELD ON TUESDAY 5TH MAY 2009 AT PUDDLETOWN VILLAGE HALL

Present: P Stockley, M Oddy, A Sheppard, M Cooke, Mrs T White, M Crankshaw, Ms A Bower, Mrs D Foreman, P Cooke
Chairman: S Buck
Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

3 members of the public and County Councillor Mr D Crowhurst.

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Chairman asked those present if they had any points they would like to raise or questions to ask. There were none. The public meeting was closed and the Parish Council meeting opened by the Clerk asking for nominations for the position of Chairman for the coming year.

9/17 Election of Officers

- (i) **Chairman** It was proposed by Mrs D Foreman and seconded by M Crankshaw that S Buck continue in the post of Chairman. Mr Buck agreed to do so.
- (ii) **Vice Chairman** It was proposed by S Buck and seconded by A Sheppard the Mrs D Foreman continue in this role. She duly accepted.
- (iii) **Planning Working Party:** A Sheppard informed the meeting that whilst he was happy to maintain a presence on this working party, he would no longer be able to chair it. It was proposed by J Hopkin and seconded by A Sheppard that D Foreman take over this role. The working party will continue to consist of A Sheppard, C Leonard, P Stockley, T White, J Hopkin and D Foreman.
- (iv) **Finance Committee:** Consists of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the Clerk and Mr C Leonard. Mr Leonard had already said he would be happy to continue in this role.
- (v) **Representatives to the Village Hall Committees:** Currently C Leonard represents the Parish Council on the Puddletown Village Hall Committee and D Foreman that of Tolpuddle. Both are happy to continue.
- (vi) **Transport Officer:** Ms Bower said that due to work commitments, she would not be able to continue in this role. A Sheppard proposed that Mr M Oddy take on the function and this was seconded by M Crankshaw. Our thanks are extended to Angie for the work she has done over the last year.
- (vii) **Rights of Way Officer:** A Sheppard said he was happy to continue in this role should no-one else wish to take it on. S Buck proposed that he remain in the role and this was seconded by D Foreman.
- (viii) **Internal Auditor:** The Clerk had spoken to Mr Henry Lovegrove prior to the meeting and he said he would be happy to continue in this role.
- (ix) **DAPTC Representatives:** D Foreman agreed to continue in this role and A Sheppard will join her.
- (x) **Community Liaison Officer:** M Crankshaw offered to take on this role and combine it with that of
- (xi) **Flood/Emergency Officer**
- (xii) **Representative to the trustees of Puddletown Charity:** It was proposed by M Crankshaw and seconded by S Buck that Mr J Wilson continues in this role.
- (xiii) **PRIDE Management Committee:** It was proposed by S Buck and seconded by M Crankshaw that P Drake and C Leonard continue in this role.
- (xiv) **Tolpuddle Open Space Group:** It was proposed by S Buck and seconded by D Foreman that J Hopkin act as representative to the Parish Council on this group.
- (xv) **Dorset Area Partnership:** It was proposed by S Buck and seconded by M Crankshaw that D Foreman continue in this role.

9/18 To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from B Legg (prior meeting commitment), C Leonard (family commitment) and P Drake (holiday). These were accepted.

9/19 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 16th April 2009

Copies of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the meeting. These were proposed to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting by M Crankshaw and seconded by J Hopkin.

9/20 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only

The Clerk reported that the Enforcement Officer was due to visit Rod Hill to view the alleged fly tipping but as yet no response had been received.

9/21 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972

There were no interests declared at this stage.

9/22 Reports from meetings attended:

- (i) **Rural Roads Roadshow – Thursday 25th March (A Sheppard):** Mr Sheppard reported that Dorset had taken the Rural Road Protocol which adhered to the philosophy “don’t change the road, change the people using it.” The concept revolves around colours and space – let the cars park along the roads as they will slow other vehicles down – change the road texture slightly – change the colour, etc. All of these concepts have been proven to slow vehicles down and make drivers think about their surroundings. One village used scarecrows wearing high vis jackets to increase drivers’ awareness. Dorset has taken the Rural Roads on board and is taking the view that less is more where signage, etc is concerned. The Chairman thanked Mr Sheppard for taking the time to attend the road shows on behalf of the Parish Council and reporting back.

9/23 Puddletown Matters:

- (e) **Kick Wall:** work is due to start on the 7th and 8th May. *Now completed. Markings to be confirmed*
(f) **Notice Board:** Neil Barrett confirmed to be carrying out the work. *Now completed.*

9/24 Tolpuddle Topics:

- **Open Space update:** Dorset Works are due to start work on site on the Monday prior to the meeting. A Management Plan is being worked on and will be presented to the Parish Council when completed – hopefully at the June meeting. There will be a Duck Race on Sunday 24th May, tickets £5, with a barbeque. Starts 11.30am from the Village Green and will end at Evening Rise where the barbeque will be held.
- **Tolpuddle Parish Meeting – matters arising:** J Hopkin reported that there was a request for the rumble strips to be re-instated at each end of the village, the 30mph speed limit to be extended at each end of the village and a 20mph limit through the village – or at least in front of the Open Space. The possibility of installing speed humps at each end had also been discussed. Cllr Crowhurst informed members that there must be lighting if speed humps are installed and was told that Tolpuddle already has street lights so this would not be an issue. He said he would follow up the suggestions made with Highways to see what could be done. M Crankshaw asked if would be possible to reinstate the 20mph restriction in Puddletown along the front of the First School. It was suggested that the existing school signs could be extended up and out over the pavement, giving the impression they are over the road – this has the tendency to slow passing traffic.
- **Methodist Chapel:** at this point, the Chairman invited Mr Tony Gould, a resident of Tolpuddle, to address the meeting. Mr Gould informed members that the old barn in the centre of Tolpuddle, currently being used as a woodshed, was the original 1818 Wesleyan Chapel which fell into disuse in about 1840 and was replaced by the new chapel in 1862/63. Several of the residents of Tolpuddle would like to see the old chapel restored. It is known that 2 of the 6 Martyrs were wardens of the old chapel so it forms an important part of the history of the village. Several of the villagers have expressed their interest in such a project and are looking into what could be done. The Chairman suggested contacting Bill Maunder, the Chairman of the Puddletown Society and John Low at County Hall who is an expert on the old buildings of the region. Anyone who owns an historic building has a duty to take care of it. DCA are offering grants of up to £20,000 which may be used for just such a purpose. This item will be put onto the August agenda when, perhaps a little more information has been gathered.

9/25 Rights of Way

The stile on the Roman Road on the permissive path through the Forest is in need of repair but, other than this, there are no matters to report.

9/26 Drain, Hedges and Roads

No issues raised.

9/27 Training Courses

No new courses identified at this stage.

9/28 To consider planning applications

(i) **1/D/09/000476: Whiteways, Tolpuddle – extensions & detached garage:** J Hopkin felt that the window seemed out of scale with the rest of the property but it does not overlook anyone. The cedar cladding on the garage was out of keeping and she raised an objection regarding this. D Foreman felt that the proposed extension replaces a fairly ugly lean-too and so was a benefit.

Mrs C Angus, the owners of No. 47a, the most immediate neighbour was invited to address the meeting. She said that she and her husband supported the south facing extension but had concerns with regard to the garage. The plans appeared to bring the location forward by some 3 metres and may well have the effect of blocking out the light to their kitchen/breakfast room. Access to their driveway is already difficult and the proposed garage entrance may well cause additional problems. A Sheppard reminded members that the loss of light is not something we as a Parish Council can consider as a planning objection. However, it did look as though one parking space would be lost and, as the plans do not give any heights, it is possible that by lowering the pitch of the garage roof the question of light could be overcome.

(ii)1/D/09/000485: Waterbarn Farm – temporary structure to measure wind: members had no objections to this application.

9/29 To consider the accounts:

(i) To authorise payment of accounts: a list of payment requests had been circulated to all members with the agenda.

Wessex Water	TOSCA connection fee	100046	1547.33
SE Power	TOSCA connection fee	100047	1370.80
SLCC	Annual subscription	100048	94.00
DCC	Printing Parish Plan	100049	410.00

The payments in respect of Wessex Water and SE Power would both be taken from the TOSCA account and not the precept. Payments of the amounts were proposed by M Crankshaw and seconded by P Cooke, they were then signed in the presence of the meeting.

9/30 To receive correspondence

A list of all correspondence received since the April meeting had been circulated with the agenda. There were no points raised.

9/31 Items for the May meeting

No items were raised at this stage.

The Chairman then asked County Councillor Mr David Crowhurst if he had any points he would like to raise. Mr Crowhurst drew members attention to the Dorset Strategic Cultural Plan which has now been adopted, also to the Jurassic Coast – the preservation and promotion of it. He also informed members that £100,000 has been set aside to support businesses through the current economic recession.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:40pm

MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL AGM HELD ON THURSDAY 25TH JUNE, TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL

Present: M Oddy, A Sheppard, Ms A Bower, Mrs D Foreman, P Cooke, Mrs B Legg, P Drake, Mrs J Hopkin, C Leonard

Chairman: S Buck

Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

1 member of the public and County Councillor Mr D Crowhurst.

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Chairman asked those present if they had any points they would like to raise or questions to ask. There were none. The public meeting was closed and the Parish Council meeting was opened.

9/32 To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from: M Cooke, M Crankshaw and Mrs T White (work commitments), P Stockley (holiday) and Mr R Howard prior engagement.

9/33 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 5th May 2009

Members had all received a copy of the minutes prior to the start of the meeting. C Leonard proposed them to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting and this was seconded by P Cooke. They were then signed and dated by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

9/34 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only

There were no matters arising.

9/35 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972

No interests were declared at this stage.

Guest Speaker – Mr Rob Aspray, WDDC Rural Housing Development Officer

The Chairman then introduced Mr Rob Aspray and invited him to address the meeting. Mr Aspray explained that he had taken over the role in February 2009 and, unlike the previous job holder, he is directly employed by WDDC. Rather than carry out lengthy surveys as in the past, housing need is determined by the Housing Register. In order to

be listed on the Housing Register, the applicant will have had to complete a lengthy and detailed form which has had a tendency to put people off, but it is important that they are encouraged to fill out the forms. There are currently 2500 households on the West Dorset Register and 30% of these have expressed a local interest. Of these, 30 households are within the Puddletown Parishes. A red, orange, green system operates indicating housing need with green being those most in need. Of the 30 households; 4 are in accurate housing need (green), 9 are considered orange and 17 red. Any affordable housing in the villages will be given to those with a local connection in perpetuity.

C Leonard raised the question of the money that had already been deposited by developers who had paid money over to WDDC in lieu of having affordable housing on their sites. Mr Aspray said he was not aware of any such monies but would find out where it had gone and what it had been spent on.

Mr Aspray then informed members that they had been approached by Trident Homes – the developers of the Tolpuddle garage site – with a view to converting the commercial unit into two affordable homes. He then said that he would like the villages to form a sub-group to work with the Rural Housing Department, looking at the various opportunities, potential sites, etc. If 2 or 3 people would be willing to volunteer then he would work closely with them and would anticipate giving a progress report to the Parish Council in the autumn.

There being no further questions, the Chairman thanked Mr Aspray for taking the time to address the meeting and looked forward to hearing how everything was progressing.

9/36 Reports from meetings attended:

No one had attended any meetings since the last Parish Council meeting.

9/37 Puddletown Matters:

- (i) Kick Wall:** The kick wall has been completed and is being used. Unfortunately, there is already some graffiti appearing but at least it is a popular meeting place for the teenagers. The official ground markings will be in place within the next fortnight.
- (ii) PRIDE:** The AGM took place on the 24th June. P Drake explained to the new members that PRIDE had been set up to run the MUGA and Pavilion on behalf of the Parish Council and he was currently the Chairman. The free tennis sessions were proving to be very popular – the cost of these was covered by grant monies. The tennis courts were also continuing to be used by villagers and the bookings were on the increase. Mr Gerald Barrett is the official booking officer and is doing a great job promoting the MUGA and taking the fees. Thanks are extended to him for all his hard work. In August, it is intended to begin netball coaching sessions. A complaint has been made about the weeds growing around the MUGA and Mr Drake asked if the Parish Council would fund someone coming out to trim them back. He will organise some quotes and liaise with the Clerk. Mrs Foreman proposed that, should the quotes be less than £100, the work go ahead without having to report back to the Parish Council in July before doing anything and this was seconded by M Oddy.
- (iii)** It has come to the attention of members that a party had been advertised amongst the youths to take place in a field on the opposite side of the by-pass from the Recreation Ground but access was via Three Lanes End. Some 200 youths gathered at Three Lanes End and P Drake telephoned the Police who promised to attend. A Police car did turn up and spoke to the 3 youths who appeared to be directing party-goers in the right direction and then drove off. Irene Stockley then spent most of the next morning clearing bottles and rubbish from the Recreation Ground. It is understood that the party took place on private land and, if it was with the landowners consent, then nothing could be done. Certainly, there was no noise implication as it was too far away but it was generally felt that it would have been appropriate to have had some sort of feedback from the Police. This happens all too often when something is reported and the Police appear to do nothing – when it is more likely that we never find out what they did. It was suggested that Mr Ron Coatsworth of Secure Neighbourhoods be informed and Cllr Crowhurst asked to be copied in on any correspondence.
- (iv)** C Leonard reported that the redundant lengths of pipe to the shower system in the Pavilion have been traced and removed. It had been necessary to cut a hole through the stud wall to achieve this and it would now be necessary to contact a carpenter to put a door in. Mr Leonard said he would obtain two quotes for the work and report back. With this done, all the physical items highlighted on the Legionella Report have been carried out.
- (v)** Spring gate to the play area at the Recreation Ground is broken – one is on back order and should be here shortly.
- (vi)** Daisy table, Butt Close – costs to be obtained and 106 monies to be requested.

9/38 Tolpuddle Topics:

- **Open Space update:** Thanks are extended to Rob Brunt for producing the Maintenance Plan – a copy of which had been issued to all members along with the agenda. This acts as a Risk Assessment moving forward. S Buck suggested that the plan be discussed in full at the July meeting in order to allow members time to review the suggestions. Mrs Hopkin informed the meeting that Dorset Works were now on site and the area had been levelled and the areas zoned according to the Landscape Architect's design. Andy Frost is due on site for 3 weeks in July and on the 3rd July, Oliver Letwin MP will inspect the site – any councillors who are available are invited to be present at 2pm. The recent Duck Race raised £1,300 and over 200 people attended. TOSCA will have a stall at the Martyrs Rally and will be running a tombola. The Grand Opening of the site will take place at 6pm on Friday 11th September and there will be a street party, together with other entertainments. By this time, the site will have been used in part, especially the play areas. The grass turf is due to go down this week and some of the decking has already been done. The entrance posts are in. TOSCA now has a membership of 80 people who are keen to assist in the voluntary work necessary to maintain the site. A Sheppard said he would like to see a rough cost per square meter – so it can be compared with a similar costing on the recreation ground. C Leonard continued to express concern over the budget for the play equipment and path, saying that the path should not need to be repaired for many years to come. The play equipment can be budgeted for as and when necessary. He said he would not want to give the impression that the Parish Council will be putting £2.5k back a year. Mrs Hopkin said that the path material used was necessary due to the proximity of the river and TOSCA had been left with no choice but to use it. It was their intention not to break into the £15k maintenance money for routine annual maintenance. P Drake informed the meeting that PRIDE relies on volunteers – probably to a greater degree than they should – but it was necessary in order to keep costs to a minimum. S Buck reminded members that what has been done with the Management Plan has been to highlight what may have to be paid for on an annual basis for the Open Space. It was agreed that this will be an agenda item for July in order to rethink costs and resubmit the plan.
- **Martyrs Cottage:** re the proposed holiday let. Since last August, some villagers have been trying to find out what is happening with the empty cottage without much success. A press release was issued by the villagers expressing their concerns and, since then, all residents of Tolpuddle have received an explanation from the TUC saying they intend changing the way they allocate the cottages from October. In the meantime, there is an open invitation to all villagers to attend a meeting at Tolpuddle Village Hall on the 9th July when the TUC will explain their intentions.

At this point, the Chairman asked County Councillor David Crowhurst if he would like to address the meeting. Cllr Crowhurst said that, following the elections, of the 45 members of cabinet, 20 are new. It was intended that no changes be made to people's roles for 6 months, whilst everyone finds their feet. It is intended that savings made over the last year continue and it is also hoped that the Council should be able to recover about 95% of the monies originally tied up in Iceland. He would forward his report shortly to the Clerk for circulation to members. In the meantime, he informed the meeting that there was to be a working group meeting next week in respect of Puddletown First School and it is essential that we keep the momentum going despite the current setback.

9/39 Rights of Way

- Rod Hill Lane;** no change yet. *A letter has since been received from the Enforcement Officer saying that our enquiry from May has now been registered and he will visit the site and contact us before the end of July with his decision. The Clerk has since spoken to the Officer who visited the site on Thursday 9th July and is happy that the bridleway is not blocked and the bank in question now has vegetation growing over it and is in keeping with the adjoining gardens.*
- Home Farm;** only 2 properties remain unoccupied. Private signs have been put on the Catmead side of the door and a large plant pot put in front of the gate. Planning have stated that this does not constitute a breach of planning conditions as the gateway is not obliged to be opened until all the

properties are occupied. However, it may well constitute a breach of the Rights of Way. The Clerk will contact Rights of Way.

9/40 Drain, Hedges and Roads

- (i) **Tolpuddle Hall:** The beech hedge continues to be a problem with the hedgecutter being employed to go onto the site for 1 hour every fortnight. It was requested that, when he is next spotted, that he is asked to spend the whole hour on the hedge.
- (ii) The hedge at the White House, Athelhampton needs to be cut back.
- (iii) There is a drop along the side of the road, prior to the Doctors surgery in Puddletown – could this be turned into a layby as it is already used for people to park in whilst they are at the Doctors.

9/41 Training Courses

- Councillors Update – 14th July: A Sheppard, B Legg and M Oddy all expressed interest and will be booked on to the course.

9/42 To consider planning applications

- (i) **1/D/09/000704: 2 Trent Meadows, Puddletown – alter fenestration & install central heating:** no objections to the proposal
- (ii) **1/D/09/000814: White Cottage, Athelhampton – COU residential cartilage + car parking:** members have no objections to this application
- (iii) **1/D/09/000945: 54 Butt Close, Puddletown – 2 storey extn (amendment to existing planning application):** although this is an amendment to a planning application that had already been approved by the Parish Council, it was felt that it does represent a marked alteration from the original and more time is needed to review it. The Clerk will seek additional time for the Council's comments to be submitted and the application will be considered at the July meeting.

9/43 To consider the accounts:

- (i) **To authorise payment of accounts:** a list of payment requests had been circulated to all members with the agenda. These are:

Hustings Electrical	Test caravan hook-ups	100050	239.44
DBK Goyn Adams	Professional Services re TOSCA	100051	552.00
WDDC	Wheelie bins – April 2009	100052	33.95
Clerk	Wages – May 2009-07-13	100053	392.56
D Buxton	To clean bus shelter windows	100054	10.00
C Leonard	Repairs to door handle in Pav	100055	20.80
N Barrett	P/town notice board	100056	295.00
WDDC	Wheelie bins – May 2009	100057	49.05
Allianz	Insurance y/e 10/8/10	100058	1950.55
Landform	Stages 1 & 2, expenses	100059	3735.00
Clerk	June wages + post & paper	100060	404.05
Total			7682.40

Of this balance, £4,287.00 was payable from the TOSCA monies. The payments were proposed by P Drake and seconded by J Hopkin and duly signed in the presence of the meeting.

- (ii) **To confirm the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2009:** The Register of Assets, reconciliation of accounts and statement of accounts for the year ended 31st March 2009 had all been circulated to members with the agenda. The Clerk drew members attention to the internal audit comments as follows:

- a. The Council did not carry out its year end bank reconciliation properly as a result of which interest income was missed from the cash book. The cash book was updated and the bank account in question, which had been set up as a half yearly statement now operates on a monthly statement to avoid this happening in the future. In addition, reconciliations will be presented to members at each meeting in the future.
- b. The Council pays the Clerk and caravan fee collector as independent contractors, but they should be subject to PAYE because if they do not meet their tax commitments the Revenue may seek redress from the Parish Council. A request has since been made to

the Inland Revenue who responded saying that, as no employee meets the bottom level NIC commitment, no payment is likely to be made within the first 4 weeks of setting up a scheme and no member of staff has a job in which they are paying tax, they are not prepared to enter into a scheme. When asked, they said they would not be prepared to put this in writing but, should the auditors wish to telephone them, they would give them this same information. This has since been passed to the auditors.

It was proposed by C Leonard and seconded by D Foreman that the accounts are accepted and they were signed by the Chairman and the Clerk in the presence of the meeting.

- (iii) To review the Annual Governance Statement:** a copy of the questionnaire was passed to all members with the agenda. All statements were accepted to be true and they were proposed by C Leonard and seconded by D Foreman. They were then signed in the presence of the meeting by the Chairman and Clerk.

9/44 To receive correspondence

A list of all correspondence received since the last meeting had been circulated to members with the agenda. There were no additional comments to be made.

The Chairman informed members that, following the Parish meeting in respect of the First School, he had written a letter to Oliver Letwin MP, expressing his concerns. As a result, Oliver Letwin had suggested a meeting on the 4th July to look at the various sites. In the meantime, the steering group is due to meet on the 30th June.

9/45 Items for the July meeting

- TOSCA management Plan
- Web site – the next step
- Quality status

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:40 p.m.

MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 21ST JULY 2009, PUDDLETOWN VILLAGE HALL

Present: P Stockley, P Cooke, Mrs B Legg, M Oddy, A Sheppard, M Crankshaw, P Drake, M Cooke, Mrs J Hopkin
Chairman: S Buck
Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

Also present were County Councillor Mr D Crowhurst and PSVO Vicky Hedges. No members of the public were present.

Prior to the start of the Parish Council meeting, the Chairman invited Vicky to address members. She reported that the Police were working closely with WDDC Lynford Newman to try to combat the fly tipping in Puddletown Forest. With regard to the motor cross bikes using the forest, a poster campaign regarding the off road nuisance was commencing. Men behaving badly in the Forest – a tactical plan was being drawn up regarding this and other targeted areas. Tolpuddle Festival – only issues raised were those of parking at Southover and these would be address in time for next year's festival. P Cooke asked if Burleston could be included in any future arrangements made to prevent this happening in the future as there were a lot of cars parking in villagers' driveways in order to avoid paying the car park fees. P Drake reported that rave raised at the last Parish Council meeting, together with the actions of the Police at the time. Vicky said she would look into it.

9/46 To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from C Leonard (holiday), Mrs D Foreman (holiday), A Bower (holiday) and Mrs T White (illness) – all were accepted.

9/47 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 25th June 2009

Members had all received a copy of the minutes prior to the start of the meeting. A Sheppard asked whether or not the laptop and printer should be on the list of assets of the Parish Council and whether the books (ie, Charles Arnold Baker, etc) should also be included. The Clerk responded saying that the laptop should be included but usually there is a minimum value of £100 for something to be included as an asset so the books would not normally be listed. The

minutes were then proposed by P Drake as a true and accurate record of the meeting and seconded by A Sheppard. The Chairman then signed them in the presence of the meeting.

9/48 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only

- (i) 9/37(ii) The weeds around the MUGA have been cut back by Dorset Works at a cost of £100
- (ii) Rights of Way: Rod Hill Lane – the bank still shows signs of the concrete blocks. It was suggested that the enforcement officer be invited back to the site to meet with a Parish Councillor. Both A Sheppard and M Crankshaw said they would be happy to meet the Officer and express the Parish Council's concerns with the ruling. It is apparent that other gardens along the lane are now doing the same sort of tipping.

9/49 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972

A Sheppard and M Crankshaw declared an interest in item 9/51 Butt Close Play Area as they were both personal friends of the neighbours at Butt Close. No other interests were declared at this stage.

9/50 Reports from meetings attended:

- (i) **Councillors Update – 14th July:** attended by A Sheppard and Mrs B Legg. Various areas were covered by the seminar including the Dorset Play Survey. Tony McGee would be available to help facilitate youth activities in the local area. NALC Leadership – more for the Town Councils involving an amendment to the dispensation rules regarding voting at meetings when all interests declared would mean there would be no quorum for voting. Both councillors felt it was an interesting and useful seminar.
- (ii) **Tolpuddle Village Meeting re Martyrs Cottages:** Mrs Hopkin explained that Mr Nick Costly of the TUC addressed the meeting in response to some villagers' approaching the press with regard to the potential use of one of the cottages as a holiday home. 80 people attended and 3 points were agreed by the end of the meeting:
 - a. the idea of the holiday home would be withdrawn.
 - b. When the trustees have met in October, the vacant cottage would be advertised locally and nationally
 - c. Because the present position has arisen as the current warden is about to retire and is permitted to keep the cottage they are currently living in, it will be recommended that there will not be a live in warden in the future.Villagers generally felt this to be a successful outcome.

9/51 Puddletown Matters:

- (i) **Butt Close Play Area:** the Clerk reported that Magna Housing had approached the Parish Council asking if we would like to take over the play area as they wished to wash their hands of it. An e-mail had been sent to councillors prior to the start of the meeting in order to allow them time to think about this proposal. M Cooke said he felt we should look into taking the site on but it currently shows no sign on management and is in a very poor state. Mrs Legg agreed saying that should we take it on, it should be brought up to a satisfactory level first. This was echoed by members in general saying that we could take it on but there would need to be conditions set such as a maintenance figure. A Sheppard said that the fence to the rear of the site is in need of constant maintenance and, although there is a sign on the site saying ball games are not allowed, residents are frequently complaining about the amount of ball games taking place and balls going into the neighbouring gardens. It was agreed that Magna Housing should be invited to the next Parish Council meeting and we should look at getting them to bring the site up to a mutually agreed standard, and provide a maintenance sum in the first instance.
- (ii) **Daisy Table, Butt Close:** following the RoSPA report it is now necessary to remove the daisy table as, until the status of the site is determined, it would not be reasonable to replace it at this time. M Crankshaw and P Drake agreed to do this.
- (iii) **Plastic Recycling:** an e-mail had been received from Leah Wistrand at WDDC regarding the location of a plastic recycling bin in Puddletown. Two sites were suggested as being possible locations – the car park to the rear of the village hall and the Recreation Ground car park. It was felt that the village hall would be the most central location and the Clerk will contact Chris Rampton, Chairman of the Village Hall Committee and ask his opinion. *This has since been done and the Committee would not like to have the bins there due to access for the lorries.* Miss Wistrand will be invited out to visit the Recreation Ground car park and see if this is suitable. *Site visits will be organised at a future date after which WDDC will seek the approval of the land owners and check any environmental health issues.*

9/52 Tolpuddle Topics:

- (i) **Open Space update – proposed Management Plan:** it was proposed that an additional £1,000pa be added to the precept to cover the various costs outlined in the plan. A Sheppard queried the costs to be incurred over and above this, ie the RoSPA report and grass cutting, but it was felt that these would be included within the Parish Council's existing costs as contracts were already held with both parties concerned and the open space could be added into them. It was proposed by J Hopkin and seconded by P Cooke that the Management Plan is accepted and that the £1,000 would be reviewed at the next budget meeting. M Cooke reported that Dorset Works have practically completed their work on site and Andy Frost is due on site from 4th August. Most of the site will be open during August and the grand opening will take place on the 11th September. C Leonard attended a meeting on site with Caroline Sharpe and the architect and is now happy

with the situation regarding the paths. The documentation relating to such things as Health & Safety, electrical testing, etc is to be held by the Clerk once completed. The electrical test certificate will be laminated and kept in the electrical cupboard on site.

- (ii) Affordable Housing:** at the last meeting Mr Rob Asprey of WDDC requested two volunteers to act as local liaison with him and assist in moving the project forward. C Leonard and Mrs J Hopkin put their names forward and they have been passed on to Mr Asprey. *The initial contact letter has now gone out to every household in Tolpuddle, Burtleston and Athelhampton. Once Mr Asprey returns from holiday at the beginning of September the results will be collated and he will contact us with regard to the next step.*

Before moving on with the meeting, the Chairman asked Cllr Crowhurst if he had anything he would like to say:

Cllr Crowhurst reported that it was proposed by Wessex Water to close the B352 for 3 weeks at the end of October. He will be opposing this closure due to the massive amount of inconvenience this will cause to the villagers. A Parish meeting is to be called to discuss what action can be taken and a date will be issued in due course. The proposed diversion is currently via Warmwell. In addition, regarding the B3390, gravel and sand extraction has now started. This will create a new no-go area bounded by the A35, B3390 and A352. The Parish Council of Bere Regis is strongly opposed to this move as it will bring more traffic down along Rye Hill and past the First School. Regarding the Puddletown First School, a detailed note has been sent to Miles Butler, John Nash and Paul Kent of Dorset County Council. The Project Group met on the 25th June and felt that the current project is still not seen to be value for money due to the cost of the new road. Cllr Crowhurst has asked if any alternative route or access to the site has been investigated and this is being looked into. There may be a delay for up to 6 months but the project will go ahead as the alternative is to pay out £500,000 at least to put the current school into a good state of repair.

9/53 Rights of Way:

- (i) Church Path:** the wall has now been repaired and a letter of thanks will be sent to Dawn Loveless.

9/54 RoSPA report: the main features highlighted in the report were the requirement for a sign for the kick wall relating to climbing on the equipment being dangerous. P Drake will contact the County Council Sign Shop to get a price for this.

9/55 Drain, Hedges and Roads

Lenghtmans Scheme: a letter had been received from DCC asking for comments relating to the potential instigation of this scheme. Such a scheme had been brought to the attention of the Parish Council by A Sheppard following his attendance on the Rural Roads Roadshow in March. In outline, the scheme aim is to provide a local resource controlled and administered by the Town and Parish Councils. The resource is to undertake minor but locally important odd-jobs such as litter-picking, refuse spills, dealing with dog mess, cutting back overhanging brambles, clearing leaf build and verge overgrowth to public areas, minor repair jobs to community assets such as benches, bus shelters, putting up and taking down local notices. It is intended that the scheme would be jointly funded by those gaining benefit from it and the "lengthsman" would be employed directly by the Town Council and/or group of Parishes to whom he serves. It is estimated that the annual cost would be in the region of £25,000. The proportion of this figure each Council would pick up would depend on the number of Parishes/Town Councils included in any agreement. This had been outlined to members prior to the meeting to allow time to think about whether or not this was a scheme we would want to take part in. P Cooke informed the meeting that the Parishes of Dewlish and Cheselbourne had objected to the scheme setting out the considerable extra cost the Parish Council would occur. It would be necessary to have a lot of Parishes involved in one scheme to make the cost acceptable and then it would be inevitable that the person would be working elsewhere when needed. The cost of such a person would be about £70/day, so even 1 day a month would add £840 to the precept. The question of how much productivity would be seen for the money was raised and it was generally felt that the various possible jobs this person would be doing listed by DCC, were precisely the jobs DCC should be doing. If it was a case of the County wishing to save money, then perhaps some of the work such as cutting brambles and leaf clearing could be carried out by Community Service Workers or Young Offenders. It was unanimously agreed that we do not wish to be involved in such a scheme at this stage.

9/56 Training Courses

No new courses at present.

9/57 To consider planning applications:

- (i) 1/D/09/000945: 54 Butt Close, Puddletown – 2 storey ext (amendment to existing plans):** the original plans had already been approved by the Parish Council and these referred to a proposed change of materials for the extension. It was felt that the Parish Council could not object to the amendment but would comment on the fact that the proposed change from brickwork to rendering was not in keeping with the adjacent properties. It was known that the neighbours had already objected to the application.
- (ii) 1/D/09/000972: Unit 1, Tolpuddle Garage Site – Change of use to two affordable housing units:** this is precisely what the Parish Council had hoped for and strongly supports the application. The only comment is that there seem to be a large number of doors (4 in all) at the front of the properties.

9/58 To consider the accounts:

- (i) To authorise payment of accounts:** a list of payment requests had been circulated to all members with the agenda. These are:

WDDC

Wheelie bin empties for June

100063

39.24

RoSPA	Annual play area inspection	100064	144.90
Pampered Pigs	5 printer cartridges for Epsom	100065	106.74
P N Gray	Instal emergency light at Pavilion	100066	108.40
Mrs A Crocker	Wages for July 2009	100067	392.56
Total requested			791.84

Payment of the accounts was proposed by P Drake and seconded by J Hopkin and the cheques were signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

9/59 To receive correspondence

A list of all correspondence received since the last meeting had been circulated to members with the agenda. There were no additional comments made.

9/60 To consider the Parish Council's Quality Status and Web site.

The chairman reported that he had met with the DAPTC and asked what benefit we as a Parish Council would gain as a Quality Council. The answer was, in reality, not a lot. The new strategy is now "The Power of Well Being" which would allow the Parish Councils more power once achieved. The Chairman suggested that this is something we work towards concurrently with the Quality Parish status. It would require the Clerk to be qualified and for 80% of councillors to attend a training course and for the Parish Council to write a statement of intent. It was suggested that John Parker from the DAPTC be invited to address a future meeting to explain this in more detail. A Sheppard reported that Dorchester Town Council are preparing for the Power of Wellbeing but do not intend applying it at this stage.

9/61 Items for the August meeting

- Puddletown First School
- Magna Housing

P Drake offered congratulations to the people of Tolpuddle for their community spirit when working together with the Martyrs Rally making for a very successful weekend.

The 2nd meeting of the First School Committee will be taking place on Friday 24th July. This committee comprises the Chairman of the Parish Council, Oliver Letwin MP and other interested parties. This is the second of two meetings set up by the Chairman with Oliver Letwin.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:30pm.

MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 20TH AUGUST 2009, AT TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL

Present: M Oddy, M Cooke, P Cooke, A Sheppard, Ms A Bower, Mrs B Legg, Mrs D Foreman, Mrs J Hopkin
Chairman: S Buck
Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

Also present were County Councillor Mr D Crowhurst and PSVO Vicky Hedges, together with 2 members of the public

Prior to the start of the Parish Council meeting, the Chairman asked those members of the public present if they had any points or questions they would like to raise. Neither had anything to say at this stage so the Chairman closed the public section of the meeting and opened the Parish Council meeting.

9/62 To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Mrs T White (illness), M Crankshaw (work), P Stockley (ill), C Leonard (holiday). All were accepted.

9/63 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 21st July 2009

Copies had been circulated to all members prior to the start of the meeting with the agendas. A Sheppard reported that 9/60 should read "Dorchester Town Council are preparing for the Power of Wellbeing but it had been suggested that they would not apply for it at this stage." With this amendment the minutes were proposed as a true and accurate representation of the meeting by M Oddy and seconded by A Sheppard.

9/64 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only

There were no matters arising.

9/65 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972

A Sheppard declared an interest in 9/66 (i) Butt Close Play Area.

Before continuing with the meeting the Chairman asked Councillor Crowhurst if he would like to address the meeting.

Cllr Crowhurst reported that a meeting regarding the First School took place on 24th July and included the Chairman of the Governors, the Chairman of the Parish Council and Oliver Letwin MP. He had since sent a note to Brian Cox of the Dorset County Council technical department setting out a series of questions regarding the access road and the various options. A copy of the questions and answers is to be circulated to members and attached to these minutes. He felt it was important to ensure that the question of the road should not be lumped onto the cost of the First School. The response from Mr Cox regarding this point was to agree but to add that "this is a Diocesan school and therefore outside the funding allocation of the Primary School Programme bid.....The Children's Services Briefing Officer raised the issue of a contribution from the Diocese towards the cost of the road/coach park, in order to "future proof the Middle School".....No offer of a contribution from the Diocese was forthcoming." Cllr Crowhurst said he is still waiting for answers on a number of points. The next First School meeting is to be held on the 4th September and a copy of the correspondence has been sent to Oliver Letwin MP.

Cllr Crowhurst reported that a meeting regarding the Broadmayne road closure had been scheduled for 27th August at the Memorial Hall, Broadmayne. It would appear that the closure will last for 9 nine days rather than the 3 weeks originally mentioned.

Dorset Direct – the new way of getting in touch with Dorset County Council is working well. Cllr Crowhurst suggested that they should contact the Parish Councils in the area to give a talk on their work and to show how they have been able to save all parties a lot of time when dealing with the County Council.

The Policy Overview Committee – concerned with process and efficiency. Cllr Crowhurst now chairs this committee.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Crowhurst and asked PSVO Vicky Hedges if she would like to address the meeting. She reported that she would be able to attend the Orchard Meadows opening with thanks. The travellers have moved on from Morton Woods and are now located at Hefelton Woods on the outskirts of Wool. Nothing is currently known about when they are likely to move again or where. The only crime to report at this time was that a Zodiac had been stolen from Crown Gardens, Tolpuddle in July. If anyone has any information, please contact the usual number. On a final note, Vicky has spoken to the children at Butt Close Play Area and they have said they would be very happy to support anything to Parish Council wanted to do in order to keep the site.

9/66

Puddletown Matters:

- (g) **Butt Close Play Area (Magna Housing)** – the Clerk reported that a representative from Magna Housing had been invited to address the meeting but no-one had been forth-coming. We will wait to see if anything else develops
- (h) **First School Update** – the Chairman, Oliver Letwin MP, Cllr Crowhurst and various interested parties met on the proposed site to discuss various possible access sites. It was agreed that we keep pushing for this site and access road as was originally agreed.
- (i) **Tree Preservation Orders – Puddletown Cemetary** - an order has been raised for the perseveration of yew trees in the cemetery. M Oddy declared an interest at this point as he is the caretaker for the Church – he was permitted to stay in the meeting, but not to comment or take part in any vote). The Chairman reminded members that an open meeting took place in April of this year with a view to trying to find the way forward now that the cemetery was nearly full. By removing the yew trees, sufficient space would be created to allow burials to continue for a few more years and give time to find an alternative solution. A Sheppard said he understood that the trees were going to be replaced and planted elsewhere so it would not be a case of losing three trees. He proposed that the Parish Council object to the TPOs. J Hopkin said she was happy if the trees were to be replaced and seconded the objection. The Clerk will file our objection with WDDC.
- (j) **Signage re Kick Wall** - P Drake had spoken to the DCC Sign Shop and they will report back to the Clerk with the cost.
- (k) **Parish Plan** - Met on the 3rd August. 300 out of 750 questionnaires had been returned. Quite a few contained comments relating to the First School site – ie wanting to see something for the community on the site when the school moves. Now comes the process of collating all the responses. Volunteers would be greatly appreciated to assist with this and to help produce the report.

9/67

Tolpuddle Topics:

- **Open Space update** – progressing well and hope to open this coming Tuesday (25th) subject to the RoSPA inspection. The main task is now over and the next will be the planting in November/December. A further £5,000 grant has been applied for from WDDC to go towards additional play equipment. The TOSCA AGM will take place on the 15th October in Tolpuddle Village Hall.
- **Affordable Housing Survey** – the letters have gone out to all houses in Tolpuddle and Burleston. It was agreed that Rob Aspray of WDDC be contacted and invited back to a future meeting to let the Parish Council know how the responses have gone and what we should do next.
- **By-pass Noise** – Mrs Hopkin informed the meeting that Mr Julian Francis from Tolpuddle spoke to both M Cooke and herself saying that he was not satisfied with the responses being given at the village meeting with regard to the noise levels. He had arranged a meeting with Oliver Letwin MP and 2 members of the Highways Agency to meet in the village and go through the options available. Three options were put forward:
 - o **Resurfacing** for which there is no money

- **Screening** which would involve the purchase of additional land along the length of the by-pass and it has been proven not to be particularly effective.
- **Traffic speed** – it has been proven that speed is a contributory factor – the faster the vehicles go, the noisier it is. Oliver Letwin MP has written to Lord Adonis, Transport Minister, asking if the speed can be reviewed with more frequent visits from the Police crews taking place. In the meantime, Jim Wilson is investigating the possibility of linear grooves being put in the road to “age” it which will go some way to cut down the noise level. Highways have said that whilst technology is moving fast, no money exists to carry out any work on the road. P Drake said it would be interesting to know what the predicted noise levels were when the road first opened and how do they compare to the current noise levels.

9/68 Rights of Way

No problems around the Puddletown area.

Athelhampton: the path from the Greek Orthodox Church to South Admiston, footpath #2, is quite overgrown and in a poor state. A Sheppard will investigate.

9/69 Drain, Hedges and Roads

- Hole outside the traffic lights in Puddletown continues to enlarge
- Tree growth in general along the road is hiding the road signs.
- The Tolpuddle Hall hedge has yet to be cut back and is now becoming dangerous as people have to walk into the road to avoid it.
- White Hill Road to Brymer Road displays conflicting markings.

9/70 Training Courses

No new training courses at this stage.

9/71 To consider planning applications

- (i) **Village boundaries** - with the pending discussions regarding the First School, the Chairman felt that this was something we should review in the very near future if we do not wish the boundaries to be extended in some form of planning gain situation. Current boundaries can be reviewed on the Dorset For You web site and this will be an agenda item at the next meeting.

9/72 To consider the accounts:

- (ii) **To authorise payment of accounts:** a list of payment requests had been circulated to all members with the agenda. These are:

DAPTC	Charles Arnold Baker	100075	53.60
Portwey Surfacing	Kick Wall surfacing	100076	4079.05 106 grant
WDDC	July wheelie bins	100077	49.05
Nildram	Annual fee re e-mail	100078	44.85
DCC	Grounds maint	100079	100.00
Andy Frost	Play Equip.	100080	9918.65 TOSCA
M Cooke	Padlocks	100081	13.98 TOSCA
Mrs A Crocker	Wages August	100082	414.18

Total requested 14688.36

The Clerk pointed out that the kick wall surfacing had been covered by 106 monies amounting to £4,000.

The above payments were proposed by Mrs D Foreman and seconded by Mrs J Hopkin and signed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

9/73 To receive correspondence

A full list of all correspondence received had been circulated to members with the agenda. There were no further comments to make.

9/74 Items for the next meeting

- Village boundaries
- First School update
- Affordable Housing

The Chairman asked if anyone had any comments they would like to make regarding the Newsletter before it is submitted. It was generally felt that a note regarding allotments should be added.

The village shop – a query was raised regarding the apparent lack of a disabled access. A Sheppard pointed out that it is not necessary to have a disabled access but it is necessary to allow for access i.e. to have a bell, portable ramp, etc. He said that, with assistance, it would be possible for a wheelchair to access the shop and, once inside, there is plenty of room for manoeuvre. M Oddy said he would ask what facilities the shop had in this respect.

The skip at the Puddletown traffic lights seems to have been in place in one form or another for some considerable time now. It is positioned on Highways land and, being at the entrance to the village is felt to be an eyesore and potentially dangerous. *Since the meeting, Planning have been consulted and have said that as long as the builder/property owner who is using the skip has received a licence from Highways to store it on their land, they are within their rights to do so. They will check to see if this has been done.*

It was agreed that the September meeting would be cancelled due to the number of councillors that would either be away on holiday or involved in other meetings. The next meeting would, therefore, be on the 22nd October in Tolpuddle.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9p.m.

MINUTES OF THE EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2009, TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL

Present: D Foreman, P Stockley, M Oddy, A Sheppard, M Crankshaw, Mrs B Legg, Mrs J Hopkin

Chair: S Buck

Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

Apologies: M Cooke, A Bower, C Leonard, P Drake, P Cooke,

No members of the public.

The Chairman informed the members present that this meeting had been specifically called to discuss the planning applications that have arisen since the last meeting as the September meeting would not be taking place. As there were no members of the public present, the Parish Council meeting was opened.

9/75. To discuss the following planning applications:

- 1/D/09/001261: Reading Room Cottage, 1 Mill St, Puddletown:** Demolish lean-to porch, new single storey extension. Install rooflights & other glazing.
No objections.
- 1/D/09/001301: Kennels Lodge:** Convert & extend kennels to form single dwelling
Already started building. An appropriate refurbishment and extension of an existing building that is in a poor state of repair, will tidy up an eyesore. 1994 planning permission already in existence. States that it is not adjacent to any public right of way although where the driveway goes round, there is a footpath. May increase the traffic on the bridleway going out. **No objections.**
- 1/D/09/001317: 1a Main Rd, Tolpuddle:** Retain use of land as residential curtilage
Appropriate acquisition of land. **No objections.**
- 1/D/09/001387: 27-29 High St, Puddletown:** Retain shop front & door
M Oddy declared an interest. **No objections** – looks better. Plans show bin is where it used to be which had been omitted from the original plans.

9/76. To discuss the Structural Maintenance Proposal for 2010/2011

Perfect opportunity to work on the rural roads opportunity. Such an important topic we have such a small period of time to look at this. Copy of Tolpuddle proposals to David Crowhurst. Rumble strips at either end of the village would be useful. A Sheppard pointed out that rumble strips would be irritating to residents living in close proximity. Perhaps do something that would make people less familiar with the area – colouring of tarmac. Could we ask if they could consider looking at this in line with the rural roads protocol? S Buck will talk to Ian Foulger and invite them to the October meeting. In the meantime, the Clerk will contact them to inform them of the Rally and Carnival dates. Cycle way between the villages is a must. A Sheppard reminded members that cycle ways do contradict the rural roads protocol as it defines ownership – the theory behind it is that everyone has the right to use the whole road. Perhaps the texture of the surface might be different. S Buck asked if all ideas could be fed back to the Clerk and in the meantime, he will speak to Ian Foulger. A Sheppard informed members that, if anyone wishes to view the rural roads protocol, go to the AONB web site and follow the links.

9/77. Parish Council web site – a quick reminder

A Sheppard proposed that everyone as a parish councillor has their telephone number and name on the site, should they wish to add anything else, please let Alan know. All names and numbers should be on the newsletter to make it appropriate for Quality Council.

M Oddy informed that meeting that the Horticultural Association had a discussion about allotments at their last meeting. Perhaps one way around the lack of allotments is pair people up and operate a shared garden scheme.

Agenda item for October meeting.

Church Room for Code of Conduct. Get dates and speak to WDDC.

First School – County Cllr Mr David Crowhurst had a meeting on 4th September with Tony Coombes – member for Children and sent out an e-mail saying the first school had not been forgotten but was likely to be on a piece of land purchased from a private landowner. S Buck wrote saying that as far as the Parish Council was concerned the main worry was the traffic chaos caused in Puddletown. M Crankshaw said that this has gone on for 4.5 years now and where they now want to put the new school will have no value for the village. It will not solve the problems with Coombe Road and New Street. S Buck has now e-mailed everything to date to Oliver Letwin MP. M Crankshaw said that this is an opportunity that we cannot pass on and this is the only opportunity to get it right. If the Greenacres site is used, people will use their cars to get there, thus increasing the traffic in the village. The next meeting is on the 22nd – meeting of the first school project committee, Mike will go to represent the Parish Council.

Yew trees in the church yard – lady who put the signs up has got everyone in the family to object and this is way the TPOs have been put on the trees. The Parochial Church Council has objected and the Parish Council has objected. (Berries are dangerous).

Meeting closed 8:15pm

Minutes of Puddletown Area Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 22nd October 2009 in Tolpuddle Village Hall

Present: P Stockley, M Oddy, C Leonard, M Crankshaw, A Sheppard, M Cooke, Mrs T White, Mrs B Legg, Mrs J Hopkin, Mrs D Foreman and P Cooke

Chairman: S Buck

Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

Also present were 11 members of the public, together the Rev Benny Hazelhurst and Mr Stephen Howard of Dorset County Highways.

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Chairman asked if those members of the public present had any points they would like to raise or questions they would like answered.

Members of the Prince of Wales Residents Association: a letter had previously been sent to the Chairman, together with photographs and a list of registration numbers of vehicles parking on the pavement in front of the flats. They asked if the Parish Council would support the grievances expressed and liaise with the Highways Dept and whichever other department that could assist with this. The Chairman said that, unfortunately, we suffer from people's inconsideration of others and will speak to the police and traffic wardens to see what can be done about it. Before the Prince of Wales was converted, the car park was large and used by villagers. Residents Association – people parking are abusive when asked to move saying they will only be 2 minutes. People with pushchairs, etc have to go out into the road to get past. The Chairman said that we will try once again to get a traffic warden in the area. S Howard from Highways reported that the enforcement of double yellow lines is no longer down to the police force. Anne-Marie Goodbody is the manager of this area's team but as usual they are understaffed and the times when we are having the problems are probably the times they are not at work. The Residents Association suggested that bollards are put on the curb side but this would not solve the problem, private driveways are being obstructed. Mr Howard suggested a letter setting out the particular times when obstructions most occur and ask if we have some parking attendants in the area. If someone is parking across the driveway it is an obstruction and becomes a police matter. Jessica Chapman, apartment 4 Prince of Wales (secretary of the residents association). A Sheppard pointed out that, as with the speeding problem, it is most likely that many of those causing the problems are more than likely villagers.

Richard Slocock: farm traffic at Southover, farm vehicles are much bigger now and capable of going considerably faster. The shift in farming practices now means that the Cobb farm at Southover is producing nothing but fodder which then has to be transported to the farm in West Chaldon. During normal working hours there is no problem with the amount of traffic and the noise but during the summer months for 3 months they are moving silage from very early in the morning (about 6am) and this is causing disruption to the guests in his bed and breakfast – could a polite letter be sent from the parish council asking if the early morning shift could be moved to 7am. It is believed that this is now starting to affect their business.

Benny Hazelhurst asked if the public would be able to speak when the appropriate item is raised as the meeting continues and the Chairman said they would.

Mrs J Hopkin – affecting Southover and Athelhampton – parking during the Martyrs festival is excessive, with visitors parking across people's driveways and along the road. TUC have said that their security measures do not extend beyond the village and cannot control this. Could the PC highlight this to the TUC before they start their preparations for next year's festival.

There being no further points raised, the Chairman closed the public section of the meeting and opened the Parish Council meeting.

9/78. To receive and approve apologies for absence

A Bower and P Drake – prior engagements.

9/79. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 20th August and the extraordinary meeting held on the 10th September 2009

The minutes of the 20th August meeting were proposed by A Sheppard to be a true and accurate record of the meeting and were seconded M Oddy. The minutes of the extra-ordinary meeting held on the 10th September were proposed by A Sheppard to be a true and accurate record of the meeting and were seconded P Stockley. Both sets of minutes were then signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

9/80. Matters arising from the minutes – for report only

A Sheppard walked the path from Athelhampton and reported that it is not really overgrown but will request that it is cutback in the spring.

9/81. To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972

M Crankshaw and A Sheppard wished to record an interest in the Butt Close play area item as they both have friends who live alongside the site.

Guest Speaker: Dorset County Highways Structural Maintenance Puddletown to Tolpuddle

Steven Howard from Dorset County Highways: maintenance is defined as looking after the road and what is already there. Traffic management is anything new – new speed limit, lineage, etc. When the old A35 was detrunked, the road was handed over to DCC to look after. There were a lot of defects at that point. During the last 18 months, a pot of money was made available by the Byways Agency. A bid was submitted for maintenance for the section of road between Troytown and the Tolpuddle junction. The bid was successful and a £1mill was awarded. At the moment we do not know how much of the £1m will be left over from the road resurfacing. Some may be able to be spent on improving the road ie traffic calming, etc although this can't be guaranteed. It has been suggested that a smooth, quieter surface is used in the villages and a coarser surface as at present between the villages. D Foreman pointed out that the one place where there is a drainage problem is at Burleston bends. Would it be possible to put different coloured surfaces in sensitive areas. Steve Howard: coloured surface make zero difference to drivers, whilst creating a huge maintenance problem – it strips off after a while - anywhere between 1 and 5 years. The object of this exercise is to create a maintenance free surface that will last for about 25 years. What they could do is use the tarmac with a coloured aggregate which will not create additional maintenance issues but could be considered. A Sheppard – Rural Roads Protocol – is it possible to have something done along these lines. S Howard – things being used in the other counties do not fit the Dorset concept. There is no budget for Rural Roads, it is a protocol for putting in coloured surfaces and yellow backed signs, etc – taken a stage further than the engineers can take it. Chairman – what would you like from us – maintenance items eg, do we need whitelines down the centre of the villages – probably not – when you take the signs and lines away, you build in ambiguity and make the driver think, by doing so they will slow down. Those lines and signs that remain then have a greater significance. Chairman – keep in touch with Ian who is project managing the project, who is then using Steve Howard and Andy Brown to progress the project. Keep the surface as blank as possible (white lines, etc).

C Leonard – last surface dressing and single white line has worked very well – some of the footways in Puddletown and kerbs are in a poor shape. Some footway between Puddletown and Troytown as the verge is very uneven and a gravel path would be very welcome. Produce list and pass on to Ian. A Sheppard the AONB are looking to put a document together to get Parish councils views, would it be worthwhile getting hold of a copy to work from.

9/82. To consider the Red Telephone Boxes

A letter has been received from WDDC regarding the adoption of the red telephone boxes remaining in the villages. Only two of the boxes have been listed – these are the one in Tolpuddle and the one in the Square, Puddletown. It was generally agreed that we would wish to keep the telephone box in Tolpuddle. The Puddletown box does not accept coins. However, reading the correspondence from BT – the fact that the box is listed does not mean that the equipment will be left in situ. Is it really worth our while to keep them? P Cooke said that the likelihood is that it means boxes only, not equipment. If this is the case then the Parish Council would not be willing to adopt the boxes.

9/83. Puddletown Matters:

- (i) Butt Close Play Area update – written to planners at WDDC to find out the exact situation – some residents wish to acquire the area as part of their gardens. P Cooke said that the Parish Council should not let Magna off the hook and if it is due to be held in perpetuity then it should be held. C Leonard reported that the land was provided by the District Council, the ground that was public housing has since been handed over to Magna. A letter has been sent to WDDC Enforcement Office to find the exact position and it was agreed that we should await the official response.
- (ii) Yew Trees in the Church Yard/TPOs – 3 members attended a committee meeting in West Dorset. Benny Hazelhurst – the issue of burial space in Puddletown has become acute and notice was given to fell 2 yew trees. Officers visited the site and recommended TPOs on both. The PCC appealed against one. The committee considered this and permission

was granted to remove one tree. This only gives a short breathing space of perhaps 6 or 7 years before there is no space.

- (iii) First School update – David Crowhurst informed S Buck that there was a meeting in October after which he would contact S Buck with the outcome. S Buck ran through the situation to date. The press have asked why we as a Parish Council have not reacted. S Buck replied saying that, to date, no-one has given us the correct position. We want a new first school, it would be ideal where the design team want to put it. The Middle School needs to expand in the future and the village needs to remove the buses through the villages. M Crankshaw – there was a meeting of first school governors on the 22nd September. Every emotive subject raised was rejected – they do not appear to be interested in what happens to the coaches and do not appear to be prepared to move on the issue of where the new school is now proposed – at the western end of the village by Kingsmead, opposite the Recreation Ground. People from the eastern end of the village are more likely to use their cars to get to the new location – thus creating more traffic. County seem completely without joined up thinking. They are claiming that the resiting of the school at the bottom of the hill is for educational purposes. It is believed that the real issue is cost – predominantly the road access. Jacqui Groves advised that roads were not an educational matter. The middle school governors were similarly outraged. S Buck – where do we go from here? We have involved Oliver Letwin – get the Parish Councillors and the school of governors together.

M Crankshaw suggested involving Angus Campbell, leader of the Council. What provision has been made for the dropping off of pupils – Jacqui Groves stated that there is a verge outside – you can park on the verge. How much money has already been wasted on meetings, architects fees, solicitors, etc. After all this time, why has the road suddenly come up as being the issue for not progressing the project. If the project has been binned then we need to get everyone together and try to thrash this out to find out where we are to go from here. S Buck suggested that the time has come to do something. C Leonard said there is no point in banging on about this at the regular meetings with the project managers as they are governed by PMG. It is the elected members that have to be lobbied – initially David Crowhurst. It is disingenuous to say this is a highways problem as the issue has been created by education putting the school where it is. It is a members decision to move budgets between departments. S Buck - how do we have a 3 pronged attack to get into this. M Crankshaw - within the next 2 to 3 years, the larger, longer buses are going to be brought in so something has to be done very soon. Benny – if access is such an issue, why hasn't the village made such a fuss about this – because the village has always been told that the problem will be solved with the repositioning of the first school. M Crankshaw – suggest the governors and the Parish Council contact Angus Campbell and propose a meeting. S Buck - proposes that the head of the middle school governs, and the head of the first school governors together with P Cooke and C Leonard get together and sort out where we want to go. P Cooke suggested we need to write to Angus Campbell requesting a meeting – get everyone to countersign and suggest a few dates. Governors to suggest dates to S Buck and he will draft a letter to Angus Campbell, perhaps copy to Toni Coombs. S Buck said he would be happy to speak to Oliver Letwin.

9/84. Tolpuddle Topics:

- (i) Certificate of Lawfulness – Martyrs View, 1 Main Rd, Tolpuddle – use as garden – no objections. Tidies the area.

9/85. Rights of Way:

- (i) Athelhampton has lost an area of bridleway that has now been redefined as Tincton
(ii) Athelhampton footpath – already discussed.
(iii) Adoption of Central Farm footpath – maintained at owners expense
(iv) Home Farm – not opened up until all the properties have been purchased. The properties are now all sold and the padlock and door should be removed. The Enforcement Officer will be contacted as soon as possible.
(v) The Rights of Way officers from Tolpuddle have passed a report to A Sheppard.

9/86. Drain, Hedges and Roads: Tolpuddle

- (i) Clare Angus – corner of Whitehill and Whitehill Lane is raised to such an extent that runoff water bypasses it and runs down the hill (see Dianas letter)
(ii) Princes Court – drain damaged by lorries. 01305 251000 notify as a maintenance defect – anyone can phone which you can then track as you will be given a reference number.
(iii) M Cooke – near Trent Close – electricity poles, replaced and old ones left – can we get the old ones be removed. Includes Athelhampton (4 poles).

9/87. Village Boundaries: the future

Puddletown boundary needs rationalising as new school and doctor's surgery are outside the village boundary. It may be sensible to enclose a few small areas to allow development infill. D Foreman proposed this item is put to a future meeting.

9/88. DAPTC AGM resolutions for consideration

A Sheppard will attend the meeting on the 7th November and will abstain on all motions. Will report back re anything that is relevant.

9/89. Training

- (i) New Councillors Seminar: didn't go into enough depth about funding and financing. Tell Vanessa asking for courses re finance.
(ii) Chairman's Seminar, 8th October
(iii) Code of Conduct Course – e-mail everyone for dates

9/90. To consider planning applications:

- (i) 1/D/09/001439: 7 Coombe Rd, Puddletown – demolish conservatory, erect single storey extn – **no objections.**
(ii) 1/D/09/001479: 4/5 Athelhampton Rd – 2 storey extn – **no objections**
(iii) 1/D/09/001489: Ilsington Farm – building to house goats – nice to see expansion of farming in the area, diversification
(iv) Ilsington House – knocked wall through to make larger family kitchen, installed French windows where original window was – retrospective application. Unhappy about retrospective nature and way they have done French windows makes the building asymmetrical. Done to a high standard. Don't object to what they have done just the way they have gone about it – would like to see the symmetry of the exterior of the building reinstated with French windows on the

other side of the property as well. P Cooke reminded members that listed building consent is only required to the internal of the building which affects the historic fabric of the building.

9/91. To consider the accounts:

- (i) To authorise payment of accounts – a list of all payment requests had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. All payments were proposed P Cooke, seconded by C Leonard. The cheques were then signed in the presence of the meeting by the Chairman and Vice Chairman.
- (ii) To review the current position against budget – C Leonard pointed out to members that the “bench Coombe Rd” refers to a bench between High Street and Coombe Road.
- (iii) To confirm the Audited Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2009 – the Clerk reported that the accounts had been completed and the only comment made by the external auditors was that the Fidelity Guarantee should be increased due to the amount of grant monies to be held in lieu of the Tolpuddle Open Space project.
- (iv) To review the budget for the year 2010/11 – a copy of the draft budget had been issued to members prior to the start of the meeting but it was agreed that members should be allowed more time to review the figures and this item would be reviewed in more detail in the November meeting.

9/92. To receive correspondence

A list of all correspondence had been issued to members prior to the meeting. No comments or issues were raised.

9/93. To consider dates of meetings for 2010

The following meeting dates were proposed:

Puddletown Village Hall:	Tuesday 12 th January
	Tuesday 23 rd March
	Tuesday 4 th May – Puddletown Parish AGM
	Tuesday 18 th May – Annual Parish Meeting
	Tuesday 20 th July
	Tuesday 14 th September
	Tuesday 12 th November

Tolpuddle Village Hall:	Thursday 18 th February
	Thursday 15 th April
	Thursday 17 th June
	Thursday 19 th August
	Thursday 21 st October

There being no objections to any dates, the Clerk will confirm to the relevant village hall.

9/94. Items for the November meeting

Precept
Upkeep of graveyards, etc

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm

**MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17TH NOVEMBER
2009 IN PUDDLETOWN VILLAGE HALL**

Present: P Stockley, M Oddy, M Crankshaw, A Sheppard, P Drake, M Cooke, D Foreman, P Cooke

Chairman: S Buck

Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

3 members of the public, including Jim Wilson, Ian Miller, and PC Charlie Dale

Before opening the Parish Council meeting, the Chairman asked those members of the public present if they had any points they would like to raise or questions to ask. No-one had and so the Parish Council meeting was opened.

9/95. To receive and approve apologies for absence

Jan Hopkin (family commitment), C Leonard (holiday), T White (sickness), A Bower (prior commitment), B Legg (prior commitment), Cllr Crowhurst (holiday). All apologies were accepted.

9/96. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd October 2009

A copy of the minutes had been circulated to all members prior to the start of the meeting. A Sheppard: 9/85 should read (v) Tolpuddle rights of way officers have passed a report to A Sheppard. Once this amended was

made the minutes were proposed as a true and accurate record of the meeting by P Cooke and seconded by M Crankshaw.

9/97. Matters arising from the minutes – for report only

- Catmead/Home Farm developments: the gate between the two sites was installed for security reasons whilst the building of the Home Farm development was going in. This is now finished and it is understood that all properties have been sold. If this is the case, the gate should now be removed, together with the large plant pot blocking the path. The Clerk will chase up the Enforcement Officer to find out what is happening.
- Parking at Prince of Wales: a letter had been sent to Anne-Marie Goodbody of the Dorset County Parking Services requesting increased vigilance from the Enforcement Officers and she responded that they would do as much as they could although it would clearly not be possible to have someone on site at all times. In addition, a copy of the letter was sent to Inspector Fry and he subsequently requested a list of all the registration numbers provided by the residents. He will then arrange for a letter to be sent to everyone on the list informing them that the site is now under observation and if they park illegally again, prosecutions will be made.

9/98. To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972

M Oddy declared an interest in item 9/99 regarding maintenance of the graveyards as he assists with the church. He offered to leave the meeting if necessary but would not speak unless requested.

9/99. Puddletown Matters:

(l) First School update: following the last meeting, S Buck was to write a letter to Angus Campbell, the Head of the Council, to arrange a meeting. Prior to doing so, he passed idea by Oliver Letwin who said he would organise a meeting with Angus Campbell. They are due to meet on Thursday 19th November to discuss the First School project. It was noted that the only person who had said the project in its current state was not going ahead was Jacqueline Groves, Education Officer for Dorset County Council. M Crankshaw said that the fact that the project has been binned has not filtered down to the Governors yet by any other means and, was it really the case, someone else would have heard something by now. It was agreed that we would leave any further action until after the Thursday 19th meeting.

(m) Upkeep of graveyards: it was felt that we as a Parish Council should discuss this matter. P Cooke said he felt responsible for putting this on the agenda. For various reasons, he is responsible for Athelhampton graveyard and is therefore more aware of what is involved. Having walked around Puddletown graveyard, it is apparent that the church is struggling to keep on top of on-going maintenance. Although the Parish Council contribute some £540 per year, is this enough and should the Parish Council be working in conjunction with the church to have an on-going maintenance programme. Jim Wilson – the upkeep of the churchyard is an on-going problem – over £1,000 per year is taken on basic work and no structural work such as tree pruning, etc has been possible, although there is probably about £10,000 worth of work that needs doing on the trees. At the 5 year survey carried by the architect some three years ago, the walls needed some £35,000 worth of work done on them. A further £104,000 of work needs doing on the tower of which some 50% has been raised. Athelhampton Chapel – in one place the roof beams are not in touch with the wall, so this involves some major structural work. With some £200,000 building work to be done, the trees are fairly low down on the list of things needed. P Cooke – the ivy around the churchyard is a major problem and should be address soon as possible or the walls will become even more damaged and then dangerous. Similarly, the trees need pruning before they get too out of hand. Jim Wilson – a great deal of work has been done clearing the churchyard. Mike Crankshaw said he knew someone who is a tree surgeon who may be able to give advice on what we could do ourselves without incurring the cost of a professional tree surgeon. A Sheppard reported that the company for whom he works carry out community days in which they assist local projects. It may be possible for them to offer some assistance. M Cooke reported that there are some grants available for churches and historic buildings and Mr Wilson replied that such grants usually need to have matched funding to achieve them. P Cooke – the point is more the church yard – the yew trees are getting bigger and bigger and if an annual maintenance tree programme is not agreed with the District tree officer,

every time a request is put in to remove one a TPO could be put on them as they are allowed to get away. M Crankshaw – Kingston Maurward have to do some practical work somewhere perhaps they can do it at the church. Mr Wilson – before any pruning, etc can be done, we would need confirmation from the diocese. P Cooke – needs an annual maintenance agreement in place to avoid future problems. Mr Wilson – the Irish yews have not been pruned in 100years so major surgery would be needed to bring them back to a proper shape and then an annual pruning, without need of authority could be achieved. Mike to speak to Kingston Maurward, Alan to speak to his employers, Stephen will speak to Forestry Commission. Mrs Bennett informed the meeting that the ivy and brambles are being cleared on an on-going basis and a request has been put into the Parish Magazine for volunteers to help with the work. If no problems arise the Faculty could approve any tree works in about 2 months.

PC Charlie Dale: very few crimes reported over last 6 months, unfortunately, in the last 2 months there has been an increase in thefts from sheds, also farm machinery is being targeted. The Police are working with the NFU to put something into place with regards to alarms for farm sites. Anne-Marie Goodbody has sent Charlie details of problems re parking at the Prince of Wales Apartments. Any great problems, people should phone the police straight away. Puddletown Forest – no reports received for the last couple of months. Have been targeting toilets over the last couple of months – will never sort the problem out entirely as people come from far and wide. P Drake asked if anyone report had been received of a chainsaw being stolen from unattended car parked in front of someone's house in Puddletown. Charlie – nothing reported. M Crankshaw raised the problem of parking by New Road and along the Green, also on the turn into New Road. A Sheppard said it was all very well telling people from the Prince of Wales to telephone the police when their driveways are obstructed but it is not really an option regarding Princes Court as by the time the police turn up the offenders will be gone. Charlie – will put letter in the Parish Magazine saying the Police are aware of the problem and will be looking into it.

9/100. Tolpuddle Topics: - **(i)** M Cooke reported that the redundant post outside his house has been removed.

(ii) The Tolpuddle Parish meeting will take place on Thursday 19th November in Tolpuddle Village Hall, commencing 7.30p.m

9/101. Rights of Way:

A Sheppard reported that no issues raised but, following the last few days heavy rain and strong winds, there may well now be some issues.

9/102. Drain, Hedges and Roads

- (i) Olds Garage site: open river – security fencing removed. Mike Oddy has been in touch with Highways although they have yet to respond. It is thought that there was a note on the planning application regarding this and A Sheppard will take a look at the planning condition.
- (ii) Mike Oddy reported that the trees overhang the footway between the bridge and the Blue Vinny – trees need lifting. The Clerk will contact Dorset County Highways to get the landowner to have the trees cut back.
- (iii) Coombe trees – check on who is responsible for them to avoid future problems as they arise.
- (iv) M Cooke asked if it would be possible to have the drains in front of Orchard Meadow cleared. They are already filling up with leaves and if the rain continues, flooding will result.
- (v) P Cooke asked if Burtleston Bends could also be cleared as the site is constantly flooded. Although Mrs White had already been in touch with Highways, nothing has as yet been done.

9/103. Training: - Code of Conduct: 7 members attended with Roger Greene from West Dorset District Council Legal Department. It was an interesting and useful evening and packs are available for those who were unable to attend.

9/104. To consider planning applications

- **1/D/09/001787 Coach House, Tolpuddle** – erect single storey extn: knocking down 1960s lean-to greenhouse and adding small extn to link coach house to tool shed which is being converted to a study. Not overlooked, appropriate use of space. No objections.

- **1/D/09/001760 10 White Hill, Puddletown** – erect single storey extn: enlarging what is already on site. Appropriate use of space, sympathetic materials, bringing a more useable family home up to the 21st century. No objections.
- **1/D/09/001703 Muston Down Farm, Waterston** – livestock housing, level land; making use of the farm. The main farm is Plush which is an organic dairy. This farm is being used to store the dry cattle and young stock. It is located in a natural dip so will not be seen. Great to see farm being used to a successfully.
- **1/D/09/001704 Ilsington Farm** – retain office, extend parking: already covered under a previous application – require 6 more spaces for customers and sales so this is formalising what is already there.
- **1/D/09/001799 30 Main Rd, Tolpuddle** – front and side extensions. Erect new first floor extension. This application was only received the day of the meeting and it was felt that due to the size of the proposal, ie converting a bungalow to a large one storey house would require further discussion. An extraordinary meeting will be called in early December. The meeting will also be raised at the Tolpuddle Parish meeting to try and encourage more villagers to attend. In the meantime, the Clerk will speak to the case officer – Andrew Jordan.

9/105. To review budget proposal for 2010/11

A copy of the proposed budget had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting.

- P Drake highlighted the need to replace the chippings at Recreation Ground play area. They urgently need removing and a proper surface put down. £1000 has been put into budget to act as a lubricant for grant money. C Leonard is looking at various options and obtaining some quotes.
- Back Water bench – we have set aside £300 and it is understood that the Carnival Committee have also allocated some monies to the project. M Oddy offered to speak to the new chairman of the committee to find out what contributions have been made and to whom.

It was proposed by M Crankshaw and seconded by D Foreman that we submit a Precept of £11,000 for the year commencing 1st April 2010 – this equates to a 3% increase on the current year.

9/106. To consider the accounts:

- (i) **To authorise payment of accounts:** A copy of the payments requested has been issued prior to the start of the meeting (attached). There being no queries regarding the payments, they were proposed by P Cooke and seconded by P Drake and signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.
- (ii) **Clerk's pay review:** to be discussed in the January meeting.

9/107. To review the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations and make any necessary amendments

All members have received a copy of the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations and in accordance with audit requirements they are reviewed annually. It was proposed by D Foreman and seconded by A Sheppard that they both be accepted in their current format with no amendments necessary.

9/108. To review the Risk Assessment and make any necessary additions and amendments.

It was proposed by P Drake and seconded M Oddy that the current Risk Assessment remain in place with the new assessment in respect of Orchard Meadow being added once received.

9/109. To receive correspondence

A list of correspondence received since the last meeting had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting. The only item raised was the Certificate of Lawfulness in respect of No 1 Main Road, Tolpuddle. The application was rejected on the grounds that "the evidence suggests the land was merely left in a rough state prior to its transfer." In the absence of other evidence, this does not amount to a change of use to a residential garden. It is understood that all other residents of this site have now received letters explaining why the application was rejected.

9/110. To consider items for the January 2010 meeting

- Clerks salary
- Allotments

- Old First School – what to do with the site
- Trees and churchyards, etc
- Three Lanes End – acquired by Mr Amey. Speak to Simon.

For further information, please contact the Clerk on 01929 472327

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:40

**EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL ON THURSDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2009 AT
TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: A Sheppard, A Bower, D Foreman, M Cooke, J Hopkin

Chairman: S Buck

Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

2 members of the public

Apologies: M Oddy (holiday), P Drake, C Leonard, P Stockley (PRIDE meeting), T White, M Crankshaw (work), P Cooke, B Legg (prior commitments).

Lynne Bailey & David Wilkinson: basic reason for building the house is that there are other two storey houses in the area. It is a huge construction and will be over-bearing and will stand out well above other nearby properties. It is situated opposite two thatched cottages and the proposed building does not blend in with anything in the village. The other two properties that are two storey and on the same size of the road, are situated in a dip and are less conspicuous. The additional bathrooms, etc are going to put a considerable strain on the existing soak away and the garden is known to flood already. The property is at the lowest point in the village and prone to flooding. It is believed that this construction is being put forward with a view to selling the property.

9/111 To discuss the following planning application:

1. 1/D/09/001799: 30 Main Rd, Tolpuddle: front & side extension. Erect new first floor.

The design statement says that there are no bungalows along the road – this blatantly incorrect as there are five bungalows running from the property east on the same side of the road. There is no mention of sewage issues which plague the properties along this stretch of the village. The planning proposal is out of character with the other properties in the vicinity. The application does not appear to be an extension as listed but is more like a re-build.

A Sheppard: there is not an awful lot in the application that can lead to an objection. The footprint is only being extended by 15% so not a large amount.

D Foreman: although the planning statement suggests that the angle of the roof, lack of windows, etc leads to concluding the proposal will not dominate the alongside property. This is clearly not the case and the proposed dwelling is bound to be overbearing.

A Bower: the property is well within the flood zone and is prone to flooding. Such a large house would also affect the light entering the windows of the houses opposite.

J Hopkin: the existing bungalow is not within the conservation area but it will have a huge impact. The materials are still going to be similar to that already in existence. The whole feel of the proposal is for an urban location, not a village one.

M Cooke: such a property will change the dynamic of the village.

A Sheppard: what is the sewage. They do not appear to be attaching to the main sewer

Objections: visual impact – large glass windows overlooking a play area

Sewage

Likely to flood

West elevation – the amount of glazed area going straight on to the open space

Orchard Meadow came first and this will impact on the space

The other properties cannot be used as comparison as the other two properties referred to sit into a dip and do not have a visual impact.

Losing a smaller property in the village which could be deemed more affordable and replacing it with a large imposing building.

- 5. 1/D/09/001920: 27-29 High St, Puddletown:** alter shopfront & door. Retrospective permission for front door to be moved to middle. Was withdrawn originally due to the neighbours complaining about the noise the door would make. This was found to be unfounded but the neighbours do have a problem with the noise from the fridges against the wall. M Cooke; pointed out that the access is still not user friendly for disabled and an opportunity has been missed to adjust this. This is a major alteration to a building that should have taken the disabled into account. There is a principle about disabled access that has been ignored. A Sheppard – perhaps this should be made an agenda item for a future meeting. S Buck proposed that this be put on the agenda for January and we discuss the general requirement for disabled access and what is happening in the Parish Plan. A Sheppard we have many facilities that need to be looked at and discussed. A Sheppard proposed that as we have already responded we respond in a similar manner.

9/112. Plans, Partnerships & the Power of Well Being – Jan Hopkin

70 other councillors, clerks and various tiers of local government attended. Aimed at showing how the various tiers of local government interacted and worked in partnership. Reminded that the Parish Plan should provide a blueprint for the future of the local community and that the Parish Council should be looking at this constantly when making decisions – this local evidence will become even more important should the Conservative Party come into power at the next election when devolved government will be of greater importance. Parish Plans will be used as supporting evidence for future building/grants applications, etc. we must look to our plans, use the evidence, review them and refresh them and treat them as living documents that we use constantly. More than 40% responded to the last questionnaire and we have not yet seen the analysis from this. We need to have the Parish Plan committee attending the next meeting. A formal invitation will be sent to John Paton for January. The Chairman will write to Mr Paton and put a deadline for getting something sorted out or we take back the information ourselves.

Well-being taken from the 2007 LGA - the informal name given to the local authority allowing them to do anything that will be of benefit to the local community. We will get Vanessa to come and speak to the members at an evening training session in the New Year.

Jan Hopkin: Tolpuddle Village meeting – Mr Howard, the current Chairman, will be stepping down at the next meeting and this will provide an ideal opportunity to return to the original format under which the Chairman of the Parish Council chairs the parish meeting – or if he is unable to do so, another of the Tolpuddle Parish members should stand in his place.

9/113. To authorise payment of accounts received

Proposed A Sheppard 2nd Martin Cooke

Agenda item: Parish Plan

Meeting closed 8:35

Further information, please contact the Clerk 01929 472327

MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON TUESDAY 12TH JANUARY 2010 AT PUDDLETOWN VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM

Present: P Stockley, P Drake, P Cooke, M Cooke, B Legg, M Crankshaw, C Leonard, D Foreman, J Hopkin

Chair: S Buck

Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

Members of the public: Mr J Paton and 2 members of the public

9/114. To receive and approve apologies for absence

M Oddy, A Sheppard. The Chairman informed the meeting that Angie has resigned – a letter of thanks has been sent and she will be sadly missed.

9/115. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 17th November 2009 and the Extraordinary meeting held on the 10th December 2009

Copies had been issued in advance of the meeting and were proposed by J Hopkin and seconded by P Drake and the meeting of December 10th were proposed by D Foreman and seconded by M Cooke.

9/116. Matters arising from the minutes – for report only

- Disability access for shop to be brought up in February meeting

9/117. To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972

None were declared.

9/118. Parish Plan – an update by Mr J Paton

Questionnaires were returned in the spring of 2009 – advertised for volunteers to assist with the future stages of work but very little response was received. Two young people have been employed to help extract the various data from the responses. This has taken longer than expected as the forms have not been completed quite correctly and so decisions have had to be made regarding the answers. Another meeting is due in the next fortnight, before which the steering group will be given a copy of the results and this will be discussed at the next meeting. A presentation was put on by DCC regarding Rural Roads Initiative and this was followed up by a letter to DCC but nothing has been received. Lack of communication from DCC re the First School as two meetings took place immediately after the questionnaire had been issued so it was not possible to use the questionnaire to gain the full extent of people's response and thoughts regarding the first school. The ramifications of the knock-on effect of the first school are numerous so it would have been nice to have had more input from DCC. They would particularly like assistance with the crafting of the document. Sheila Lovell has recently sent a disc of photographs of views around Puddletown. The fact that 2 people have been employed means more has been spent at this stage than was planned. P Drake – future of the first school is on the agenda and perhaps John Paton could come up with some suggestions that have been highlighted from the Plan. Perhaps the Parish Council

could have an early look at the document as soon as it is possible. D Foreman - is there a rough idea of when it is likely to be completed. September/October time would be ideal. C Leonard – the process seems very cumbersome and will always take a long time to produce an end result and quite a few things that were raised in the early stages of consultation have already been achieved. J Hopkin – at their recent seminar, members were given to understand that if more funding was needed, then go back to the committee. John – once they know more accurately what they need, they will go back and ask. It is a very commendable, democratic opportunity enabling people who would not normally get involved make comments. A 40% return was very good although there was a very poor response from youngsters. Huge amounts more work and time than was expected. It had been intimated that the whole process would take a year to 18 months but this is not the case. More is coming out from speaking to people than the responses given in the questionnaires. In an ideal world, interviews would be more useful but the amount of time would be far too great. Distinct guidance on what is deemed to be good practice was set down at the start of the process and whilst we were not told what to do, there was distinct encouragement as to how it should be done. P Cooke – do we want an outsider writing up the report – surely this should be done in-house. If you have a personal view then this would seem so much better. We should perhaps have an informal meeting to discuss the raw data and be able to put a slant onto certain items that we need to press more. Any help that we as a Parish Council can give him should be done – Jan and Martin to look at additional possible funding. Generally felt that the questionnaire was far too detailed and this is bound to make it more difficult to collate the results.

9/119 Puddletown Matters:

Recreation Ground Play Area: C Leonard was asked to look into the possibility of resurfacing the play area as the present material is a constant maintenance worry. Three possible alternatives - started off with an artificial grass – mostly aimed at the domestic market but you can get pads that do under it to provide the cushioning required. The rep felt it might not be sufficiently hard wearing. To do the whole area in this material would be just over £9,000.

Red Monkey mulch made from car tyres is an alternative but as yet no sample has been received and there is nowhere locally that has used it on a large scale. This would cost just over £13,250. M Cooke this was used in front of the kick wall in Tolpuddle and seems to be holding out so far. The advantage of this product is you do not have to prepare a base.

A wet pour rubber crumb made from recycled tyres – used under the swings at the rec. As effective now as it was when it was laid many years ago. This would cost just over £18,000 just to cover the critical fall area with a tarmac surround coming in at £4,500 – totalling £22,500.

Clearly, the Parish Council cannot afford to cover any of these. C Leonard suggested we apply for the most expensive of these and if we cannot get it then we fall back on the red monkey mulch. M Cooke suggested there exists a Viridor landfill facility just outside of Wareham which might provide Landfill Communities Fund grants. C Leonard is happy to look for grants, along with P Drake. We could look to the 106 monies for the 10% that may be required. M Cooke asked if this was an opportunity to look at the play equipment at the same time. He offered to assist in any way.

Trees & Churchyards: Kingston Maurward are happy for students to come out to the site to do some work experience.

A list from the diocese will be required with exactly what needs doing to each tree. M Crankshaw will speak to J Wilson.

Current First School Site – the future: C Leonard – there will be a meeting on Thursday 14th in the morning of the committee. Several have written to Angus Campbell as a result of the meeting before Christmas – the reply was bland and did not answer any questions. Officially we still do not know if the new school project has been binned – ie the project of co-locating with the middle school. Angus Campbell's reply, although not explicit, does say that the new school is going to be built at the bottom of the hill. County Hall does not see that any problem exists with regard to traffic to the Middle school. P Drake produced a short report of incidents that took place within 20 minutes from 8.30 to 8.50am this morning. It is important that everyone should go there and have a look at what is happening. On other occasions, tractors have been forced onto the pavements as the coaches will not move to allow them past. M Crankshaw will collate the smaller forms that Benny Hazlehurst came up with but several people will be attending the site and drafting out daily incident reports. J Hopkin – would it be possible to bring in someone like RoSPA to carry out a report? M Cooke – is it worth the Chairman speaking direct to Angus Campbell and trying to organise a meeting of the relevant people. Invite Angus Campbell down at 8.30 in the morning to visit the site and see for himself. P Cooke – biggest problem perhaps is we do not have a scheme for what to do about it. M Crankshaw – one of the governors contacted Highways regarding the legislation relating to the access road (ie the issue of the required slope gradient) and they said they were not aware of any such legislation. P Cooke – it comes down to the road being funded outside of the education budget. S Buck will talk to Angus Campbell and speak to Oliver Letwin to determine the best way to get Angus out.

Allotments: Letter to all local landowners to see if they have any land they would be willing to look at for allotments. Perhaps we could put something in the Parish Magazine re garden shares.

Pavilion: P Stockley informed members that the Pavilion had a very serious water leak over the last weekend. One of the main water pipes under the first floor flooring had not been lagged properly. Two humidifiers have been installed and are drawing out about 8 gallons a day at the moment. All the trips had blown and the electricians had to be called in on an emergency basis. The electrics have now been sorted but the ceiling is badly damaged. Thanks to Pat and Irene for their rapid response. 2 quotes are required by the insurance company regarding the roof repairs but the main thing at the moment is to get the ceiling and walls dried out so the extent of the damage can be assessed.

Kings Arms Bus shelter: members were informed that some youths had been seen on the roof on Monday night. The roof is now damaged and leaking. C Leonard agreed to speak to Barry Knight to get a quote for the work.

9/120. Tolpuddle Topics:

Open Space update – check list on play equipment safety to be reviewed by Clerk. The TOSCA committee is now beginning to work with other organisations in the village for use of the site and to aid fundraising. Some more funding is still available and will be requested. The Parish Council insure the site but it is being overseen by TOSCA. As such, M Cooke asked if he could have a delegated responsibility to carry out day to day responsibility of the site on behalf of the Parish Council. It was proposed by the Chairman that members accept this and seconded by P Drake. 400 shrubs were planted at the end of the year. The site is proving remarkably free draining.

Travellers: there are now some 19 vehicles encamped in Sares Wood. The Clerk spoke to the Gypsy Liaison Officer and was assured that Highways, Tilhill Construction and Dorset Highways would be meeting within the next 2 or 3 weeks with a view to the camp being moved on in July before the school holidays.

9/121. Rights of Way: nothing to mention at this meeting.

9/122. Drain, Hedges and Roads

- Home Farm gate – follow up with Enforcement Officer.

9/123. Training: - Dorset County Training Partnership Courses for 2010

Members have all been issued with the training programme for the coming year and if anyone would like to attend any particular course, please contact the Clerk.

9/124 To consider planning applications

1/D/09/001949; Former garage, Tolpuddle – Make alterations to and change use of commercial unit to form 2 semi-detached residential dwellings: these are not for affordable housing. No report proving that affordable housing is unviable has been included in the planning backup documents. Propose that we object strongly to this. We have the affordable housing officers report that there is a requirement. WDDC feel that we should hold out for commercial units. M Cooke – obviously has not done the research on affordable housing having only gone to one company.

9/125. To consider the accounts:

To authorise payment of accounts:

The following payments were requested:

Wessex Water	Orchard Meadow usage to date	100120	454.64
WDDC	Wheelie bins December '09	100121	39.24
Church Room	Hire for training	100122	10.00

Two additional payments were also requested:

Keith Hustings	Electrical work at Pavilion	100123	113.78
C Leonard	Pavilion pipeworks	100124	8.81

The Wessex Water account is payable by TOSCA

The accounts were proposed D Foreman, seconded P Drake.

To consider the current position against the budget: The Clerk requested that this item be passed to the February meeting for review.

To review Clerk' salary in line with NALC guidelines for the year commencing 1/4/09: the Clerk left the room at this point. The Chairman reminded members that the Clerk is contracted to work 42.5 hours per month. At the moment, this is paid at a rate of £9.24/hr. Under the national guidelines and as recommended by DAPTC the new rate should be £9.94/hr. However, the Clerk and Chairman have agreed to try to keep the rate below the national minimum in order to prevent the Parish Council from having to pay National Insurance and the top rate will not be paid until the Clerk has completed the CiLCA qualification. With these two points in mind, it is agreed that the new rate, back-dated to 1st April 2009 will be £9.66/hr. This was proposed by M Cooke and seconded by P Drake.

9/126. To receive correspondence

A list of all correspondence received had been issued to members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made.

9/127. Items for the February meeting

- Comparison of budget to actual to date
- To appoint the internal auditor

There being no further business the meeting ended at 9:20pm.

Present: P Cooke, P Stockley, B Oddy, M Crankshaw, A Sheppard, M Cooke, P Drake, B Legg, J Hopkin
Clerk Mrs A Crocker
Chair: C Leonard

County Cllr D Crowhurst, Nigel Costley and one member of the public

As neither the Chairman or the Vice Chairman were able to attend the meeting, it was proposed by P Drake that C Leonard stand in as Chair for the evening, this was seconded by P Stockley.

Guest Speaker: Nigel Costley, TUC – speaking on the Martyrs Cottages and the 2010 Martyrs Festival

Empty cottage: following meeting held in Tolpuddle, there was a meeting of the trustees of the charity in an attempt to make sense of the wording of the charity that was set up in 1934. A tenancy agreement was drafted up trying to keep to the intent of the original agreement. Adverts were then placed locally and in the Landworker, the journal of the Agricultural Workers Union. This appeared through December. A couple from Tolpuddle expressed interest but have decided they will stay where they are. Nothing at all came from the Landworker advert. The next step is now for the TUC to speak to WDDC with a view to trying to give them parameters as to who they would like to take on the cottage. The TUC did think about sending out a newsletter to the villagers to keep them informed as to what was going on. Going forward proper tenancy agreements are required. P Drake – the idea of a local circulation would be a very good idea. It is not necessary for any tenant to be an agricultural worker and it may become necessary to find someone with the “closest fit” to the original wording, but should be retired.

Martyrs Festival: Familiar format with no big rock bands. The only difference this year is that, instead of having the green camp, there will be one day (Thursday) when people will be able to come and discuss items of local history, with perhaps a walking trail through Tolpuddle. If there are any local historians with an area of particular interest, the TUC would be happy to involve them. A Sheppard – issue of traffic through the villages with people arriving for the weekend and parking throughout Burleston and Athelhampton to avoid paying the parking fees at Tolpuddle. Could the vehicles not be brought in from the Tolpuddle end? One of the difficulties is that the TUC are not allowed to put up signs along the by-pass. They do try to encourage people to come in from the eastern end of Tolpuddle but the Police tell them where they want the signs to go. M Cooke – TOSCA have decided that, this year, they will not be promoting the park but there are options to do things on the site in later years. Perhaps the Parish Council could send a letter to the Police in advance of them deciding where the signs should go, drawing their attention to the parking issues the villages have. Copy to go to Nigel Costley. They normally meet about a month before the date so our letter should be in before this.

Thanks to Nigel for attending.

9/128. To receive and approve apologies for absence:

Apologies had been received from S Buck (holiday), D Foreman (illness) and T White (work). These were approved and accepted.

- To co-opt Nigel Pitman as Parish Councillor for Tolpuddle

J Hopkin spoke on behalf of Nigel Pitman and his time in the village and involvement with the village. J Hopkin proposed Nigel Pitman and this was seconded by P Cooke. A letter will be sent to Nigel inviting him on to the Parish Council.

9/129. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 12th January 2010

Copies of the minutes had been circulated to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed by P Cooke as a true and accurate representation of the meeting and seconded by P Drake and signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

9/130. Matters arising from the minutes – for report only

- Puddletown Rec Play area – C Leonard felt that the red mulch discussed at the last meeting, should perhaps be the first choice as it does not need a foundation. We also need to provide evidence that the public want the work carried out to be eligible for the landfill credit. How should we go about this? Perhaps via the first school as they send slips home with the children, also contact Hazelnuts as they use the site regularly. By contacting the schools and the play group, this should cover the main group of people we wish to reach. In addition, the pre-school also use the site.
- Church yard trees: waiting on the faculty to come back to say exactly what trees need doing. The college can then meet with the diocese and organise the work.
- Pavilion water leak – rough idea of total bill – electric bill £200, dehumidifies £600+, the use of the electricity for the dehumidifies will be just under £200, the builder has given a very rough estimate for repairs to ceiling, replacing doors, etc will be around £3,000. We have yet to get a quote for the flooring to be repaired/replaced. Clerk to contact insurance company. Gents toilet is in a particularly bad state.

9/131 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972

- J Hopkin declared an interest on planning application 1/D/10/000139 37 Main Rd, Tolpuddle – replace single storey extn with orangery extn

9/132 Puddletown Matters:

- (n) Kingsmead Bus Shelter: walls have been repaired but the roof consists of tongue and groove, overlaid with felt. The repairs will cost about £400. Do we wish to keep the repairs going or do we look at getting a new bus shelter? C Leonard – this is probably not a good time to replace it due to

the impending work on the First School. It was suggested that we patch up the existing bus shelter until we know what is going to happen. C Leonard to organise repairs as cheaply as possible.

- (o) Litter picker – an honorarium of £100 per annum is available for groups or Parish Councils who wish to take part in the Parish Litter Warden Scheme. To be eligible for the funding it would be necessary to sign a declaration stating that the litter would be picked up weekly or fortnightly for a period of one, two or three years. Each litterpick would have to be recorded on the website, adding the number of bags collected together with any additional information for the period of the tenure. After some discussion, it was decided the Parish Council would not take up the option.
- (p) Trees & Churchyards – see matters arising
- (q) First School Site – C Leonard – at last meeting of the steering group it was confirmed that the original plans would not go ahead as it was too expensive. An alternative site has been arrived at – just on the main road, west of Kingsmead and would front onto the main road. The site at the top of the hill will not be built on. There seems to be a fair amount of momentum on this in an effort not to lose more time. The only parking on site will be for staff and deliveries. Buses will park on the main road – there will be no lay-by. The existing rights of way will remain. Mr Leonard pointed out that the coaches will need to be facing Troytown to load and unload children but the issue of some of them having to turn around in order to achieve this has yet to be addressed. There has been an undertaking made that, when the amount of land needed is known, they will also purchase sufficient land to provide an access for the Middle School. The suggestion was made that the site currently reserved for the first school should be allowed to go for housing, the sale of which would provide the money to go to building the new access road to the middle school. Since then S Buck had met with Oliver Letwin, C Leonard and Benny Hazelhurst. Oliver felt this was a reasonable idea but said that before we try to put this to County Council, we need to make sure the villagers would back such an idea by holding a public meeting. Do we as a Parish Council want to back such an idea?
- (r) D Crowhurst – one of the things that he has picked up is a complaint that the Parish Council had not been advised that the scheme project had been changed. He then sent an e-mail to John Nash saying that the Parish Council had not been told about what was going on. Mr Nash said he would send a letter to the Parish Council formally telling them about the change of scheme. (*This has still yet to be received*) Cllr Crowhurst suggested allowing some residential development to the west of the proposed school site which would then pay for the road access to the Middle School. There is a £500,000 bill for the present school for essential structural repairs. The proposed school will make provision for growth.
- (s) Highway issues – there is a perceived issue with the increase in the size and amount of traffic using the access roads. There has been a lot of time spent monitoring the traffic using the roads. The parked vehicles on the two roads have increased substantially and this had not helped the issue. The capital money for a scheme to reorganise the access to the Middle School would be achieved a high priority. D Crowhurst is endeavouring to ensure we get a new first school and to endeavour to reorganise the access to the Middle School and improve the radii of the access into the roads. He has asked Highways to consider an access from Two Drovers.
- (t) David Holah resident of New Street – annoyed that we are discussing a perceived problem of traffic – it is not perceived, it is a twice daily problem. His front door opens directly on to the road and there have been frequent near misses. To say the problem is compounded by the parked cars, where else should residents park? The spaces between the cars are frequently the only place for the children to hide when the buses come past. This has been a recognised problem since before the master plan was drawn up. The roads are not safe. It is important that each project must deliver (the first school and the access to the Middle School). The new plan for the First School does not seem to incorporate a kitchen which is a cause for concern. There is no pre-school on the plans. The pre-school is a charity and not part of the educational system. The pre-school is currently the only child care option in the village. There currently exists a very good community spirit in the village and the loss of the pre-school could start to fragment this. Cllr Crowhurst – there is spare capacity in the proposed plan for the pre-school. He will also look into the lack of kitchen in the school.
- (u) P Cooke – does not think there is any point in putting the housing proposal to a public meeting until the cost of the road access is known. We will then be in a better position to know how many houses would be required to cover this cost.
- (v) Cllr Crowhurst – a letter should come from the Parish Council setting out the concerns of the Parish Council in respect of the First School and the access to the Middle School. Include the parking issues likely with the proposed first school with no provision for parents dropping off children, or for parking in general in that area. Set out a letter to John Nash, copy in David Crowhurst.
- (w) Alan Sheppard proposed we send our concerns to the Clerk who will draft a letter to review at the next Parish Council meeting.

- (i) Orchard Meadow: tender exercise has been carried out and 6 people were contacted, only one responded and it was considerably more than we expected. Short-term options have been set in place whilst other options are reviewed.
- (ii) Martyrs Inn – concern has been expressed over the pending end of the current tenancy. New tenants have already been advertised for and there has been some interest. Villagers feel that they would like to have discussion with Hall and Woodhouse as to the future route of the pub.

9/134. Rights of Way:

- (i) **Catmead/Home Farm footpath:** the Clerk had received a communication from the Enforcement Officer saying that Highways have refused to adopt the path, hence the reason why the gate was still locked. He cannot seem to get a reason as to why they will not adopt it and is going to discuss the matter with the District's legal team. In the meantime, the Parish Council may help by sending a letter to both Highways and Rights of Way.
- (ii) **Finger post – Central Farm –** check to be made on the current status of this path.
- (iii) **Stinsford Parish Council –** looking to get volunteer wardens to oversee quadbikes in the forest. As a Parish, we do not suffer too much from this problem but will continue to monitor the situation.

9/135. Drain, Hedges and Roads

9/136. Training: - Dorset County Training Partnership Courses for 2010

A list of up and coming courses had been issued prior to the meeting. No-one wished to be considered at this stage.

9/137 To consider planning applications

- **1/D/09/002058 Old Manor, Puddletown** – internal alterations – Listed Building Consent: taken up the Parish Council suggestion and we do not object to this. Work has been done to a good standard.
- **1/D/10/000016 46a High St, Puddletown** – single storey lean-to rear extension – mirror image of one we approved of last year so we have no objections to this.
- **1/D/10/000134 6 Greenacres, Puddletown** – relocation of car parking spaces – can only be seen by going onto private property. Shared driveway and want to put parking at the front rather than at the rear. Concern was expressed that the two spaces were of inadequate size. If the immediate neighbours were unhappy then this should be refused as they are the only people this would affect.
- **1/D/10/000139 37 Main Rd, Tolpuddle** – replace single storey extn with orangery extn
- **1/D/10/000177 4 Athelhampton Rd, P/town** – single storey extn –

Alan Sheppard suggested a public meeting to discuss the final two planning applications, together with two further applications that had arrived the day of the meeting. Details will be issued in due course.

9/138. To consider the accounts:

- (i) **To authorise payment of accounts:** a list of payments requested had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. It was proposed by J Hopkin they be signed and this was seconded P Stockley. The Chairman then signed the cheques in the presence of the meeting.
- (ii) **To consider the current position against the budget:** a breakdown had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting.
- (iii) **To review internal audit contract and confirm re-appointment** – notification has been received from Henry Lovegrove of Accounts & Audit Services Ltd, quoting £224.00 for the year to March 2011. It was proposed by J Hopkin and seconded by P Drake that the contract be renewed.

9/139. To receive correspondence

A list of all correspondence received since the last meeting had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. One particular letter was brought to members' attention:

(i) To consider a representative on the Forestry Commission Consultation Committee

A letter had been received from Mr Cox from Puddletown regarding the existence of a consultation group headed by the Forestry Commission and open to the public. Although we do have particularly good relations with the Forestry Commission who telephone the Chairman when anything is happening, it was felt that this may be a committee we should become involved with. P Drake expressed an interest and the Clerk will get some more details of meeting dates, etc and forward them on.

9/140. Items for the March meeting

- Home Farm gateway

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.45p.m.

The next meeting will be an extra-ordinary meeting and will take place on Thursday 11th March at Tolpuddle. Agenda to follow.

MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 11TH MARCH, 2010 AT TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7.30PM

Present: D Foreman, P Stockley, M Oddy, A Sheppard, P Drake, C Leonard, B Legg, N Pitman

Chair: S Buck

Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

3 members of the public

Short democratic period for members of the public to raise issues of concern

The Chairman opened by welcoming Nigel Pitman to the Parish Council.

9/141 To discuss the following planning application:

- (i) **1/D/10/000138** **37 Main Rd, Tolpuddle** replace single storey extn with orangery:
Hidden from the road, better design than what is currently there, fits in well with the house. No objections.
- (ii) **1/D/10/000177** **4 Athelhampton Rd** single storey extn
We have already agreed with the two storey extension currently underway and this plan is for a single storey extension to this. As we did not object to the original application, we do not have any objections to this one. Adds about 2m to the length of the building – about 10sqm of single storey extension. Not visible from the road.
- (iii) **1/D/10/000207** **27 High St, P/town** provide illumination to existing sign
Asking to be allowed to illuminate the shop front sign which is already in place but not in use. Will be switched off from 8pm. Concern expressed that they have shown disregard for lack of signage regarding the cameras in place so what guarantee have we that they will abide by their offer to switch the light off. Suggest that the light will be wired into the internal shop lights to avoid it being forgotten.
- (iv) **1/D/10/000217** **Boswells, Tincton** rear extension
Generally felt to be an improvement to the existing property, not visible from the road. No objections.
- (v) **1/D/10/000245** **Beech Cottage, Southover** single storey extn & garage alterations
Does not fit into existing design of house. Also objections to replacing the thatched garage with slate. The extension represents a mirror image of the extension to Beech Cottage South. It is a very unusual design but neither the house nor the garage roof can be objected to. It is quite normal for outbuildings to have a different style of roofing to the main house and it is not unreasonable for the garage to have a slate roof to keep costs down.
- (vi) **1/D/10/000260** **Land south of High St, P/town** demolish existing structures and 15 dwellings with associated infrastructure, parking & landscaping.
The residents abutting this site are going to have an open meeting in the Church Reading Room on the 17th March. The only access to the site will be the existing driveway slightly modified. A Sheppard: When you look at the topographic survey the first floor level is about 8m higher than the High Street so it will be quite visually stark from the High St. A site visit might be useful. The footpath should be linked up to the school path. This would alleviate some of the problems currently in existence. Highways have expressed concern over the width of the access road although not over the access onto the High Street. Overall, the site is less developed than Kingsmead although the houses are extremely large. There is no access for emergency vehicles as the road is only one vehicle wide. There are some nice design details but it is an ideal opportunity to get a pedestrian link to Coombe Rd. The number of houses is within the required elements of 17 to the acre but there is no spare space and the gardens are not particularly big. The junction with the High Street is of concern. Visibility is okay at the moment but there is nothing to stop the houses either side of the access obscuring it at a future date with planting. It would be necessary to have yellow lines extended about the corners of the access which will mean the loss of more parking spaces on the High Street to ensure acceptable visibility. 1.82 parking spaces per property have been allowed but this is unrealistic based on the size of the houses – with 5 bedroom properties, each house is going to have at least 2 cars. M Oddy – will the existing sewage system be able to cope with this amount of additional housing in such a small area, not to mention the general water system. Site is over-populated. It is already known that sewage is a problem for the houses below the existing two properties on the site.
Ann Soderberg – as the development is so high up, the windows will be looking straight into the windows of the properties below. The entire access to the site is at a gradient 1:9 from the existing footpath to the opening of the site - with no disability access standard and no footway. There already exists water runoff into the back gardens of the existing houses from the green site – once this is tarmaced – where will the water go. The gardens of the affordable units have a slope of 1:21. If the standards are used for the entrance to the site we stand to lose up to 10 parking spaces on the High Street. As an adopted road, it would mean refuse vehicles would have to be able to get up the road which, with the proposed gradient, would not be possible.
There is no space for passing cars on the access road.
Chairman: we will keep our comments to one side for the time being. Following the meeting on the 17th, the residents will be preparing a letter they will then attend the Parish Council meeting on the 23rd and all comments will then be pooled.
A Sheppard suggested we have a site visit so councillors can get a better idea of what the site is actually like.

Bill Maunder – the Puddletown Society spent some 3 hours studying the plans at their last meeting. The planning app was completely lacking in information such as sewage, engineering information, etc. The access is fundamental and is going to cause a major problem with loss of parking spaces. The impact of the site standing over grade 2 listed properties along the High Street is completely unacceptable.

The houses in front of the development do not have foundations and any pressure put on them by the site could have severe problems. Treatment of the surface water is non-existent.

There being no further comments the meeting closed 8.30pm.

MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 23RD MARCH 2010 AT PUDDLETOWN VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING 7.30PM

Present: P Stockley, B Legg, M Oddy, M Cooke, C Leonard, A Sheppard, M Crankshaw, P Drake, D Foreman, P Cooke, N Pitman
Chair: S Buck
Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

Also present: County Cllr Mr David Crowhurst, 10 members of the public

The Chairman asked those members of the public present if they would like to raise any points or questions other than for those items already on the agenda. As they did not, the public section of the meeting was closed and the Parish Council meeting opened.

9/142. To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Mr Richard Howard, PSVO Vicky Hedges and PC Charlie Dale, J Hopkin (holiday)

9/143. (i) To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 18th February 2010

A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members with the agenda.

9/138 para 2 A Sheppard commented on the fact that the Clerk's salary going slightly over budget, he also requested a summary of informal meeting that took place in February. The minutes were that proposed to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting by D Foreman, and this was seconded by P Stockley. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman.

(ii) Extra-ordinary meeting held on 11th March 2010

A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members with the agenda. P Cooke was present at the meeting but omitted from the list of attendees. Once amended, the minutes were proposed to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting by P Stockley, and were seconded by P Drake. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman.

9/144. Matters arising from the minutes – for report only

There were no matters arising.

9/145 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972

P Cooke informed all present that he would be taking over the license of the Martyrs Inn, Tolpuddle from 20th April 2010.

9/146. Reports from meetings attended:

None to report.

9/147. Puddletown Matters:

- (x) Church yard trees: nothing back from Jim Wilson at present so no further forward.
- (y) First School: draft letter issued to all members prior to the meeting. A Sheppard felt that we were concentrating too much on the educational side and should concentrate on the traffic. However, it was generally felt that the educational aspect was as important as the traffic issue and should all be included within the letter. We are not trying to tell DCC how to teach but are looking at other issues such as the kitchen hub, etc. Proposed by D Foreman that the letter be sent in its current form and seconded by P Cooke.
- (z) A recent incident involved a vehicle attempting to turn from New Street into Coombe Road and becoming stuck on the camber in front of the school entrance. This resulted in both roads and the High Street being brought to a standstill for some 20 minutes whilst a vehicle was removed. This highlighted the problems can occur in this area.
- (aa) P Drake: County Council Highways have been looking at the New Street junction, including opening up the entrance which will involve additional yellow lines opposite and moving the large bank opposite the garage so buses can manoeuvre into the road without the buses having to turn around in Butt Close. The stop sign has already been raised up and it is anticipated that the wall could be removed.

(bb) Cllr Crowhurst informed the meeting that he had met with Fred Wellstead, the project manager for the First School, and asked a series of questions highlighted at the last Parish Council meeting;

- (a) When the Master Plan was drawn up, where was it envisaged that the transport would access the Middle School: Coaches via the High Street to the new terminus, pedestrians via the improved ROW, other non DCC vehicles via Coombe Road and New Street.
- (b) What was the figure included for the cost of the new access road when the scheme was originally drawn up? The cost was around £600,000 in a total of £6.3m. The cost of the road was included in a figure of £2.6m for costs other than the basic School provision.
- (c) What is the accumulated figure of costs for the scheme identifying any abortive costs as a result of the change? The latest figure for the school is £5m capped at £4.9m. The scheme is planned to accommodate 150 pupils with expansion for a further 75 children (total of 225). There should be a playing field area plus a larger hall. These three elements are included in the £2.6m referred to in (b). If these elements are to be included it will be more cost effective to include them in the initial build for the project. In acquiring land for the school as now envisaged there will be sufficient to include an access road to the west of the school, and this will form part of the Outline Planning application. The Diocese can then take up the opportunity as funds allow. The cost of preparing Master Plan stands at around £70,000, some of this work will be useful for the new scheme, hence not all of these costs will be abortive.
- (d) Is there provision for meals facilities in the design? A reheat kitchen facility will be included. Meals will be prepared and cooked off site and taken to the school for reheat and serving.
- (e) Is there space for preschool activity? The Head Teacher has asked that space should be made available and this will be looked at. It will be covered by the enhancement package referred to above.
- (f) What arrangements are being made for car and coach drop off adjacent to the new First School? Drop off for the school will be within an extended lay by facility adjacent to the new First School, with off-road staff and disabled parking provision and space for deliveries. Pedestrians will be able to walk up an improved Right of Way to the Middle School. The Traffic Manager was asked to consider a one way system up Coombe Road and down New Street, or vice versa, being covered by an instruction to DCC drivers. – but this was not well received.

In summary, there are two parts of a scheme to be covered by the Outline Planning Application. A new First School with ready access for transport from the main road and a new access road for the Middle School dependent on finance from the Diocese. Beacon Hill access – by way open to traffic and it would be perfectly legal for vehicles to use this access and it wouldn't cost too much money to put a new surface on this access. This is only an option. C Leonard – we were quite clearly told at the last meeting that there would be no specific provision for dropping off children so the extended lay by is a step in the right direction. Cllr Crowhurst – the possibility of going back to the master plan is remote but once the planning application goes in, then anyone is able to comment on it. The projected finish date is now 2012. Chairman – much of the problem has resulted from the Parish Council not being kept in the loop and not being kept informed of the new developments. P Cooke – from what Mr Crowhurst has said, it seems that some of the items in our letter are being dealt with. P Drake – could we have confirmation that nothing will be done with the entrance to New Street without the Parish Council having prior notification.

(cc) Cllr Crowhurst Report: information about council tax increase ranging from 0% to 3.5% for County Councils – Dorset was set at 2.97% which means we are towards the upper end of the range. A copy of Cllr Crowhurst's report has been issued to all members.

(dd) Play area surfacing: C Leonard informed the meeting that he would like to recommend that we use ecomulch surface rather than wet pour material. Rubber material made from recycled forklift tyres. It is cheaper than the material currently being used. The company that make the surfacing do not lay it – quotes from 3 companies have been received ranging from £12,000 to £21,000. Mr Leonard proposed that the Parish Council request 90% of the cost from Viridor and we then have to cover the 10% remaining. Life expectancy depends on where it is used and how much use it gets. Proposed that we go ahead this P Drake, seconded by M Cooke. C Leonard said we would want the money September/ October time. Work would close the area for about a week, weather permitting.

Ann Sodenburge – what about the maintenance of the material – look at a project called play pave – a concrete slab with a rubber top which is put down like a concrete slab.

(ee) Village Hall 106 monies to be an agenda item in the April meeting.

(ff) Orchard Meadow: Richard Burge has been appointed to cut the grass over the next two years at a cost of £1,700 per year. The existing bus shelter will be taken down in April and will be looking at replacing it in the near future. Currently looking at putting some of the existing funds into a high interest account.

9/149. Rights of Way:

- Home Farm gateway: Highways will not adopt the path. Letter to go to Highways from Clerk to Enforcement officer and county council rights of way team recording our disbelief at how long this has taken. M Oddy there is another gateway that leads out onto Blandford Road that is locked and normally blocked by a vehicle parked in front of it. This is not a right of way. Records should be kept of any incidents that occur on the corner of Back Water as this was one of the main reason for requesting the right of way.

9/150. Drain, Hedges and Roads

- Road re-surfacing: M Cooke feels that we should be more involved in the decision making process. Cllr Crowhurst chaired a meeting to talk about Highways issues to which Parish Councils are invited. In October there will be an opportunity to talk about strategic matters and a later one in November to which Parish Council would be invited. There seems to be some confusion over what Highways is able to or willing to spend the £1m grant money on. Ian Foulger from Dorset County Highways has been invited to attend the Tolpuddle Parish Meeting at which time, perhaps the situation will be made clearer.
- Pot holes that were filled down New Street are already lifting.
- DAPTC newsletter page 7 aspirations for cycle routes. M Cooke suggested we should take a look at this. Agenda item for April. Clerk to send an e-mail drafted by M Cooke.
- R Slocock – track that runs from Affpuddle to Crossways – would like to ask Parish Council to liaise with other Parish Councils to downgrade this road to access only. Currently being used by 4 x 4 vehicles amongst others and as a result it is turning the area into a mire rather than an area of outstanding beauty.

9/151. Training Courses

J Hopkin had attended the Planning Seminar on the 3rd March but, as she is currently away on holiday, this will be put forward to the April meeting. No other meetings had been attended.

9/152. To consider planning applications

- **1/D/10/000260 Land south of High St, P/town** demolish existing structures and 15 dwellings with associated infrastructure, parking & landscaping. Village meeting reinforced concerns of the residents. A Sheppard, although the density of the houses is within the requirement, the number of people that are likely to be living in this area would be considerably more dense for such a small area. Ann Sodenburg – 28 parking spaces - WDDC recommended max is 33.5 parking spaces. 11 letters of objection have already been received as a result of the village meeting. What would it take for the villagers to have that area removed from the DDB and would this be possible. P Cooke: for the time being suggest stick to objecting to the planning app. The boundary would not be redrawn just for one property, it would be completely redrawn and this would be unlikely. Roy Bennett – have redrafted a letter relating the site to the Local Plan which will be issued for people to sign – covers access, parking on the site, listed buildings, design and materials, out of scale nature of the site, terracing, privacy of amenity, removal of trees and hedgerows – all contravening the local plan. Considerable concern over the loss of parking along the High Street.
- **1/D/10/000239 Former Village Hall site, T/puddle** erect dwelling & garage
There has already been planning permission granted to put 3 terraced houses on this site. This plan now wants one large house on the same site. Would appear that whoever wants to buy this site is speculating on whether or not they would be able to put one house on the site. It is felt that the 3 smaller houses would be preferable. Cannot see why an application for 3 small houses should be overridden by one large property. It was felt that such a large property would be out of keeping with the cottage style of most homes in this conservation village. The cottages either side of this development would be dwarfed. Generally members were in favour of keeping 3 smaller, more reasonably priced properties on this site rather than one very large property which would clearly be out of the price range of local people.
- **1/D/10/000305 Land at Shakes Hole, T/puddle** vary condition 1 to allow permanent clay pigeon shooting
Allowed one year to see if the conditions applied at the last consent were abided by. R Slocock condition to allow permanent as opposed to temporary. Certain conditions were imposed at the last application regarding the conditions of the site and Mr Slocock felt that this should be revisited as the site does not in any way look attractive. There is no evidence that any assessment has been carried out by WDDC during the year. Still hear the firing depending on the wind direction as the planning committee did not insist on use of the best guns available but the next best ones. Would like to ask the Parish Council to reconsider the type of gun used on the site and ask that the only gun permitted should be the quietest one. 45 db moderated shotgun and not the 65db shotgun currently in use. Perhaps the new condition could come into force when the current guns wear out.

Access – in the spirit of working with Max Events, when they come down the track, could they respect the other users of this track such as horse riders, etc.

C Leonard – suggestions sound reasonable. Should be a phased transfer to the new type of gun.

- **1/D/10/000333 Land at Brymer Rd, P/town** demolish garages & erect 4 dwellings
6 of the garages are rented by local people, there is also a large parking area used by other households in the area. This would represent a loss of a community space and would mean all these cars would be parked on already congested roads. Would prefer to see 2 houses plus parking on this site. There is no overall plan for the site. The houses using this site do not have off road parking. No objection in principle for some houses to go in there and these are going to be housing association houses and we are aware of the need for such houses but 4 on such a site would be too much. On one Saturday night there were 22 cars and 2 vans parked on this site – all these would have to park on the road. There is still permission for building on the plot at the bottom of Brymer Road. This is the most intensively developed part of the village and this is making a congested area even more so

9/153. To consider the accounts:

- To authorise payment of accounts: a list of accounts to be paid had been circulated to members prior to the start of the meeting. It was proposed P Cooke that they should be paid and seconded by D Foreman. The Chairman and the Vice Chairman then signed the cheques in the presence of the meeting.

9/154. To receive correspondence

A list of all correspondence received since the last meeting had been issued to members prior to the start of the meeting. The Clerk drew members' attention to the following items:

- Ground maintenance contract: The contract for the 2010/11 has been received from Dorset Works. They have quoted £1,261.21 which covers the cutting of the grass at the Recreation Ground 17 times during the year and excludes the cricket square as normal. We have budgeted £1,700 to cover this plus the additional work required so this quote is well within.
- Lengthsman scheme: a letter has been received from DCC Highway Management reporting changes to the Parish Maintenance Unit Service. From 1 April the present four two man PMU gangs visiting six blocks of parishes twice a year for one month each will change to six one man PMU gangs visiting three times a year for one month. In parallel with the relaunch taking place in July, the county council has allocated funding to encourage Parish Councils to start their own Lengthsman Schemes. The Lengthsman would carry out a wide range of minor works such as trimming vegetation obstructing signs, ad-hoc litter picking, clearing leaf build/vegetation from public areas, removing graffiti, painting community assets such as seats, etc. He would then liaise with the PMU regarding any work beyond his remit.

9/155. Items for the April meeting

- Middle School community project for the children to carry out in May
- Lengthmans scheme
- Parking for Martyrs festival
- Cycle path
- Play area surface to be included on next few meetings.
- Seat in Coombe Road
- Road resurfacing
- Tolpuddle footpath Central Path finger post
- Tolpuddle Parish meeting May 13th
- Variation of Standing Order re starting time of meeting

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:30p.m.

Members are reminded that the next meeting will take place on Thursday 15th April at Tolpuddle Village Hall, commencing 7.30pm

