

**MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup>  
APRIL 2013 AT TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs Drake, Stockley, Piper, Baynard, Sheppard, Pitman and Foreman

**Chair:** S Buck

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also Present:** 8 members of the public

**13.1 Public Session**

Martin Usherwood thanked the Parish Council for their response with regard to the wind farm planning application. It was noted that the letter from the North Dorset MP was very well written and covered the various aspects raised by everyone in a clear, concise manner.

Tony Gould, Clerk to the Tolpuddle Village Meeting, extended an invitation to all councillors to the Tolpuddle Village Meeting on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at the Tolpuddle Village Hall.

**13.2 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

Apologies have been received from Cllrs Hopkin (meeting), Leonard (family), P Cooke (work), M Cooke (work), Legg (illness).

**13.3 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> March 2013**

**13.3.1 Minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2013**

A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed to be a true and accurate record of the meeting by Cllr Baynard. This was seconded by Cllr Foreman and agreed unanimously. The Chairman signed the minutes in the presence of the meeting.

**13.4 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

**13.4.1 West Coast Energy Forum**

A letter has been sent to the Company saying that the Parish Council will send a representative to attend the Forum and asking for additional regarding the forum's remit and constitution. To date, no response has been received.

**13.5 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972 and to confirm any requests for dispensations**

No interests had been declared and no dispensations requested.

**13.6 Puddletown Matters**

13.6.1 A delegation from the Carnival Committee was in attendance. Charlene Lewis, Chairman of the Committee, addressed the meeting saying that last year the Carnival was used in part to raise money in order to set up a youth club. They were now in a position, with the backing of the Dorset Youth Association, to move forward on the project and would like to have the support of the Parish Council in order to hold a Youth Club in the

top room of the Pavilion. Cllr Drake, as Secretary for PRIDE, said that they would have nothing against this in principle. He expressed concern regarding the Fire Regulations for the Pavilion as the room is upstairs and has no fire escape and no toilet facilities without opening the downstairs. He reported that the room would be open for the first time this evening as an experiment. It now contained a table tennis table, dart boards, pin table and some fitness equipment. The room is open for villagers to use and it will be useful to see what take-up there is and to use the evening to iron out any potential problems relating to its use. Should the Carnival Committee be allowed to use the room for a Youth Club, they must bear in mind that there is no room for any additional storage. If the Carnival Committee would like to submit what they have in mind, it will be put before the PRIDE Committee. Ben Ling is assisting with setting up this group. He is already a key figure in the Crossways and Dorchester Groups and has helped set them both up and train new youth leaders. Dorset Youth Association currently supports 127 such groups across the county and has offered to assist with setting the group up and offering guidance with the various legal requirements and checks necessary. The aim in Puddletown is to set up a group for youths from 12 years old upwards. The older children would be encouraged to train for various voluntary schemes and would be taught new skills. The group would start small and would not need any storage facilities.

As there would be no money available in the first instance, the Carnival Committee would assist by paying rental fees for the use of the room. Once membership had increased, it should become self-funding with subscriptions and sale of soft drinks and sweets being able to cover any costs that may be incurred. Cllr Drake stated that the main reason for the room to be cleared was to be able to rent it out and increase PRIDE's revenue. He said it would be important for both PRIDE and the Youth Committee to ensure the room would be suitable for such an enterprise.

Cllr Buck reminded members that the Parish Council have long sought to do something for the young people within the villages and would be very keen to assist in a venture such as this. The Parish Council would be willing to offer our support wherever possible.

### **13.7 Tolpuddle Topics**

#### **13.7.1 Orchard Meadow update**

Cllr M Cooke was unable to attend the meeting but reported via the Clerk that the resurfacing and petanque proposals have been drawn up and are available for public comment on the council web site and online. A grant request has been made to WDDC and it Leisure Development Fund with a request to Viridor Credits to be made by Cllr M Cooke. Subject to the funding being confirmed, the works should start in September 2013. It was proposed by Cllr Foreman, seconded by Cllr Baynard and agreed unanimously that the Parish Council support this action.

### **13.8 Rights of Way**

#### **13.8.1 School Path – S39/36**

Cllr Drake reported that David Ackerley of DCC has had contractors working on the path and they have cut back the brambles, put in a ramp and made the route very user friendly. He felt that a letter of thanks should be sent to Mr Ackerley for organising this work.

<b>ACTION: CLERK</b>
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#### **13.8.2 The Coombe to Kennels path - S39/17**

The path has been ploughed and complaints have been received that it has not been reinstated. David Akerley and Cllr Drake walked the whole route recently and it is clear that nothing can be done at the moment due to the recent weather conditions and the ground being quite wet. This is an on-going problem and remains under

surveillance. In the meantime, villagers continue to walk the path as they always have done, although they are complaining about the state of it.

### 13.8.3 Rod Hill Lane – S39/10

It has been reported in the past that the gate at the top of the lane is too narrow and barbed wire has been put at either side of the entrance which is not satisfactory. Lots of complaints have been received from walkers and DCC will be looking at this route more closely.

It should be noted that all routes discussed are recognised paths and cannot be deleted without considerable consultation with the public.

### 13.8.4 Footpath SE4/5 – eastern end of Tolpuddle

Cllr Pitman reported that the stile by the Old Laundry had been vandalised and the wood cut out. He will speak to the landowner, Roger Prideaux, making sure he is aware of the damage before he puts any livestock in the field. The Clerk will contact Rights of Way and see if it would be possible to remove the stile and install a kissing gate. If necessary, we do have some monies set aside for rights of way and this can be put towards the cost.

**ACTION: CLLR PITMAN/CLERK**

## 13.9 Neighbourhood Planning – a financial update

The Clerk reported that, at present, there exists some Central Government funding which has been set aside for Neighbourhood Plans. This takes the form of £30,000 per Plan and is given to the relevant District Council who will then use it to go towards their costs. They will then decide whether or not they have any left to pass on to the parish council involved with the Plan. There is no guarantee or requirement for the District Councils to pass any money to the parish council.

With effect from the 15<sup>th</sup> April, a second tranche of money has been set aside by Central Government amounting to some £9 million. The implication is that this will be primarily for the parish councils and will be going towards their costs of producing Plans. At this stage, all that is known is that grant applications can be submitted from the beginning of May.

The Clerk will continue to monitor the relevant web sites and report back as soon as more details are known.

**ACTION: CLERK**

## 13.10 Drain, Hedges and Roads

It was noted that Highways had finally cleared the drain between Athelhampton and Puddletown and the pot hole in the High Street, Puddletown, had been repaired. There were no new incidents reported.

## 13.11 Meetings attended

### 13.11.1 “Today’s Youth – Tomorrows Leaders”

This meeting had been attended by Cllrs Hopkin and Baynard on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March on behalf of the Parish Council. Although Cllr Hopkin was unable to attend the meeting this evening, she had forwarded the following statement for reading out:–

“Cllr Baynard and Cllr Hopkin attended the conference together with over 100 delegates from all areas of local government in Dorset. The aim of the event was to launch the declaration on democracy – rights and responsibilities recently produced by the Dorset Youth Council and to show case the activities of the members of the Youth Parliament recently elected from Dorset’s schools and colleges. Various community activity programmes were highlighted and delegates were asked to consider how young people could be involved in local parish and town council activities.

Suggestions relevant to Puddletown included a “youth page” in the Parish Magazine and on the Parish website. Also, the appointment of a young person on to the Parish Council to represent the views of local youth in our decision-making.”

Cllr Sheppard suggested that, should the youth club go forward, this might be the place to bring the youth into the parish council decision making. Councillors should consider attending the youth club once it is up and running and making themselves available to answer questions and bring suggestions back to council meetings.

Thanks are extended to both Cllr Hopkin and Cllr Baynard for attending the seminar on behalf of the Parish Council.

### **13.12 To consider planning applications**

No planning applications had been received since the last meeting.

### **13.13 To consider the accounts**

#### **13.13.1 To authorise payment of the accounts**

The following payments had been requested:

WDDC	Wheelie bin empties – February 2013	200090	38.60
WDDC	Litter bin purchase – Rod Hill Lane	200091	240.00
Mrs A Crocker	April wages & expenses	200092	484.30
C Johnson	Orchard Meadow grass cutting – March 2013	200093	170.00

The total requested for April 2013 amounts to £933.30, all of which will be taken from the Precept.

It was proposed by Cllr Pitman that the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Foreman and agreed unanimously. The cheques were signed by Cllrs Buck and Foreman in the presence of the meeting.

#### **13.13.2 To confirm the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013**

The Clerk reminded members that the Annual Statement would be issued during May, once the auditor had reviewed the accounts. The reconciliation and budget position presented at this meeting is to highlight the position at the yearend for information.

#### **13.13.3 To confirm the position against budget for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013**

A copy of the reconciliation of accounts had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no questions asked or comments made.

13.13.4 To confirm the reconciliation of accounts

A copy of the reconciliation of accounts had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no questions asked or comments made.

13.13.5 To consider a donation toward s Life Education

Daniel Hunwick, Headmaster for the First School, reported that the group visit the school in May each year and the children working on Key Stage 1 all spend one lesson in the mobile classroom. The session forms part of a structured programme for Personal Development and follows three main themes – diet and exercise; self esteem; drug awareness. It is a well established scheme in all the schools throughout Dorset and the staff are extremely well qualified and informed and are able to encourage the children to ask questions and interact with the programme. They also do a set of three training sessions for the school staff, including the dinner ladies, covering such areas as how to recognise bullying. To date, the school has contributed to funding the programme and was unaware that they had approached the Parish Council for funds. They are a charity and are not funded through the local authority but have used sponsorship in the past. It is not known whether other parishes have been asked to contribute at this stage but the Clerk explained that we would be able to make a contribution, should members wish, under Section 137. Cllr Baynard reported that it was raised at the Today’s Youth, Tomorrow’s Leaders seminar in that the parish councils do not contribute very much towards the youngsters of the villages and perhaps this is one way to rectify this position.

Cllr Pitman asked if this is likely to be something that would happen on an annual basis. Mr Hunwick said the school would like to use them annually as they did a very good job.

After some discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council, in principle, support the scheme but do not wish to be the only parish council that has been asked to provide financial support as this may well set a precedent for future years and other such organisations.

A letter will also be sent to the company, asking if they have approached the other councils and what is likely to happen should they not get the support of the Parish Councils. The Clerk will also contact the other clerks in the area and ask them if they have received anything similar.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**13.14 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. The Clerk reported that, since issuing the list, an e-mail had been received from Heather Bull of Puddletown thanking the Parish Council for its support in having the dropped kerb installed opposite the Doctors Surgery. This is a great help for all those disabled in the village, enabling them to safely get from the houses to the surgery without having to go into the road.

**13.15 Items for the May meeting**

- Update on Life Education

Cllr Buck will not be able to attend the AGM as he has a prior commitment. This will therefore be the last meeting he will be chairing and Cllr Baynard, on behalf of the Parish Council, extended a massive vote of thanks for all the work Cllr Buck has done over the last 7 years as Chairman.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:10pm.

**MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL AGM HELD ON TUESDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2013 AT PUDDLETOWN VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs Drake, Stockley, Piper, Sheppard, P Cooke, Legg, Leonard, Soderburg and Foreman

**Chair:** S Baynard

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also Present:** 0 members of the public

As Cllr Buck was unable to attend the meeting, Cllr Baynard took the Chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**13.16 Public Session**

There being no members of the public present the Chairman opened the formal part of the Parish Council meeting.

**13.17 Election of Officers**

Chairman: S Buck, having been in the Chair for 7 years has decided to stand down. Cllr Foreman proposed Cllr Baynard as the new Chairman and this was seconded by Cllr Piper and agreed unanimously.

Vice chairman: Cllr Baynard suggested two Vice Chairs and proposed Cllr Hopkin to represent Tolpuddle. This was seconded by Cllr P Cooke. He proposed Cllr Sheppard to represent Puddletown and this was seconded by Cllr Legg. Both appointments were agreed unanimously.

Planning Working Group: Currently consisting of Cllrs Soderberg, Baynard, Hopkin, Foreman, Leonard and Stockley. All members are happy to continue and Cllr Hopkin will head the Group.

Finance Group: Cllrs Baynard, Foreman and Leonard and the Clerk. All members were happy to remain in post.

Representatives to the Village Hall Committees: Cllr Leonard offered to remain in this role for Puddletown Village Hall and Cllr Foreman for Tolpuddle Village Hall.

Transport Officer: Cllr Piper had agreed to continue in this role for another year.

Rights of Way Officer: Currently Cllr Drake for Puddletown. The Tolpuddle rights of way officers usually send in a report after the Village meeting each year. Cllr Baynard proposed Cllr Piper should shadow Cllr Drake and cover Athelhampton and Burtleston. This was seconded by Cllr Drake and agreed unanimously.

Internal Auditor: It had already been confirmed in the February meeting that Henry Lovegrove of Accounts and Audit Services remain as the internal auditor.

DAPTC Representative: This role is currently taken by Cllr Hopkin and she would like to carry on in the post.

Community Liaison Officer (Youth): Currently Cllr Legg and she is happy to carry on.

Flood/Emergency Officer: The role was held by Cllr Parsons but, following her resignation, the post is currently vacant and Cllr Legg has kindly offered to take on the role. This was seconded by Cllr Baynard and agreed unanimously.

Representative to the trustees of the Puddletown Charities: Mr Jim Wilson had kindly agreed to continue in this role for a further year.

PRIDE Management Committee: Currently Cllrs Drake, Baynard and Pitman. It was understood that, according to their constitution, 4 members of the Parish Council should be in attendance. However, this is based as a percentage of the committee. At present there are insufficient members to warrant the Parish Council holding four seats but, as the number of groups being represented on the committee increased slightly since this time last year, it was felt that three members of the Parish Council would meet the terms of the constitution. Cllr Drake said he would be willing to stand for another year and would then wish to step down. Cllrs Baynard and Pitman will also remain in the role.

Orchard Meadow Liaison Group: Although unable to attend this evening's meeting, Cllr Martin Cooke had offered to remain in this role unless anyone else particularly wished to take over.

Dorset Area Partnership: Discontinued last year as the councillor then in the role, Cllr Foreman, had never received notification of any meetings. The Clerk will check to see if this group is still going and, if so, will then ask members for a volunteer for the role.

**ACTION: CLERK**

Neighbourhood Plan Co-ordinator: Currently Cllr Soderberg and she is happy to continue.

**13.18 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Buck (holiday), M Cooke (work) and Pitman.

**13.19 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972 and to confirm any requests for dispensations**

No declarations had been received prior to the start of the meeting or dispensations requested.

**13.20 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2013**

A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed by Cllr Foreman to be a true and accurate record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Hopkin and agreed unanimously. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

**13.21 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

There were no matters arising.

**13.22 To receive the Chairman's Report**

In the absence of Cllr Buck, the Chairman's report was read out by the Clerk. A copy is attached to these minutes. Our thanks are extended to Stephen Buck for his work over the last 7 years and his exemplary service as our Chairman.

**13.23 To confirm the Standing Orders**

A copy of the Standing Orders had been issued to all members prior to the meeting. They had previously been reviewed in July 2012 and no amendments had been received since that time. It was proposed by Cllr Sheppard, seconded by Cllr Soderburg and agreed unanimously that the Standing Orders are accepted in their present form.

**13.24 To confirm the Financial Regulations**

A copy of the Financial Regulations had been issued to all members prior to the meeting. They had previously been reviewed in July 2012 and no amendments had been received since that time. It was proposed by Cllr Legg, seconded by Cllr Soderburg and agreed unanimously that the Financial Regulations are accepted in their present form.



**13.25 To review the Parish Council’s Risk Assessment**

A copy of the Risk Assessment had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Soderburg, seconded Cllr Foreman and agreed unanimously that they are accepted. As soon as the Orchard Meadow Risk Assessment is received this will be considered and incorporated into the main Risk Assessment.

**13.26 To consider Planning Applications received**

**13.26.1 1/D/13/000447 – The Piggery, Higher Barn, Troy Town – change of use to holiday unit.**

The Working Group recommended no objections. The application brings redundant agricultural buildings back into use after a sensitive conversion. All the planning officer’s concerns have been addressed. A comment will be added to the effect that the Parish Council would welcome this as an opportunity to create a permissive path which would enable a circular walk from the village. At the moment, access to the site is via a private track joining two bridleways.

**13.26.2 1/D/13/000419 – Coombe Barn Farm, Puddletown – new agricultural farm building for stock and fodder.**

The Working Group recommended no objections. The additional cattle housing is consistent with the expansion of this farm enterprise.

**13.26.3 1/D/13/000426 – 5a High St, Puddletown – single storey flat roof rear extension.**

This was a late entry over the bank holiday and Cllr Sheppard suggested we should ask for an extension to allow time to comment fully. Although it was generally felt that we have no justification to object as it is on the back of the property, a deferral will be requested to allow the applicant and neighbours time to address the meeting should they wish to do so. This will be included on the June agenda if an extension is permitted.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**13.27 To consider the accounts**

**13.27.1 To authorise payment of accounts**

The following payments had been requested:

WDDC	Wheelie bin empties – March 2013	200094	48.25
M Cooke	Copying expenses re Orchard Meadow	200095	5.10
Mrs I Stockley	Pavilion cleaning Jan – March 2013	200096	320.48
SSE	Orchard Meadow electric 3/1 to 4/4/13	200097	19.68
Mrs A Crocker	May wages & expenses	200098	491.03

The total requested for May 2013 amounts to £884.54, of which £864.86 will be taken from the Precept and £19.68 will be taken from TOSCA.

It was proposed by Cllr Foreman that the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Leonard and agreed unanimously. The cheques were signed by Cllrs Leonard and Foreman in the presence of the meeting.

**13.27.2 To agree the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013 and authorise the Accounting Statement 2012/13**

The internal audit had taken place and no issues had been raised. Copies of the Accounting Statement had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Leonard, seconded by Cllr



Soderburg and agreed unanimously that the Accounting Statement 2012/13 be signed by the Chairman and counter-signed by the Clerk.

13.27.3 To agree the Annual Governance Statement 2012/13

A copy of the Annual Governance Statement had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. The Clerk asked members if they were prepared to accept each of the statements as set out in the Statement. It was then proposed by Cllr Legg, seconded by Cllr Cooke and agreed unanimously that the Chairman sign the Annual Governance Statement in the presence of the meeting. The Statement was then counter-signed by the Clerk.

**13.28 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. The Clerk reported that only one additional piece of correspondence had come in since then. This was the notification of the Frome River Conservation Project going before the Planning Committee on 16<sup>th</sup> May. Cllr Hopkin had requested that she attend the Committee as a representative of the Parish Council and the papers were passed to her for reference.

Cllr Baynard reminded members that, County Cllr Crowhurst had now retired and a letter will be sent expressing our best wishes for the future and our thanks for all the help he has given us during his time in office. A invite will be sent to the new County Cllr for Linden Lea, Mr Andy Canning, asking him to address the Puddletown Village AGM on the 21<sup>st</sup> May.

**13.29 Items for the June meeting**

- Neighbourhood Plan

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.55pm

**MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL AGM HELD ON TUESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup>  
JUNE 2013 AT TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs Drake, Stockley, Pitman, M Cooke, Legg, Soderburg and Foreman

**Chair:** S Baynard

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also Present:** 6 members of the public, County Cllr Andy Canning, Andrew Robinson – Symonds & Sampson.

**13.30 Public Participation**

Andrew Robinson, Symonds & Sampson – spoke on behalf of David Ford who is intending to live in the proposed dwelling and asked that members take into account that the house is to support 1,000 acres of farmland.

**13.31 To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Hopkin (holiday), Leonard (holiday), Piper (prior engagement), Sheppard (work), P Cooke (work).

**13.32 To confirm the minutes of the AGM held on the 7<sup>th</sup> May and the Puddletown Parish Meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2013**

Copies of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting by Cllr Foreman. This was seconded by Cllr Legg and agreed unanimously. The minutes were signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

All councillors had received a copy of the minutes of the Puddletown Annual Parish Meeting prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting by Cllr Soderburg. This was seconded by Cllr Legg and agreed unanimously by those who had attended the meeting.

**13.33 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

Nothing to report.

**13.34 To receive declarations of interest and to confirm any dispensation requests received**

M Cooke declared an interest in item 11 (4) as he is being employed by the TUC. There were no further interests declared at this stage and no dispensations had been received.

**13.35 To discuss the co-option of 2 councillors – 1 to represent Tolpuddle and 1 to represent Puddletown**

Two people had expressed an interest in representing Burleston. These were Peter Walton and David Smallwood. The Chairman invited both to introduce themselves to the meeting and say a few words.

Peter Walton introduced himself, saying he has lived in the village for 4 years since retirement. He is involved with a number of activities in the village such as TOSCA and is Chairman of the Village Hall Committee. In addition, he has helped carry out a number of surveys including the village survey about 2 years ago.

David Smallwood was unable to attend and so Cllr Foreman spoke on his behalf, saying he is involved in the library and is responsible for the Tolpuddle Village web site. He lives in Southover and would be able to represent a section of the community that is often forgotten.

Two people had expressed an interest in representing Puddletown. These were Kay Steele and Wayne Lewin. The Chairman invited both to introduce themselves to the meeting and say a few words.

Kay Steele introduced herself saying she has lived in Waterston for 32 years and would represent another area of the parish that is often forgotten. She is married to a local farmer and so is very aware of the issues that affect the farming community. Her key areas of interest are roads – especially speeding, road markings and bridleway issues.

Wayne Lewin introduced himself saying he lives in Puddletown and has done so for 5 years and his children attend the first school. He has recently retired from the army and would now like to put something back into the community. Being the parent who does the school run every day, he is very much in touch with the other parents and listens to the complaints and comments made and feels he would be in a good position to be a voice for that section of the community and respond to a lot of the issues they raise.

As there is only 1 place per village, the vote will be taken by secret ballot.

The Clerk counted the vote and the results are:

Burleston: Peter Walton 4 votes	David Smallwood 4 votes
The Chairman cast his vote in Peter's favour, so Peter Walton is duly elected	

Puddletown: Kay Steele 0 votes	Wayne Lewin 8 votes
Wayne Lewin is duly elected.	

**13.36 Dorset Waste Partnership**

The Clerk explained that everyone should have received a letter of notification regarding the new garden waste scheme. This was part of a larger initiative covering the whole of Dorset which should come on line during March/April 2014. From then, every household will have a weekly food waste collection and alternating fortnightly collections of recycling and refuse. The new recycling will also include the collection of plastics.

Wayne Lewin suggested that having the wheelie bins will clutter up the paths. Sections of the footpaths in the villages are very narrow and if residents have to put out 2 bins every week, it will make passing with pushchairs or wheelchairs extremely difficult.

Cllr Foreman asked what will happen to the used batteries that are currently being collected. The Clerk will follow up this point and report back. *Post meeting note: Used batteries will continue to be collected as they are at the moment – pink bags will be supplied and batteries should be put in them and placed on top of the recycling. The bag will then be emptied and returned.*

<b>ACTION: CLERK</b>
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### **13.37 Puddletown Matters**

#### **13.37.1 To consider a second notice board for Puddletown near the new school**

It was suggested that, as Tolpuddle has 3 notice boards and Puddletown only has one, perhaps the developers for the school would consider putting a notice board in front of the new school. Of other sites considered around the village, this would appear the best location as it would be viewed by the most people. Cllr Buck will speak to Morgan Sindall to see if they would be willing to provide a notice board or put some money towards one.

**ACTION: CLLR BUCK**

Cllr Legg brought to the meetings attention the recent DAPTC circular which mentioned the WDDC Conservation & Community Planning Grant Scheme. As one of the suggestions for the fund is the laying of hedges, perhaps this could be used to tidy up the Recreation Ground hedge, have it layed and sort out the trees along the western entrance to the village. Cllr Buck will speak to his contact and see what can be done.

**ACTION: CLLR BUCK**

Cllr Stockley once again brought to members' attention the gravel in the car park. It is still causing a problem as it is being carried on to the Recreation Ground grass. It is believed to have been caused by Highways when they were carrying out the road works for the new school. A JCB had been using the car park to change buckets and, in doing so, left gravel on the surface. The Clerk will investigate and see what action can be taken.

**ACTION: CLERK**

### **13.38 Tolpuddle Topics**

#### **13.38.1 Tolpuddle Village Meeting**

Cllr Pitman reported that the speeding through the village continues to be the main concern. It appears that some of the main culprits are the school buses. A letter to go DCC and Cllr Legg will provide the Clerk with the main contact.

**ACTION: CLERK**

The style to the east of the village alongside The Old Laundry has been vandalised. The Clerk spoke to Rights of Way who are happy to install a kissing gate but require written confirmation from the landowner that he is happy for this to be done.

**ACTION: CLLR PITMAN**

PCSO Vicki Hedges has now left and we wish her well for the future.

#### **13.38.2 Orchard Meadow – To confirm the Risk Assessment**

A copy of the revised Risk Assessment had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Foreman proposed that the Risk Assessment is adopted and included in the main Parish Council Risk Assessment. This was seconded by Cllr Drake and agreed unanimously.

#### **13.38.3 To consider the improvement of the Village Hall notice board**

The present notice board at the village hall is in a very poor condition and needs to be refurbished or replace. It was suggested that, due to the amount of information that is posted at the site, it would be sensible to take

the opportunity to increase the size of the board. Peter Walton will look into this and send the Clerk details of the required size in order that quotes may be obtained ready for consideration at the July meeting.

**ACTION: CLLR WALTON/CLERK**

13.38.4 Cllr M Cooke reported that Viridor have given a grant of just over £12k and WDDC have given £3k for a basket ball area and patanque area. He, the Clerk and Caroline Sharpe will be meeting on Friday to discuss the project. A report will be given at the July meeting.

### **13.39 Drains, Hedges and Roads, Rights of Way**

13.39.1 Roads – The following areas of concern were raised:

- (a) The surface of The Square is undulating and needs to be completely resurfaced. This is a well visited area and the road condition is getting steadily worse.
- (b) The area outside the Middle School is disintegrating.
- (c) The B3142 is like a farm track, the edges are dangerous and there are chippings and stones along its length. The road itself is in very poor condition at Lower Waterston with the pot holes getting ever larger.
- (d) The area in front of the new school has been narrowed quite substantially and the curb has already been destroyed. The corner is very sharp and it was suggested that the white lines should be continued into the pinch point. There is room for two cars through this but vehicles are taking up the whole road and it has resulted in some very near misses.

A letter outlining all of the above will be sent to Michael Westwood at DCC.

**ACTION: CLERK**

The Chairman introduced Cllr Andy Canning who reported that he is pressing for a revision of the County's policy on 20mph zones. Local councils are very reluctant to spend any money on this but the current policy from Central Government is more favourable towards 20mph zones again and they are looking at introducing them. Extra money has been set aside for pot-hole repairs and any requests need to be made asap. Cllr Canning is also involved with flooding and rights of way issues. The County Council is in the process of installing variable messaging in Dorchester showing the number spaces available in the various car parks. The meters in the car parks will be replaced within the next year, enabling drivers to pay on departure or register for automatic.

Cllr M Cooke highlighted that fact that a 20 mph in Tolpuddle has been discussed at the village meetings for a number of years and an assessment of the current speed of vehicles would be useful.

#### Rights of Way

Cllr Drake met with David Ackerley of DCC Rights of Way and produced an extensive list of jobs to be done relating to the rights of way. Council members are asked to report any over grown paths to Cllr Drake in order that he may pass on and they will be added to the list.

### **13.40 To consider planning applications**

13.40.1 1/D/13/000426 – 5a High Street, Puddletown - single storey flat roof rear extn.

This application had been held over from the May meeting to allow the councillors' time to review it more fully prior to commenting and to allow it to be advertised should the applicant wish to address the meeting.

There were no objections made although there was some discussion regarding the public footpath to the rear of the property that has been omitted from the application. Point 10 on the application asks if the site can be seen from “.....a public footpath..” – the applicant has marked “No” but clearly it can.

13.40.2 1/D/13/000459 – Old Barn, Burleston – rebuild for agricultural use

There were no objections. The restoration of the barn is long overdue and the building is in need of urgent restoration before the main fabric of the building deteriorates further. It was noted that it seems a lot of money will be spent on the building in order to store hay.

13.40.3 1/D/13/000401 – Coombe Barn Farm - erect detached farmhouse

(See Andrew Robinson’s comments under the public section.) The Chairman reported that there had been a number of concerns raised about the planning application but no objections. The Parish Council had been led to believe that the building was for a farm worker but it is for the owner himself. It was felt that the proposed farmhouse should be closer to the buildings already in existence. The applications for the site are coming in a piece meal basis and concern was expressed as to how many more were likely to come in. There was no evidence of a milking parlour on the site. Andrew Robinson responded saying the dwelling is proposed to be 150m from the buildings with a hospital paddock in between it and the main farm buildings. The building provides security on the access road for the location. David Ford bought the farm as he is a tenant farmer elsewhere. The current dairy is next door to the Landover centre. All the young stock have been moved from this site and are over at Coombe Barn. In time, the older buildings will be knocked down and where the old dairy set up used to be will be brought up to date and replaced. The buildings at the top of Rod Hill Lane may well also be knocked down and an additional building put up at Coombe Barn. The Landover business is now closed and Mr Ford has gone back to rearing livestock. The mobile home will be removed once the permanent dwelling is built although this is not shown in the planning application. Cllr Drake asked if the crops either side of the bridleway at the Kennels could be cut back to allow a 2m wide path for the bridleway. In the long term, it may be that Leigh Ford, Mr Ford’s son, will take over the business and move into the proposed dwelling.

13.40.4 1/D/13/000692 – Warren Hill Farm – extension to livestock building

No objections. This extends an existing building and brings it into line with all the other existing buildings.

**13.41 To consider the accounts**

13.41.1 To authorise payment of accounts

The following payments had been requested:

ChristoOpher Johnson	Orchard Meadow grass cutting – April 2013	200099	170.40
DAPTC	HMRC update seminar	200100	12.50
BWBSL	OM water 20/11/12-9/5/13	200101	119.69
Mrs A Crocker	June wages & expenses	200102	546.18
Playsafety Ltd	Annual play park inspection	200103	234.00

The total requested for June 2013 amounts to £1,082.77, of which £963.08 will be taken from the Precept and £119.69 will be taken from TOSCA.

It was proposed by Cllr Foreman that the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Soderburg and agreed unanimously. The cheques were signed by Cllrs Foreman and Buck in the presence of the meeting.

13.41.2 To consider the reconciliation of accounts

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions asked.

13.41.3 To review the current position against budget

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions asked.

13.41.4 To consider a donation of £100 to the TUC towards the cost of a Tolpuddle Audio Visual Trail

Cllr M Cooke declared an interest in this item as he is working on behalf of the TUC as Project Manager. Cllr Cooke explained the thinking behind the project. The TUC is seeking approximately £40,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund for an audio visual trail to enhance visitors' experience of Tolpuddle and its history. The bid is due to be submitted in July and they would now like a letter of support, together with a small contribution from the Parish Council. Cllr Pitman felt it was a very good idea and the village as a whole is not promoted enough. He proposed that the sum of £100 given and this was seconded by Cllr Foreman and agreed unanimously. A letter of support will be sent and a cheque for £100 raised for authorisation at the July meeting.

<b>ACTION: CLERK</b>
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13.42 To receive correspondence

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

13.43 To consider items for inclusion on the Parish Council web site

The Clerk asked all members to forward any items of interest or details of events due to be held within the villages so they might be included on the web site.

13.44 Items for the July meeting

- Any resolutions for forwarding to DAPTC for their AGM
- Boundary suggestions for Neighbourhood Plans
- Police PC Jeremy Cuff to next meeting or new PCSO – invite Inspector Marsh

Cllr Soderberg has now registered for the £7,000 worth of the funding for Neighbourhood Plan.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:25 pm



**MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL AGM HELD ON TUESDAY 16<sup>th</sup>  
JULY 2013 AT PUDDLETOWN VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs Drake, Stockley, Sheppard, Buck, Legg, Soderberg, Piper, Lewin, Hopkin, Leonard, Walton and Foreman

**Chair:** S Baynard

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also Present:** 2 members of the public, County Cllr Andy Canning.

**13.45 Public Participation**

No members of the public wished to speak.

**13.46 To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs M Cooke (work), Pitmen (work), P Cooke (work).

**13.47 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> June 2013**

Copies of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting by Cllr Foreman. This was seconded by Cllr Legg and agreed unanimously. The minutes were signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

**13.48 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

13.48.1 Notice Board for Puddletown – Cllr Buck reported that he had spoken to Nigel Gambol, the project manager at Morgan Sindall, and they have offered to provide two notice boards – one for Puddletown and one for Waterston. They have asked that we leave the matter with them and they will contact us in due course.

13.48.2 Hedge Laying at the Recreation Ground – Cllr Buck spoke to his contact who has said he would be happy to lay the hedge behind the caravan pitches at a cost of about £1,200 to £1,500. This would be done in November this year. Cllr Stockley suggested that the hedge behind the Pavilion was in more urgent need of attention. It was generally felt that all the hedges needed looking at and 3 quotes should be sort and presented at the August meeting.

**ACTION: CLERK**

13.48.3 Gravel on the Recreation Ground Car Park – Cllr Stockley reported that someone had been riding their bike across the car park, carrying a cricket bat in one hand, had hit the uneven surface and, as a result, had come off the bike. Mr and Mrs Stockley raked up the gravel and put it in 6 bags which they later disposed off.

13.48.4 Damaged Style at Tolpuddle – Cllr Pitman had spoken to the landowner and is awaiting the letter of authority.

13.48.5 Speeding in the Villages – The Clerk had written to the County Council following Cllr Pitman's observation that school buses have been noted as exceeding the speed limit. A reply has been received from the Children & Adults Transport Supervisor saying that, although they contract out the provision of some of the service, they do not have any influence or control over whether they comply with the Traffic Acts. They have suggested that, when a vehicle is speeding, it is reported to the company directly or to the local police.

13.48.6 New Notice Board for Tolpuddle – Cllr Walton has consulted with the Tolpuddle Village Hall Committee and they are in favour of a board with 3 glass doored panels and approximately 1700x850mm in size. The new

board may be placed nearer to the western end of the garden, but this has yet to be decided. The Clerk will arrange for some quotes and report back in August.

**13.49 To receive declarations of interest and to confirm any dispensation requests received**

There were no interests declared and no requests for dispensations had been received.

**13.50 To review the play area inspection reports**

All 3 play areas had been inspected in May 2013 and copies of the reports had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting.

**13.50.1 Puddletown Recreation Ground Play Area**

The overall risk has been recorded as Medium. The balance beam has been highlighted as in need of repair and plan to replace and the timber in the multiplay needs some treatment.

**13.50.2 Butt Close Play Area**

The overall risk has been recorded as Medium. The swing needs repair and the paintwork treated.

**13.50.3 Orchard Meadow, Tolpuddle**

The overall risk has been recorded as Medium. A warning notice is suggested on the combination goal and some nuts on the start of the slide bar are missing. This work has already been rectified and a notice put in place.

It should be noted that the inspection is carried out under standards that were updated in 2008. This means that equipment or surfacing that previously met the old standards may now fail. It does not mean that it has suddenly become dangerous or that remedial action is required. A medium risk means that the item requires appropriate action within resources and individual site assessment. Rarely does any inspection result in no actions.

After much discussion it was proposed by Cllr Leonard that the cradle seats for the Butt Close swings are replaced, the metal treated and the timber at the Recreation Ground treated. This was seconded by Cllr Drake and the Clerk will get some costings for the work. It was also agreed that a full review of the Recreation Ground and play areas in general will be discussed at the August meeting.

<b>ACTION: CLERK</b>
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**13.51 To consider the changes to the bus service**

The existing service is up for review again and the County Council are considering 3 options. In all 3 options the 183 and 387 would be merged into one service that would run from Dorchester to Puddletown to Bere Regis to Blandford and on to Salisbury. There would be no direct service to Weymouth so passengers would have to change at Dorchester. Under option 1 there would still be a connecting service in Bere Regis to allow passengers to travel to Poole. Under option 2 there would be no service to Poole. Under option 3 all weekend services would be withdrawn. Exact details are not known but it is understood that continuing the existing service is not an option. A period of consultation will now take place until the 2<sup>nd</sup> October and we await the appropriate notification from County.

### **13.52 To consider boundary suggestions for a Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr Soderberg reported that she had applied for the £7,000 Central Government grant and was now awaiting confirmation. The next step would be to determine the boundary for the plan. There were several possibilities – the whole of the area parish; the villages to be dealt with separately; Athelhampton and Burleston to link with either Tolpuddle or Puddletown. It would be sensible to treat Puddletown and Tolpuddle separately as they have completely different issues and aspirations and, as they were so closely connected, Burleston could link with Tolpuddle. It was generally felt that this would be the way forward and Cllr Hopkin would take the suggestion to the village meeting in October and report back to the Parish Council at the November meeting.

### **13.53 Puddletown Matters**

#### **13.53.1 To review the Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June bike race**

The event was well run and well organised and did not result in any disruption in the villages. Cllr Sheppard pointed out that the letter received from the organisers stated that the bikes would be travelling at speeds of around 35mph which meant that the support vehicles would also be travelling at this speed and, therefore, exceeding the speed limit. Cllr Canning pointed out that the organisers were not under any obligation to inform the Council that the event was taking place so the fact that any notification at all was given was a step in the right direction. It was agreed that a polite letter would be sent to the organisers asking if they could give a little more notice next time.

**ACTION: CLERK**

#### **13.53.2 Puddletown Carnival**

Cllr Stockley reported that he had received a number of telephone calls on the Saturday evening, complaining about the noise. These had come from caravanners as well as residents of Greenacres and Weatherbury Grange at gone midnight. He and Mrs Stockley went to the site and spoke to the organisers who informed them they had a license until 4am. However, the bar staff were more reasonable and stopped serving. Mr & Mrs Stockley finally left the Recreation Ground at 3am, having been threatened and the site was in an appalling state on Sunday morning. The Police had not been called to attend. Cllr Drake had contacted the District Council and was told the events licence had been issued until 1am and there was no obligation for them to inform the landowner of the licence.

A letter will be sent to the Carnival Committee and the District Council complaining about the incident and stating that, should the event run next year, we would not want the licence to run beyond 11pm. In addition, to avoid any such reoccurrence we would like a member of the Parish Council to sit on the Carnival Committee and act as liaison. In the meantime, we would welcome site of the accounts to date and would like to know how the profits from the event had been distributed.

Cllr Soderberg reported that the Police had been in the village during the day time, issuing tickets to all cars parked too close to corners.

#### **13.53.3 Dorset Waste Partnership**

Cllr Sheppard suggested that DWP are asked to leave a set of the recycle bins in the library or village hall for residents to see. Cllr Hopkin reported that the CEO lives in Tolpuddle and he would be happy for anyone to see the display on request.

#### 13.53.4 Suggestion Box

Cllr Lewin reported that he had been approached by some residents asking if it would be possible to have a suggestion box somewhere for people to contact the Parish Council. It was felt that residents were able to approach any councillors, attend meetings, use the contact page on the web site, or e-mail any member of the council. This should allow sufficient opportunity for anyone to contact the Parish Council should they wish to do so.

#### 13.54 Tolpuddle Topics

##### 13.54.1 Orchard Meadow update on improvements

As Cllr Cooke was unable to attend the meeting, the Clerk reported that the grant of £12,223.42 had been awarded and the paperwork sent to Entrust for registering. Cllr Cooke and the Clerk met with Caroline Sharp of Landform to review the planned alterations and choose the surface material and colour. Work is due to commence during the week of the 9<sup>th</sup> September.

The matter of the stretch of land between the play area and the first bungalow was raised. This area is now very overgrown and in need of attention. It is understood to belong to Wessex Water. *Post Meeting Note: Cllr Hopkin has spoken to Richard King who has confirmed that he owns the area of land in question. He has let it "go wild" in order to deter people using it to access the meadow during the festival. He has agreed that it should be tidied and will arrange for the grass to be cut.*

##### 13.54.2 To consider the purchase of new notice board

This has been discussed under 13.48.6.

#### 13.54 Drains, Hedges and Roads, Rights of Way

Cllr Canning reported that the grass cutting schedule is to be reviewed. Under the present scheme, grass cutting was to be carried out 6 times a year but this had not taken into account the recent weather conditions resulting in the majority of rural verges and hedges becoming so overgrown. The review will consider increasing the number of cuts to be carried out.

13.54.1 Roads – The items raised at the June meeting had been passed to Highways and some of the work had been carried out. Some patching work had taken place in front of the Middle School but it was felt that the whole of New Street is in such a bad state due to the various authorities digging trenches that it needs completely resurfacing. Cllr Canning said he would take this to Highways and ask them to include it on their schedule of works.

13.54.2 Rights of Way – Cllr Drake reported that Mr Ford had cleared the crops from the 2 bridleways.

#### 13.55 To consider planning applications

##### 13.55.1 1/D/13/000220 – Scoping opinion in respect of 7 turbines at Slyers Lane, east of Charminster

Mrs Francis informed the meeting that WDDC does not legally have to keep a register of requests for scoping agreements.

Cllr Hopkin reported that the document had been received on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June and we had been given until Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July to respond so it had not been possible to bring it to full council to consider. The following response had been made:

“This is a proposal for a large and visually prominent scheme in an area of environmental beauty and cultural importance. Puddletown Area Parish Council hopes that, in the true spirit of Localism, the views of the residents in Stinsford, Charminster and Charlton Down will be given full consideration since they are within 2km of the proposed turbines.”

The Clerk informed members that a copy of this response had also been sent to the Clerk for Charminster.

13.55.2 1/D/13/000763 – Higher Burton farm, Higher Burton – erect a 60m wind monitoring mast for a temporary period of 2 years

The mast is situated close to a large pylon and the visual impact would be minimal. It was noted that the mast is intended to gather data for the proposed turbines at Slyers Lane. There is no objection to the application.

For information: Mrs Francis informed the meeting that she was aware of the fact that DCC had agreed to take 30 on shore wind turbines. In addition, she reported that WDDC have asked the developer of the West Coast Wind Farm turbines for further clarification on the visual impact and EIA.

**13.55 To consider the accounts**

13.55.1 To authorise payment of accounts

The following payments had been requested:

Christopher Johnson	OM grass cutting May 2013 + additional work	200104	182.40
DAPTC	Annual subscription	200105	534.85
Accounts & Audit	Year end internal audit fee	200106	234.00
DCC	Wheelie bin empties April & May 2013	200107	90.81
TUC	Grant re Tolpuddle Audio Visual Trail	200108	100.00
Mrs I Stockley	April - June cleaning/materials/mower fuel	200109	475.50
Viridor Credits	10% re OM surfacing	200110	1247.27
WDDC	Wheelie bin empties June 2013	200111	40.36
Christopher Johnson	OM grass cutting June 2013	200112	170.40
Mrs A Crocker	July wages + expenses	200113	528.62
Wessex Industrial Doors	Repairs to Pavilion window screen	200114	120.00

The total requested for July 2013 amounts to £3,724.21, of which £2,476.94 will be taken from the Precept and £1,247.27 will be taken from TOSCA.

It was proposed by Cllr Buck that the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Lewin and agreed unanimously. The cheques were signed by Cllrs Foreman and Buck in the presence of the meeting.

13.55.2 To consider the reconciliation of accounts

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions asked.

13.55.3 To review the current position against budget

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions asked.

**13.56 To consider effective communication methods**

There has been a constant complaint regarding lack of communication between the Parish Council and the residents of the village. Cllr Walton raised some ideas such as a précis of the meeting, putting something in the Parish Magazine, a news page, Facebook, Twitter. The Clerk responded saying that a précis of the meeting is already done and sent to the Parish Magazine for inclusion each month, but it had been missed when drawing the magazine articles together for the last two months. However, the précis could be put on the notice boards and in the library as a way of enabling more people to see it. The web site has a news page and the Clerk will look into ways of making this more prominent.

Facebook – it would not be appropriate for the Parish Council to have its own Facebook page but the villages could have their own pages and they could then be used by the Parish Council as a way of disseminating important information and notices. Cllr Walton will look into this and report back.

**ACTION: CLLR WALTON**

**13.56 To receive correspondence**

A list of all correspondence received since the June meeting had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made. The Clerk drew members' attention to the two tree work notifications and the deadline for comments on each.

**13.56 To consider items for inclusion on the Parish Council web site**

The Clerk asked all members to forward any items of interest or details of events due to be held within the villages so they might be included on the web site. Notice of the PRIDE AGM will be put on the web site.

**13.57 Items for the August meeting**

- Play area upgrades
- Recreation ground hedge work quotes
- Communications update

Cllr Soderberg has now registered for the £7,000 worth of the funding for Neighbourhood Plan.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9 pm

**MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL AGM HELD ON TUESDAY 13<sup>th</sup>  
AUGUST 2013 AT TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs Drake, Stockley, Sheppard, Soderberg, Piper, Lewin, Hopkin, Leonard, P Cooke, and Foreman

**Chair:** S Baynard

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also Present:** 8 members of the public

Cynthia Starkey, DAPTC – on Superfast Broadband.

Handouts were issued to all members (available on request). The purple areas (commercial) will be happening anyway; the white areas will be covered by the Superfast Broadband Dorset scheme. The contract has been signed and things will now go quiet for a while whilst planning and surveying is carried on. DCC will be putting some of their early thoughts on the Superfast page of Dorset For You, together with the most up to date guidance. Dcc are being entirely advised by BT as to what the rollout programme will be. The 97% coverage in Dorset will be one of the highest in the country and in order to achieve this level of coverage, DCC have to follow the advice offered by BT. The rollout will appear to be a bit illogical but it will have technological sense and this is how they intend achieving the 97% coverage. The Broadband team will contact the various areas within 6 months of work starting in that area and, within 3 months, more detailed negotiations will be take place. The 3% who will not receive SFB are, as yet, unknown. The project is due to be completed in 2015 but this date will be checked and may be subject to change. The Broadband team is now housed in Colliton Annexe so will be very approachable to DAPTC should anyone have any queries or questions.

Cllr Cooke – is the 97% households, population or what – Cynthia will ask the question and send a response to the Clerk.

Cllr Lewin – what can the community do to go back to BT. Cynthia – the DCC Broadband team will act as the lead. The Broadband Champions Group will be meeting shortly and are key to pressurising BT and pushing the needs of the community.

Cllr Baynard – will the new broadband be available to everyone or will there be an additional cost. Cynthia – you will have to request it and pay for it via your provider.

Cllr Sheppard – it may be that you will only be able to access SFB if you are with BT.

Cynthia – no-one has talked about an extra charge but this cannot be confirmed. Will try to get more clarity.

**13.58 Public Participation**

13.58.1 Bus Service Review – Concerns were expressed regarding the proposed amendments to the service. It is unfair that residents must continue having to worry about whether or not there is going to be a bus service. It was only a year ago that this service was under threat and is now under threat again. Buses are a social service and, although they are only used by a small number of the community, they are vital for those people. It is not only the elderly who rely on them but also the youth in order to get out and about during school holidays. Others rely on the bus service to get to and from work. The link to Poole is important and, ideally 4 buses per day are needed. In the morning, there are 3 buses going through Puddletown carrying school children - perhaps these could be spread out through the day.

13.58.2 Carnival Review – A letter had been sent to the Chairman of the Carnival Committee, following complaints received after this year's event. Charlene Lewis, the Chairman of the Committee, reported that there were 7 members of the committee who acted as marshals and remained sober throughout the event. The Police had been notified of the event, together with Environmental Health and the Licence was approved until 4am by District Council. (The Licensing Department had informed the Parish Council that the licence was issued until 1pm only.) The music and dance floor was positioned in such a way as to point towards the by-pass to keep the noise levels away from the village. Charlene has since visited the residents of Greenacres who had no complaints. There were a lot of people in attendance and the final accounts have yet to be drawn up. A member of the public got onto the stage and asked for the carnival to be shut down. There was no fighting. The Chairman thanked Charlene for being so frank and honest. With the benefit of hindsight, it might be



worthwhile to consider not taking the licence out for such a length of time. George Tucker reported that there were two other parties taking place in the village that evening and the noise coming from them was very loud. Cllr Stockley reported that he was awoken at 12.50 by a phone call reporting loud noise and swearing at the recreation ground. He then received two further calls making the same complaint. It was after receiving the third call that he and his wife went to the recreation ground at just after 1am to find two of the caravanners stood outside their caravans and concerned about the noise. He spoke to the bar staff who were very reasonable and closed the bar. They received abuse from one young lad but everyone else was very helpful and the disco closed down straight away. Charlene commented that this could have been prevented. She had her phone on her at all times and, had she received a call, she would have closed the event down slowly and quietly rather than someone stand on the stage and make an announcement. Cllr Foreman commented that there seemed to be a lack of communication. Although the Parish Council does not have to be informed of the licence details, it would be appreciated if the Carnival Committee could liaise with the Parish Council in future. In addition, there needs to be more communication between the two groups. Cllr Sheppard said that the action taken was as a result of receiving 3 telephone calls. The signs need to have the phone number of the organiser on them and the number should also be available to the people who are usually responsible for the Recreation Ground. Any caravanners booking in for the carnival week, should also be notified of the event when they book. Cllr Foreman suggested that a member of the Parish Council should sit on the Carnival Committee as an observer and point of contact. The Carnival Committee will be holding a review meeting in 2 or 3 weeks time and will inform the Clerk of the date in order to invite a councillor to attend the meeting.

The Chairman invited comments from councillors:

Cllr Cooke – if we want to make a comment to the Licensing Department, it needs to be done now so when the next application comes in, this will be taken into account.

Cllr Lewin – invite the new chairman of the Carnival Committee to the Parish Council to outline their plans.

Cllr Foreman – we need to have a representative on their committee as an observer only.

Cllr Lewin – would happily go to it.

Cllr Leonard – whilst it is fresh, it would be a good idea to write to the Licensing Officer in Dorset and say, in future years, midnight would be the finishing time for both entertainment and alcohol in the normal course of events. It is our land. Would we want to have a councillor on the committee as it may bring some disrepute brought back to the Parish Council.

Cllr Lewin will sit on the Carnival Committee as an observer.

*Post meeting note: The Parish Council cannot determine the contents of a Temporary Events Licence with the District Council. It can only be done if a hire agreement is set up between the Parish Council and the hirer and the terms agreed in advance. It would then be up to the Parish Council to check with the Licensing Officer to ensure the terms of any hiring agreement have been adhered to.*

### **13.59 To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Legg, Buck, Walton (holiday), Pitman, M Cooke (work).

### **13.60 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> July 2013**

Copies of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting by Cllr Foreman. This was seconded by Cllr Sheppard and agreed unanimously. The minutes were signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

### **13.61 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

There were no matters arising that are not covered by the agenda.

### **13.62 To receive declarations of interest and to confirm any dispensation requests received**

Cllr Foreman declared an interest in Agenda Item 11 (planning application in respect of Tolchurch Cottage) as the applicant is a neighbour. There were no other interests declared and no requests for dispensations had been received.

### **13.63 To consider a review of the Puddletown Play Areas – the way forward**

Cllr Lewin reported that he had spoken to a number of residents and all would like a brand new play ground in Puddletown. The more current equipment from the Recreation Ground could be moved to Butt Close and new equipment for the Recreation Ground could be gained by fund raising. Dan Hunwick, head master of the First School, is happy to work with the children to design a new play ground with a recreational area to match the size of the population.

Cllr Stockley reported that, over the last two weeks, there has been some problems with the equipment at the recreation ground as the wood has deteriorated and needs replacing.

Cllr Soderberg commented that trying to relocate play equipment is extremely difficult and frequently costs more than new equipment.

Cllr Lewin asked for confirmation from council that this is something we would like to push.

Cllr P Cooke suggested asking Cllr M Cooke to take control of the fund raising.

Cllr Leonard reminded members that there are all sorts of complicated regulations regarding play parks. In principle it might be fine but he would strongly suggest that the Parish Council engage someone who is a specialist and who would know what the rules are. The Butt Close area belongs to Magna and we would need their consent before carrying out any work on the site.

Cllr Sheppard – the Parish Council should not tie itself to the limit of the area that is there at present but open it up and see what is possible.

Cllr Lewin informed members that he has priced up a basic new play park at £50k and will start looking at it. It was proposed that Cllr M Cooke head the project with Landscape Architects and, time permitting, come back with some information at the September meeting.

Cllr Piper – would like to see a good play area but if we make it that good, could we look at poaching a bit more of the green area for car parking? After discussion, it was generally felt that the car park is big enough to cope with most things.

### **13.64 To consider the changes to the bus service**

13.64.1 Having listened to the concerns expressed in the public session, the Chairman asked councillors for their views.

Cllr Leonard – First are running the bus service more professionally than the previous service.

Cllr Hopkin – in January this year, a petition was drawn up and submitted to Dorset County Council. As a result, residents were guaranteed that a service would remain until September 2013. Cllr Hopkin read out a response based on the information received regarding the new proposals and highlighting concerns that the new proposed service will come via the villages and will have the same regular time table as the current service and, once implemented, Damory will operate a reliable service. The constant uncertainty is worrying to the elderly and to people who have to use the service to get to work. This matter has been raised by Age UK in particular connection with the increasing rural isolation of the elderly and carless. DACP have just produced an action plan for the period 2013 to 2016 and their aim is to maintain and improve regular bus services to and from the surrounding villages and Dorchester. If we are going to have affordable housing in the village, how are they going to be sustainable if there is no bus service. County Cllr Andy Canning will be asked to support this response.

Cllr Lewin – we need to confirm the timing of the buses and frequencies.

Cllr Leonard – the retention of the existing time table may not be completely realistic as they are combining two services. Any response should probably include something about wishing the new service to remain as close to present as possible. If the timetable has not already been confirmed, perhaps we could also ask to be consulted on any proposal. Reference should be made to the previous petition.

Cllr P Cooke – suggested 2 pairs of buses – 1 for work and 1 for the elderly to get to and from town.

## 13.65 Puddletown Matters

### 13.65.1 Neighbourhood Plan confirmation and progress report

Cllr Soderberg reported on the recently applied for grant. We should receive £1,100 within the next couple of months, with the full £7,000 as time goes on. Because we are so early in the process, we have been allocated a planning officer, who has, in turn, been allocated 4 and a half days to assist us. The first objective will be to define an area and decide whether Athelhampton and Burleston will join in with Puddletown or go with Tolpuddle. We also need to contact West Dorset to find out how many different surveys we will need to do and how much they can help us with. It was also suggested that we talk to some housing associations to see how much housing is needed in this area, review the village boundary and talk to some developers. We will be able to take advantage of the work the officer is doing with groups in Cornwall. It must be stressed that this is not a parish council plan, it is a Neighbourhood Plan and is what the community wants. The plan is to get the Puddletown Neighbourhood Plan underway and then move on to Tolpuddle should they wish to do a plan.

The next action for Puddletown will be to create a steering group.

Cllr Hopkin – she and Cllr Walton have already got together stakeholders in Tolpuddle who are interested in drawing up a Neighbourhood Plan for Tolpuddle and would be very happy if it would just involve that parish.

Cllr Baynard – would like to attach Burleston to Tolpuddle.

Cllr P Cooke – if Athelhampton is not needed in Puddletown, and there is nothing to be gained by doing a Plan, Athelhampton could be kept out.

Cllr Leonard – the Parish Council should define the boundaries and put this forward to the community. Cllr Soderberg will pass the maps on to Peter Walton and will draw up a charter of where we need assistance.

Cllr Baynard stressed the importance of keeping communications going between Puddletown and Tolpuddle.

Cllr Lewin – happy to drum up support within Puddletown for the Plan.

A meeting will be called for the Puddletown representatives to consider the way forward.

### 13.65.2 To consider a bench at Coombe Road

The Clerk reported that Cllr Buck had been contacted by a resident of Puddletown who would like to donate a bench in memory of her late husband. The request had been to site the bench at the top of the Coombe looking towards the Kennels. The Clerk and Cllr Buck looked at the area in question and it was felt that the best and safest location would be just inside the field gate at the top of the path leading to the woods by the Kennels. The land is owned by Mr David Ford but, to date, it has not been possible to contact Mr Ford to discuss the matter as the telephone number on record is not responding. The Clerk will continue to try to contact him and have a response by the September meeting.

Cllr Lewin suggested that one or two different sites in the area be considered.

**ACTION: CLERK**

### 13.65.3 To consider asking DCC to carry our remedial works to footpaths

Cllr Leonard had been approached by two different residents, both of whom have disabled spouses who use mobility buggies and who are having difficulties at various places in Puddletown. The main areas are:

- Doctor's path – Blandford Road end – staggered barriers prevent buggies from getting through. The same problem exists at the High Street end of Church Path.
- The lack of dropped kerbs at the bottom of Coombe Road means the buggies have to travel on the road to get to the shop.

It was suggested that the staggered barriers were originally installed to prevent cyclists from using the paths and these should, perhaps, be left in situ. However, the Clerk will contact DCC to see if it is possible to have drop kerbs installed at Coombe Road.

**ACTION: CLERK**

#### 13.65.4 To consider the quotation for repairs to the Puddletown play areas

The Clerk reported that, following the play area inspection reports, a quotation had been received to prime and paint the swings at both Butt Close and the Recreation Ground; renew the wooden planking on the climbing towers and tighten any loose parts; replace the missing section of the balance beam; to dig out the metal fencing, extend the legs and concrete back in so as to be 200mm below the surface of the park. The cost amounted to £603.27 + VAT. It was proposed by Cllr Sheppard and seconded by Cllr Leonard that the work is carried out. The Clerk also reported that it had been necessary to replace the swing seats at both sites as they were damaged and could become a safety hazard.

*Post meeting note; Following the meeting, the Clerk received a call from the organiser of Hazelnuts saying that all of the planks on the tower platform had been lifted. She had put them back as best she could but could not secure them. The Clerk requested the contractor who was going to do the work attend the site that evening and make the tower sound. This will add to the cost by about an hour or so.*

#### 13.65.5 To consider quotations received for hedging at the Recreation Ground

Three quotations have been received but a fourth is currently awaited. They will be submitted at the September meeting but, in the meantime, the Clerk will liaise with Cllr Legg regarding the WDDC Community Grant offer.

**ACTION: CLLR LEGG/CLERK**

#### 13.65.6 PRIDE update

Cllr Drake gave his annual report and the PRIDE accounts – copies available on request and the report is reproduced on the Parish Council web site. He went on to report that the Youth Club covers an age range from 12 to 21 and meets one night a week for the trial period. Gerald Barrett, the booking clerk for the games area is moving, and a new booking clerk is needed.

Cllr Leonard reported that the village hall employed an energy broker to review the various tariffs and would recommend PRIDE does the same as it saved the hall between 10 and 20%.

### 13.66 Tolpuddle Topics

#### 13.66.1 Tolpuddle Martyrs Review

The event went very well, with figures back up to those of 2011 and everyone was very complimentary. The Police were not very much in evidence in the village but were all up at the site. There was no trouble in the village but, if there had been, it would have been difficult to get hold of anyone. The two village charities – the Hall and the Church, benefited to the tune of £3,000 each. 86 members of the parish were involved in raising this money.

### 13.67 Drains, Hedges and Roads, Rights of Way

Rights of Way – Cllr Drake reported that, by accessing the D4U web site, it is possible to report any problems and the work is done quickly.

The bridleways and footpath on the Tincton road – there is a gate out to the road and a stile that are difficult to negotiate. Cllr Drake is trying to get hold of the rights of way officer to suggest using the parish council's

money get these improved. This is the only circular walk people do. He will look into this and report back to the parish council in September.

Home Farm – a response has been received from DCC – the file is closed as they have had nothing back from the developer. The onus is on the developer to contact the planning authority once they have completed the works. The developer needs to bring the work to an adoptable standard and the door needs to be removed. This means the ball is back in the District and developer’s hands.

Cllr Leonard – the developer has not done what he was supposed to do. He would like to see the door gone and have some markers indicating the path – waymarkers perhaps.

Cllr P Cooke – any argument died a death when the 106 was shown to say a gate was to be placed here and the District Council felt that they had nothing to go after the developer for. He did agree that we should sign the path as a parish and make people aware that it is available for use.

Cllr Drake – where can we put the signs without putting it on someone else’s street furniture or on someone’s private property.

**ACTION: CLLR DRAKE**

Cllr Sheppard requested a letter is sent to the owners of the Reading Room and their neighbours requesting their hedges are cut as they are now overgrowing the path and the notice board.

**13.68 To consider planning applications**

13.68.1 1/D/13/000682 – Tolchurch Cottage, Long Cowleaze – convert part of existing garage to ancillary accommodation

There is already a room over the garage which has been used as a games room. They now want to turn this into a studio apartment. No objections.

13.68.2 1/D/13/001022 – 43 White Hill, Puddletown – demolish conservatory & store. Construct 2 storey extn to the rear and single storey extn to the side

Concerns expressed over the size of the extension which will take up the whole of the plot and set a precedent. This application increases the footprint of the house by over 50%.

13.68.3 1/D/13/000883 - Northbrook Farm – extension to existing covered yard.

No objections.

**13.69 To consider the accounts**

13.69.1 To authorise payment of accounts

The following payments had been requested:

Southern Electric	OM electricity usage 5/4-19/6/13	200115	23.58
PRIDE	Caravan electric charges to June 2013	200116	335.32
Lam-Art	OM kick wall sign	200117	30.00
IBDO	External audit fee y/e 31.03.13	200118	120.00
Christopher Johnson	OM grass cutting July 2013	200119	170.00
GL Jones	2 x cradle swings for Butt Close	200120	278.64
Mrs A Crocker	August wages & expenses	200121	561.50
Talk Talk	E-mail provider – annual fee	200122	46.80
Tradewind Graphics	Rec Ground kick wall sign	200123	22.50

The total requested for August 2013 amounts to £1,588.74, of which £1,535.16 will be taken from the Precept and £53.58 will be taken from TOSCA.

It was proposed by Cllr Foreman that the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Leonard and agreed unanimously. The cheques were signed in the presence of the meeting.

#### 13.69.2 To consider the reconciliation of accounts

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions asked.

#### 13.69.3 To review the current position against budget

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions asked.

#### 13.69.4 To confirm the completion of the audit year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013

#### 13.69.5 To consider the Clerk's revised pay scale from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 – 1% increase per annum

Local Government workers have had no pay increase since 2009. NALC have now negotiated this increase which amounts to an extra £49.27 per annum. It was proposed by Cllr Soderberg and seconded by Cllr P Cooke that the increase is accepted and will be reflected in the Clerk's September wage.

#### 13.69.6 CIL explained

CIL – Community Infrastructure Levy – is a new mechanism for collecting financial contributions from developers towards the provision of infrastructure needed as a result of development. The parish council will receive what is termed a “meaningful proportion” of the monies collected in the parish – 15% or 25% if an adopted Neighbourhood Plan is in place. The balance of the monies will then be put into a central fund and it will be up to elected members to determine how and where it is spent. Throughout West Dorset, CIL rates for residential development are proposed at £100/sqm. All other forms of development will not pay CIL. The WDDC proposal is currently under independent examination. Should it go through, the charges will come into effect in early 2014.

The documents we have been receiving recently are in accordance with the current planning policy which was adopted in 2010. We have not seen them until now as we have not had any relevant development that attracts this sort of obligation.

### 13.70 Communications update and items for the web site

Put forward to September.

### 13.71 To receive correspondence

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

Cllr P Cooke – gave a brief update regarding the proposed wind farm – the applicants intend making substantial changes to the scheme, reducing the number of turbines to 5 and the height to 115m. They have advised that the present application should be withdrawn and a revised one be submitted. The developer, West Coast Energy, will be looking to alleviate the impact on the environment and on the heritage of the area.

**13.72 Items for the September meeting**

- Communications
- Bus service
- Community Speed Watch.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.29 pm



**MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL AGM HELD ON TUESDAY 10<sup>th</sup>  
SEPTEMBER 2013 AT PUDDLETOWN VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs Drake, Stockley, Sheppard, Soderberg, Piper, Lewin, Foreman, Walton, Buck, Legg.

**Chair:** S Baynard

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also Present:** No members of the public

**13.73 Public Participation**

No members of the public were present.

**13.74 To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Hopkin, M Cooke, P Cooke, N Pitman, C Leonard, County Cllr Canning.

**13.75 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> August 2013**

Copies of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting by Cllr Sheppard. This was seconded by Cllr Soderberg and agreed unanimously. The minutes were signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

**13.76 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

13.76.1 Bench at the Coombe – The Clerk has now spoken to Mr Ford who did express some concern regarding litter, etc that may arise by putting a bench in the suggested location. However, he will speak to his son and get back to the Clerk.

13.76.2 Remedial works to footpath – Nothing to report as yet.

**ACTION: CLERK**

13.76.3 Carnival - Nothing received regarding the follow up meeting so far.

13.76.4 Rights of Way – Cllr Drake reported that he has managed to get some way-markers in respect of the Home Farm footpath. He has also found the contact details for the developer and would like permission to speak to him regarding the positioning of the markers. He would like the minutes to show that a marker will be put on the door. On the Blandford Road side, a post could be put on the verge with a marker on it but at the other end of the path it will be necessary to speak to the developer to see if he still owns the wall and would be willing to have a marker put on it. It was unanimously agreed that Cllr Drake go ahead with his suggestions and report back to the October meeting.

**ACTION: CLLR DRAKE**

13.76.5 Reading Room hedge – Cllr Sheppard reported that standard letters are available from DCC for use by parish councils in this sort of situation. The Clerk will look into this.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**13.77 To receive declarations of interest and to confirm any dispensation requests received**

There were no interests declared and no requests for dispensations had been received.

### **13.78 To consider the accounts**

#### **13.78.1 To authorise payment of accounts**

The following payments had been requested:

DCC	Wheelie bin empties – July 2013	200124	40.36
Hustings Electrical	NICEIC hookup check	200125	123.00
GL Jones	Replacement swings – Rec Ground	200126	191.76
A King	Emergency repairs to play parks	200127	75.88
DAPTC	Good Councillor Guides	200128	50.00
Mrs A Crocker	September wages + expenses	200129	569.28
C Johnson	OM grass cutting – August 2013	200130	170.40
A King	Play park repairs	200131	797.18

The total requested for September 2013 amounts to £2,017.86, all of which will be taken from the Precept. It was proposed by Cllr Soderberg that the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Lewin and agreed unanimously. The cheques were signed by Cllrs Foreman and Buck in the presence of the meeting.

#### **13.78.2 To consider the reconciliation of accounts**

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions asked.

#### **13.78.3 To review the current position against budget**

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions asked.

### **13.79 Bus Service Review**

Following last month's meeting, a letter had been sent to Spencer Flower, DCC Leader of Council. An acknowledgement has been received but nothing further. County Cllr Andy Canning had informed the Clerk that the decision, originally scheduled for 2<sup>nd</sup> October, might now be delayed until the November meeting due to the number of comments and responses received. The proposal is still that the 183 will be replaced by a new bus running from Dorchester to Blandford/Salisbury via Puddletown and the 387 will be replaced by a separate new service running from Dorchester to Blandford via Puddletown, Tolpuddle and Bere Regis. There will be no Saturday service on either route and no service in the direction of Poole.

Cllr Lewin has been asked to address the ladies at the Magna facility, Butt Close, many of whom are disabled and very concerned at the loss of the service. He will also ask Magna if they would be willing to provide a bus service for the community. The Clerk will provide a brief for him to take to the meeting on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September.

Puddletown is in the fortunate position that they have a well-supported volunteer car service running already but would be very interested in connecting to the Community bus service being looked at by Bere Regis Parish Council. The Clerk will keep members informed of the progress and report back when it is up and running.

## 13.80 Puddletown Matters

### 13.80.1 Play Area Review Update

Cllr Lewin reported that a working group of 7 sets of parents is in place and all are very keen to get involved and raise money for the project. A contractor will be looking at the area next week and Daniel Hunwick is very keen to get the school children involved. Cllr Lewin asked for confirmation of the size of the area that could be used for replacement play area.

The Chairman asked members for their thoughts:

Cllr Drake – all for it – there is plenty of room on the Recreation Ground and the new facility could stretch towards the Pavilion – perhaps everything to the left of the path that is already in place.

One of the parents has said they would like a skate park but this is a very expensive exercise.

Cllr Lewin has raised the target to £100,000 to cover the cost of the play area and a skate park.

The children have been asked to get some ideas in by half term.

Cllr Sheppard – expressed concern that we must ensure that the school do not assume this is an extension of school facilities.

The Clerk informed Cllr Lewin that, should he undertake the role of chairing the working party for this project, he must do so in his capacity as a Parish Councillor. The land belongs to the Parish Council and the resulting play area/skate park will be the responsibility of the Parish Council and will be covered by its insurance. In addition, in order for volunteers to be covered by the Parish Council insurance it is necessary for the project to be run by the Parish Council.

Cllr Lewin will continue to look into the costs and fund raising possibilities and will report back to the November with an update. In the meantime, the Clerk will speak to Cllr M Cooke to see if he would be willing to manage the project and source the funding.

**ACTION: CLLR LEWIN/CLERK**

### 13.80.2 Recreation Ground Hedge Cutting – to review quotations received

A copy of the specifications set and the quotations received had been given to all members prior to the start of the meeting.

Cllr Drake opened by saying he would favour Company A.

Cllr Lewin asked if it was necessary to do this work as it seemed a lot of money for what is basically something cosmetic.

Cllr Drake – once the work is done, it will need very little management for a considerable amount of time. If this work had been done 10 years ago, we would not be looking at this bill now.

Cllr Sheppard – the work would not only enhance the appearance of the area but would also, ultimately, result in a safer environment. At present there are holes in the hedge leading out on to the main road – by laying the hedge, these would be filled in and prevent children from using the holes to get in and out of the site.

Cllr Lewin suggested only laying the south side hedge for now, and then apply for funding before doing the rest of the work.

The Chairman said that there are 2 areas that need to be voted upon: do we go ahead now with all the work or do we delay, try to get some grant monies and do the work next year and which company should be offered the contract. It was noted that we are holding sufficient money in the reserves to cover the cost of the project without necessarily needing any grant monies. However, the Clerk will pursue to possibility of Viridor grant monies.

Cllr Foreman proposed that we go ahead and have all the work done, using the reserves to cover the cost. This was seconded by Cllr Drake and agreed 9 in favour, 2 abstentions.

Cllr Legg proposed that Company A is offered the contract and this was seconded by Cllr Sheppard and agreed unanimously. The Clerk will inform the company – Purbeck Arborists.

**ACTION: CLERK**

Cllr Sheppard proposed that we precept for a management plan for the site in the coming year's budget. This agreed unanimously.

### 13.80.3 Puddletown Neighbourhood Plan update

Cllr Soderberg reported that we have been given the first tranche of money which should arrive fairly soon and she will get the letter of intent and boundary plan into WDDC shortly. She also reported that Sophie Leon will be in touch, offering a service to parish councils to ensure all the documentation is correct and in accordance with the scope of works. Cllr Soderberg will continue to keep Cllr Walton up to date with any new information, enabling Tolpuddle to progress when they are ready.

## **13.81 Tolpuddle Topics**

### 13.81.1 Report on fire at Creech Holdings

Following the fire on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August, concern was expressed over the material being stored on the site. It is understood that the building destroyed by the fire did contain oxyacetylene canisters and the roof contained asbestos. Residents of surrounding villages were warned to keep their windows closed for a period of time.

Cllr Drake reported that the owners of a mobile canteen have approached the Parish Council, asking for permission to sell within the villages. They are fully licensed by Environmental Health and currently operate out of the Bartletts' car park in Bere Regis.

## **13.82 Drains, Hedges and Roads, Rights of Way**

### 13.82.1 Tincleton Road Circular Route

This is 3 miles/5km circular route running up the path by the doctor's surgery, via Ilsington Farm, Tincleton Road and then the footpath runs back up to the reservoir and back up by the kennels. Cllr Drake reported that the bridleway gate opposite Ilsington Farm is decrepit and the footpath by the barn contains a style which needs replacing. Rights of Way offer a grant whereby the parish council gain the quotes for the equipment and work, submits them to DCC who will pay the cost up to a certain amount. Really speaking the gate and style are the responsibility of the farmer and he will have to accept responsibility for them in the long term. The cost of the self-closing gate and style kit will be about £400 and the installation would be additional. Cllr Drake requested permission from the council to go ahead and this was unanimously agreed. He will now obtain a quote for the work and submit it to DCC.

## **13.83 To consider planning applications**

### 13.83.1 1/D/13/001087 – East Farm, Tolpuddle – erect cattle building & associated concrete yards

The buildings will not be visible and will be well screened. It is suggested that the earth bank is extended and planted with scrub. Otherwise no objections.

13.83.2 1/D/13/001114 – Lower Heath Cottage – replacement dwelling

This is a very substantial dwelling and the style is not in keeping for a rural area. The application contains no elevations or location plan, visibility aspects and generally a complete lack of information. The previous application for a new dwelling on this site was turned down as it was considered too large but this is even larger. It is extremely visible from the bridleway which has already been affected but the plans make no reference to the path. Object.

13.83.3 1/D/13/001116 – (neighbouring) Hanford Plc, Piddlehinton – change of use from agricultural to energy production

There is already a nearby site with solar panels. The site will be screened with hedging. No objection. Comment re loss of yet more agricultural land and would like to ensure the land can still be used for grazing sheep.

13.83.4 1/D/13/001184 – Willow Croft, Tolpuddle – demolish porch & rebuild

No objections – improvement to make better use of space. All alterations are within the existing footprint.

**13.84 To receive correspondence**

A list of all correspondence received since the July meeting had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting.

For future reference a note will be made of all correspondence sent and a Clerk's report issued to members prior to the start of each meeting.

**13.85 Communications update and items for the web site**

Cllr Walton felt that more could be done than is being done at present. After each meeting, a brief note of newsworthy items should be created – this could then be posted on the notice boards and web sites as well as the parish magazine. A list of councillors and contact details could also be put on the notice boards. He suggested a one-off flier telling everyone how the parish council works, what it does, how to get in touch with the council and how to register for the information update. In addition, we should be thinking of some way of notifying people about immediate news. Perhaps there is some way of having a Twitter account or Facebook page.

The Clerk reported that a Parish Council would not normally have its own Facebook account but could make use of a Village Facebook page. A larger number of people are likely to log on to a village page than a parish council page. Further investigations will be carried out and the Clerk will report back in October.

Cllr Walton will speak to Dave Smallwood regarding the Tolpuddle Village Facebook Page.

**13.86 To consider the Community Speed Watch**

Cllr Soderberg felt that speeding is still a major issue along the High Street.

Cllr Lewin stated that the whole traffic flow through all the villages is a major issue.

Cllr Buck reported that, since the road works had been done, the traffic lights had not been working correctly and, rather than turn red when there was on-coming traffic, they were turning green – encouraging drivers to travel faster. This has been reported and should be corrected next time the engineers come out.

PCSO Iain Lesley will be invited to attend the October meeting and discuss the requirements of a Community Speed Watch Group.

Cllr Lewin felt that, as a parish council, we should still look at drawing up a plan for traffic flow through the whole parish. It could be something as simple as removing Tolpuddle from the sign at the Puddletown turning. Cllr Drake felt it would be useful if this could be the topic of a meeting and invite someone from Highways to that meeting.

Cllr Buck suggested inviting PC Jeremy Cuff to attend a meeting to talk about speeding and any other issues the villages may have.

The Clerk will contact DCC to arrange a speed survey for Puddletown and Tolpuddle.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**13.87 Items for the October meeting**

- Coombe Bench
- Home Farm path
- Play Area Review
- Tincton Circular Walk
- Community Speed Watch

Cllr Lewin asked if it would be possible to list areas that could be used for community use e.g. the green in Puddletown. The Clerk will contact Caroline Peters.

**ACTION: CLERK**

The road markings in front of the school need to be removed completely as they are now quite confusing since the road has been narrowed.

**ACTION: CLERK**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20:45pm

**MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2013 AT TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs Drake, Hopkin, M Cooke, Leonard, Stockley, Sheppard, Soderberg, Piper, Lewin, Foreman, Walton, Buck, Legg.

**Chair:** S Baynard

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also Present:** 5 members of the public

**13.88 Public Participation**

Bus service review – concern was expressed over the loss of the Saturday service to Dorchester. It is understood that the decision has now been deferred until the November Cabinet meeting. The Parish Council has submitted its response and, although the deadline for the consultation has passed, members of the public are encouraged to still write in to DCC.

Puddletown Play Area – the steering group meeting has been held. Cllr Lewin said that the way the steering group was going was not the way he wished it to go and had withdrawn from the project. He suggested it should be incorporated as part of the Neighbourhood Plan but this would mean an extensive time delay which would not be appropriate for such a project.

Mr R Belbin said that the group is extremely passionate about the play area. They would very much like to take the group forward and form a committee. The Clerk has offered to sit in at the first meeting to ensure it runs in accordance with the Parish Council regulations but a councillor is required to act as liaison as ultimately the area will be the responsibility of the council.

Mr Woodland said this was the first time in 15 years that someone had said the village could look at upgrading the play ground and he was sorry to see Cllr Lewin leave the group.

19.12hrs Cllr Walton arrived.

He felt that there should be more than 2 children per year group involved in the planning of the project. Cllr Sheppard expressed concern regarding the lack of children involved. By only having 2 children per year group, it could mean children not living in the village would be determining what the village children would have. Cllr Foreman suggested a work shop in the village hall, outside of school hours, inviting the children to come along and say what they would like to see. The project should be community lead.

Mr Belbin updated the meeting on what had been done already – they had consulted at the surgery and plan to consult with both schools, they are looking at how to engage with the slightly older children in the village, they have looked at designing a questionnaire which looks back at what is available now and what will be needed in the future. Any such evidence will be required when seeking funding. Cllr M Cooke met with Cllr Lewin and spoke about the approach he had taken with regard to Tolpuddle, together with the consultation process and will be happy to attend the occasional meeting in a professional capacity. Mr Belbin has started to put a consultation process together and would be looking to produce a scoping document in January. Once this is done, the design can then be looked at, together with the phasing of the project. It is envisaged that work would start in the summer of 2014.

Cllr Leonard reminded members that the Recreation Ground is used by a number of different groups, including the sports clubs – perhaps the Parish Council needs to draw up some sort of boundary line for the committee to work within ie outside of the cricket club boundary. Cllr Drake reported that it would be necessary to review the past history of the area. Cllr Leonard offered to speak to one or two people and produce a sketch of the boundary line. Cllr Buck reminded members that the Parish Council had already agreed that the area would consist of the ground within the triangle made by the path to the fence. This will be formalised.

First School building – concern was expressed that the building will end up going to a developer but would make a great facility for the village. Cllr Soderberg reported that, once closed, the building will revert to DCC and it would be necessary for the village to raise the money to buy the building at market value and then raise



enough money to restore it. Cllr Sheppard informed members that the school is currently costing about £500,000 to maintain. Cllr Baynard reminded members that this is not a new subject and has been discussed on many occasions.

**13.89 To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllr P Cooke (illness), Pitman (work), Piper (family) and County Cllr A Canning,

**13.90 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> September 2013**

Copies of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting by Cllr Sheppard. This was seconded by Cllr Soderberg and agreed unanimously. The minutes were signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

**13.91 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

13.91.1 The Reading Room hedge has now been cut.

**13.92 To receive declarations of interest and to confirm any dispensation requests received**

There were no interests declared and no requests for dispensations had been received.

**13.93 To consider the accounts**

13.93.1 To authorise payment of accounts

The following payments had been requested:

DAPTC	New councillors training course	200132	37.00
PRIDE	Caravan electric 21/6 to 12/9/13	200133	242.23
DCC	Wheelie bin empties – August 2013	200134	50.45
Southern Electric	OM electric 17/7 to 12/9/13	200135	24.32
Information Com.	To register under Data Protection Act	200136	35.00
C Johnson	OM grass cutting – September 2013	200137	233.40
Mrs I Stockley	Pav cleaning July-Sept 13/fuel	200138	556.75
Mrs A Crocker	October wages + expenses	200139	487.12
DAPTC	Essential Finance Training	200140	25.00
DCC	Wheelie bin empties – September 2013	200141	40.36

The total requested for October 2013 amounts to £1,731.63, of which £1,707.31 will be taken from the Precept and £24.32 from TOSCA funds.

It was proposed by Cllr M Cooke that the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Lewin and agreed unanimously. The cheques were signed by Cllrs Foreman and Stockley in the presence of the meeting.

13.93.2 To consider the reconciliation of accounts

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions asked.

### 13.93.3 To review the current position against budget

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions asked.

The Clerk reported that communication had today been received from DAPTC stating that the grant from Central Government, used to cover the shortfall in the precept for this year, would not be passed on to the parish councils next year. This would, in effect, mean an immediate reduction of £949 in next year's precept which would have to be made up from an increase in the council tax, together with whatever increase will be needed to cover the additional costs in order for the parish council to operate. This could result in an additional £6 or more on the Band D property cost.

## 13.94 Puddletown Matters

### 13.94.1 To consider the open areas in the village

Cllr Lewin reported that residents had approached him regarding certain open areas within the village that are never used. It was pointed out that all the various pieces of land are privately owned and the owners are not obliged to do anything with them if they do not wish to do so. Cllr Lewin went on to ask if it would not be a good idea to replicate what Tolpuddle already do and create a steering group to pull together the good ideas that are coming out of Puddletown and, at present, are not being heard? Perhaps a six monthly meeting could be held. Cllr Sheppard stated that we do have public meetings in Puddletown but no-one ever turns up. Cllr Lewin felt that villagers need an outlet for the ideas that is not necessarily Parish Council run. Cllr Soderberg said that any such ideas should come out via the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Leonard reminded members that there is a forum for members of the village to express their views monthly as well as at the annual parish meeting but, inevitably, no-one attended unless there was a particularly emotive issue. The Clerk pointed out that the councillors were all elected members of their community and part of their remit was to talk to villagers and represent those thoughts or views at the parish council meetings.

### 13.94.2 To consider the old First School building

Already discussed.

### 13.94.3 Play Park update

Already discussed.

## 13.95 Tolpuddle Topics

### 13.95.1 Parking and traffic flow

Cllr Hopkin reported that this was raised by various e-mails, most particularly relating to vehicles parking on the pavement at Paddock Row, preventing farm vehicles from getting through. Previous PCSOs had long held the idea that the parked vehicles acted as an effective traffic calming measure to slow vehicles down. Perhaps a way forward would be for the Tolpuddle Parish Meeting to contact the residents in the first instance rather than have a letter sent from the Parish Council or involve the PCSO. It was agreed that this would be raised at the Village Meeting and, if necessary, would come back to the Parish Council in November if no progress was made.

13.95.2 Orchard Meadow

Cllr M Cooke reported that the work has now almost been completed and the resin bound surface would be going in imminently after which there would just be any snagging issues to sort out. The local community are planning to hold a sports fun afternoon for all ages on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October on the site to celebrate the opening of the improved facilities. Planned are basketball, petanque and other sports competition, with coaching, prizes and free refreshments. In addition, a series of community volunteer sessions will be held to help tidy up the site and ensure it remains looking good.

The Clerk reported that a grant of £590 has been received from Groundworks to go towards the cost of the upgrade.

**13.96 To consider the Electoral Boundary Review**

Cllr P Cooke was unable to be present but had asked if members would consider and support a single member ward option. It was felt that the smaller rural villages have more in common and are more in keeping with each other rather than becoming linked with a settlement the size of Crossways, which has completely separate issues and problems. The Clerk will respond accordingly.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**13.97 Drains, Hedges and Roads, Rights of Way**

13.98.1 Holm Farm door – Cllr Drake has spoken to Mr Hunt, the developer, who has said he does not own the splay at the Mill Lane end so he cannot get the path adopted. However, he has no problem with the path being waymarked. It was suggested that the Residents Association should be contacted and the planned action put to them. It is understood that Cllr P Cooke has a contact within the Residents Association and he will be asked to speak to them.

**ACTION: CLERK**

13.98.2 Circular Walk – 3 mile – Cllr Drake has spoken to Mr David Ford on two occasions and he has no problem with the gate and style being installed by the Parish Council and Rights of Way although, once in place, they will become his responsibility. Cllr Drake will continue to get some quotes for the work and arrange for it to be done.

**ACTION: CLLR DRAKE**

13.98.3 Chinehill Lane – There have been complaints that the path is completely overgrown and it is now on the list for the Rights of Way team to clear.

13.98.4 Blandford Road/Styles Lane - It was reported that the residents living in the house alongside the path throw all their rubbish onto it. Cllr Drake suggested this should be reported on line via the PEM system.

13.98.5 New Street - Cllr Sheppard reported that New Street needs to be looked at again. According to the recently issued “Yellow Journal” the repair work to the road surface has been carried out. However, the work has already fallen apart. *Post meeting note: This has been reported via the PEM system – Ref No. 460752.*

**13.98 To consider the provision of grit bins**

Cllr Walton suggested that an ideal location for a grit bin in Tolpuddle would be on the corner of Main Street and Southover Lane. This is a notoriously bad section of road with a very steep camber and is quite dangerous when it becomes iced over. The Clerk will check with Highways to see if they are happy with a bin being located here and will then find out about costings and having it fitted.

**ACTION: CLERK**

### **13.99 To consider a Community Speed Watch Scheme**

Cllr Lewin reported that it was felt two groups would be required – one for Tolpuddle and one for Puddletown. The equipment will be lent to the Parish Council for a month and then we can purchase it at a cost of £300 should we wish to continue with the scheme. This will be discussed at the Tolpuddle Village meeting. In the meantime, anyone wishing to have their names put forward should contact the Clerk with details of their current address, date and place of birth to be put forward for a PNC check.

### **13.100 Neighbourhood Plan Update**

Cllr Soderberg reported that the Parish Council should have received the first payout of money from Central Government to get us started. The red line plan has been submitted to WDDC and once a reply is received, a meeting will be called to form a steering group. *Post meeting note: £990.00 has been received.*

### **13.101 To consider planning applications**

#### **13.101.11 1/D/13/001175 – 1 Crown Gardens, Tolpuddle – erect UPVC conservatory**

The work has already been carried out. No objections

#### **13.101.2 1/D/13/001233 – 1 The Stables, Walpole Court – internal alterations**

No objections.

#### **13.101.31 1/D/13/001235 – Northbrook Farm, Puddletown – form slurry store**

The site is away from residential properties and screened by hedges from the road.No objection.

#### **13.101.41 1/D/13/001117 – Martyns House, Puddletown – conversion of outbuilding & link to main house**

The application represents a re-use of existing outbuildings to living space and the renewal of the old conservatory. It displays a good retention of the original features, clever use of space and very good detailing to the proposed features. The proposals are not visible to other residents on the Square, nor do they compromise the historic features of the house. No objections.

#### **13.101.5 1/D/13/001199 – Park Farm, Tolpuddle – conversion of outbuilding to form full-time carer accommodation**

The conversion of the outbuildings to useful, functional accommodation is desirable and the addition of solar panels for electricity generation is a sensible development. No objections.

### **13.102 To receive correspondence and meetings attended**

A list of all correspondence received since the September meeting had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting.

The Clerk reported that, thanks to Cllr Legg, we had received a grant of up to £3,000 to go towards the cost of the hedge laying. It is necessary for a letter to be sent to WDDC accepting certain conditions before the grant monies are released and the Clerk will do this.

**ACTION: CLERK**

Meetings attended:

13.102.1 Dorset Best Kept Village Awards 2013 (Cllr Hopkin)

Puddletown Library was awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> prize for a Community Lead Project which came as a complete surprise to those who attended. Our congratulations and thanks are extended to all those who have worked so tirelessly to keep the library and to enhance it.

13.102.2 Neighbourhood Planning (Cllr Hopkin & Walton)

The training was essentially for those parishes that were already some way down the line but one of the things that came through quite strongly was that you do need to think very seriously about whether or not you want to go down this route in the first instance. From Tolpuddle's view, this is one question that will have to be addressed as the village does not have a development boundary and there is, seemingly, little scope for additional development. Puddletown does have a development boundary and there is a lot more scope for expansion so it would benefit from a Neighbourhood Plan.

**13.103 Communications update and items for the web site**

Cllr Walton suggested including:

- An opening debate regarding the Puddletown play park consultation
- Get engaged with what is going on by attending meetings
- Ward Boundaries
- Community Speed Watch
- Hedges at the Recreation Ground – disruption is likely, but in a good cause
- Orchard Meadow update

Cllr Lewin suggested organising some fliers that tell the residents what is going on and how to get hold of Parish Councillors. Cllr Soderberg pointed out that, because of the cost, we cannot do this on a regular basis but could perhaps do this annually.

Information flier to go to every household. Cllr Walton will draft something. We need to ensure it goes out to every house in the parish including the outlying areas.

**13.104 To consider date of meetings for 2013**

Dates have been confirmed for the Tolpuddle meetings but the Clerk is still awaiting a response from the Puddletown Booking Clerk. This item will be moved to the November meeting.

**13.105 Items for the November meeting**

- Items for next year's budget
- The play area
- Skate park
- Meeting dates

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:41 pm

**MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup>  
NOVEMBER 2013 AT PUDDLETOWN VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs Stockley, Walton, Buck, Lewin, Piper, Leonard, Drake, Soderberg, P Cooke, Hopkin, Foreman

**Chair:** A Sheppard

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also Present:** Rob Belbin and Lucy Darby – Puddletown Play Area Committee, Tony Gould – Tolpuddle Parish Meeting and 2 members of the public, PCSO Ken Lightfoot

**13.106 Public Participation**

13.106.1 Tony Gould – reported that Tolpuddle held their Parish Meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> October. The Community Speed Watch was discussed and, despite everyone agreeing that there is a problem with speeding, no-one was prepared to volunteer at this stage. A vote was taken and it was agreed; 6 in favour, 4 against and 8 abstentions; that participation in the scheme should be considered at a later date. The meeting also discussed having a village seat in Orchard Meadow and this will be discussed later as an agenda item. On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November there will be a Christmas Fair with afternoon tea. Finally, it was agreed that the village meeting will be held twice a year, commencing 2014.

Mr Gould went on to inform the meeting that PCSO Nick Maton attended the village this morning to discuss the matter of congestion at the eastern end of the village. He has spoken to the villagers concerned in the hope that the matter could be resolved informally.

19:05pm PCSO Ken Lightfoot arrived.

13.106.2 Hazel Barrett requested assistance from the Parish Council regarding the problem recently highlighted regarding children crossing the road at the traffic lights in Puddletown to get to the new school. The lights change very quickly and it is difficult to see the traffic coming along the Blandford Road. She suggested that a button activated crossing may be the answer. There have been several near misses to date and the school has only been opened a week. A series of e-mails had been sent to Highways and to the Police drawing the problem to their attention. Mrs Barrett handed the latest letter from Kate Connolly to the Clerk for reference.

13.106.3 PCSO Lightfoot reported that there had been a theft of a strimmer from an outbuilding at Tincton, theft of a motor home in Puddletown and a possible purse theft from the Post Office. He reported that the Police have received a number of calls regarding parking around the new school and the Police will be attending the site during the school opening times to check to make sure there are no roads blocked or the traffic flow is not impeded in any way. PCSO Lightfoot took the telephone number of Rob Camp at DCC Highways – Hazel Barrett's contact - and will follow this up tomorrow.

Cllr Lewin asked if any reports had been made of anti-social behaviour involving children in the village – nothing had been reported.

**13.107 To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllr M Cooke (work), Baynard (holiday), Pitman (work), Legg (holiday).

**13.108 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> October 2013**

Copies of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting by Cllr Walton. This was seconded by Cllr Lewin and agreed unanimously. The minutes were signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

**13.109 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

13.109.1 Home Farm gate – This had been passed to Cllr Drake. It was felt that it would be very useful to have a contact from amongst the residents. Cllr Cooke reported that he had spoken to Peter Berry, one of the residents, and he was aware of the issue. His details had been passed to Cllr Drake who will follow this up.

**ACTION: CLLR DRAKE**

13.109.2 A grit bin has been ordered for Tolpuddle and Cllr Walton will speak to Dr Taylor to see if he is willing to store it during the summer period.

**ACTION: CLLR WALTON**

**13.110 To receive declarations of interest and to confirm any dispensation requests received**

There were no interests declared and no requests for dispensations had been received.

**13.111 To consider the proposed budget for 2014/15**

The Finance Working Party met on the 6<sup>th</sup> November to produce a draft budget and a copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. The proposal suggested an increase of £4,000, giving a Precept of £20,000 – 25% increase on last year. Cllr Walton proposed that a further £500 is included to allow for a communications budget. With rounding this would take the proposed precept to £21,000 – a 31% increase. Cllr P Cooke proposed that we keep the increase to 25% but put in a note on the file for communications for the next financial year.

As two proposals now existed a vote was taken by show of hands to determine the Precept.

Those in favour of a 25% increase – 6 in favour.

Those in favour of a 31% increase – 5 in favour

The precept will be increased by 25%.

Cllr Walton suggested that there is still a possibility that the Parish Councils will be capped in future years. This may be the only opportunity we get to increase the precept for future expenditure. Cllr Sheppard reminded members that we are putting the overall precept up by 25% and we need to be able to justify any increase we make.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**13.112 To consider the accounts**

13.112.1 To consider an extension to the LTA on the current insurance policy

The Clerk reported that the current long term agreement expires on the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2014. However, should we decide to increase the length of the agreement to 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016, we will receive a 5% reduction on this year’s cost bringing the policy renewal down to £1,835.56 – a saving of 5%. Cllr Foreman proposed that we extend the LTA. This was seconded by Cllr Buck and agreed unanimously.

13.112.2 To authorise payment of accounts

The following payments had been requested:

DCC	Dumpy bag of salt for Tolpuddle	200142	66.00
Land-form	Landscape Architect fees re OM	200143	1300.00



Eyre Investments	Annual rent re Orchard Meadow	200144	1.00
C Johnson	OM grass cutting – October 2013	200145	170.40
M Cooke	Expenses re OM upgrade	200146	304.70
Broker Network	Insurance renewal	200147	1835.56
Hustings Electrical	Repairs to caravan hook-ups	200148	90.18
Mrs A Crocker	November wages + expenses	200149	497.20
Tolpuddle Village Hall	Annual maintenance donation	200150	200.00
Puddletown VH	Annual maintenance donation	200151	320.00
PRIDE	Annual maintenance donation	200152	530.00
St Mary's Church	Annual maintenance donation	200153	570.00
St John's Church	Annual maintenance donation	200154	570.00
CLIP	Donation towards running costs	200155	500.00
DCC	Rec Ground maintenance	200156	1625.80
DCC	Wheelie bin empties – October 2013	200157	40.36
Mrs I Stockley	Caravan collectors fee 2013	200158	412.50

The total requested for November 2013 amounts to £9,130.31, of which £1,361.72 will be taken from the TOSCA and grant monies received in respect of the path upgrade and £7,768.59 will be taken from the Precept.

It was proposed by Cllr Leonard that the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Buck and agreed unanimously. The cheques were signed by Cllrs Foreman and Leonard in the presence of the meeting.

#### 13.112.3 To consider the reconciliation of accounts

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions asked.

#### 13.112.4 To review the current position against budget

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions asked.

Cllr Leonard asked if Cllr Stockley knew of any reason why there was a drop in the income from the caravan site for this year. He had checked the Tip Advisor web site which had shown only 1 bad review and that complained about the noise from the by-pass. Cllr Stockley reported that the drop in revenue was due to poor weather at the start of the season. In addition, noise from the by-pass was of concern to some visitors and other regular visitors had cancelled due to ill health.

Cllr Lewin asked how much profit is made on the caravan site. The Clerk reported that, for the current financial year, the caravan site took £4,229 and costs to date amounted to £2798 although there is a further 6 months worth of cleaning, electricity and water costs to be added. By the year end, the site should break even. It should be noted that it is a condition of the site that all monies made there must up used for the benefit of the site and not taken as profit.

### **13.113 Puddletown Matters**

#### **13.113.1 To consider a village clean up**

Cllr Lewin had requested this as an agenda item. He suggested having a Parish Council Open Day which would include a village clean up and then everyone back to the Village Hall for a coffee and cake where various stalls would be set up explaining what the Parish Council is doing and how we are getting on with the various projects. It was noted that WDDC offer equipment during April each year for their Spring Clean campaign. Should our village tidy be set around the same time, it could be done with someone else providing the equipment to do it. Cllr Piper reminded members that he spent time clearing the verges last year and suggested something is done to highlight people's awareness of litter in the countryside. Cllr Hopkin suggested that we must also include the dog mess issue. Posters, etc worked for a short time. It was suggested that the schools are targeted and get them to highlight the problems raised by litter and dog mess. Perhaps holding a Clean Up Day would prick residents' consciences and they may think before they drop litter, fail to clean up after their animals or even speed through the villages. Cllr Soderberg felt that a Community Information Day would be a very good idea and would provide another forum for people to meet the Parish Council. Cllr Hopkin suggested coinciding the event with the WDDC Spring Clean as this will also coincide with the start of the new Waste Management Scheme and residents will have had a chance to see the effects of the scheme. Cllr Walton felt a "big idea" would be needed to draw people in – perhaps the Neighbourhood Plan or the new Recreation Ground Play Area. Cllr Sheppard suggested this is included as an item on the February agenda by which time we should know when the WDDC clean-up is going to happen. Cllr Leonard suggested two separate meetings as including everything would be too much for people and would have less impact.

#### **13.113.2 Report from the Puddletown Play Park Committee**

A copy of the proposed Play Park budget had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Rob Belbin gave an update of the position to date. Several meetings have taken place and the committee formed. The first meeting of the Young Persons Voice has taken place and they have been tasked with going out and gathering opinions from other youngsters. 114 surveys have been returned to date and there will be an open day on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November for the whole community.

Lucy Darby reported that the returned surveys have indicated the current play park is not large enough or appropriate to meet the needs or the age ranges. To the question asking if the play area should be extended – 96% agreed. Would you support an integrated play/skate park – 87% agreed. Age group most in need of new provision were the 14-16 year olds. Cllr Soderberg suggested that most 14-16 year olds spent most of their time in front of a computer and not in a play area. Rob Belbin reported that, post Olympics, there is a national push to get this age group out and doing physical activity and there is a great deal of backing from Sport England, for example, to encourage this. To provide something for them to do will act as motivation to get this age group out of the house. Lucy said there is a young group within the village that have already been out with a petition trying to get activities for their age range. Cllr Drake asked if the people being surveyed knew of the limitations that were in place at the Recreation Ground. Rob Belbin replied that the idea of the survey is to gauge the opinion of the public in the first instance. Perhaps there will be scope to look elsewhere in the village for additional facilities. This could be brought out in the Open Day.

Cllr Sheppard reminded members that we have talked about a skate park for a number of years. Whilst a fully integrated park may be the ideal, it may not be practical within the area available.

If 25% of the population come back and say they want a skate park, then we would need to take this seriously and find somewhere to put one.

Cllr Walton asked who the survey went to and what was the response rate?

Lucy reported that hard copies were left in the doctor's surgery, pub, church, library and there is the on-line facility. A Facebook page has been set up and has received 125 likes so far. Fliers have been made up for the Open Day with all the contact information and have been mail-dropped to every household in Puddletown.

Cllr Leonard – skate parks are almost entirely populated by boys; is there any alternative for the girls? Rob Belbin reported that there are both boys and girls on the Youth Voice Group.

Cllr Hopkin reported that there have been a group of 14 to 16 year olds using Orchard Meadow to meet and socialise. Several years ago, we looked at a Teen Shelter and this is what the 14 to 16 year old girls want to do – meet up and chat, whilst the boys seem to prefer kicking a football about.

Cllr Soderberg asked if it would be realistic to create a skate park that would not be highly used. Rob Belbin said the group was currently carrying out research into this fact and trying to build some evidence around what the impact and sustainability of the project is likely to be.

Cllr Lewin suggested the group should manage their expectations with what can be achieved.

Cllr Sheppard advised that we should wait until we get the results of the survey back.

Cllr Drake suggested the group contact Ben Ling who is trying to set up a youth club in the village and who is also carrying out a survey in the village at the moment.

The Play Group Committee had submitted a start up budget of £388.43 and Cllr Leonard proposed we accept the budget and this was seconded by Cllr Soderberg.

13.113.3 Cllr Stockley reported that two new bins are needed for the Recreation Ground as the existing ones are rotten. There have also been complaints regarding the state of the Church Path. Gerald Barrett has spoken to Mrs Stockley complaining that he had a car parked across his driveway for 20 minutes whilst the owners dropped children off at the school. Cllr Sheppard reported that an e-mail has been received from Ian Madgwick offering a site visit to review the problems regarding parking, etc at the school. We have, as a Parish Council, no power to do anything about it but can keep putting the complaints forward to Highways. Cllr Buck suggested that Matthew Williams should also attend as he is the person who sets the traffic light period, together with the Police. When the Clerk receives the appropriate date, Cllr Buck, Lewin and Leonard would be invited attend the site visit. Cllr Hopkin felt that, if there is a presumption that people will walk to school, it must a safe route to school. Cllr Leonard said, in the light of the problems that have been highlighted this evening, he would support Hazel's suggestion of a button controlled crossing at Kingsmead.

#### 13.113.4 Community Speed Watch

Cllr Lewin proposed that, as he had received the same response as the Tolpuddle Village Meeting in respect of volunteers, this is put on hold for now and reinvigorated at the Community Clean Up day.

### **13.114 Tolpuddle Topics**

#### 13.114.1 Tolpuddle Village Meeting

This had already been covered in part under the public section. The minutes of the meeting are available to view on the Parish Council web site.

#### 13.114.2 Orchard Meadow Update

The work to the new petanque area and the resurfacing of the basket ball area has now been completed. Some issues have arisen regarding the slipperiness of the surface but these are being dealt with by the Architect. Once everything is resolved, the grants will be requested from Viridor and WDDC.

#### 13.114.3 To consider an additional bench for Orchard Meadow

Although unable to attend the meeting, Cllr M Cooke had expressed his wish not to have any more benches at Orchard Meadow. He has suggested that one of the existing seats could be adapted or perhaps commemorative plaques could be placed on the timbers around the petanque area. Cllr Walton suggested that Cllr M Cooke talk to Karen Hanson about this and perhaps consideration could be given to another location within the village. The Clerk reminded members that the cost for any commemorative bench or other item would not be borne by the precept but would have to come from individual contributions.

#### 13.114.4 Wind Turbines - Cllr Hopkin reported that Tolpuddle had made page 3 – but in the Times. The article talked about wind turbines and referred to Tolpuddle as an example of the local population's resistance to them.

### **13.115 To consider meetings attended**

DAPTC AGM – 2<sup>nd</sup> November, Cllr J Hopkin was unable to attend but the Clerk reported that, of the two resolutions submitted, the request for school buses for 16s and over has been taken to national level and the request for the National Trust to be included as a standard consulting body for all planning applications has been rejected.

Neighbourhood Plan Training- Cllrs Soderberg & Lewin. Cllr Soderberg was unable to attend due to illness. Cllr Lewin felt that the seminar was not particularly helpful and gave the impression that the majority of parish councils were only interested in the funding. There was some considerable debate regarding what individual parishes would want from their Neighbourhood Plan – ie. additional development or no development.

### **13.116 To consider planning applications**

1/D/1121&22 – Martyns House, 9 The Square, Puddletown – existing conservatory to be replaced with new slim line timber double glazed conservatory

No objections were raised to the main planning application and no objection to the LBC application. The proposed replacement conservatory is out of sight of the general public and appears to be sympathetic with the rest of the building.

Cllr Hopkin brought members attention to the planning amendment regarding this application. The original had been approved on appeal and this was for information only showing that the 4 bay garage was being reduced to a 3 bay.

**13.117Drains, Hedges and Roads, Rights of Way**

**13.117.1** To consider quotes replacement stiles and gates

Cllr Drake reported that 2 quotes had been received for the work to replace the stile and gate. These were from AM Edwards at £275.00 and Nick Green at £190 + VAT. Cllr Drake has spoken to Mr David Ford, the landowner, on two occasions and he has no problem with the gate and stile being installed by the Parish Council and Rights of Way although, once in place, they will become his responsibility. The cost of the stile kit with a dog flap is £84 and the bridle gate is £173. It is understood that the money has already been reserved by DCC. Cllr Drake will speak to Dave Ackerley regarding the Tolpuddle kissing gate and see if we can get all three at the same time. In the meantime, the quotes will be submitted to DCC.

**ACTION: CLLR DRAKE/CLERK**

**13.117.2** Footpath S39/36 – This refers to the path that is the direct link from the new first school to St Mary’s Middle School. It is already well used by the public and this is likely to increase with the newly located first school. Shortly before the work to the school site had been completed, the contractor used this route to gain access to the site with heavy vehicles to move soil, etc. This has resulted in damage to the surface of the path and the contractor had left the site before the damage was noticed. A householder adjoining the path has spread woodchip on part of the path near his property to make it possible to walk along. The path now needs the mud to be cleared and a quantity of compacted stone laid. A letter should be sent to County and copied in to Morgan Sindell asking for the path to be reinstated.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**13.117.3** Tolpuddle Rights of Way Report – A copy of the report from Lynne Bailey & Dave Wilkinson had been forwarded to Cllr Drake for action. He reported that he has spoken to the landowner regarding the ploughing of S46/5 who is going to put the matter right. The owner of the stile on S6/1 Burleston is aware of the problem and has it in hand.

**13.118** To receive correspondence

A list of all correspondence received since the October meeting had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No comments were made.

**13.119** To confirm the dates for 2014 meetings

The following dates were suggested:

- Puddletown Village Hall: Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January
- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March
- Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May – Puddletown Area Parish Council AGM
- Tuesday 20<sup>st</sup> May – Puddletown Annual Parish Meeting
- Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July
- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September
- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November

Tolpuddle Village Hall:            Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February  
   Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April  
   Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June  
   Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August  
   Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October

Cllr Foreman proposed the dates were accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Stockley and agreed unanimously. The dates will be posted to the Parish Council web site.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**13.120 Communications update and items for the web site**

Cllr Walton suggested including:

- Crossing and school issues
- Debate on precept and what is being recommended
- Play Area
- Meeting dates

**13.121 Items for the January meeting**

- Bus services
- High Street land has been offered to Cawdor Construction – invite to meeting
- Open spaces in Puddletown – contact the landowners of the various sites.
- New bus shelter at the first school
- First school in general (invite Dan Hunwick)

Cllr Buck – reported that Nigel Gamble of Morgan Sindell and the person originally responsible for the new school site seems to have disappeared and there is no sign of the promised notice boards.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:12pm

**MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2014 AT PUDDLETOWN VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs Stockley, Walton, Buck, Lewin, Leonard, Drake, Foreman, Sheppard, Legg, M Cooke, Hopkin & Soderberg

**Chair:** S Baynard

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also Present:** Rob Belbin and Lucy Darby and members of the Puddletown Play Area Committee, Tony Gould – Tolpuddle Parish Meeting and 7 members of the public, County Cllr A Canning. PCSO

**13.122 Public Participation**

13.122.1 Parking in Tolpuddle – Nigel Ffitch – resident of the Cornfield, Tolpuddle – raised concerns over the problems experienced when exiting the site due to the on-street parking from the residents opposite in Paddock Row. It is noticeable that not all the houses in Paddock Row are occupied, so this situation can only get worse. There has already been one accident and it is doubtful if emergency vehicles would be able to gain access to the site.

Tony Gould – Clerk to the Tolpuddle Village Meeting – reported that several people have made representations to him regarding this matter. The village has, on the whole, encouraged the additional development but this has inadvertently led to the extended parking problems. He has had two meetings with the local PCSO and found that it is not illegal to park on the pavement so long as wheelchairs and pushchairs are able to get by. The PCSO has also spoken to the residents but the village is trying to get to a solution by talking to each other and do not particular want to encourage a draconian reaction. Cllr Leonard asked what is different about the Cornfields exit as opposed to the other roads exiting onto the Main Road. It was reported that the main road does narrow at this point. The Parish Council could write to the Police to add weight to the argument but we do not want to pursue yellow lines as enforcement would be a problem. Cllr Canning said that, from the Highways perspective, they would be very reluctant to get involved. It would need Police involvement before they would do anything.

13.122.2 West Coast Energy – 13<sup>th</sup> February, Tolpuddle Village Hall 2pm to 8pm consultation and exhibition.

13.122.3 Part Night Street Lighting - Martin Usherwood asked what was happening with the part night street lighting as this has still not come into effect in the villages. The Clerk will check when this will come into effect and report back. *Post meeting note: DCC have confirmed that the manufacturers of the cells required to change the lights to the part night system closed for the Christmas period. They are now back in operation and the last few villages are due to go on to the new system in the next month or so. Tolpuddle and Puddletown are included within this. With the exception of the lights covering the zebra crossing in Puddletown, all the lights will be turned off between mid-night and 5.30am.*

**ACTION: CLERK**

County Councillor Canning

- Review Of The Bus Service – The 387 will now stop at Bere Regis for 3 week days and on 2 days it will carry on to Poole. £800,000 will be saved by the changes in the bus service. Once changed, the time table will remain like this for the next 3 years. The revised service will come into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April with the timetable being issued in May. Cllr Leonard asked if the original idea of combining the 183 and 387 services was still going ahead. Cllr Canning reported that this has now been dropped.
- Review Of Grass Verge Cutting – The County Council is looking at a better way forward. There will be a consultation meeting to which Town and Parish Council will be invited at the beginning of March in Dorchester.

13.122.4 Police Report – PCSO Ken Lightfoot reported that there is not a great deal that can be done regarding the parking in Tolpuddle as no-one is breaking the law. A possible exception would be to improve the eyesight of the roads opposite which would affect the houses that have been there for some time, rather than the new



houses. He felt that emergency vehicles would be able to get through. It would be better to deal with this via gentle persuasion if possible.

Crime figures – there have been a series of garage break-ins - 6 in all – happening over Friday night and the weekend. This is a particular problem for the Dorchester section at the moment. The offenders are believed to come from the Poole area but residents are encouraged to review their garage and shed security. The only other crime of note was the theft of high value cable from the Tincleton area when a large quantity of BT cabling went missing in the middle of December.

### **Puddletown Community Play Park Committee Presentation**

Rob Belbin, chairman of the group, gave a brief resume of the background of the site and the work carried out to date. The project has been backed for its entirety by Dorset Echo and Wessex FM. An open day was held on 17<sup>th</sup> November and 170 people attended, all of whom were overwhelming in support of the project. A survey has been carried out both on-line and by hard copy. A Young Person's Voice Group has been set up covering ages 10 to 16 and they are asked for their opinions regarding whatever the main group is covering. The survey achieved an 18% return from the residents of Puddletown and covered a broad spectrum of the community. 88% felt not all age ranges' needs were being met. 88% also felt that a skate park should be incorporated into the design of the site and 80% wanted to see an adult exercise trail. A full copy of the presentation is available on request and can be viewed via the Parish Council web site.

#### Questions:

Irene Stockley – all for improving the play area but feels that the size of the existing park it is adequate for the children that are here. She expressed concern regarding the caravanners who are largely more elderly and come for the peace and quiet and are likely to look unfavourably on the skate park suggestion. In addition, the income from the caravans is a substantial part of the Parish Council income. Chair – as part of the project, there would have to be an impact assessment of the project.

Cllr Sheppard – is there a possibility that it will bring in more families with younger children to the caravan site? Mrs Stockley felt that this would not be the case as there is not enough for the younger families to do in the area.

Martin Usherwood – felt that the skate park in Dorchester is always very well used by a large number of children covering a large age range. Yes, on occasion, the language was colourful but it always will be when you get a group of young adults together.

Cllr Baynard – the project seems to have expanded substantially from the original idea of an expansion to the current play area for the young people.

Cllr Sheppard – we have been saying for many years that we need something for all ages. This project would be an ideal opportunity to solve all the problems.

Rob Belbin – there is a lot of research and evidence around putting the play area and skate parks together.

Jez Stoker – when you think about skate parks, you tend to think about teenagers but this is not the case. Younger children also use the facility and the community is saying this is what they would like. He urged members to take time to read all the facts available and not just dismiss the idea.

Cllr Soderberg – the original plan was to upgrade the existing play area but this has now expanded quite considerably. The questions asked have fallen so far from the original remit.

Rob Belbin – what we looked at was what is happening across the country post Olympics and across the area. The drive is for getting the whole community more active and, in order to do this, they need to have the opportunity. The additional area does not represent a massive difference to that area originally suggested.

Cllr Drake – would like to see some change on the site, but feels that this would completely decimate the caravan income. The present visitors will not come. Need to take a long hard look and consult the regular users. If there is a ground swell towards this project then he would support it.

Cllr Sheppard – could the parish council have an extra-ordinary meeting with the users of the Rec to determine what would be acceptable.

Cllr Baynard – there will be minimal impact on the users of the Rec and sporting facilities. The only negative impact would be on the caravanners.

David Knight – thinks the proposed site is too big. People do like to drive down to the pitch to watch the games and the proposal may restrict them.

Cllr Stockley – the proposal has not considered parking at all. If there is a big football match there will be a lot of cars parking which may cause some problems.

Cllr Walton – the case does need proving a bit more.

Rob Belbin– explained that every single household in Puddletown received a flier, generally, if people are completely against something, they tend to fill out a survey. Only 3 negatives were received.

Cllr Leonard – agrees a skate park cannot mix with the caravans, but suggested moving the skate park to a different location or finding somewhere else for the caravans. Relocation of the caravan site would not add too much to the budget and the same could be said about the play area. The case for this play area upgrade should not be undermined by making comparisons with Orchard Meadow.

Cllr Baynard – what is the next move?

Rob Belbin – the group needs to start looking at the impact on parking, caravanners and how it could be reduced. They will then come back with some suggestions for reducing the impact on other users of the site and will then look towards the funding.

### **13.123 To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllr P Cooke (work), M Piper (holiday), N Pitman (work).

### **13.124 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2013**

Copies of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting by Cllr Soderberg. This was seconded by Cllr Buck and agreed unanimously. The minutes were signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

### **13.125 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

13.125.1 The grit bin has been delivered to Tolpuddle, put in place on the junction with Southover Lane and filled up.

### **13.126 To receive declarations of interest and to confirm any dispensation requests received**

Cllr Walton declared an interest in the planning application in respect of the Tolpuddle Manor Coach House. No other interests were declared and no requests for dispensations had been received.

### **13.127 Puddletown Matters**

#### **13.127.1 Pavilion Toilet Repairs**

The urinal has now been replaced and outside toilet is now kept locked overnight. A new automatic cistern is to be installed.

#### **13.127.2 Bus Shelter – Kingsmead**

There are now holes in the roof of the shelter and the felt has completely gone. This shelter has been patched on a number of occasions over the years. Cllr Leonard proposed that the bus shelter is replaced in its entirety and this was unanimously agreed. The Clerk will get a selection of quotes for various types of shelter and report back.

**ACTION: CLERK**

#### **13.127.3 First School**

It was reported that both parents and staff use the Recreation ground for parking. It is very likely that there will be a problem when the gang mowers need to get in and out and we do get a lot of larger camper vans which would also find getting in and out a problem. It was suggested that a letter is sent to the head master in respect of the staff parking but we cannot stop parents parking in the car park. Cllr Drake reported that there was criminal damage to the lamp in the car park, possibly by the children that use the dug out to meet up in.

Rob Belbin responded saying the Play Committee are trying to organise another open day and hope to do something to raise money towards this. The Parish Council will organise getting this light replaced.

Cllr Soderberg asked that, included in the letter, a request is made for the lights to be reduced. At present, after 10pm at night, the school is very brightly lit. Is this really necessary?

**ACTION: CLERK**

**13.128 Tolpuddle Topics**

All topics raised and discussed elsewhere during the meeting.

**13.129 Neighbourhood Plan**

All Puddletown councillors were sent a request for support of the project by the Clerk asking but, to date, only 2 councillors have said they would be interested in getting involved and a further 2 have said they would attend the initial meeting. Cllr Soderberg stressed that, if we wish to take this further, we must show that the Parish Council is backing the project by councillors taking active roles.

A meeting will be set up with the consultant before the end of January for all Puddletown councillors, together with Cllrs Baynard and Walton.

It was confirmed that the WDDC Local Plan has yet to be adopted and is currently being reviewed by the independent examiner.

**13.130 Rights of Way**

Chinehill Lane is on the list to be cleared and will be made a priority once the work following the bad weather is complete. At the moment, there is no money left in the DCC Rights of Way budget, so it may be necessary to wait until the new financial year before anything can be done.

Cllr Drake requested that any damaged finger posts are reported to him as soon as they are noticed. He will undertake any minor repairs where possible.

Cllr Stockley reported he has received several complaints regarding the path up by the school – S39/36. One resident has dug a trench with a view to building a wall at the base of his garden and put all the chalk from the trench on to the footpath. This combined with the already poor state of repair following the building of the new school, has left the path in need of an overhaul. Cllr Drake will take a look at and the path and liaise with the Clerk.

**ACTION: CLLR DRAKE/CLERK**

**13.131 Drains, Hedges and Roads**

Cllr Foreman reported that the drain at the western end of Tolpuddle, opposite the church is blocked. The Clerk will report it via the PEM system.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**13.131.1 To consider the results of the traffic monitoring surveys**

Two surveys were carried out between 13<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> November 2013 – one on the Athelhampton Road, just after the Tincleton turning and one in Tolpuddle, in front of the play area.

The Tolpuddle survey highlighted an average of 827 vehicles per day passing this area – the busiest day being Wednesday when an extra 100 vehicles travelled passed the site. Of the recorded speeds – 11.5% of the

Signed: .....

vehicles were travelling in excess of 35mph. A further 34% were travelling between 30 and 35mph. In all, the mean speed was 29.8mph.

The Puddletown survey showed an average of 1072 vehicles using the stretch of road each day. The recorded speeds showed 39% of vehicles travelling in excess of 35mph – 1 of which was travelling between 55 and 90mph. A further 38.9% travelled between 30 and 35mph. Overall the mean speed was recorded as 34.1mph.

Members asked if would be possible to have an east/west breakdown and the Clerk will arrange for this to be sent out.

**ACTION: CLERK**

Cllr Canning reported that County is currently reviewing its policy on 20mph speed limits. The current rules were not very encouraging towards 20mph zones and it is understood that the present Government is carrying out the review and may be more amenable towards them.

8:55pm Cllr Canning left the meeting

### **13.132 Meetings attended**

No meetings had been attended.

### **13.133 To consider planning applications**

1/D/13/001573: Troytown Farm – installation of 50kw ground mounted solar array

No objections other than members would like to see some screening around the site. The proposal is quite small and unobtrusive.

Cllr Walton took no part in the discussion regarding the following application.

1/D/13/0001613 & 1614: Tolpuddle Manor Coach House – construct new glazed orangery

The proposal fits in well with existing buildings and will not be seen from the road. No objections were raised.

**ACTION: CLERK**

### **13.134 To consider the accounts**

#### **13.134.1 To authorise payment of accounts**

The following payments had been requested:

C Johnson	OM grass cutting – November 2013	200159	170.40
BWBSL	OM water 10/5 – 19/11/13	200160	138.74
DCC	Wheelie bin empties – November 2013	200161	50.45
R Woodman	Hedge laying at Recreation Ground	200163	2025.00
Purbeck Arborists	Hedge laying at Recreation Ground	200164	4350.00
JACS	Grit bin – Tolpuddle	200165	171.60
Mrs I Stockley	Cleaning Oct-Dec 2013	200166	487.73
Landscape Group	Balance of invoice re OM works	200167	4463.93
TUC	Redraw cheque re audio visual route	200168	100.00
DAPTC	Councillor’s update & Chairman’s seminar	200169	50.00

Chris Rampton	Repairs to gents urinal – Pavilion	200170	582.48
Mrs A Crocker	December & January wages + expenses	200171	1005.58
HMRC	NIC payable – January 2013	200172	48.00
R Belbin	Costs incurred to date re play park	200173	228.55
PRIDE	Pavilion electric & water to 10/10/13	200174	247.07
DCC	Traffic monitoring – 2 locations	200175	570.00
DCC	Wheelie bin empties – December 2013	200176	40.36
C Johnson	OM grass cutting – December 2013	200177	170.40

The total requested for December 2013 amounts to £14,900.29, of which £4,602.67 will be taken from the TOSCA and £10,297.62 will be taken from the Precept. A grant for £3,200 is payable from WDDC in respect of the OM path upgrade and a further £3000 grant, also from WDDC, in respect of the hedge laying costs.

It was proposed by Cllr Soderberg that the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Leonard and agreed unanimously. The cheques were signed by Cllrs Foreman and Leonard in the presence of the meeting.

**13.134.3 To consider the reconciliation of accounts**

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions asked.

**13.134.4 To review the current position against budget**

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions asked.

**13.135 To receive correspondence**

A list of all correspondence received since the November meeting had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No comments were made.

**13.136 Communications update and items for the web site**

Cllr Walton suggested including:

- Bus service
- Security given recent thefts
- Neighbourhood plan for Puddletown
- Play park update

**13.137 Items for the February meeting**

- High Street land has been offered to Cawdor Construction – invite to meeting
- West Coast Energy – report following consultation and exhibition

Cllr Baynard requested that, for future presentations, he would like to have a paper in advance of the meeting to allow councillors time to familiarise themselves with the subject matter of the presentation in order to be able to ask more informed questions at the time.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:06 pm

**MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 11<sup>th</sup>  
FEBRUARY 2014 AT PUDDLETOWN VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs Walton, Buck, Lewin, Leonard, Drake, Foreman, Sheppard, M Cooke, Hopkin & Soderberg

**Chair:** A Sheppard

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also Present:** 10 members of the public

**13.138 Public Participation**

13.138.1 Rights of Way - Robert Bradford – explained that he has lived in Puddletown for the last 16 years and has noticed a reduction in open spaces available to members of the public over time. He feels that some landowners are using heavy-handed tactics to discourage people from using the open spaces and footpaths. He asked if there was any way the Parish Council could mediate between the landowners and the public in order for the paths and open spaces to be open as in the past? This predominantly refers to the Rod Hill Lane area but also around the village generally. Cllr Drake reported that two landowners have taken over land originally owned by an absentee tenant who did not worry about who wandered where. All the barbed wire is legally placed. A barbed wire fence has been put up behind Mr Bradford’s garden that backs onto Rod Hill Lane. The exit from his garden has been used for over 20 years and it seems he is being victimised. The landowner is responsible for ensuring the rights of way are open and kept in good order. There is one gate at the top of Rod Hill which is 4’ wide and should be 5’ but this is in the hands of County Hall. Cllr Leonard reminded members that, over the years, residents have had free access and the farmer who farmed the area had all arable. No public right ever existed in the first place, it is private property. The Parish Council’s responsibility is to ensure the rights of way are kept open, repaired and in good order but the landowner is entitled to prevent access to his land should he wish to do so. Cllr Drake has spent a lot of time talking to the landowner and trying to ease the way. We have no statutory power to ask the landowner to open his land to the public. Cllr Lewin felt that we should try and open up some of the areas around the village. At the end of the day, the landowner is not doing anything wrong.

13.138.2 Cricket Club – Barry Knight, Youth Football but representing Cricket Club and Football. Whilst fully supportive of changes at the Recreation Ground and supportive of any improvement in the play area with seating, etc he expressed some concern about the possibility of a skate park area –mainly because of the cricket. Both teams have children they bring along to play in the play area whilst they play cricket. If there was a skate park next to the play area, the younger children may feel intimidated by any older children the skate park may encourage. Health and safety – having a skate park may restrict the parking. Cars currently park on the field and this enables any emergency services to access the site directly, if necessary. If this parking is taken away, it may mean emergency vehicles will not be able to get close to the cricket pitch. There would need to be an extension of the car park to enable sufficient space.

Cllr Sheppard proposed that a meeting for all concerned is called. This would include PRIDE, the cricket and football clubs, the play park committee and caravanners.

Martin Usherwood - There was a questionnaire sent out and the skate park came up at the request of the children. Perhaps a small version of a skate park could be put in but whatever happens, we should listen to the children as this is what they want.

Mrs I Stockley – at the weekend there were some designs done by the children on display in shop. The play area does need more facilities and up-grading but not one single design on display showed a skate park. There were more swings, etc but a skate park would create mayhem and the income from the caravanners would be lost. Perhaps the field that was going to be used for the First School and owned by the County Council could be used for the skate park.

The Clerk will look for a convenient date and time for a meeting to take place.



### **13.139 To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllr M Cooke (work), N Pitman (work), P Stockley (illness), B Legg (illness) and S Baynard (holiday).

### **13.140 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2014**

Copies of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting by Cllr Leonard. This was seconded by Cllr Soderberg and agreed unanimously. The minutes were signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

### **13.141 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

13.141.1 Part night street lighting – DCC have confirmed that the manufacturers of the cells required to change the lights' settings had closed for Christmas so no cells were available. Work has now recommenced and the last few villages are due to go on to the new system in the next month or so. Tolpuddle and Puddletown are included within this. With the exception of the lights covering the zebra crossing in Puddletown, all the lights will be turned off between mid-night and 5.30am.

13.141.2 Bus shelter – Two quotes have been received and a third is awaited. This will be put as an agenda item for the March meeting.

13.141.3 First School light – A letter had been from Mary Miles, Chair of Governors, responding to our letter regarding parking at the Recreation Ground and the seemingly excessive lights around the school at night. The Clerk read the letter to the meeting and a full copy is available on request.

13.141.4 Church Hill, Tolpuddle – A report had been put in regarding the blocked drain but it has still not been cleared. An enquiry is in process.

13.141.5 Kingsmead footpath S39/36– There is a large amount of chalk on path. The situation is being monitored and the path will be cleared once the wall is completed.

### **13.142 To receive declarations of interest and to confirm any dispensation requests received**

No interests were declared and no requests for dispensations had been received.

### **13.143 To consider a Community Awareness Day**

Cllr Lewin suggested the event could be tied in with the District Tidy Day which usually takes place at the end of April/beginning of May. The idea is to show residents what the Parish Council does. Such areas as litter, increased dog mess and other items that are constantly discussed at meetings can also be highlighted. We will also be able to set out the Neighbourhood Plan ideas with maps. Cllr Soderberg will try to source some Neighbourhood Plans to give an idea of what could be done. Cllr Walton felt it could work better if there is something core to set the day around and then other items could be added on to it. It is important to have some solid subject matter on which to focus.

Cllr Soderberg reminded members that it is necessary to report back within a tight time frame to Locality and if we decide not to go ahead with the Neighbourhood Plan, we will have to pay back any grant we have. So the sooner we organise an Awareness Day, the better.



Cllr Hopkin felt that we should also invite the Waste Management manager as the new bins would have been in place for a month by then and any problems could be put to him.

Mrs Stockley informed the meeting that English Cricketing Board organise a one day tidy up at the Cricket field. Refreshments are always put on for the villagers who help out. This takes place the first Sunday in April and normally 20+ people turn out.

Exhibitions to cover Play Park, Neighbourhood Plan. Start at the village hall/library and end up at the Recreation Ground. Need to also involve the Surgery.

It was proposed by Cllr Soderberg and seconded by Cllr Drake that we go ahead with the day.

The ECB Work Force Day will take place on April 6<sup>th</sup>. The play park plan would not be ready although a small display could be made available. We will include a display of plans, and reminders of litter, dog mess, rights of way, etc and a request for volunteers to help with the Neighbourhood Plan.

### **13.144 Puddletown Matters**

#### 13.144.1 Puddletown Play Area Impact Assessment

This item has been moved to the March meeting to allow sufficient time for the information to be issued to members and allow enough time for review. This will also allow time to speak to all users of the Recreation Ground. The group have been talking to landscape architects and have asked them to put forward specific quotes, references and examples of work – all of this will be brought before the Parish Council at the April meeting. Cllr Soderberg will pass on the details of two more companies who may be able to quote.

#### 13.144.2 To consider a management plan for the Recreation Ground hedges

Members had been issued the proposal prior to the start of the meeting. Purbeck Arborists, the company that carried out the hedge laying, have quoted £600 for trimming and shaping the boundary hedges and £300 for brush cutting the verge near to the main road and perimeter of the grounds. This will also include the cost of removing the tree stump located in the car park. This gives a total of £900 and may be required twice a year. The Clerk reported that it was unlikely the hedge would need cutting during the first year or two and then very minimal management for the following two years whilst the new growth became established. Cllr Sheppard reminded members that a management plan was part of the grant agreement with WDDC.

It was proposed by Cllr Buck and seconded by Cllr Foreman and agreed unanimously that Purbeck Arborists are invited to take on the work.

#### 13.144.3 To consider the cost of tidying the Millennium tree planting area

A quotation had been received from Purbeck Arborists and issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. The cost will be £875 - £350 to under take the brush cutting, removal of brambles and long grass surrounding the trees and £525 to remove any dead, dying or diseased trees, remove stakes and tree tubes. Arisings to be removed in all instances. It had been hoped that the contractors for the new first school would carry out this work but as this did not happen, the Parish Council now needs to look at getting this area tidied and maintained.

It was proposed by Cllr Foreman and seconded Cllr P Cooke that Purbeck Arborists are invited to take on this work.

13.144.4 Neighbourhood Plan Update

Puddletown Councillors had met on the 29<sup>th</sup> January to discuss the way forward for the Neighbourhood Plan. Following that meeting, an invitation had been extended to every group within the village, asking if they would like to send a representative to join the committee. The boundary has been accepted by WDDC. It has been advertised once back in October and WDDC have requested that it is advertised again. We have received some funding to cover the time for a consultant and we are now at a crossroads whereby we need volunteers to come forward to assist with the production of the Plan.

Cllr Hopkin asked what will happen if or when there is a change of government. Are all parties on board? As far as the DCLG are concerned, all the main political parties feel the national planning policy is in for the long term. It is understood that the Labour Party is fully supportive of Neighbourhood Plans and are likely to make it compulsory should they come into power at the next election.

Cllr Drake reported that the Recreation Ground light that was vandalised will be replaced by the Cricket Club Chairman free of charge. A letter of thanks will be sent to Howard Mason.

**13.145 Tolpuddle Topics**

13.145.1 West Coast Energy

A consultation is due to take place on the 13<sup>th</sup> February at Tolpuddle Village Hall, to which council members have been invited. This will run from 3pm until 8pm. It is a slightly smaller scheme consisting of 5 turbines and a consultant will be present to advice on energy saving ideas. Every household in the Parish has received notification of the consultation. This is the only consultation that will be held. The question will be asked if the reduction is the result of suggestions from the Planning Department. It is known that many of West Coast Energy’s existing sites have come about as the result of extensions on the original planning application.

13.145.2 Orchard Meadow

Cllr Hopkin requested that, if an advertisement is going in the parish magazine regarding the Puddletown Community Day, could it also make reference to the Orchard Meadow community action day on the 6<sup>th</sup> April. The Clerk will ensure this is included.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**13.146 To consider planning applications**

WD/D/14/000166: 14 Mill Street, Puddletown – works to inglenook fireplace LBC

The proposal is a great improvement on the existing structure and no objections were raised.

WD/D/14/000147: The Stables, Walpole Court – replace 4 windows & 2 doors at rear LBC

Replacing the existing timber windows and doors for aluminium. The appearance will be similar but the material will be different. This is a listed building consent only and no objections were raised.

WD/CA/14/00034 – Tree works at Tolpuddle Manor – fell horse chestnut, 50% reduction to willow (both carry TPOs)

Cllr Walton reported that this is maintenance work. The horse chestnut is diseased and needs to be removed and the willow is over growing the road and needs cutting back. The work is being done by a recognised tree surgeon and no objections were raised.

### **13.147 Rights of Way**

The contractor has installed the self closing gate and stile which will improve the access to the bridleway and footpath to the Tolpuddle to Dorchester Road.

The Thorncombe Woods/Thomas Hardy Visitor Centre is well underway and the Project Team intend to include trails and signed paths around the woods that will include the Puddletown Forest. Cllr Drake will be meeting with the Project Team and Dorset Countryside Rangers on the 12<sup>th</sup> February to discuss their plans and it may be possible to link up the circular walk with our paths With Puddletown's strong Hardy connections it would be appropriate to be a part of this and the attendant literature.

The weather has affected our paths with boggy conditions and wind damage. A large section of the wall of the old dairy on Rod Hill Lane has blown across the bridle way. Cllr Drake has spoken to the landowner and he will deal with the remainder as soon as possible as it looks precarious. There is also a small tree across Doctors Lane that will need clearing although there is no immediate danger.

Cllr Drake will begin producing a note for the Parish Magazine regarding available rights of way in the parish.

### **13.148 Drains, Hedges and Roads**

Access to the new First school – a large puddle has formed where the access joins the main road. There is not a drain in this location. The run-off from the school site down the High Street is also proving excessive.

Cllr Sheppard expressed concern regarding the circular walk from the High Street to Beacon Corner and back to the High Street passing the new school as not being as safe as it used to be. The narrowing of the road, combined with the new school access means that people using this popular walk are pushed onto the road that has now been narrowed. A tarmac path along this stretch is not necessary, just a level safe area to walk.

Bollards put in but the kerb is already broken at both ends.

Cllrs Buck and Lewin, together with the Clerk had met with Ian Madgewick on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December and all of the above issues were discussed with assurances given that they would be resolved. The Clerk will go back to Mr Madgewick and find out what is happening.

<b>ACTION: CLERK</b>
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### **13.149 To consider the accounts**

#### **13.149.1 To authorise payment of accounts**

The following payments had been requested:

Stuart Todd	Attending NP meeting 29.01.14	200178	200.00
SEB	OM elec 13/9 – 8/1/14	200179	14.57
C Johnson	OM Grass cutting – January 2014	200180	170.40
Mrs A Crocker	February wages + expenses	200181	500.27
DCC	Wheellie bin empties – January 2014	200182	50.45
NJ Green	Install stile & bridle gate	200183	228.00

The total requested for February 2014 amounts to £1,163.69, of which £14.57 will be taken from the TOSCA account and £1,149.12 will be taken from the Precept. A grant for £200 is payable from Locality in respect of the Stuart Todd costs and a grant from DCC will cover the cost of the style and bridle gate installation.

It was proposed by Cllr Buck that the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Walton and agreed unanimously. The cheques were signed by Cllrs Foreman and Leonard in the presence of the meeting.

13.149.2 To review the current position against budget

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions asked.

**13.150 To consider correspondence received and meetings attended**

A list of all correspondence received since the January meeting had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No comments were made.

**13.151 Communications update and items for the web site**

Cllr Walton suggested including:

- Part night street lighting
- April 6<sup>th</sup> Community Awareness Day

**13.152 Items for the March meeting**

- Open Day for Play Park
- Community Day
- West Coast Energy Consultation.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:50 pm

**MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2014 AT PUDDLETOWN VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs Stockley, Legg, Lewin, Leonard, Drake, Piper, Sheppard & Soderberg

**Chair:** S Baynard

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also Present:** 6 members of the public

**13.153 Public Participation**

13.153.1 Puddletown Society – Mr Bill Maunder, on behalf of the Puddletown Society, reported that concern has been expressed regarding the lack of adequate signage indicating the presence of the new school, especially coming from the Dorchester end. Cllr Sheppard felt that these concerns reinforce what has already been raised by the Parish Council. Cllr Leonard reported that a group of councillors met Ian Madgewick of Dorset County Highways and raised a number of issues in relation to the school. Several of the suggestions could not be met but the requests regarding the additional signage and reinstating the centre white line were going to be looked at. An additional bollard was going to be installed on the opposite side of the pinch point, the traffic light sequence was going to be adjusted and the hedge at Kingsmead cut back. To date, with the exception of the traffic lights, nothing has been done. A letter will be sent to Ian Madgewick chasing on the points that had been agreed at the meeting and asking for a deadline as to when they will be carried out. Cllr Piper questioned why the school signs had not been installed before the school was opened.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**13.154 To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs M Cooke (work), N Pitman (work), S Buck, J Hopkin, P Walton, P Cooke and D Foreman.

**13.155 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 14**

Copies of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting by Cllr Sheppard. This was seconded by Cllr Soderberg and agreed unanimously. The minutes were signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

**13.156 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

There were no matters arising that are not covered by the agenda.

**13.157 To receive declarations of interest and to confirm any dispensation requests received**

No interests were declared and no requests for dispensations had been received.

**13.158 Reports from meetings attended**

Cllrs Lewin and Hopkin attended the DAPTC Annual Conference, together with the Clerk. Topics covered included a talk from Cllr Ron Ley, Chair of the One Ilfracombe project, Community hubs, Local Enterprise Partnerships and Superfast Broadband. With regard to SFB, an up-to-date map of the roll-out can be found on [www.dorsetforyou.com/superfast](http://www.dorsetforyou.com/superfast).

### 13.159 Puddletown Matters

#### 13.159.1 To consider quotations for the new bus shelter at Kingsmead

The documents had not unfortunately gone to the councillors so this will be an agenda item for the April meeting. Cllr Leonard reported that he had been approached by several elderly residents who did not want to have a fully enclosed wooden shelter, as they felt vulnerable and liked the thought of being able to be seen.

The Clerk reported that the quotations received to date were all in the region of £3,000 for a 2-bay cantilever, open fronted shelter with partial sides. It was suggested that local carpenters should be contacted to see if they are able to submit quotes for the work.

**ACTION: CLERK**

#### 13.159.2 Community Awareness Day

This will not now go ahead in its intended format due to the Easter Holidays but may be used as an Information Day for the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Soderberg will organise an agenda for the day.

**ACTION: CLLR SODERBERG**

#### 13.159.3 Play Park Update

Cllr Baynard opened the discussion saying that there have been some suggestions that the Parish Council should run this project, however, he felt that he was happy with the way it was being run with Cllr Sheppard steering the group.

Rob Belbin was then invited to speak. An Impact Assessment had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Rob talked through the report in broad terms. Cllr Leonard asked about the item in the summary of recommendations covering the caravanners. Cllr Baynard reported that this may be covered by the proposals from the architect. Cllr Leonard felt the comment implied that landscaping would solve any noise issues between the caravanners and the play park. However, if there is a clash between the caravanners and the skate park users, planting will have no effect on the reduction of the noise. The list supplied is not a list of solutions. Cllr Drake highlighted the effect of the caravanners on the economics of the village – they come and spend money in the shop, local pub, etc. Although the figure of £5,000 as income to the Parish Council from the caravan site is over-stated (the actual figure is probably less than half of this), the village does benefit from the pitches being there and this should not be forgotten.

The next step will be to consult the experts and look at the commissioning of a landscape architect. Two architects were approached and asked to quote for producing a basic upgrade to the current facilities, and a more “blank canvas” approach, taking into account all current users of the Recreation Grounds and the needs of the expanding community. Also included within the quotes is a presentation to the Parish Council in addition to a second public consultation. Both architects had addressed the PCPPP meeting and references had been reviewed. After a week all had unanimously agreed on recommending the use of Hillary Martin to the Parish Council. It was felt that, as she has more experience looking at smaller projects, the service would be more personal and be backed by the greater experience in this type of scheme. She has submitted a quote for £2,100.

Cllr Drake asked what area the architects were given for the upgrade of the existing area. Rob reported that they had been given the existing area. Cllr Sheppard reported that they also looked at the Dorset Play Association Guidelines. By going through this document, it shows that the group is working through the recommended play strategy.

Signed: .....

At this stage, the PCPPP is asking the Parish Council permission to commission and pay for the architect. A meeting had been arranged by Cllr Drake with WDDC Sport and Development and they were overwhelming supportive and have offered funding, some of which may be able to be used to cover the architect's fees.

Cllr Leonard said that until we know what we are aiming at we cannot really make a decision, so we did really need to see some visualisation. However, he expressed unease at committing without knowing where the full cost of the project will be coming from.

Cllr Lewin – what is the architect going to come back and say? Rob – they will give 2 ideas – a simple upgrade and then they will listen to the whole of the recreation ground users' needs and will then come up with a plan that will meet all these needs.

Cllr Soderberg – very happy with the way things are moving.

It was agreed unanimously that the Parish Council would support the appointment of the architect and cover the £2,100 cost. Rob will draw up the appropriate letter in conjunction with the Clerk.

**ACTION: R BELBIN/CLERK**

### **13.160 Tolpuddle Topics**

#### 13.160.1 West Coast Energy

Nothing to report other than the scheme has been reduced to 5 turbines and the height to 120 meters. No planning application has been submitted to date.

#### 13.160.2 Orchard Meadow

The Community Action Day on the 6<sup>th</sup> April has been postponed.

Tony Gould reported that there has been more parking along the main road and this has worked out well in slowing traffic down. The on-going issue has now been resolved at the Cornfields.

The Village AGM will be held in May 29<sup>th</sup> – Oak Apple Day.

### **13.161 Rights of Way**

13.161.1 Kingsmead footpath S39/36 – A wall has been build alongside the path and the bund, made up from the soil extracted to build the foundations of the wall, now extends about 3m into the field running alongside the path. This is an encroachment onto the field. The area belongs to the County Council and the Rights of Way officer will be visiting the site this week.

#### 13.161.2 Thorncombe Woods/Thomas Hardy Visitor Centre Walks

Cllr Drake attended a meeting concerning the centre, which should be finished by the autumn. He explained to the meeting that Puddletown Forest is virtually entirely within the Parish of Puddletown and they have agreed to link up with the Puddletown and Hardy connection to the site. Access to the forest – the rangers are keen to improve the walks to the centre and it can then be advertised as a direct link. They are also talking about a cycle route linking up with the blue signed route to Bockhampton and have expressed an interest in revitalising the picnic area at the top of Two Drovers. Cllr Drake will continue his communication with the group and report back with any progress.

**ACTION: CLLR DRAKE**



Cllr Drake has put an item in the April addition of the Parish Magazine highlighting the correct use of the Rights of Way.

### **13.162 Drains, Hedges and Roads**

Cllr Stockley reported that he has received complaints regarding the walk up through Church Path. The ivy has grown back over the walls and, now that the school is no longer on that site, nothing is being done to clear it and litter is becoming a problem. A letter will be sent to the County Council regarding the state of the wall and asking them to sort the path out.

**ACTION: CLERK**

### **13.163 To consider planning applications**

WD/D/14/000218: Hanford plc, Bourne Park – minor material amendment

This application has since been withdrawn.

WD/D/14/000351: Willougby House, 2 The Square, Puddletown – replace 3 rooflights, internal remodelling LBC

No objections. The property is in desperate need of some refurbishment. It was noted that the planning application notice was put on the telegraph pole at the top of the Square as WDDC felt it would be more noticeable here.

**ACTION: CLERK**

### **13.164 To consider the accounts**

#### **13.164.1 To authorise payment of accounts**

The following payments had been requested:

Mrs A Crocker	March wages + expenses	200184	475.52
C Johnson	OM grass cutting – February 2014	200185	170.40
M Cooke	Play park fence repairs	200186	35.99
DCC	Wheelie bin empties – February 2014	200187	40.36
DAPTC	Annual Conference	200188	116.00
Easy Internet Sol.	Web hosting renewal	200189	29.99
Nathan Fairhurst	Web maintenance & updates to 31/3/15	200190	60.00

The total requested for March 2014 amounts to £928.26, of which £35.99 will be taken from the TOSCA account and £892.27 will be taken from the Precept.

Cllr Lewin proposed that the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Leonard and agreed unanimously. The cheques were signed by Cllrs Drake and Stockley in the presence of the meeting.

**ACTION: CLERK**

#### **13.164.2 To review the current position against budget**

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions asked.

#### **13.164.3 To consider participating in the Local Government Pension Scheme**

In order to participate in the scheme, the Parish Council must pass a resolution to enable eligible employees access to the LGPS. The Standing Orders will then be amended accordingly. As from 2015, it is understood that it will be a legal requirement for all employers to offer a pension scheme and, as a parish council, we should sign up to the LGPS. Under this scheme, the employer will pay 16.5% of the employees pensionable pay and the employee 5.9%. Cllr Lewin felt this information was inaccurate and offered to review the criteria. In addition, he also felt that 16.5% was a considerable amount to pay and this could be reduced if other schemes were considered. He will look into the various rules and regulations and report back to the next meeting. The Clerk will follow up DAPTC. All information will be circulated in advance.

**ACTION: CLLR LEWIN/CLERK**

**13.165 To consider correspondence received and meetings attended**

A list of all correspondence received since the February meeting had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting.

Cllr Soderberg drew members attention to the WDDC proposal to reduce the amount of information required to accompany planning applications. She felt that the amount of information that was being removed from the application process was for the purpose of speeding up the planning process but will remove many tools for objection. Cllr Soderberg will draft a reply and forward it to the Clerk. Cllr Leonard – presumably this is being guided by a government department so we probably have very little power to alter this. We will lodge our objection nonetheless.

**ACTION: CLLR SODERBERG/CLERK**

**13.166 To consider any correspondence received since the agenda was set for discussion and possible inclusion on the agenda for the April meeting**

Cllr Lewin had raised the possibility of a sports and social club in Puddletown. He drew members' attention to the fact that there is nowhere to go for a game of darts or pool. Perhaps the top room in the Pavilion could be used to play darts, pool, have Sky TV – it may also have a licence, and be run by volunteers. The downstairs could then be used as a cafe. It may be something the caravanners would like to use. Cllr Stockley felt that the present caravanners are more likely to go to Tolpuddle for a meal. Perhaps the money from the Carnival could be used to fund this. Cllr Drake felt that this could be a progression from the play area upgrade but you need the volunteers to make it worthwhile. Many sports clubs have something similar. The play area upgrade will start the momentum and this could be seen as a natural progression. Cllr Leonard – would need to look into the fire safety issues. Were there to be a licensed bar downstairs, different rules would apply. The business rates will also have to be considered as, setting up a licensed bar, may mean the concession would be lost. This would result in an immediate cost of approximately £3,000 pa.

In principle, the Parish Council is not against this but further investigation will be needed.

Rob Belbin reported that there is a meeting set up within the next 10 days between the PCPPP and Ben Ling to see if the youth club was likely to happen.

**13.167 Additional items considered urgent by the Chairman, for discussion only**

Nothing to add.

**13.168 Communications update and items for the web site**

- First School signage
- Play Park upgrade

- Information Day
- Puddletown Social Club

### **13.169 Items for the April meeting**

Cllr Piper thanked the parish councillors present and those who are unable to attend, saying that they come along to the meeting and give up their time and it is all voluntary. He has been a councillor for 3 years and will be standing down this year. He will stay on until the AGM in May.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20:41 pm

## **MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> April 2014 AT TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs P Stockley, S Buck, P Drake, A Sheppard, J Hopkin, P Walton, D Foreman

**Chair:** S Baynard

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also Present:** 5 members of the public, County Cllr A Canning

Guest speaker Charlotte Peacock, Wessex Solar Energy.

Wessex Solar Energy is currently looking at a site for a solar energy project within the parish. A brief overview of the project, comprising the 145 acre site off Slyers Lane, near Grey's Wood was given. The project would be expected to produce enough electricity for up to 5000 homes. To date, a planning application has not been submitted but a pre-application enquiry and screening request were submitted in September 2013. An EIA will be required and it is hoped the full application will be submitted in May 2014. No footpaths will be removed; the existing one will be maintained and enhanced. Public information days will be held over the next few weeks. Once up and running, the full connectivity will go into the grid.

#### Questions:

From what distance will it be seen – it will be largely screened but will be visible from some areas as it is on a hill. Length of life of the scheme and what happens at decommissioning – 25 years – most of the equipment on site will be recycled. The foundations will be the shallow ones put in for the electrical houses and will be removed and the site re-turfed. There are 2 new areas of woodland that are proposed and more hedgerows to be planted.

Will there not be glare and reflection? Glare will depend on the weather – on a lighter day it will appear lighter than the land around it and on a darker it will appear darker. Glint – awaiting results of tests. Effects on air traffic will also be taken into account in the glint appraisal. From above, the site looks like poly tunnels.

How many landowners are involved? – 2

How many projects have WSE already completed? – 18 consented in the last 3.5years, covering West Dorset, Somerset, North Devon, Cornwall, Swansea.

Will there be the opportunity for any local job creation? – yes – electrical and fencing. Would go out to tender for the engineering constructor and they would be encouraged to use local businesses.

Would there be any feedback in respect of community benefits? The value would vary on the size of the project but for a 5meg project it would be in the region of £10-15,000. This site may generate about £30,000 between the 2 parish councils concerned.

A public consultation will be held in Puddletown Village Hall and the date notified nearer the time.

### **13.170 Public Participation**

13.170.1 Tolpuddle Village Meeting - Tony Gould informed the meeting that the AGM will be held on the 29<sup>th</sup> May, 7pm – all councillors are welcome to attend.

13.170.2 West Coast Energy - Martin Usherwood informed members that West Coast Energy have announced they have been taken over by GDF Suez. However, their literature is still saying they are a small family run business.

13.170.3 Cllr Canning

Bus services – The new services are now in place and, although not ideal, DCC have managed to keep the bus running to Poole a couple of days a week

Pot holes - If there are any particularly bad potholes they should be reported as quickly as possible. Highways are in the process of drawing up a list of works that need doing. Cllr Canning was informed that the road through Waterston (B3142) is particularly bad. He informed the meeting that the Government has awarded £5.8million to DCC to deal with roads and he will push for this road to go onto the list. Cllr Walton reported that the Southover Lane is also in a very poor state. Cllr Foreman mentioned the road to Chesilborne and this is already on the list.

The grass verges – the policy will be changed again next year. DCC will be going for a “living verge” and encourage natural plants and growth. 3 experimental schemes will be run this summer – Gillingham, Shaftesbury and south Dorset AONB. In the meantime, the existing contracts will run for this year. There will be a couple of extra teams which can be called upon for emergency cuts.

Cllr Sheppard reported that New Street was topped by the school but the bottom end has still not been done. Cllr Drake asked if there was any news on next year’s policy on keeping rights of way clear but Cllr Canning was unable to shed any light on this.

Cllr Baynard informed members that he had received a telephoned apology from our PCSO who was unable to attend due to ill health. He reported that there had been 4 crimes in Puddletown in the last month – all thefts from sheds. This is currently the biggest problem across the whole of the rural area.

**13.171 To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs W Lewin (work), P Cooke, C Leonard, PC Mike Brown.

**13.172 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

Copies of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting by Cllr Sheppard. This was seconded by Cllr Buck and agreed unanimously. The minutes were signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

**13.173 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

13.173.1 Puddletown First School – Following the Puddletown Society’s concerns regarding the signage, etc, nothing further had been received from DCC. The Clerk will follow this up.

**ACTION: CLERK**

13.173.2 West Coast Energy – The disc with the planning application has been copied and will be available from Cllr Soderberg from Friday onwards. Councillors are asked to collect a copy should they wish.

13.173.3 Church Path – No further communication had been received from DCC. The Clerk will follow up.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**13.174 To receive declarations of interest and to confirm any dispensation requests received**

No interests were declared and no requests for dispensations had been received.

**13.175 Tolpuddle Matters**

13.175.1 Vacancy for Tolpuddle Councillor

The Clerk reported that the notice of vacancy had been posted. Members of the public have until the 11<sup>th</sup> April to submit a request for an election. Should nothing be received, then we would be able to co-opt a councillor for Tolpuddle who would hold office until the next elections in May 2015. To date, one expression of interest has been received.

13.175.2 Bus Time Tables

Tony Gould expressed concern regarding getting information on the new bus time table. It is the responsibility of the bus company to ensure the timetables are displayed at the bus stops.

**13.176 Puddletown Matters**

13.176.1 To consider quotations for the new bus shelter at Kingsmead

The documents had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Unfortunately, all the proposals are in excess of £3,000 but we only have £1,500 in the budget and no room for taking any monies out of the reserves. With this in mind it would be more appropriate to look to refurbish the existing shelter. The roof will need to be refelted and there may be some repairs required to the panels. It was proposed that the existing shelter is refurbished and the Clerk will obtain some quotes.

**ACTION: CLERK**

13.176.2 PRIDE update

CLr Drake reported that a meeting was held recently and it is now important to fill some vacancies – MUGA booking secretary, treasurer. David Knight has offered to be the booking officer for the MUGA and he has devised a system whereby people will be able to book via e-mail. There will be a combination lock put on the gate and the number will be issued on booking. The committee was in favour of the play area development but would like to see a visual of the proposal before it went to the consultant. Nothing has been heard from the youth group who had expressed an interest in taking the upper floor of the Pavilion. Rob Belbin reported that the PCPPP will be meeting with Ben Ling of DYA and may be able to shed some light onto what is happening regarding the youth group.

13.176.3 Play park update

Hilary Martin has accepted the brief and will be meeting the play park committee in a week's time. Shortly after that, a meeting will be held with PRIDE and the various user groups to give everyone an opportunity to have some input into the scheme. As the majority of users are favouring the blank canvass approach, Hilary will be asked to spend more time on this rather than on the proposal to add on to the existing play park.

Rob has spoken to Ben Ling and suggested he gave an outline of where he is with regard to the youth group. Ben has been invited to join the play park committee.

**13.177 Rights of Way**

13.177.1 Kingsmead footpath S39/36

Nothing further to add since the March meeting. Cllr Drake has met with the rights of way officer who has yet to decide if they are going to take any action. This is the direct route between the two schools and it may be possible to get some funding to upgrade the path. Cllr Drake will speak to the school head when they return after the Easter holidays.

**ACTION: CLLR DRAKE**

Cllr Drake has written a piece on rights of way for the parish magazine.

### **13.178 Neighbourhood Plan update**

There will be a presentation in the Pavilion on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April between 11am and 1pm. With the exception of the houses in Waterston, every house in Puddletown has been leafleted. The object of the weekend is to see if there is enough support to take a Neighbourhood Plan forward.

### **13.179 Drains, Hedges and Roads**

Cllr Drake – Backwater – 2 engineers inspecting the river side and the wall around the collapsed area. They were taking notes of how the river had been undermining the wall and hence the road. The Clerk will speak to Steve Mepham to find out what is likely to be done in the way of replacing the wall like for like. Should the engineers appear on site again, councillors are asked to find out which officer is responsible for the work and then contact them.

**ACTION: CLERK**

Cllr Stockley – Tincleton Road at Admiston Farm has been flooded for weeks now and a large pothole has now appeared. This will be reported via the PEM system.

**ACTION: CLERK**

### **13.180 Meetings Attended**

Cllr Lewin and the Clerk both attended the recent Finance Seminar. Clarification was given as to the VAT status in respect of the caravan site. As we do not make a separate charge for electricity, the site is exempt from VAT regardless of the amount of money taken. Other items discussed were the introduction of electronic banking now that s150 has been repealed. This will involve the Financial Regulations being reviewed and amended and this will be on the agenda for May 2014. The need for risk assessments was stressed and the treatment of fixed assets reviewed, together with the layout of the fixed asset register.

A complaint was made regarding the fact that the courses are being held during the day rather than in the evenings. As a result most members are unable to attend. A letter will be sent to DAPTC.

**ACTION: CLERK**

### **13.181 To consider planning applications**

WD/D/14/000556: 46 Butt Close, Puddletown – 2 storey side extn & single storey rear extn  
Large addition to the existing footprint. No objection

WD/D/14/000661: Ilsington Farm – extension to barns  
On environmental and animal welfare grounds, there is no objections.

WD/D/14/000617: Hanford PLC – c of u from agriculture to energy production  
Site is well laid out with suitable screening. No objection.

WD/D/14/00598: 45 Butt Close, erect extension to garage

No objection

WD/D/14/000609: change of use from B1 offices to residential

Would prefer to keep the downstairs as working space and the upstairs as a flat. No objection.

### **13.182 To consider the accounts**

#### **13.182.1 To authorise payment of accounts**

The following payments had been requested:

C Johnson	OM grass cutting – March 2014	200191	170.40
A Crocker	April wages & expenses	200193	553.32
DAPTC	Finance seminar	200194	40.00
I Stockley	Cleaning – Jan-March 2014	200195	360.40
SEB	OM electric 9/1 to 27/3/14	200196	16.59

The total requested for April 2014 amounts to £1,140.71 of which £16.59 will be taken from the TOSCA account and £1,124.12 will be taken from the Precept.

Cllr Foreman proposed that the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Buck and agreed unanimously. The cheques were signed by Cllrs Drake and Buck in the presence of the meeting.

**ACTION: CLERK**

#### **182.2 To confirm the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014**

This item will be moved to the May agenda.

#### **182.3 To review the current position against budget**

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions asked.

#### **182.4 To confirm the reconciliation of accounts**

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions asked.

#### **182.5 To confirm the internal auditor for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015**

The Clerk reported that Henry Lovegrove, who has been dealing with the internal audit for the last 7 years, will be retiring this year. A representation had been made by Rosie Darkin-Miller who has been working with Henry and is adopting all his procedures. She has the appropriate public liability insurance and is familiar with our accounts. The Clerk recommended that we transfer to Rosie and this was unanimously agreed. Her fees will be £256 + VAT.

### **13.183 To consider correspondence received**



A list of all correspondence received since the February meeting had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting.

**13.184 To consider any correspondence received since the agenda was set for discussion and possible inclusion on the agenda for the May meeting**

Nothing to add.

**13.185 Additional items considered urgent by the Chairman, for discussion only**

Nothing to add.

**13.186 Communications update and items for the web site**

- West Coast Energy
- Wessex Solar
- Neighbourhood Plan

**13.187 Items for the May meeting**

- Election of officers
- Financial regulations
- Standing orders
- Risk assessment
- Year end accounts
- Co-option of councillors for Tolpuddle and Athelhampton

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.34 pm