

Minutes of a meeting of Puddletown Area Parish Council (PAPC) held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 9th February 2021, remotely via Zoom.

Present: Cllrs Alan Sheppard (Vice-Chair), Peter Walton (Vice-Chair), Peter Redman, Mike Brown* (joined late), Julian Hubbuck, Katie Weiss, Dan Weiss, and Lauren Tidbury.

Meeting Chair: Cllr P Churchill

Clerk: Anna Bendall

Also in Attendance: Three members of the public.

Minute Number Comments

20/159 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Nicky Ling and John Ridout, PCSO Donnison and Dorset Councillor Emma Parker.

20/160 **Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Requests**

None declared.

20/161 **Public Participation**

None.

20/162 **Confirmation of minutes of PAPC meeting held 12th and 19th January 2021**

RESOLVED that the minutes for the PAPC meetings held on both 12th and 19th January 2021 be approved. As the meeting is held virtually, these will be signed at a later date.

20/163 **Matters arising from previous minutes of the PAPC meetings and review of Action Log**

19/002 – Wyatt Homes have not responded to a request for the Parish Council to be informed when the Three Lanes Way Development is intended to commence. It was agreed that The Clerk would phone to try to get this information. **Action: Clerk**

20/009 – The fly-tipping problem is being monitored by the police and environmental health. The Parish Council has no further actions that it can take on the matter, and the action will be closed.

The Clerk was previously asked to see if Dorset Council have any social distancing information signs that may be suitable for the recreation ground. They do not and other recreation areas do not have signs displayed. Councillors agreed that the general public should be aware of restrictions and there is no need for further signs in addition to the large banner in the carpark.

The Dorset Local Plan consultation is underway. Councillors will send comments individually to the Clerk by the end of February, who will gather them into a single response which will be reviewed at the next PAPC meeting before it is sent to Dorset Council. **Action: Clerk**

5 cherry trees have now been planted on the Blandford Road verge. The cost of the trees has been completely covered by donations; a number of small donations for the memorial tree, and a single donation from a local resident to cover the other four trees. The trees were planted by a local volunteer who is a landscape gardener and so there has been no cost at all to the Council. All those who donated, as well as the volunteer gardener, were thanked.

Tree work will commence at the recreation ground and The Coombe at the beginning of March and Hardy Tree Surgeons have kindly agreed to make the wood from this work available for free

to local people. The Clerk will notify a few residents who have already enquired and also advertise this in the Parish magazine and on social media. **Action: Clerk**

There are environmental benefits to stacking deadwood to decay naturally. Councillor Dan Weiss will converse with the tree surgeons and agree places that wood piles could be left for this purpose. **Action: Cllr Dan Weiss**

20/164 **Recreation Areas**

A draft lease agreement for the strip of land required to expand the recreation ground has been prepared by the Clerk.

RESOLVED to seek quotes to have a solicitor review the terms and either make changes or prepare a formal agreement based on this draft. **Action: Clerk**

A report of visual inspections at recreation areas was received. Rubber matting under several smaller pieces of play equipment at Orchard Meadow are in need of re-laying. Quotes have already been requested for this.

20/165 **Parish matters**

Puddletown Neighbourhood Plan

Dorset Council were asked to reconsider their position on the inclusion of a phrase that would require that the separate developments be phased to avoid traffic and parking issues. They have responded to reaffirm that they will not include anything in the Neighbourhood Plan that the External Examiner has not either already inspected or has directly recommended. Although Councillors and members of the steering group are disappointed in this outcome, it is felt that the strengths of the plan and the benefits for the community in having it made, will far outweigh any risk of simultaneous development. It was agreed that the plan should still proceed to referendum. This is a statutory decision for Dorset Council to make on receipt of the final Plan. **RESOLVED** to submit to Dorset Council an updated version of the neighbourhood plan which incorporates the policy modifications identified in the examiner's final report. **Action: Clerk**

*Councillor Brown joined the meeting.

Tolpuddle Village Survey

The Parish Council was pleased to receive a summary of responses to the survey. A clear and strong feeling exists that the Martyrs Inn should be protected. This is a difficult time to be trying to sell a public house and the sale may well take several more months but the Parish Council will continue to monitor the situation. A number of ideas for improving community infrastructure have come out of the survey. These ideas will all be discussed and evaluated by the Parish Council's Community Projects Working Group.

Dog Fouling

Following an increase in incidents, a young local resident has produced a poster to raise awareness of the issue. The Parish Council has had permission to make use of this poster and so copies will be printed, laminated, and displayed as appropriate.

The Clerk will also request that the dog warden increases visits to the area and raise awareness of the issue in the Parish magazine and on social media, ensure that people know how to report cases of dog fouling. **Action: Clerk**

Martyr's Festival

The festival is likely to be held on-line only again this year due to the Coronavirus pandemic but it is hoped that the festival will resume in Tolpuddle as usual in 2022.

20/166 **Dorset Councillor's report**

A report was received from Cllr Parker and distributed to members before the meeting. This is available as **Appendix A** of the Minute Book and is available online under additional documents.

20/167 **Police and community issues**

A report was received from PCSO Donnison and distributed to members before the meeting. This is available as **Appendix B** of the Minute Book and is available online under additional documents.

The government guidance is to stay at home and only exercise in your local community. However, there have been reports of an increase in visitors parking in Puddletown and cycling or walking to the forest, presumably to avoid being stopped by the police who have been patrolling the forest and questioning motorists. The Clerk will inform the PCSO. **Action: Clerk**

20/168 **Planning Applications**

WD/D/20/002726 (full planning application)

Proposal: Alterations to widen access gates & internal alterations to utility & an additional WC on second floor. Addition of roof lights to the outbuilding.

Location: 12 NEW STREET, PUDDLETOWN, DORCHESTER, DT2 8SF

RESOLVED to support the application.

WD/D/20/002727 (listed building consent)

Proposal: Alterations to widen access gates & internal alterations to utility & an additional WC on second floor. Addition of roof lights to the outbuilding.

Location: 12 NEW STREET, PUDDLETOWN, DORCHESTER, DT2

RESOLVED to make no comment.

20/169 **Community Projects Working Group**

Members have created a briefing and an invitation to get involved with the Community Projects Group which will be sent to local community groups across the parishes.

20/170 **Rights of Way, drains, hedges, and roads**

A local resident raised concerns that the right of way alongside the new Blandford Road development may not be re-instated to the full width. The Council will monitor this and ask Dorset Council to inspect the path to ensure that the width meets the minimum requirement.

Action: Clerk

20/171 **Dorset Council Free Parking Policy consultation**

RESOLVED to make no comment.

20/172 **Finance and accounts**

Quotes were considered for installation of noticeboards and work at Orchard Meadow. The sleepers around the boules area need replacing and the cost is significant. One contractor has recommended using smaller sleepers to reduce the cost. Councillors debated the merits of this but were unhappy about making the decision without visiting the site to understand the impact. The decision was therefore postponed.

RESOLVED to approve payments totalling £4093.26 in accordance with the schedule of payments requested, a copy of the schedule appears as **Appendix C** of the Minute Book and is available online under additional documents.

20/173 **Date of next meeting and items for the agenda**

Tuesday 9th March 2021, 7.00 pm. This meeting will be held remotely using Zoom. Details of how to access the meeting will be available at the bottom of the agenda.

Meeting closed at 8:30pm

.....Chair

Date:

Peter Churchill

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