

**Minutes of a meeting of Puddletown Area Parish Council (PAPC) held at 7.00pm on  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021, remotely via Zoom.**

**Present:** Peter Walton (Vice-Chair), Peter Redman, John Ridout, Lauren Tidbury, Julian Hubbuck and Mike Brown (7:10).

**Meeting Chair:** Cllr Peter Churchill and then Cllr Alan Sheppard

**Clerk:** Anna Bendall

**Also in Attendance:** Two members of the public.

**Minute  
Number**      **Comments**

21/001      **Election of Chair**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Alan Sheppard be elected as Chairman. (Acceptance of office form to be signed at a later date but before the next Parish Council meeting as the meeting was held remotely).  
Councillor Sheppard assumed presidency of the meeting from Councillor Churchill.

21/002      **Election of Vice-Chairs**

**RESOLVED** that Councillors Peter Walton and John Ridout be elected as Vice-Chairmen.

21/003      **Election of officers**

**RESOLVED** to elect members to offices as follows:

- Puddletown Village Hall representative: Cllr John Ridout
- Tolpuddle Village Hall representative: Cllr Peter Walton
- Rights of Way Officer: Cllr Julian Hubbuck
- DAPTC representative: Cllr John Ridout, (one vacancy)
- Representative to the Puddletown Charity: Phil Drake (non-member)
- Representative to PRIDE: Cllr Alan Sheppard
- Orchard Meadow liaison: Cllr Nicky Ling
- Puddletown Community Play Park liaison: Cllr Alan Sheppard
- Butt Close Play Area liaison: Cllr John Ridout

21/004      **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Nicky Ling, as well as Dorset Councillor Emma Parker and PCSO Alison Donnison. The Council also noted the resignations of Cllrs Dan and Katie Weiss. Both have been thanked for their contributions to the Parish Council to date.

21/005      **Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Requests**

Cllr Peter Walton declared an interest in the grant application submitted by the Tolpuddle Village Hall Committee. As this interest is non-pecuniary, Cllr Walton was able to remain in the meeting for discussions but did not participate.

21/006 **Public Participation**

None.

(Cllr Mike Brown joined the meeting.)

21/007 **Confirmation of minutes of the PAPC meeting held 13th April 2021**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes for the PAPC meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of April 2021 be approved. As the meeting was held virtually, these will be signed at a later date.

21/008 **Matters arising from previous minutes of the PAPC meetings and review of Action Log**

The meeting planned with the Middle School and representatives of the Academy Trust was postponed as we entered another lockdown in January. It was agreed that the Parish Council should once again seek a meeting to discuss making access to the middle school safer for pedestrians and vehicle users, while reducing the impact of school traffic on the community. **Action: Clerk**

Dorset Council have come back with a single quote of £3800 (ex. VAT) to improve the surface of the footpath S39/3 (known as Doctor's Lane).

**RESOLVED** to request quotes from other contractors for comparison. **Action: Clerk**

21/009 **Recreation Areas**

The most urgent work has now been completed at Orchard Meadow. Further work will take place shortly.

No new issues were identified by visual inspections.

21/010 **Parish matters**

Parish Meetings

The Chairman's Report was shared at the Annual Parish Meetings, all three of which were held remotely this year due to the Coronavirus pandemic. These meetings were not well attended with no members of the public at meetings for Puddletown or Athelhampton and Burleston. The Parish Council intends to hold further Parish Meetings later in the year when physical meetings are able to resume as normal. The Chairman's Report is available as **Appendix A** of the Minute Book and is available online under additional documents.

Feedback from the Annual Parish Meeting for Tolpuddle was that a quarterly printed newsletter from the Parish Council would be appreciated and that better footpaths and cycle routes were wanted to link the villages, particularly between Athelhampton and Puddletown.

Puddletown Community Play Park update

The area under the cables to the east of the existing play area has now been cleared and volunteers are gradually removing rocks from the soil. This will be grassed over with a fence installed around the perimeter. The fence is being provided by Mintern and they are only billing for materials; labour is being provided free of charge. The intention is to

include a table tennis table and either a swing or climbing frame with the area opening up for use next Easter.

#### Neighbourhood Plan

The referendum for the Puddletown Neighbourhood Plan is being held on the 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021. Councillors expressed their thanks to all members of the working group past and present for their efforts.

#### Tree Management

Concerns have been raised regarding trees on The Green. These trees are very large and if they are not being regularly inspected and maintained, they could pose a serious risk.

**RESOLVED** to write to the owner of The Green to pass on concerns and ask if trees are being regularly inspected. **Action: Clerk**

#### 21/011 **Dorset Councillor's report**

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

#### 21/012 **Police and community issues**

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

#### 21/013 **Planning Applications**

##### **P/LBC/2021/00371 (listed building consent)**

Proposal: Rectification of rising damp internally on the ground floor

Location: 2 The Square, Puddletown, Dorset, DT2 8SL

**RESOLVED** to make no comment.

##### **P/FUL/2021/00795 (planning app.)**

Proposal: Demolish existing agricultural barn and erect building to provide guesthouse accommodation with swimming pool and garage.

Location: Manor Farm, Waterston Lane, Lower Waterston, DT2 7SS

**RESOLVED** to comment expressing concerns regarding access and an increase in traffic.

#### 21/014 **Rights of Way, drains, hedges, and roads**

The footpath running alongside Sherrings Green Close in Puddletown has now been re-opened.

Some work seems to be beginning to improve the surface of the road outside St. Mary's Middle School.

#### 21/015 **Dorset National Park**

MP Chris Loder wrote to explain his concerns regarding the proposed National Park and

so the letter agreed last month has not yet been sent. Councillors discussed the points made in the letter from Chris Loder but agreed that this did not change the position of the Parish Council.

**RESOLVED** to write to Chris Loder in support of the National Park as agreed at the meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021. **Action: Clerk**

21/016 **Finance and accounts**

**RESOLVED** to approve a grant request from Tolpuddle Village Hall Committee for £1400 towards phone line and broadband installation and the purchase of a TV/display screen.

**RESOLVED** to approve payments totalling £1162.90, in addition to the above grant approved, and note receipts and other payments in accordance with the May 2021 schedule. A copy of the schedule appears as **Appendix D** of the Minute Book and is available online under additional documents.

**RESOLVED** to add John Ridout as a signatory on the bank account.

21/017 **Date of next meeting and items for the agenda**

**RESOLVED** to hold both the June and July 2021 meetings in Puddletown Village Hall as the larger venue will help to ensure that social distancing can be achieved.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021, 7.00 pm in Puddletown Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 8:05pm

**Signed**

.....Chair

Alan Sheppard

Date: