

Minutes of a meeting of Puddletown Area Parish Council (PAPC) held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 10th August 2021, in Tolpuddle Village Hall.

Present:	Peter Walton (Vice-Chair), John Ridout (Vice-Chair), Peter Redman and Mike Brown.
Meeting Chair:	Cllr Alan Sheppard
Clerk:	Anna Bendall
Also in Attendance:	2 members of the public.
Minute Number	Comments
21/052	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllrs Nicky Ling, Julian Hubbuck and Lauren Tidman.</p>
21/053	<p>Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Requests</p> <p>None.</p>
21/054	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>A member of the public raised concerns that the ash tree along the roadside on the corner of Orchard Meadow needs maintaining. The Clerk will determine whether the Parish Council or Highways Authority is responsible for this tree. Action: Clerk</p> <p>A member of the public raised concerns that bus shelters in Tolpuddle need to be maintained – ivy cleared off, cleaned etc. Volunteers have recently done this. The Parish Council will monitor the condition of the shelters and review as necessary.</p> <p>A member of the public raised concerns that grounds maintenance at Orchard Meadow is no longer carried out to the high standard that it was previously. Trees may require inspection. The Parish Council has always paid for grass cutting. Other maintenance jobs have been carried out by volunteer work parties, although the pandemic has impeded this to an extent. The Clerk has a meeting scheduled with current volunteers in September to discuss future needs and how these could be met.</p> <p>When the contract for grass cutting was last reviewed in 2020, a once-per-year hedge cut was included in the agreement for the hedge to the north of Orchard Meadow, bordering the road. The previous contractor carried out additional work voluntarily and worked closely with event organisers to ensure high standards for any events. This was above and beyond what was expected and the current contractor does not offer these extra services, although doesn't charge for the hedge cut. The standard of grass cutting however was also called into question. Current standards are particularly poor as the contractor has reported staffing issues. The Parish Council will monitor the standards over the next month before reconsidering the contract.</p> <p>An organiser of the Tolpuddle Summer Sizzle requested that the grass at Orchard Meadow be cut before Thursday 26th to enable marquee to be erected on that day. The Clerk was previously contacted about grass cutting before the event, and has arranged for it to be cut on the Thursday but will enquire as to whether an earlier cut could be arranged instead. Action: Clerk</p>

	<p>A resident questioned the local government structure and whether communication between tiers was effective. Councillors commented that although Dorset Councillor Parker is not always able to attend the Parish Council meetings, she is quick to respond to concerns raised and support the Parish Council with any requests to the Local Authority. The Clerk has access to a dedicated phone number and email address for Parish Council's to contact Dorset Council with any enquiry but does tend to liaise directly with appropriate officers where possible.</p>
21/055	<p>Confirmation of minutes of the PAPC meeting held 13th July 2021</p> <p>RESOLVED that the minutes for the PAPC meeting held on the 13th of July 2021 be approved.</p>
21/056	<p>Matters arising from previous minutes of the PAPC meetings and review of Action Log</p> <p>Signs for recreations grounds regarding fires and barbecues will include "no camping" following recent overnight camping in Puddletown. Action: Clerk</p>
21/057	<p>Recreation Areas</p> <p>Quotes for a new cricket wicket were considered following a scoring process which happened outside of the meeting with members of the cricket club (all tenders having been received and handled in accordance with Standing Orders and Financial Regulations).</p> <p>RESOLVED to award the contract to Fieldform subject to funding being confirmed, and completion of the ball strike risk assessment being completed as advised by TGMS. The total quoted by Fieldform was £30,432 + VAT. The Clerk will continue to liaise with Puddletown Cricket Club, Sport England and Fieldform as required. Action: Clerk</p> <p>Visual safety checks have been carried out as usual at all recreation grounds. RESOLVED to authorise expenditure for sand to top-up the sandpit in Puddletown.</p> <p>RESOLVED that grass be trimmed regularly as required around the trees on the Blandford Road verge by a one of the Parish Council's Casual General Workers.</p> <p>RESOLVED to ask that ongoing maintenance of Orchard Meadow be discussed at the Parish Meeting in September.</p>
21/058	<p>Parish matters</p> <p>Assets of Community Value will be discussed at the September meeting to give Councillors more time to consider potential nominations.</p> <p>RESOLVED to write to the new owners of the Martyrs Inn regarding the nomination of the pub as an Asset of Community value, to welcome them to the village and to request that the defibrillator remains in place outside of the pub.</p> <p>The Tolpuddle Martyrs Festival took place this summer but on a much smaller scale than usual with several events online.</p>

	<p>The Tolpuddle Parish meeting is scheduled for the 23rd September in the village hall.</p> <p>The Environment group has met initially and begun discussing arrangements to be put in place. A further update will come later.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Council should once again actively try to recruit councillors as numbers have fallen recently. Action: Clerk</p>
21/059	<p>Dorset Councillor's report</p> <p>No report received.</p>
21/060	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>P/HOU/2021/01489 (householder application) Proposal: Erection of 1no. glamping cube with associated parking. Location: Applegate Slyers Lane Waterston Dorset DT2 7SL RESOLVED to object to the application commenting on the access suitability and traffic speed concerns.</p>
21/061	<p>Rights of Way, drains, hedges, and roads</p> <p>Quotes for the work on Doctors Lane were considered. RESOLVED to accept the quote from C-N-Richards of £3,800 + VAT. Action: Clerk</p> <p>Road closures for the Ironman event on the 19th September were noted. This will be clearly signposted well in advance of the event and all effected homes have had a leaflet.</p>
21/062	<p>Code of conduct</p> <p>A decision on the Code of Conduct was delayed until the September meeting. Councillors were reminded to undertake the new Code of Conduct training.</p>
20/063	<p>Finance</p> <p>A Financial Statement for the 1st Quarter of 2021-2022 was received and discussed.</p> <p>RESOLVED to approve payments totalling £1865.15 and an internal transfer in accordance with the August 2021 schedule. A copy of the schedule appears as Appendix A of the Minute Book and is available online under additional documents.</p>
20/064	<p>Scheme of Delegation</p> <p>Coronavirus cases continue to be a concern. It is difficult to tell what impact this might have in the winter and the Parish Council remains unable to hold remote meetings legally.</p> <p>RESOLVED to adopt the Scheme of Delegation. This will be used in an emergency situation if the Council is unable to safely hold a quorate meeting.</p>

21/065

Date of next meeting and items for the agenda

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 14th September 2021, 7.00 pm in Puddletown Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 8:27pm

Signed

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Date: