

Minutes of a meeting of Puddletown Area Parish Council (PAPC) held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 14th April 2020, remotely via Zoom.

Present: Cllrs A. Sheppard (Vice-Chair), P. Walton (Vice-Chair), J. Ridout, J. Hubbuck, P. Drake, N. Ling and S. Salcedo.

Meeting Chair: Cllr P Churchill

Clerk: Anna Bendall

In Attendance: 3 members of the public and Dorset Cllr Parker.

Minute Number **Comments**

19/242 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr M. Brown and PCSO Alison Donnison.

19/243 **Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Requests**

None received.

19/244 **Public Participation**

The Clerk from the Tolpuddle Village Meeting reported that the April litter pick and the May Village Meeting, have both been cancelled. A meeting will be arranged when appropriate and a litter pick may be held later in the year.

A Tolpuddle Village Survey was discussed and it was agreed that Cllr Walton would establish and coordinate a group to plan the survey. The Parish Council can then agree an appropriate time to distribute this. **Action: Cllr Walton**

Plans to adopt the Tolpuddle Phone box were again discussed. The Clerk is liaising with BT to try to get some basic maintenance undertaken before plans progress. In the meantime, Cllr Ling agreed to look into possible grant funding opportunities. **Action: Cllr Ling**

RESOLVED that the Parish Council will contribute up to 70% of costs associated with the project but grants and other fundraising would need to cover at least 30%.

A resident pointed out that there has been a garden theft in Puddletown. The Clerk will check with the PCSO that she is aware of this. **Action: Clerk**

19/245 **Confirmation of minutes of PAPC meeting held 10th March 2020**

RESOLVED that the minutes for the PAPC meetings held 10th March 2020 be approved. Due to social distancing measures in place, these will be signed at a later date.

19/246 **Matters arising from previous minutes of the PAPC meetings and review of the Action Log**

Action 19/235 - (VE Day) Due to the Coronavirus outbreak and social distancing measures in place, the planned event has been cancelled. The Council will look to commemorate VJ Day instead in some way in August.

19/222 – (The Martyrs Inn) The Clerk has not written to Hall and Woodhouse yet as all public houses have now been closed by the Government in response to the Coronavirus outbreak. Hall and Woodhouse have also reduced the asking price for the Martyrs Inn.

RESOLVED that Cllr Walton will redraft the letter considering these latest events and the Clerk will then send it. **Action: Clerk and Cllr Walton**

19/187 – (Oil Well Planning Application) There has still been no decision from the Planning Authority. Dorset Cllr Parker agreed to chase this up and report back.

Action: Dorset Cllr Parker

19/123 – (ICT in the Village Halls) A quote is due to come back to PAPC in due course.

Many actions are now on hold until social distancing measures are lifted. A copy of the updated action log appears as **Appendix A** of the Minute Book and is available online under additional documents.

19/247 **Dorset Councillor's report**

Dorset Cllr Parker sent a brief update prior to the meeting, a copy of which appears as **Appendix B** of the Minute Book and is available online under additional documents.

The need for residents to be able to access recycling facilities was discussed, particularly as garden waste collections have stopped. Cllr Parker agreed to feedback to Dorset Council.

Cllr Salcedo pointed out that NALC are running a survey on the financial burden that Covid-19 is causing for local councils. The Clerk will complete this.

Action: Clerk

Planning Applications were discussed after the Clerk acquired information on the process that takes place when a Parish Council submits an objection.

RESOLVED that the Clerk will notify Cllr Parker when the Parish Council objects to an application so that she is prepared when she is asked for comment.

19/248 **Police and community issues**

A police report was not received but the police have been highly active in both Puddletown forest and the villages.

19/249 **Covid-19 Community Support Group**

In response to the outbreak of the Covid-19 virus, Cllrs Hubbuck and Churchill met with a community volunteer as well as Reverend Hillman to establish a support group which covers all four parishes. This group is now supported financially by the Puddletown Charity and coordinated by Reverend Sarah Hillman and Councillor Julian Hubbuck. More than 55 volunteers have come forward to support social distancing measures at the Londis store in Puddletown and provide support to anyone in the community who is self-isolating or in need of help with everyday tasks such as shopping or prescription collection. Anyone wishing to volunteer or access any kind of support, should contact either Sarah or Julian. Further information and contact details are available on the Parish Council website.

19/250 **Tolpuddle matters**

The Martyrs Festival has not yet been cancelled but it is looking increasingly likely that it will be.

19/251 **Puddletown matters**

The Puddletown Neighbourhood plan has faced a delay as the Conservation Officer submitted significant comments which were received late. The Dorset Planning Consultant is now working with the steering group as well as the Conservation Officer in order to agree suitable amendments to the plan. The group hope to be able to submit the final draft to PAPC in time for the May meeting.

19/252 **Planning Applications**

WD/D/20/000536

Proposal: Install a modular construction classbase for a new CCN provision within the School. A glazed link corridor to connect the proposed building with the existing school. 4no. additional parking spaces to be provided to suit extra staffing levels.

Location: ST MARYS CHURCH OF ENGLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL,
PUDDLETOWN

RESOLVED to support the application.

WD/20/000406

Proposal: Installation of package sewage treatment works

Location: TOLPUDDLE MANOR, MAIN ROAD, TOLPUDDLE, DT2 7EW

RESOLVED to support the application.

WD/D/20/000367

Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension and partial garage conversion.

Location: 22 MAIN ROAD, TOLPUDDLE, DORCHESTER, DT2 7ES

RESOLVED to support the application.

WD/D/20/000768

Proposal: Demolition of conservatory and erection of garden room

Location: 41 MAIN ROAD, TOLPUDDLE, DORCHESTER, DT2 7ES

RESOLVED to support the application.

Action: Clerk

19/253 **Recreation/play areas**

Play areas have all been closed in line with advice from government. Tape has been used to close them off and signs have been put up.

Some members of the public have been driving to Puddletown Recreation ground and putting nets of the goal posts to play football. They do not seem in any way associated with the football club. In order to discourage this activity which goes against government guidelines at present, the goals are being temporarily removed.

The alterations to the recreation ground and cricket area are likely to be delayed for approximately 12 months due to the requirement to obtain a PPO as well as expected delays due to Coronavirus.

A copy of the Orchard Meadow Lease has been acquired and is in the care of the Clerk until it can be deposited in the Archives.

A resident has contacted the Clerk to raise concerns about people gathering on the benches outside of the Pavilion in Puddletown against government guidance concerning social distancing. The resident has asked that the Parish Council tape off the benches to prevent this but councillors were concerned that this would set a precedent and that they would be asked to tape off all benches which would be a substantial task. The Parish Council is not responsible for enforcing social distancing and has not been advised to prevent use of benches. The Clerk has arranged for signs to be put up at the entrances to the recreation ground reminding people to follow government guidance. The Council agreed that this is sufficient.

19/254 **Rights of Way, Drains, Hedges and Roads**

Cllr Drake reported that some landowners have been attempting to prevent access to rights of way. This should not be happening and the public still have the right to access rights of way at this time. Where possible, gates should be tied open to prevent people having to make contact with surfaces and all walkers should be mindful of following government guidance whilst using these routes.

A tree has been felled and removed from the path that runs between Tolpuddle and Dewlish by Dorset Council. The Rights of Way team has however, been disbanded with officers redeployed to assist with more urgent business at this time so it is likely that further rights of way maintenance will be delayed.

Public waste bins including dog waste bins are not being emptied as much as usual if at all whilst Dorset Council faces staff shortages as a result of the virus. As Dorset Council are prioritising residential waste collections, residents need to take their litter home with them and dispose of it in their own bins for the time being. Waste should never be left next to a full public litter bin.

19/255 **Accounts**

The council noted the payment of £600 to the Puddletown Charity which comprises a donation of £500 from PAPC and £100 from the Community Café. This was donated with the understanding that the support group will continue to serve Tolpuddle parish despite the fact that the Charity does not usually cover that area. Councillors agreed to this donation via email before it was paid and the Chair and Clerk used delegated authority to authorise the expense.

RESOLVED to approve payments totalling £5906.36 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.

The end of year financial statement was received and discussed. This is available on the PAPC website or by contacting the Clerk.

19/256 **Date of next meeting and items for the agenda**

Tuesday 12th May 2020, 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.

Items to be sent to the Clerk by midday on Monday 4th May 2020.

Meeting closed at 8.35pm

.....Chair Date:

Peter Churchill

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