

Puddletown Area Parish Council

Parishes of Athelhampton, Burleston, Puddletown & Tolpuddle
Clerk: Mr Rodney Curtis, 58 Halves Cottages, Corfe Castle, Wareham, Dorset
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MINUTES of a meeting of Puddletown Area Parish Council held on Tuesday
10th January at 7.00 pm at Puddletown Village Hall, Puddletown, Dorset DT2
8RX

Present: Councillors P Walton (Vice Chairman, R Belbin, P Drake, M
 Cooke, Mrs S Langdon, J Johnson, P Cooke, P Stockley, Mrs J
 Ranger. Mr R Curtis, Parish Clerk

Public Participation Time

A short democratic period for members of the public to raise issues of concern.

Five members of the public were in attendance. Mrs Clare Campbell referred to a situation which had developed at the top of Three Lanes Way, Greenacres, Puddletown. It had been planted up by developers and it had been agreed with DCC Highways that members of the community would use plastic bags provided by DCC to clear the area, and keep it free of garden rubbish etc. This arrangement ceased two years previously, however, and there was growing concern regarding traffic visibility and danger to pedestrians particularly since the opening of the First School opposite the site. The leaf fall had also increased and made the pathway slippery. She asked for someone to contact her to try and recommence the collection or to completely remove the vegetation and grass over the site.

Clare Campbell also referred to potential traffic accidents to children and adults with the Play Park opening soon, following many near misses as pedestrians or cyclists came straight into the road from the path at Three Lanes Way or coming from the Recreation Ground. It was essential to resolve these issues as soon as possible and it was recommended to place a warning sign on the end of the path to show that there was a road ahead, or by cutting back the vegetation.

Councillors noted both foregoing concerns and Cllr Drake offered to make contact and investigate what could be achieved using parish council resources or by contact with Dorset Highways.

Public comment was also received regarding a lay-by used by Dorset Highways at the extreme end of the parish which was very unsightly and could become a rubbish dump. To whom does it belong, what is it being used for and is somebody going to clear up the mess? Noted by councillors for investigation and action as necessary.

17.01 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr S Baynard.

17.02 Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2016 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman subject to noting that at Minute 16.095 the intention was to write to the Planning Authority and not the Diocese on this matter (see Matters Arising below).

17.03. Matters arising from the minutes – for report only

Minute 16.095: St Mary's Churchyard/Former Puddletown First School. Cllr P Drake confirmed that the letter should have been written to the planning authority rather than the Diocese. This was a very unsightly area formerly bounded by a close boarded wooden fence. Debris had to be removed, a beech/yew hedge had been planted but was not satisfactory and not part of the official boundary. It was suggested that a letter be written to the planning authority to put the case again to build a wall which was the wish of the Church Council and members of the parish council and he would draw up a draft for signature.

17.04. To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972 and consider any dispensations requested.

Cllr Mrs S Langdon declared a personal interest in the Puddletown Neighbourhood Plan application.

17.05. To consider planning applications:

Councillors were consulted by West Dorset District Council (Planning Authority) on the following applications:

WD/D/002245 – subdivision of part of the land for use as additional garden space for No. 5 The Moor, Puddletown, Dorchester DT2 8TE.

- No objections.
- **WD/D/16/002716** - 11 White Hill, Puddletown, DT2 8SB – Erect flat roof rear extension.
- No objections
- **WD/D/16/002121** – 69 Main Road, Tolpuddle DT2 7ET – Replacement of front door (Listed building Consent).
- No objections

17.06. To consider the accounts:

(a) To authorise payment of accounts.

The following accounts were considered for payment:

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>
• Countrywide Grounds Services	£140.00	200547
• Clerk's salary Dec 2016	£412.00	200548

• Clerk- reimbursement laptop/printer/ cartridge/diary	£425.46	200549
• Landscape Practice – play park services	£4669.63	200550
• Sarah Davies – handover/emails 10 hrs	£103.00	200551
• Mrs I Stockley – Toilets/rubbish bins July – Sept 2016	££750.00	200552
• Hustings Electrical – caravan hook up test	£57.60	200553
• Grant – Puddletown Village Hall	£352.00	200555
• Grant – Tolpuddle Village Hall	£220.00	200556
• Grant – St Marys Church Puddletown	£627.00	200557
• Grant – St Johns Church Tolpuddle	£627.00	200558
• Grant- Friends of Puddletown Library	£550.00	200559

RESOLVED that the above amounts be authorised for payment and that signatories be authorised to sign cheques as listed in payment of sums due.

(b) **Recreation Ground Play Park works –**

(i) The Council noted and agreed to the clerk's authorisation of £920.00 for urgently needed additional excavation works to allow the project to continue and meet the scheduled drawn date of Viridor grant funding.

(ii) Cllr R Belbin presented a Financial Summary on the Play Park current works – attached to these minutes. The current contract value was £117,781.2. It was noted that Viridor grant funding would account for £94,000 of the proposed £131,982.00 total cost, which now included the cost of variations for subsoil/removal of extra car park base and proposed additional works for footpath and edging, plus timber posts to the play area entrance.

Section 106 funding of £28,722.00 was expected soon and other funding would be drawn from the West Dorset Sports Fund (£5000.00) and funding of £4300.00 held by the parish council. Funds available were therefore £132,022.00 which would cover all the proposed total cost of £131,982.00.

RESOLVED that the Financial Summary be noted and agreed.

17.07. To consider the Council's final budget for Financial Year 2017/2018 and submission of the Precept to West Dorset District Council.

Further information was needed for the consideration of the proposed budget and it was agreed that this matter be decided at an extraordinary meeting to be called for the following week, Tuesday 17th January, prior to submission of the Precept request as soon as possible thereafter.

17.08 Council Schedule of Meetings 2017

A proposed Schedule of Council Meetings for the remainder of 2017 was considered. There was one amendment and the final list was

agreed as follows (all meetings on Tuesdays):

14th February, 14th March, 11th April, 9th May, 13th June, 11th July, 8th August, 12th September, 10th October, 14th November, 12th December

17.09. Puddletown Neighbourhood Plan Update

An update on the Puddletown Neighbourhood Plan was read to council by Cllr Mrs S Langdon. Reference was made to funding, where there was a gap between available funding and the budget, including extra commitments. A consultant had been earmarked however there was insufficient funding to take the Plan forward in other areas and more would be needed. The possibility of reclaiming VAT on consultation fees had been raised and the Clerk had confirmed with the Internal Auditor that this was possible as the Council was the lead authority for the Neighbourhood Plan to whom all invoices should be addressed. The contract for the consultant, Ferria Ltd, was to be agreed and it was:

RESOLVED that consideration of the consultant's contract be delegated to the parish clerk in conjunction with the Chairman for agreement and signature by the Chairman.

17.10. Correspondence

The Clerk read out a letter from Cllr P Stockley who expressed his wish to resign from the Council with immediate effect. The Chairman and all councillors thanked him for his many years of parish council service which was believed to have commenced in 1969 or 1970. He would be greatly missed and all Members present wished him well in the future.

It was noted that there were several vacancies on the council and that there was a volunteer to replace Cllr Stockley which was agreed to be considered as a co-option at the next meeting.

17.11. Communications

- (a) Item for the **Parish newsletter** – Clerk to pass on that Cllr Stockley had resigned.

Cllr P Walton raised the following matters:

- (b) **Affordable Housing in Tolpuddle** – Correspondence from the Hastoe Housing Association regarding the assignment of affordable housing in the village to five people on a provisional basis. All named were local to Tolpuddle/Puddletown and three had strong local connections. All units were to be occupied in mid-March. It was

RESOLVED that the parish council had no comments and the matter be noted.

- (c) **Tolpuddle Village Hall** – current building works: sub-contractors were busy digging out foundations and engaged in piling for the main shell of

the building to be completed by March/April.

17.12. Items for Next Meeting – 14th March 2017

- Co – option of new councillor – volunteer noted, Mr A Shepherd
- Ways to encourage new councillors to join council

Meeting closed at 8.07 pm

Chairman.....