

Correspondence

- a. Bin location at Halves Cottages – Email sent to Cllr's 13-07-23
DWP asked to relocate the bin at the end of the footpath from the Common to Halves Cottages
- b. Action for Health and Social Care in Purbeck – Email sent to Cllr's 07-08-23
- c. Dorset Council Housing Strategy Consultation – Email sent to Cllr's 21-07-23 & update on 07-08-23

d. Halves Cottages – Hedges

Two residents in Halves Cottages contacted Cllr Spicer-Short and raised the issue of the hedge between the road surface and the footpath past the bungalows up to the Common. This was planted some time ago and intended as a 4ft or so high structure but has not been tended for some time and is now about 15 ft tall and significantly impacting the carriageway. The MOP informed Cllr Spicer-Short that over the past few years he has twice met with 'a chap from Aster, who said it would be cut down', but nothing has happened, all the contractors do is cut grass twice a year.

It appears from the Aster website that the "neighbourhood officer" for Corfe Castle is Shannon Kennedy (shannon.kennedy@aster.co.uk). Could the Clerk please write to S Kennedy from the Parish Council asking that the hedge be cut back as a matter of priority?



Recommendation: The Clerk write to S Kennedy as the representative of Aster covering the Corfe Castle area and request the hedge running along the footpath to the common outside of 15 Halves Cottages be cut back to the originally intended hedge height of 4foot.

e. Corfe Castle Congregational Church.

The following was received:

"I have written to Michael Bond regarding permission to hold a Service on the playing field. Our church backs on to the field, so we would hold a Service close to where our Church is situated so as not to come out to the football pitch. Michael is happy for us to use this part of the field for a Service but wants me to email you for permission also, as you rent the playing field from him. We would love to hear from you Michelle."

I have replied, asking for specifics like date and time, but to date no date or time has been fixed.

Recommendation: To discuss and agree a way forward, regarding allowing events to take place on the Playing field area.

f. Coach Parking

This month there has been a couple of MOP's complain about coaches traveling down West Street, dropping Castle visitor off, and then trying to turn around. Plus, coaches use East Street as a parking area for a couple of hours as they have nowhere else to park-up whilst their passengers are visiting the castle.

I have corresponded with Adam from the NT, and he has confirmed the NT have a booking system for groups / coaches and a parking space is allocated for them within the Visitors Centre car park, so it is thought that the "rogue" coaches are not used by companies who have booked to visit the castle but ones who are visiting on the off chance.

Recommendation: If an MOP contacts the Council to raise the issue of Coaches using West Street & East Street as drop-off / park-up areas to ask if there is any photo evidence, along with the coach company's name. For the Clerk to then write to the company advising of the NT booking system or directing them to Purbeck Park as a drop-off and park-up area.

g. Rent Review – Playing field.

We have received the below from the landowners' agents:

"I am writing to inform you that the rent of the Playing Field at Middle Hawes has not been reviewed since 2018. We are suggesting a small increase in line with RPI taking the annual rent from £61.25 to £83.50 with effect from 1st September 2023.

Please could you confirm that you agree with this figure, and we will issue you with the rental invoice for 2023/24."

This increase is a 36.32% increase.

h. Joining of Paths for, Bridle, Cycle and Foot users. (Map's over leaf)

We have been informed of a "Pass Wide & Slow Ride" taking place on Sunday 17th September starting at 11am from Norden – Corfe Castle. The reason for the event is to "make road users aware of the New Highway Code and we are trying to get new signs for the Purbeck area. We are also trying to get permission paths open, so they join up, so we don't have to do so much road.

The red lines are the ones the organisers have ask for from the National Trust and the black ones are what the National Trust is looking into or have open for bikes."

I understand from the organiser they have been in contact with Tracey Churcher asking if the NT would allow paths to be installed over their land, however the reply supposedly given was that the land was not NT's land. The organiser I am told has gone back to Tracy with map's identifying the area but is awaiting a response.

I was asked if there was anyway the Parish Council could become involved, as she had heard we were trying to get a permissive path from the Corfe Common to Woodyhyde, but also if we could talk to other local Councils to see if they would also become involved, with the idea that we all work together with the aim of having a continuous "bridleway, footpath, cycle route" from Studland through Norden, Church Knowle, Corfe Castle, Worth Matravers, Langton Matravers and onto Swanage.

