

CORFE CASTLE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF CORFE CASTLE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2023
IN THE VILLAGE HALL. THE MEETING COMMENCED AT 7.00PM

PRESENT:

Cllr **Dru Drury** (Chairman), Cllr **Blinkhorn**, Cllr **J Dragon**, Cllr **N Dragon**, Cllr **Parish**, Cllr **Spicer-Short** & Cllr **Sumbler**

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Michelle **Harrington** (Clerk)

ABSENT:

Cllr **Clarke**, Cllr **Haywood**, Cllr **Marshall** & Cllr **Roberts**

PUBLIC HALF HOUR.

1 member of public was present to observe the meeting.

1223-81 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT(LGA) 1972 S85 (1))

Apologies have been received from Cllr Clarke, Cllr Haywood, Cllr Marshall and Cllr Roberts and accepted by all.

1223-82 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

No declaration was made. NB this does not preclude any later declarations.

1223-83 PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The minutes from the full council meeting held on Monday 13th November 2023 were presented.

Proposed Cllr Blinkhorn

Seconded Cllr Spicer-Short

RESOLVED – The minutes from the full council meeting held on Monday 13th November 2023 were approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting. (LGA 1972, SCHEDULE 12, PARA 41(1))

1223-84 DORSET COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Brooks sent apologies before the meeting.

1223-85 NATIONAL TRUST REPORT

James Gould sent apologies before the meeting.

Action: The Clerk was asked to raise the following questions with James Gould via email:

1. Could the National Trust inform the Parish Council what car parking provision are planned for future special events held within the Castle. This year there has been several special events advertised, and the National Trust Car Park could not cope with the level of visitors, meaning cars spilled out into the Village, causing mayhem along both East Street & West Street. Could the National Trust open North field as they have in previous years when they hold special events? Alternatively, could the National Trust signpost people to Purbeck Park and provide a minibus shuttle between Purbeck Park and the Visitors Centre?
2. This year the timing of the National Trust first nighttime "Lights on the Castle" coincided with Father Christmas visiting Corfe Castle, plus the Swanage Street Market. With both national and local advertising campaigns for all three events the number of visitors was excessive, and crowd control was minimal, meaning barriers were moved and Father Christmas was not able to turn his vehicle into the Square causing issues on the main A351. Could the Festivities Committee and the National Trust consider next year ensuring their events take place on different weekends or putting in more crowd control.

1223-86 CLERKS REPORT TO INCLUDE:

1223-86a Matters arising and actions taken since the last meeting – Action Log Update

The clerk submitted a written report before the meeting, detailing the updates on any matters arising from the previous minutes plus actions taken from the last meeting, this was discussed.

Action: Clerk to ask Cherry if Corfe Castle Parish Council could have a copy of the report identifying the four original routes considered from Purbeck Park to the Village?

It was agreed Cllr N Dragon would change places with Cllr Blinkhorn and attend any site visit Corfe Castle Parish Council may be invited to with the Dorset Council consultants carrying out a feasibility study, for Purbeck Park path to the Village.

It was agreed Cllr N Dragon would contact the landowner and speak to them directly to understand their concerns with regards to the possible path, and report back to Council.

1223-86b Financial Matters

The clerk submitted a written report before the meeting, detailing the monthly expenditure, income, and bank balances.

Proposed Cllr Parish

Seconded Cllr Sumbler

RESOLVED – All payments as listed within the Clerks report and supporting paper was approved with a combined total of £5,519.31 including VAT.

Action: Clerk to process payments.

1223-86c Parish Safety Report

c1 The playground safety report was submitted before the meeting and noted

c2 Defibrillator Monthly Safety Reports were submitted before the meeting this was noted.

1223-86d Policy / Risk Assessment Ratification

The following Risk Assessments were reviewed:

d1 003 – West Street Toilet Block – Approved as submitted.

d2 004 – Meetings – Minor amendment changing “personal accessories off the floor” to “personal accessories out of walkways. Approved with minor amendment.

d3 009 – Gods Acre – Approved as submitted.

d4 010 – Speed Indicator Device – Approved as submitted.

d5 011 – Permit Holders Car Park – Approved as submitted.

d6 DSE Self-Assessment BHIB Workstation Risk Assessment – Approved as submitted.

Proposed Cllr Sumbler

Seconded Cllr Parish

RESOLVED: Approved all risk assessments as stated.

Action: Clerk to publish approved risk assessments.

1223-86d Noticeboards

A report was submitted before the meeting this was discussed.

Action: Clerk to investigate costings for local carpenters to make like for like noticeboards. To incorporate into the monthly CVN article an invite to all local carpenters to send in quotes for the work, and asking local companies or individuals who may wish to sponsor the noticeboard to contact the Clerk.

1223-86d DAPTC – AGM

It was noted the voting results from the DAPTC AGM can be found on the DAPTC website.

1223-86g Car Park Surface Repairs

A report was submitted before the meeting this was discussed.

Proposed Cllr Spicer-Short

Seconded Cllr J Dragon

RESOLVED – To approve contractor 3 subject to confirmation of detailed works planned within the quote. If quote includes material compression quote approved, if not re-present quotes at the next meeting.

Action: Clerk to contact contractor 3 to confirm work planned to fill potholes.

It was noted contractor 3 is Austin and Farrar Partnership.

1223-86h Caretakers Report

Before the meeting a list of works the caretaker has undertaken this month was submitted. This was noted.

1223-87 PLANNING AND LICENSING MATTERS

1223-87a Planning Working Group – Planning Applications

The planning working group submitted a written report before the meeting detailing applications with recommendations.

a1 Application No: P/LBC/2023/03366

Location: Old Church of St James Langton Road Kingston Dorset BH20 5LR

Proposal: Internal and external alterations

Recommend: This building was converted from a church to a house in 1976. It is listed. The current application seeks to replace the existing ground floor flooring to purbeck stone with underfloor heating. The first floor will also be replaced with an oak finish. The proposal also improves the layout of internal space as well as installing a small external shed for the air source heat pump. The proposal will improve the living space and materials are sympathetic to the existing. - No objection

a2

Application No: P/HOU/2023/07070

Location: Stonewood Calcraft Road Corfe Castle BH20 5EL

Proposal: Install replacement extension to the side of the property onto existing base

Recommend This is a modest extension which uses the base on which the current Conservatory is built. The proposal is to replace the Conservatory by a more substantial and very slightly larger solid extension. The property is at the far end of Calcraft road and outside the conservation area (the design and access statement incorrectly says that the property is inside the conservation area). There are no overlooking issues. - No Objection

a3

Application No: P/FUL/2023/06768

Location: Castle View Information Centre Corfe Castle BH20 5DR

Proposal: Erect a purpose built changing places unit

Recommend This is a roughly 3x4 by 3-metre-high cuboid, reminiscent of a shipping container. It will be clad with a timber effect walnut coloured surface. It will be installed at the back of Castle View between the rear of the building and the railway. It will be used to provide facilities for parents to change their infants and for people with special needs to change and wash in private, there being no suitable space within Castle View. A large concrete and reinforced steel slab will be built as the base. It is out of sight and cannot be seen from the castle. The AONB has decided not to comment. Were it more prominent we should object, but as it will be unobtrusive, we recommend no objection.

RESOLVED: No objection as recommended for P/LBC/2023/03366 & P/HOU/2023/07070. Cllr Dru Drury and Cllr Spicer-Short as part of the planning working group to visit the location for application P/FUL/2023/06768 to assess the possible impact on parking. If no impact on parking no objection approved, if new facility may impact parking an objection to the application will be lodged, due to already less than adequate parking facilities.

1223-87b. Treeworks Application

No Treeworks Applications were received.

1223-87c Other Applications / Notices

No Other Applications / Notices were received.

Action: Clerk to submit application comments as per recommendations.

1223-88 PLAYPARK TODDLER SWING REPLACEMENT - APPENDIX

A report was submitted before the meeting, detailing quotes received from 5 different contractors for new playpark equipment. Quotes requested:

- 1: Replace old toddler cradle swing unit with like for like unit.
- 2: Replace old toddler cradle swing unit with like for like unit, to replace the old seesaw unit like for like, to replace the old roundabout, with an all-inclusive roundabout and to replace the old rocking horse with an item suitable for toddler play not already in-situ. (Noting rocking horse style units are no longer available.

Proposed Cllr Spicer-Short

Seconded Cllr J Dragon

RESOLVED – To approve Contractor 1 for the purchase of a toddler cradle swing unit, a trampoline & a 4-person seesaw. To all be installed at the same time.

Action: Clerk to contact contractor to progress order. Contractor 1 is Caledonia Play

After this installation, it was noted that as all remaining old items within the play park are not expected to need replacing for 5-years, based on external reports, the next project will be to investigate the community desire for adult fitness equipment. It was agreed reserves should be reallocated so that a portion of the proposed playground reserves be re-allocated to a new reserve "Adult Fitness Equipment".

1223-89 GODS ACRE – CREMATION PLOTS - APPENDIX

A report was submitted before the meeting, detailing possible new areas for cremated ashes interment. This was discussed.

Proposed Cllr Sumbler

Seconded Cllr Blinkhorn

RESOLVED – To allocate within the New Extension area west of row F towards the central pathway, from South to North an area for cremated ashes interments.

1223-90 CORRESPONDENCE - APPENDIX

A report was submitted before the meeting, this was discussed.

- a. Street name signage request for Higher Gardens Street name sign to be improved. It was agreed as Higher Gardens is a private road neither the Parish Council nor Dorset Council have the responsibility to repair the street name.

Action: Clerk to respond to acknowledge receipt of correspondence plus suggest they communicate with the other residents of Higher Gardens and see if they wish to take this on as project between themselves.

- b. Wytch Farm Wellsite, Local Liaison Group – It was agreed Cllr N Dragon and Cllr Roberts would attend the Wytch Farm Wellsite – Local Liaison Group meeting to represent the Parish Council.

Action: Clerk to register Cllr N Dragon and Cllr Roberts to attend the Wytch Farm Wellsite – Local Liaison Group meeting.

- c. Corfe Castle Pre-school building.

Action: Clerk to ask Coastal Learning Partnership if they are going to take on the running of the holiday club, which at present is run by external providers who use the Pre-school building during the educational holiday period?

1223-91 BUDGET - APPENDIX

A report was submitted before the meeting, this was discussed. Noting Cllr Dru Drury withdraw from the discussion when contributions were being discussed due to declaring an interest in Corfe Valley News.

Proposed Cllr Spicer-Short

Seconded Cllr Blinkhorn

RESOLVED: Car Park permit fees will remain at current levels. £450 inc VAT for residents & £750 inc VAT for second homes owners / businesses

RESOLVED: Approved the following contribution be paid in December 2024:

Citizens Advice: £300 (As long as the mobile service is still in operation within Corfe Castle)

Air Ambulance: £150

Corfe Valley News: £1000

Other: £200 (For use throughout the year if help requested and agreed)

RESOLVED: Membership to DAPTC, SLCC & CPRE were ratified.

RESOLVED: Gods Acre fees to increase by 5% from 1st April 2024. (Fees will be rounded to the nearer £5)

RESOLVED: To approve budget option 4, setting the 2024-25 Precept at £55,179. 4.77% increase on 2023-24 Precept levels, 4.23% increase across tax base. 2024-25 equivalent Band D Tax band of £80.29 an increase of £0.27 per month per household.

Action: Clerk to produce a report showing other local cemetery fees.

Action: Clerk to submit Precept request to Dorset Council.

At this point it was noted the meeting had reached the 2-hour limit.

Proposed Cllr Parish

Seconded Cllr Sumbler

RESOLVED: To continue with the meeting. Agreed by all.

1223-92 PURBECK LOCAL PLAN SUPPLEMENTARY PROPOSED MAIN MODIFICATIONS CONSULTATION 10 NOVEMBER TO 22 DECEMBER 2023

A report was submitted before the meeting, this was discussed.

Proposed Cllr Parish

Second Cllr Blinkhorn

RESOLVED: Individual Councillors respond as they wish but Corfe Castle Parish Council reply agreeing to the statement on Corfe Common.

“All development within a 400m consultation area around Corfe Common will be considered on a case-by-case basis in consultation with Natural England. Residential applications may be acceptable if the applicant can demonstrate that likely significant effects on Corfe Common can be avoided or mitigated.”

1223-93 GROUND'S MAINTENANCE – TENDER RESULT

The results of the Grounds Maintenance tender were submitted before the meeting, this was discussed.

Proposed Cllr Spicer Short

Seconded Cllr Sumbler

RESOLVED – To accept Contractor 1 tender application for Grounds Maintenance within the Parish, costing £5,698 per annum.

It was stated Contractor 1 is Lowther.

Action: Clerk to contact contractor 1 to accept tender application.

1223-94 DORSET COUNCIL HIGHWAYS

A statement was submitted before the meeting, suggesting a letter of thanks be sent to S Mephram Dorset Council Senior Technical Officer and his team for all the Highway improvement works carried out in Corfe Castle over the last couple of months. This was discussed and agreed.

Action: Clerk to write to S Mephram and his team, to thank them for all the work they have progressed within Corfe Castle over the last couple of months.

1223-95 MEETING FOR JANUARY

A statement was submitted before the meeting postponing the January meeting to 15th January 2024 this was discussed.

RESOLVED – To postpone the January meeting to Monday 15th January 2024.

Action: Clerk to publish meeting date amendment.

1223-96 REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

- a Environment Group report by Cllr Sumbler.
A report was submitted before the meeting, this was noted.
- b Purbeck Heaths NNR report by Cllr Sumbler
A report was submitted before the meeting, this was noted.
- c Litter Pick report by Cllr Sumbler
A verbal report was given by Cllr Sumbler, this was noted.

The meeting ended at 21:49