

CORFE CASTLE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a parish council meeting of Corfe Castle Parish Council held on Monday 9th February 2026 in the village hall. The meeting commenced at 7.00pm

PRESENT:

Cllr **Dru Drury** (Chairman), Cllr **Blinkhorn**, Cllr **Humphries**, Cllr **Lermit**, Cllr **Marshallsay**, Cllr **Roberts**, Cllr **Rowell**, Cllr **Spicer-Short** & Cllr **Sumbler**

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Cllr **Wilson** (Dorset Council), & Michelle **Harrington** (Clerk)

ABSENT:

Cllr Clarke, Cllr Kirkwood

PUBLIC SESSION

One member of public was present.

One member wished to raise the following concern.

1. Noting the agenda was not on the website.
2. It was noted there was a confidential session held several months ago in respect of Norden Park and Ride. It was noted the local landowners have still not been contacted.
Cllr Wilson stated the landowners will be contacted once Dorset Council have finished their investigations into possible routes.
3. It was believed work being carried out in the field behind Webbers Close is causing flooding issues in the properties in Webbers Close.
4. Town Trust
Concern was raised in respect of the Corfe Castle Village Square pump having been removed for repair works without planning permission.
5. Sports Trust
Concern was raised in respect of the running of the Sports Trust. It was noted two trustees can call a meeting with 4 days' notice.

0226-112 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT(LGA) 1972 S85 (1))

Apologies have been received from Cllr Clarke and Cllr Kirkwood for personal reasons and accepted by all.

0226-113 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

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

To note a dispensation was signed before the meeting by Cllr Rowell in respect of the Kingston Village Charitable Trust.

0226-114 PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The minutes from the full council meeting held on Monday 12th January 2026 were approved and signed as a correct record the meeting. (LGA 1972, SCHEDULE 12, PARA 41(1))

Proposed Cllr Blinkhorn Seconded Cllr Spicer-Short

RESOLVED – The minutes from the full council meeting held on Monday 12th January 2026 were approved and signed as a correct record the meeting.

0226-115 DORSET COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

A report was submitted before the meeting, but after the agenda was published, this was noted. See Appendix A for full details.

ACTION: Cllr Wilson to enquire if a "30" roundel could be painted on the road by the school.

ACTION. Clerk to organise for large sticker on shelter outside school "School"

0226-116 NATIONAL TRUST REPORT

A representative was unable to attend and no report was submitted.

0226-117 CLERKS REPORT TO INCLUDE:

a Financial Matters

The clerk submitted an updated expenditure and income list before the meeting. See Appendix B for full details

1. Bank Balance

The following bank balance was noted:

Bank Balance 31st January 2026

00289201 – Lloyds £2,733.44

00162368 – Lloyds £40,638.57

80031534 – Redwood £68,772.21

Equals Money £1,089.13

Total £113,233.35

2. Expenditure and Income

Proposed Cllr Marshallsay

Seconded Cllr Lermitt

RESOLVED – All payments as listed within the Clerks report and supporting paper was approved with a combined total of £5,400.39 including VAT. The Income of £232.79 was noted.

Action: Clerk to process payments.

3. Bank Reconciliation

A copy of the January Bank Reconciliation print out from Scribe was submitted during the meeting.

RESOLVED – To approve the January Scribe Bank Reconciliation and the Chairman to sign.

b Parish Safety Report

1 The playground safety report was submitted before the meeting and discussed.

It was noted the playpark fence is bowing, however after inspection the posts are still firm in the ground.

Proposed Cllr Marshallsay

Seconded Cllr Blinkhorn

RESOLVED/ACTION – Clerk to gather quotes to replace the section of fence which is bowing and report back to Council.

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

3. Tree House & Platform

It was noted, due to a Health and Safety concern, the Tree House and platform in the Lime Tree behind the Youth Shelter has been removed and all materials taken off site.

c. Data Controller

A recommendation was submitted before the meeting, to approve Cllr Blinkhorn as a second Data Controller for Corfe Castle Parish Council in respect of Emergency Planning / Emergency Response. Noting a WhatsApp Community Group will be set up for notification.

Proposed Cllr Sumbler

Seconded Cllr Spicer-Short

RESOLVED/ACTION – To approve Cllr Blinkhorn as a Data Controller for Corfe Castle Parish Council. Clerk to create the group, with Cllr Blinkhorn and Clerk as Admin.

d Policy Ratification

The following policy was submitted before the meeting for ratification:

1. Publication Scheme – Based on the ICO Model.

Proposed Cllr Marshallsay

Seconded Cllr Blinkhorn.

RESOLVED/ACTION: Clerk to amend the “Postal and email address:” to state only Council email addresses will be advertised, NOT home addresses.

e Caretakers Report

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

f. Action Log

A copy of the Action Log was submitted before the meeting, this was discussed, with no further updates given. (See Appendix C for a full copy of the Action Log).

0226-118 PLANNING AND LICENSING MATTERS

a Planning Working Group – Planning Applications

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

1. Application No: P/HOU/2025/05791
Location: 121 East Street Corfe Castle BH20 5EG
Proposal: Two storey side and rear extensions inc. internal alterations and detached garage
Comment: This appears to be a renewal of P/HOU/2022/03027, to which we had no objection and which was granted. Three years later they are yet to break ground and so have sought renewed permission. Corfe Castle Parish Council have no objection.
2. Application No: P/FUL/2025/07473
Location: Land Between Wytch Farm Gathering Station & Well site D Corfe Castle Wareham BH20 5JR
Proposal: Installation of a replacement oil pipeline between Wytch Farm Gathering Station and Well Site D.
Comment: Corfe Castle Parish Council have no objection, as Perenco proposes to use Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) rather than an open trench, which will reduce site disturbance. The proposed works will also reduce the risk of future leaks arising from deterioration of the affected pipeline.
3. Application No: P/LBC/2026/00162
Location: Outside No 16 West Street Kingston BH20 5LH
Proposal: Renovation work on the village water pump to ensure that deterioration of stone and ironwork is halted and the life of this village icon is prolonged.
Comment: This application seeks to restore an important heritage asset within the village at no public expense. Corfe Castle Parish Council therefore have no objection and commend Kingston Village Trust for their work in bringing this asset back into productive use.

Proposed Cllr Humphries Seconded Cllr Roberts

RESOLVED/ACTION: Clerk to submit planning application comments as agreed.

ACTION: Cllr Lemit will contact the Town Trust Chairman and asked if the Town Trust will speak to planning to enquire if planning permission was needed to remove the Village Pump.

0226-119 CORRESPONDENCE

- a. 30 mph reminder signs on the A351
It was noted this was covered by Cllr Wilson under the Dorset Councillor report. Noting Dorset Council are unable to add any repeaters.
- b. Royal Garden Party Nominations
- c. Toilet Block green area – Gardening Club

RESOLVED / ACTION: Clerk to contact the Caretaker to ask he maintain the area.

RESOLVED / ACTION: Clerk to formally thank the Caretaker for all the work he carried out around the parish.

RESOLVED / ACTION: Clerk to send thanks to the Gardening Club for their dedication to maintaining the green area and flower boarder around the Toilet block over the past years.

- d. No further correspondence was received since the publication of the agenda

0226-120 FORTH COMING MEETINGS & REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

- a. Forth coming meetings
 1. Cllr Dru Drury to attend Swanage Railway 200 16th February 2026
 2. Cllr Sumbler to attend the PTAG meeting on 25th February 2026
 3. Clerk to attend a meeting hosted by Catherine Howe online on 2nd March 2026.
 4. Cllr Blinkhorn & Clerk to attend Perenco Furzey Island Meeting. 25th March 2026.
- b. Working Group Reports
 1. Community Speed Watch Volunteers meeting. Notes from the meeting where distributed during the meeting,

The meeting ended at 20.25

Appendix A: Dorset Councillor Report

Flooding

Cllr to provide a verbal update on Dorset Council's response to on-going flooding issues across the county and a renewed focus on flood mitigation and climate resilience

I would like to draw the PC's attention to the statement from Jon Andrews, Portfolio Holder for Place (including Highways) dated 28th January regarding the flooding. I include an extract below:

Cllr Andrews, our Cabinet Member for Place Services, writes:- "We understand the frustration. When water sits outside your home or on the roads you need to travel, it's completely natural to think the drains must be blocked. But the main issue isn't drain clearance.

The widespread and significant flooding this week was driven by swollen rivers, rising groundwater and exceptional rainfall - not a lack of routine highway drain maintenance.

Highways drains are designed to deal with rainwater that falls directly onto the road. They do not have the capacity to cope when rivers spill over, fields release huge amounts of water, or groundwater forces its way up from below. Most of the flooding across Dorset came from those sources. When rivers and groundwater rise that quickly, the pipes beneath road drains become completely full, so even a clear drain simply has nowhere to send the water - especially when outfalls are also over capacity.

Our crews worked through the night and are out again today clearing debris and tackling the highest-risk spots. Alongside this, we carry out routine, proactive maintenance throughout the year. We run a planned programme of gully emptying and drain clearance as part of our regular cyclic maintenance - including emptying gullies, clearing ditches, soakaways and pipe runs.

We work closely with organisations such as the Environment Agency as major flooding nearly always comes from several sources at once – especially in a rural county like ours, with a huge network of rivers, streams, ditches, and low-lying areas. Whilst the Environment Agency oversees the response to flooding from main rivers, reservoirs, estuaries, and the sea; Dorset Council oversees the response to flooding from surface water, groundwater, and ordinary watercourses.

Update on Highways

Cllr met with DC Highways on 30th January to discuss progress on local highways issues. Regarding Corfe Castle:

West Street TPOs: Cllr has requested a meeting with Highways & DC Transport Planning to establish a reasonable timeline for TPOs

Corfe - Studland Road: Advised that patch resurfacing works are in progress but no full resurfacing in planned for 26/27

30mph repeater signs on East Street: DC Highways have clarified that they are not permitted to erect these within an area of road with street lighting - other where they are erected with speed camera signage

Dorset Council Budget 2026/27

Details of the budget proposal were made available to the public on 13th January ahead of submission to the Scrutiny Committee and eventually to full Council in February.

A record total of £482m will be spent running services in Dorset – with around 60% of that providing care for the elderly, and vulnerable adults and children.

Major road improvements and safety works will also be funded and car parking charges frozen for a further year.

Council tax will rise by 4.99%, meaning a Band D home will pay an extra £2.02 per week more than last year.

"We are proud to be investing in services that are highly valued by our residents and highly regarded by independent inspectors – our children's services are rated as "outstanding" and our recycling is among the best in the country," said Dorset Council's Cabinet Member for Finance, Cllr Simon Clifford.

"We are very open about the unfair funding we get from government – this means that we have no choice but to raise council tax each year. Even though Dorset is a rural county, with the oldest population in the country and poor transport links, this is not recognised by government. Dorset deserves fair funding - but it is not getting it."

The budget papers show extra investment of:

- £12m spent on adults and housing services
- £5m spent on children's services
- £1.7m supporting children and young people with complex needs.

Cllr Clifford said that efficiencies and transformation at the Council will generate significant savings, which will be further invested into frontline services. The papers also highlight £67m invested in major building or capital schemes, including:

- £8m to complete the new recycling centre in Blandford
- A further £6m to complete major safety works at Dinah's Hollow on the C13 in North Dorset.
- £7.7m for the Bridport reablement centre.

Alongside these investments, the proposals focus on simplifying customer services and reducing back-office processes, tightening contract spend, using automation and AI where sensible, and removing long standing job vacancies.

Initial/ Sign:
Chairman: Cllr S Dru Drury

Date: 9th March 2026
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Appendix B: Finance

Expenditure:

Date	Net	VAT	Total	Description	Supplier	Bank	Tender
09.02.2026	£316.00	£0.00	£316.00	SLCC Membership	Society for Local Council Clerks	Lloyds	ONLINE
09.02.2026	£90.57	£18.12	£108.69	Stationary	Viking	Lloyds	ONLINE
09.02.2026	£713.40	£142.68	£856.08	West Street Toilet Cleaning	J D Facilities	Lloyds	ONLINE
09.02.2026	£210.00	£0.00	£210.00	Village Hall Rent	Village Hall	Lloyds	ONLINE
09.02.2026	£874.25	£174.85	£1,049.10	Plants for the new Reflection Garden + Trees for EG Working Group	Plants for Trade	Equals	ONLINE
09.02.2026	£10.00	£0.00	£10.00	Clerk Conference	DPTC	Lloyds	ONLINE
09.02.2026	£22.00	£0.00	£22.00	Sports Trust Trustee Advert - CVN	Corfe Valley News	Lloyds	ONLINE
09.02.2026	£220.00	£44.00	£264.00	Treehouse removal	Rempstone Tree Management	Lloyds	ONLINE
31.01.2026	£63.84	£0.00	£63.84	GA Refuse	Dorset Waste Partnership	Lloyds	ONLINE
31.01.2026	£521.36	£0.00	£521.36	Caretaker Hours	Tim Lee	Lloyds	ONLINE
31.01.2026	£71.79	£0.00	£1,825.24	Salary, Pension & HMRC	Staff	Lloyds	DIRDEBIT ONLINE
30.01.2026	£24.87	£4.98	£29.85	CSW Meeting	National Trust	Equals	ONLINE
30.01.2026	£49.98	£10.00	£59.98	Hi Vis - Emergency	MDG Sports	Equals	ONLINE
30.01.2026	£50.00	£10.00	£60.00	Domain Name Registration / Keep	Cloud Next	Lloyds	ONLINE
30.01.026	£4.25	£0.00	£4.25	Bank Fees	Lloyds	Lloyds	ONLINE
£3,2424.31		£404.63	£5,400.39				

All invoices listed have been examined, verified and certified by the Clerk as RFO.

Income

Date	Net	VAT	Total	Description	Customer	Bank
16.01.2026	£4.12	£0.00	£4.12	Printing and Stationary	Puddletown Area Parish Council	Lloyds
16.01.2026	£10.00	£0.00	£10.00	PAT Testing	Puddletown Area Parish Council	Lloyds
31.01.2026	£10.00	£0.00	£10.00	PAT Testing	Worth Matravers Parish Council	Lloyds
31.01.2026	£23.25	£0.00	£23.25	Interest	Lloyds Bank	Lloyds
31.01.2026	£185.42	£0.00	£185.42	Interest	Redwood Bank	Redwood
232.79		0	232.79			

Initial/ Sign:
Chairman: Cllr S Dru Drury

Date: 9th March 2026
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