



MINUTES OF THE ARNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 21st JANUARY 2021
This meeting was carried out by video conferencing

Present: Cllrs I Church, I Duckworth, P Love, M Sims, R Bessant, V Ward

Chair: Cllr S Cranshaw

Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

Also Present: 1 member of the public, Dorset Cllr Beryl Ezzard, Ian Alexander – Natural England

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Chairman reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded for the purposes of the minutes. Once the minutes are agreed, the recording will be destroyed.

1. Public Participation

Ian Alexander was invited to address the meeting. Natural England had attended meetings in the past to brief the Parish Council on their intention to reconfigure the cattle grids in the Arne/Hartland Moor area so that the cattle and ponies can graze all the way down to Arne. This project has been waiting for some years whilst the necessary funds are made available. They had heard in early December that they were successful in gaining funding from the Government's Green Recovery Challenge Fund. This fund has a very limited time scale, so the build needs to be completed by March 2022. This, in turn means, the work will take place this summer. Dorset Highways believes this is achievable and are happy for the work to go ahead. It will mean the addition of 7 new cattle grids and the removal of one of the existing 4. A plan of the proposal will be forwarded to the Clerk.

There is a possibility that, once the cattle grids are in, it may be possible to have the speed limit reduced from 60mph to 40mph.

Natural England are invited to attend a future meeting with more details of the scheme.

2. Declarations of Interest

21.136 No interests were declared at this stage and no requests for dispensations had been received.

3. Apologies for absence

21.137 Apologies have been received from Cllr Ali Patrick (personal), and Dorset Cllr Ryan Holloway.

4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 17th December 2020

21.138 A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting.

Cllr Love proposed them to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Church and agreed unanimously. The Chair will sign the minutes in due course.

5. Matters arising – for report only

21.139 Climate and Ecological Emergency consultation – Cllr Duckworth had submitted the online submission.

Memorial bench – Cllr Cranshaw had responded to the applicant.

6. Dorset Councillor’s Report

21.140 A copy of Cllr Holloway’s report had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting.

Cllr Ezzard reported that the ‘Stay at Home’ postcards had been sent to all households in Dorset and most should have been delivered by now. This was paid for by Dorset Council.

The Dorset Local Plan consultation has begun and continues until the 15th March. Cllr Duckworth raised the point that many town and parish councils were disappointed at the amount of time that had been allocated to the consultation and felt it should be extended to a minimum of 12 weeks. Cllr Ezzard reported that this had been raised at Cabinet but Dorset were keen to get the Plan completed in 2 years and, in order to do so, needed to stay with this cut-off date.

7. To confirm the payment of accounts and consider the bank reconciliation & position against budget

21.141 To confirm the Payment of Accounts

The following payments had been requested:

DC Pension Fund	January 2021 contribution	BACS051	155.41
HMRC	PAYE & NIC January	BACS052	106.80
A Crocker	January wages + expenses	BACS053	621.74

The total amount requested from the Precept is £883.95.

Cllr Ward proposed the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Love and agreed unanimously.

To confirm the bank reconciliation and position against budget for the year to date

The bank reconciliation and analysis were unavailable at the time of the meeting. The Clerk will send them out to members as soon as possible.

ACTION: CLERK

8. Parish Reports

21.142 Councillors’ Reports on meetings attended

Cllr Duckworth – Planet Purbeck, Dorset CAN, Climate & Ecological Emergency Support Group.

Cllr Love – Climate & Ecological Emergency Support Group

21.143 Reports from outside bodies

There was nothing to report from any of the groups.

21.144 Reports relating to the Hayricks, Allotments and SANG

Hayricks – Cllr Sims reported that the inspections were continuing weekly. The zip wire is awaiting repair and the extra bin is awaiting installation. There is quite a bit of fencing down between the Hayricks and the parking area. The Clerk has spoken to the Lengthsman regarding the fencing.

Storing of sandbags – This could be done either side of the Stoborough Meadows entrance. Cllr Ward suggested one of the redundant salt bins could be filled with sand and stored on the main road entrance so vehicles could get close to the bin. Cllr Ward and Cllr Sims will look into this and report back at the next meeting.

ACTION: CLLR WARD/SIMS

To decide on the new play equipment items to be purchased

Members were sent a list of the pieces of equipment and the respective prices.

It was suggested the Talbot Trust is also approached for funding. *Post meeting note: After speaking to the Trust, it is noted that they do not support Statutory Bodies, including Parish Councils, they will only support registered charities or Charity Commission Exempt bodies, such as churches.*

Members are asked to submit a list of items they feel would be appropriate to Cllr Sims for discussion at the February meeting. Cllr Sims will contact the Stoborough Residents Association regarding the use of some of the monies held.

ACTION: CLLR SIMS

Cllr Bessant will contact Imerys regarding the repairs to the bike ramps.

ACTION: CLLR BESSANT

Allotments – The ditch at the bottom has been cleared of vegetation by the Lengthsman.

SANG – Nothing to report other than there are a lot of visitors due to the lockdown. There is a large silver birch down and Mr Pettit-Mills has been informed.

21.145 Update on the generators for the Emergency Hub

Cllr Ward reported that the quote had been received from the electricians and they had been asked for a more simplified quote. To date nothing has been received and Cllr Ward will chase.

ACTION: CLLR WARD

21.146 To form a working party to draft a response to the Dorset Council Local Plan consultation

A letter will be written to Dorset Council regarding the reduced amount of time allowed for the consultation.

CLLrs Cranshaw, Duckworth and Sims will make up the working party and will produce a response for the February meeting.

CLlr Love highlighted the issue of our Neighbourhood Plan. It was suggested that a letter is drawn up to explain the process. This will be organised at the February meeting.

21.147 To consider a response to the Purbeck Transport Strategy

CLlr Ward had produced a report which had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting.

21.148 To receive an update on the Arne Moors Project

Nothing to report at this stage. The next stakeholders meeting is due to take place in February.

9. To consider Planning Applications received

21.149 Planning Applications

6/2020/0649 Wareham Wellsite C – drilling of 3 sidetracks from existing wells.

CLlr Duckworth raised an objection as this is a continuation of the removal of fossil fuels and this is counter-intuitive to the current initiatives. No other objections were raised.

21.150 Tree work Applications

No tree work applications had been received at the time of this meeting.

10. Correspondence and items for action and resolution

21.151 To confirm the external auditor's report for the year ended 31st March 2020

The Clerk reported that two items had been highlighted by the external auditor. These were:

1. That Section 2 of the AGAR had not been signed by the RFO. This was an oversight.
2. That the Parish Council had not complied with Regulation 15 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 as it failed to make proper provision for the exercise of public rights as the period for public review was less than 30 days. The Clerk reported that this was due to a typing error on the report returned to the Auditors in that the start date was given as Monday 9th July instead of Monday 6th July. However, all those documents posted on the website and on notice boards clearly stated 6th July.

CLlr Love proposed the External Auditor's comments are accepted. This was seconded by CLlr Ward and agree unanimously.

21.152 To consider a response to the Wareham Neighbourhood Plan

Members had no comments to make.

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21.153 To consider any defects for passing to the Lengthsman

- Hayricks fencing
- finger post at Tuckers Mill
- installation of bin at Hayricks

11. Correspondence received since the Agenda was set

21.154 Dorset Council is taking soundings on a Dorset Cultural Strategy and a zoom meeting will be taking place on the 28th January. Richard Brown who heads Purbeck Arts Week has offered to send a report on the very many diverse cultural activities that take place in this parish. He will provide a report for the February meeting.

A resident has requested a memorial bench for the crossroads at Nutcrack Lane/New Road. Highways had subsequently said that they would be happy for a bench but would need to agree the exact local and the Parish Council would be required to adopt the bench for repairs, insurance, etc for the future. Members felt this was something that would set a precedent and were not prepared condone this course of action. A better location would be in the fields alongside the Arne Road. There used to be an old tree trunk that people sat on and this had been replaced by a plank and logs. This is well used by walkers. The field is owned by Natural England and the resident will be made aware of this.

12. Additional items considered urgent by the Chairman – for discussion only

21.155 No additional items.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20:37hrs.