



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ARNE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON**  
**THURSDAY 17<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2025**  
**AT STOBOROUGH VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING AT 7.15PM**

**Present:** Cllrs: T Brodie-James, I Church, and M Sims

**Chair:** Cllr R Cranshaw

**Clerk:** Mr T Watton

**Also Present:** Five members of the public

The Council Chair opened the meeting, welcoming those present. She explained that since two members of the public wished to speak about planning application P/FUL/2025/01372 (Fernside Arne Road Ridge BH20 5BH - sever plot and erect one new dwelling) she proposed that for their convenience consideration of that application by the Parish Council would follow immediately after "Public Participation". This was **AGREED**.

With regard to the Council's consideration of that planning application the Council Chair made the following statement:

"We have planning application number P/FUL/2025/01372 submitted by Mr S Turner for severance of land to build a bungalow on property owned by Parish Cllr Alison Patrick. She is unable to be present this evening. If she were present she would be required to declare her interest and withdraw from the meeting whilst the application is discussed. As Council members our job is to approach consideration of this application exactly as we would any other. We should not treat Cllr Patrick any differently from any other member of the public, and so we should not regard this application any more or less favourably. It should be treated solely on its own merits."

**1. To receive apologies for absence**

**25.1** Apologies were received from Cllrs Duckworth, Ives and Patrick. Dorset Cllr Ezzard had also conveyed her apologies.

**2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

**25.2** A resident of Old Kiln Road in Ridge, as the occupier of a neighbouring property to planning application P/FUL/2025/01372 (Fernside Arne Road Ridge BH20 5BH - sever plot and erect one new dwelling), expressed his reasons for objection to this proposal. He felt that if it were to go ahead it would set a precedent for the surrounding area. He indicated that this was because he believed that all other infill developments locally had been done on a road frontage, whereas this proposes the severance of a portion of the rear garden of the donor property. He referred to the previous planning history for Fernside, Arne Road. The resident's principal concerns regarding this proposal were possible overdevelopment of the severed plot and its proximity to neighbouring properties, adequacy of the rainwater drainage proposals, and the off-road parking provision.

A second nearby resident spoke on the same matter. He expressed similar concerns regarding the size of the proposed new dwelling resulting in loss of the flora & fauna habitat represented by the proposed building plot, drainage issues, and parking. He also suggested potential problems of privacy / overlooking between Fernside and the proposed new dwelling.

The Council Chair thanked both residents for their contributions, which were noted by the Council members.

### **3. Declaration of Interests**

**25.3** There were none.

### **4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**25.4** A copy of the draft minutes had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting.

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

### **5. Matters arising not covered by the agenda – for report only**

**25.5** There were none.

### **6. Dorset Councillor's Report**

**25.6** In her absence Cllr. Ezzard had not been able to provide a report for this meeting.

### **7. To confirm the payment of accounts for March 2025 and consider the bank reconciliation and position against budget for the full year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 :**

**7(a) 25.7** The following payments were presented for approval:

INVOICE DATE	BACS number	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
<b>Payments already made</b>				
01/04/2025	01/25	Starboard Systems Ltd	Scribe Allotments monthly subscription (INV-9835)	£21.60
<b>Payments due</b>				
17/04/2025	02/25	T Watton	Salary, Apr 25	£565.30
17/04/2025	03/25	HMRC	PAYE, Apr 25	£184.62
03/04/2025	04/25	Smart Garden Services	Regular grounds maintenance (£590.83) plus tree planting (£115.00). (Inv 888)	£705.83
09/04/2025	05/25	Dorset Council	Apr25 -Mar 26 SID deployment fee	£945.00
17/04/2025	06/25	Purbeck Film Festival	Grant in support of festival	£200.00
14/04/2025	07/25	Zurich Municipal	Insurance Premium for 2025-26 (inv 543588325)	£1,145.36
30/03/2025	08/25	Ian Michie Tree Care	Agreed FP11 tree works, plus additional works as listed on invoice	£3,885.00
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£7,652.71</b>

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the payments be approved and paid. Proposed: Cllr Church,  
Seconded: Cllr Sims

ACTION: THE CLERK

It was also **RESOLVED** to receive and note the bank reconciliation and position against the budget for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. A copy of these documents is associated at **Appendix 1** to these minutes. It was noted that this was an interim statement because the figures for the Wareham Burial Joint Committee had not arrived in time for inclusion for this meeting.

ACTION: THE CLERK

### **8. Governance Matters**

**(a) 25.8 To consider the adoption of the Information Commissioners Office Model Publication Scheme for Freedom of Information.**

The draft Publication Scheme for Arne Parish Council was circulated by the Clerk to all to all members ahead of this meeting. A copy is associated at **Appendix 2** to these minutes. After discussion it was **RESOLVED** to approve the scheme for immediate adoption.

ACTION: THE CLERK

(b) **25.9 To receive and note the report of the review of the Council's Insurance cover.**

The Clerk reported that Cllr Cranshaw, Cllr Patrick and himself had reviewed the 2024-25 list of Council's physical assets as recorded on the Scribe accounting system, and the updated current / replacement values associated with each of them. They compared these with the list of insured values for the various categories of physical assets included within the Insurance schedule. They had concluded that (i) the list of assets appeared to be complete and (ii) the total values for each category of assets were either matched or exceeded by the category values in the latest Insurance schedule provided for renewal for 2025-26 by Zurich Municipal. Consequently, they concluded that insurance cover for replacement of physical assets is adequate. In addition they reviewed the levels of insurance stated for the other categories of insurance and considered these also to be adequate – i.e. Money (no cash held), Public Liability (£12,000,000), Libel & Slander (£500,000), Fidelity Guarantee (£250,000 – which exceeds total max bank balances held), Personal Accident (£100,000), Legal expenses (£200,000), and employer's liability (£10,000,000). The Council noted the above report and **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the renewal of the insurance with Zurich Municipal as stated.

ACTION: THE CLERK

(c) **25.10 To consider the adoption of the latest NALC / SLCC model Code of Conduct.**

The Clerk had circulated a copy of the latest version (2022) of the NALC / SLCC model Code of Conduct to all members ahead of this meeting. He explained at the meeting that the version of the Conduct Code currently in use by Arne Parish Council had been issued in 2012 and is therefore out of date. It pre-dates the inclusion in the code of the of the Nolan Principles and the updated requirements for declaration of personal interests. It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the latest version of the model Code of Conduct with immediate effect.

ACTION: THE CLERK

(d) **25.11 To review the Council's Asset Register as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.**

The Parish Clerk had circulated a copy of the Council's Register of Assets as recorded on the Scribe accounting system at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 to all members in advance of this meeting. In the subsequent discussion all members present confirmed that there were no items included on the register which had been disposed of, nor were they able to identify any items missing from it. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the Asset Register as accurate, to the best of their knowledge.

ACTION: THE CLERK

**9. Parish Reports**

**25.12 Councillors' Reports on meetings attended:**

Cllrs Cranshaw and Sims reported on a site meeting they had attended at The Hayricks to review and consider the items of play equipment identified on the recently received annual RoSPA report into the safety / condition of the playground equipment.

**25.13 Reports from Stoborough Village Hall, Furzebrook Village Hall, Stoborough Meadow Residents Association, Ridge Residents Association and the Stoborough Primary School**

Stoborough Village Hall – Nothing to report.

Furzebrook Village Hall – Nothing to report.

Stoborough Meadow Residents Association – Nothing to report.

Ridge Residents Association - Nothing to report.

Stoborough Primary school – On end of Spring term / Easter holiday.

**25.14 Hayricks:**

Cllr Sims remarked on the following:

- An approach has been made to Southern Playground Servies - with the intention of also approaching other suppliers / contractors - to ask if they were able to provide a quote for the following remedial work as identified on the 2025 RoSPA inspection report:
  - Painting the play area equipment and the basketball frame (graffiti).
  - Double Rower needs repainting in parts.
  - The Gate into the fenced area - now closing too quickly.
  - Cradle swing - replace the 'Inclusive' cradle, which is looking rather worn.
  - Zip Wire seat - replace and check/adjust height.
  - Mats under the swings/zip wire – possible replacement of ties linking the sections of matting.
- Tradewinds Graphics have confirmed that the new signs for use during and immediately after weed spraying are ready to collect.
- Noted that a Rights of Way fingerpost adjacent to New Road is pointing the wrong way and has an arm missing. It is intended to report this to the DC Ranger team.

ACTION: CLLR SIMS
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**25.15 SANG:**

Nothing to report.

**25.16 Allotments:**

The Parish Clerk reported that the prospective new tenant he had shown round on the day of the March Council meeting has just been in touch to advise that due to a change in personal circumstances he would not be able to take up a plot after all. There remain two vacant plots, both of which are currently covered with weed suppressant material.

**25.17 Councillors Climate & Ecological Support Group:** No report.

**10. To consider Planning Applications received**

**25.18 P/FUL/2025/01372 Fernside Arne Road Ridge BH20 5BH. Sever plot and erect one new dwelling.**

The Parish Council acknowledged concerns about this proposal expressed in the objections submitted to the Local Planning Authority by neighbours, two of whom attended the Parish Council meeting (see minute 25.2 above). The Council noted that the concerns expressed by neighbours were around three aspects:

- Possible overdevelopment in relation the size of the plot

- Concerns about the provision of sufficient off-road parking accommodation
- Concerns about the effectiveness of proposals for drainage / disposal of rainwater

The Council members recognised the complexities involved in a proposal of this type and concluded that the application as currently submitted did not provide them with sufficient detailed information to come to a conclusion at this stage.

**25.19 P/VOC/2025/01655 The Moors Arne Road Ridge. The creation of intertidal habitat and restricted tidal exchange shallow saltwater lagoons, through managed realignment involving selective breaching of existing tidal embankments. The provision of new set-back earth embankments, including the provision of flapped surface water outfalls, tidal exchange culverts, and an improved channel and outfall for the Furzebrook Stream. The formation of permissive footpaths and screens for public to view birds from, maintenance access tracks and the provision of associated gates, fences and boundary treatment works (with variation of condition 2, 4, 6,12 and 14 of planning permission P/FUL/2022/05149 to enable a series of design changes as referred to in the Planning Statement).**

**NO COMMENT**

**25.20 P/HOU/2025/01888 2 Puddletown Road Wareham BH20 6AE. Removal of existing wooden shed and erect pent roofed wooden shed.**

**NO OBJECTION.**

**11. To consider arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting 2025.**

**25.21** It was **RESOLVED** to hold this meeting at 7:00pm on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May immediately before commencement of the Parish Council meeting. A notice is to be prepared for publication on the website and noticeboards.

ACTION: PARISH CLERK

**12. Correspondence received since the agenda was set:**

**25.22** The Parish Clerk reported that he had received an initial copy of the 31/03/2025 year end accounts for the Wareham Burial Joint Committee which should enable him to extract the necessary figures to complete a finalised version of the Arne Parish Council year end accounts for internal audit and the Accounting and Governance Return (AGAR) for the external auditors.

ACTION: THE CLERK

**13. Additional items considered urgent by the Chairman for discussion only:**

**25.23** Cllr Cranshaw announced that an arrangement has been made with Trustees of the Stoborough Village Hall to test the electrical system which has been installed at the hall for the connection of emergency generators. A generator owned by the Parish Council will be brought to the hall in time for the test to take place at 4pm on 13<sup>th</sup> May. All Council members are welcome to attend.

**25.24 Date of next meetings:**

Annual Parish Council meeting Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> May April 2025, At 7:15pm Stoborough Village Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 20:07

**Appendix 1**

**Bank reconciliation and accounts update.**

**See associated .pdf file**

**Appendix 2**

**Arne Parish Council – Model Publication scheme**

**See associated .pdf file**