

TOLLER PORCORUM PARISH COUNCIL

Chair Neil Farmer

Clerk Michele Harding

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th November 2023 at Toller Porcorum village hall

Present:

Cllr N Farmer (NF)

Cllr P Crabbe (PC)

Cllr D Ennals (DE)

Cllr J Miller (JM)

Cllr Stavenhagen (JS)

Cllr Chris Wardle (CW)

Cllr Helen Jones (HJ)

In attendance:

Mrs M Harding (Clerk) Cllr Anthony Alford (AA)

4 members of public

Public Democratic Forum-Up to 15-minute session to give residents the opportunity to indicate interests in the agenda items/put questions to Council that may be answered at a later date/become a future agenda item-

Two members of public attended with interest in the meeting.

A candidate for the Eggardon Ward attended to listen to the issues in the parishes.

A resident attended to bring to the attention of the PC the flood issues on 15 High Street due to the lack of maintenance of the drains and gullies and the issue of the camber of the road. NF suggested as the member of public could not stay to the meeting, he would arrange a meeting at a later date to discuss the issue further.

23/11-1. Chairman's announcements and housekeeping -The Chairman welcomed Cllrs and members of the public to the meeting.

23/11-2. Apologies for absence- none.

23/11-3. Declarations of interests and grants of dispensations- DE & JM regarding the grant to the PCC. CW regarding the CLT should anything come up.

23/11-4. Dorset Council Ward member report

AA reported on the following:

The launch of the Home Upgrade Grant in Dorset, a government-funded scheme helping homeowners and landlords improve the energy efficiency of their homes.

The Dorset Integrated Care System have signed up to trial an innovative new product – the Milbotix SmartSocks – which can help sense when people with dementia or autism are in distress. The socks, which track heart rate, sweat, temperature and motion, aim to enable those caring for people to intervene before issues escalate.

Dorset Council will welcome comments about the location and suitability of local polling stations. Carbon emissions from council owned buildings have reduced by over 20 per cent in one year thanks to a major retrofit programme financed by a grant from central government.

23/11-5. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20th September 2023

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council were proposed and duly accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Proposed CW Seconded PC all agreed.

23/11-6. Matters arising from the minutes- none.

23/11-7. Finance and Procedure.

- i. **To consider the grant for grass cutting**- following advice from DAPTC and NALC the consensus is that we carry on as we are until there are any changes. The grant of £430 will be paid to the PCC for the year 2023-24. Proposed PC Seconded CW All agreed.

TOLLER PORCORUM PARISH COUNCIL

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ii. To consider the report and recommendations of the budget meeting.

NF, HJ, PC and the Clerk had met, discussed the financial procedures and produced a budget for the full council to consider:

- a. The Financial Risk Assessment was reviewed and updated, cloud-based storage in use, archived files are kept in the filing cabinet in the VH and Chair has the key. A list of passwords is kept on file, and all are saved on the laptop, this will be updated a copy given to the chair.
- b. The Asset register was reviewed and updated. The cost of replacement of assets was discussed the purchase value of assets is £6262.27, the replacement value could be double this hence the need for reserves. Values are set at purchase price as per external auditor 2011.
- c. The annual grants were discussed, it was suggested that an amount of £700 would be put in the budget for grants, these would be applied for annually using the Grant awarding application form.
- d. To consider the budget for 2023-24 -the group looked at the current year whilst considering the budget for 2024-25. The addition of the recreation area was considered, this will increase expenditure with initial set up costs and professional fees, also a grass cutting contract and ongoing maintenance additional insurance cover and play inspections to be included in the budget.
- e. It was agreed that a review of the Defib will be undertaken and its lifetime, adding to the current reserves for replacement in time.
- f. DAPTC log ins were set up for all Councillors.
- g. A spec for grass cutting of the recreation ground will be considered in March for a three-year period.
- h. Taking all this into account the precept was recommended at £7750 an increase of £1000. The report, budget and precept request were agreed.
Proposed DE Seconded HJ all agreed.

iii. To consider the receipts and payments due

Payee	Detail	Amount
Hugo Fox	Website hosting	11.99
Wel Medical	Defib consumables	71.94
Admin Costs	final pay plus expenses	864.19
DAPTC	Training	7.50
Receipts		
Lloyds Bank	Interest Oct/Nov	26.47

HJ carried out the checking of invoices and the bank reconciliation.

Bank as of 31st October 2023 £ 17,274.61

Proposed PC Seconded JM All agreed.

23/11-8. Work Plan 2023-24

i. To approve the freehold transfer of Toller Recreation Ground to the Parish Council and give a mandate to the Chair and Clerk to progress with the transfer for April 2024.

There has been contact the PC solicitor and FIT, it was proposed that NF as the PC representative and DE as the TPRA trustee’s representative to complete the negotiations.

Proposed PC Seconded JS All agreed.

TOLLER PORCORUM PARISH COUNCIL

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Community Resilience Liaison Officer on Winter preparedness, this was very useful and would be a good speaker at the APA next year.

- iii. **RoW Noticeboard**- No further updates on the digital map, AA will assist with this progress.

23/11-12. To receive any correspondence for noting

i. To consider the Arms Forces Covenant

NF reported that the DAPTC are proposing to support this covenant and asked the PC to do the same, Community covenants complement, at a local level, the Armed Forces Covenant, which outlines the moral obligation between the nation, the government and the armed forces. It encourages local communities to support the armed forces community in their area and promote understanding and awareness among the public of issues affecting the armed forces community.

Local authorities and the armed forces community are encouraged to work together to establish a covenant in their area in order to:

Encourage local communities to support the armed forces community in their areas and to nurture public understanding and awareness among the public of issues affecting the armed forces community.

Recognise and remember the sacrifices faced by the armed forces community.

Encourage activities which help to integrate the armed forces community into local life.

Encourage the armed forces community to help and support the wider community, whether through participation in events and joint projects, or other forms of engagement

Proposed CW Seconded DE All agreed.

ii. To consider supporting the Climate and Ecology Bill requested by the Zero Hour team.

DE had supplied a report on the topic with reasons why the PC should not support it and read out his letter to the MP on the subject. The PC agreed not to support the bill.

Proposed DE Seconded JM 4 For 1 Against 2 Abstentions

A resident commented on the bus shelter and bus stops and the out-of-date community bus service information, they are happy to update the information on the Dorset Community Transport which runs on Wednesdays to Dorchester and Fridays to Bridport, this is a bookable service. NF to follow up.

23/11-13. To confirm arrangements for the Parish Council meeting on 10th January 2024.

Dorset Community Tree Project.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm.