

TOLLER PORCORUM PARISH COUNCIL

Chair Neil Farmer

Clerk Michele Harding

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting Wednesday 16th November 2022 at Toller Porcorum village hall

Present:

Cllr N Farmer (NF) via zoom

Cllr H Jones (HJ)

Cllr David Ennals (DE)

Cllr P Crabbe (PC)

Cllr J Miller (JM)

Cllr Stavenhagen (JS)

Cllr C Wardle (CW)

In attendance:

Mrs M Harding (Clerk), Cllr A Alford (Dorset Council)

No members of public

Public Form (15 Mins): None in attendance.

22/11-1. Chairman's welcome, update and housekeeping-NF was unable to attend in person but attended via zoom to Chair the meeting but did not vote on items in the meeting, NF welcomed all to the meeting.

22/11-2. To receive apologies for absence- Cllr Neil Farmer as did not attend in person but via zoom

22/11-3. To receive declarations of interests and grants of dispensations- none

22/11-4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18th September 22 and sign the same.

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 HJ Seconded DE

22/11-5. Matters arising from the minutes-

DE commented on the Ammonite meeting and recent response regarding the telephone system now in place, concerns were expressed that the phone system is not working as it should and the PPG has not yet been set up. It was agreed that the Clerk will respond to Ammonite to express these concerns.

DE asked about the item concerning the Church's place in the community, NF commented that there has yet to be a meeting to discuss this further, noting that the PC do not have the powers to support the Church. NF also noted that he was happy to chair the inaugural meeting but did not have the time to take this on at present. DE to follow up.

DE asked about the depth gauge and when it will be installed, NF reported that following the meeting with Dave Carey to look at the location he noted that gulleys and drains would be cleared before going down the route of a depth gauge as criteria would need to be met for its installation. Clerk to follow up with Dave Carey. Especially given the recent rainstorms.

22/11-6. Dorset Council Ward member report- AA reported on the following:

- i. Project and event funding- for cost of for cost-of-living challenges, arts, museums, heritage, community, physical activity and play activities.

Grants from £1,000 to £5,000 are available to groups who support the council to meet its core priorities. Round 4 of the Community and Culture Project Fund opened on Friday 4 November 2022. The next round will prioritise grants to applicants that address and support the cost-of-living challenge for vulnerable communities. Community food projects including lunch clubs, dinner clubs, foodbanks and warm spaces.

- ii. The time Dorset Council takes to complete land charge search requests is back to within ten working days. A year ago, the average amount of time to return these searches had risen to 62 days. This delay was caused by the huge surge in the housing market coupled with staff vacancies.

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- iii. The Animal and Plant Health Agency will put in place mandatory housing measures to protect poultry and captive birds from avian influenza from 7 November. This means that, from this time, it will be a compulsory requirement for all bird keepers across England to keep their birds housed and to follow strict biosecurity measures, to limit the spread and to eradicate the disease.
- iv. Housing advice and support for Homes for Ukraine guests. If guests are leaving or need help finding new accommodation, we ask that they contact our Ukraine response team. If they wish to rent private accommodation, the council's housing services can provide advice and support including help with upfront costs of securing a new home where guests do not have the necessary resources.
- v. Opportunity for youth organisations to apply for funding
Dorset Council has a fund of £100,000 for initiatives which deliver youth projects and activities within the Dorset Council area. It will offer grants from £500 to £5,000 to support a range of activities for young people.
 - i. 20mph- Dorset's town and parish councils can now apply online for 20mph speed limits and zones, following the introduction of a new policy. Schemes will need to meet certain requirements, and there should be community support.
 - ii. Bin Collections over the Christmas Period-Please refer to the calendar available on the Dorset Council website. Also showing the options for recycling centres. Dorset Council will not longer be collecting Christmas trees.

22/11-7. To consider the DAPTC AGM motions

The Council having read the motions tabled agreed to all 11 motions

Proposed CW Seconded JM

AA noted that the proposal for 20mph speed limits has now been superseded as this is now policy, also the proposal that Dorset Council challenges the health service regarding rural services, it was noted that a business plan is being drafted and a lot of work has been going on in Dorset.

22/11-8. To agree in principle to support the working together document with Dorset Council

Councillors had received a copy of the initial draft paper, it was agreed that the document was agreed in principle, it was really about communication and the document needs to be much shorter. NF noted that if there are working groups then smaller Councils need to be represented and he was happy to sit on a working group if required. HJ will feed this back at the DAPTC AGM.

22/11-9. Finance and Procedure

i. To consider receipts and payment due or paid since the last meeting

Payment	Detail	Amount
Staff costs	Salary and office expenses	£406.46
HMRC	PAYE	£90.40
DAPTC	Training	£9.00
Defib Battery	Toller Times	£117.90

Proposed HJ

Seconded DE

Bank Balance as at 31st October 2022 £15,598.74

HJ had viewed and signed all bills and bank recs since the last meeting.

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22/11-10. To consider the budget and precept for 2023-24

The budget group had met to review the budget, finance documents and precept and made recommendations for consideration:

- i. Financial Risk Assessment- agreed
- ii. Asset register- updated and agreed
- iii. Financial regulations- updated and agreed
- iv. Grants for the coming year- PCC Grass cutting £430, TPRAA £870, Village Association- this is under review as the PC cannot make payments to individuals and the village association is not fully functioning at present, the PC asked if the CLT makes this contribution towards the PO insurance and the PC makes the donation to the CLT. CW will speak to the CLT at their next meeting to confirm. Other grants of £40 for the Country Cars running costs. PC to provide the numbers of users for each of the villages it covers.
- v. Future projects-to continue with the gates and styles projects. It was also noted that there is a shelter being built on the Trailway, the PC may consider a grant towards this type of project in the future.
It was noted that if in the future the welfare of the playing field becomes an issue due to volunteers the Parish Council will be asked to become the trustees and manage the site, if this is the case the annual donation will be used for maintenance. This will be considered in 2023.
- vi. Budget v Actual- agreed
Items i to vi were approved
Proposed CW Seconded DE
- vii. Precept to be set at £6750- this is approx. 3.5% increase. Cllrs agreed that a small increase was appropriate.
- viii. Proposed JS Seconded JM

22/11-11. 2022-23 Work Plan

i. To consider the adoption of policies and procedures part 2

The following policies were considered and updated accordingly and approved on block:

Policy	Comment
Standing Orders	Updated and agreed
Financial regulations	Agreed
Scheme of delegation	No longer required at this time
Code of Conduct	Adopted 2021 using the Dorset Council version- agreed
Complaints Procedure	Updated and agreed
Grant Awarding Policy	Agreed
Press and Media Policy	Agreed
Banking Protocol	Info only
Transparency Code	Info only
Practitioner's Guide	Info only
Powers and Duties of PC's	Info only
General Power of Competence	Info only

Proposed PC Seconded HJ

The Clerk after comments from DE on the lack of a training guide, support for Councillors, asked DAPTC for advice, this is a project the DAPTC will be working on for all parishes in the coming year.

22/11-12. Planning

- i. To consider any planning applications in circulation - none in circulation
- ii. To consider any other planning matters - none

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22/11-13. Highways matters

- i. **To receive an update on Highways issues-**
JS raised concerns for the depth gauge as this could be a traffic hazard. The level of the road is a flood plain, the road needs to be raised up, so it does not flood. Information will be placed on the Community Facebook page on advice with flooding.
- ii. Grit Bin- this is yet to be installed, Clerk to follow up.
- iii. The overgrown hedge on Cliff Lane has not yet been cut back although the works have been requested.
- iv. There has been fly tipping on Common Road.
- v. The removal of Powerstock Bridge has been abandoned at his time. A drainage scheme had been suggested but there are budget issues.
- vi. The request for the High Steet to be reprofiled has been submitted and this has been put forward as a new scheme by highways officers.
- vii. Badger Lane is still an issue.

22/11-14. To receive an update of Rights of way/Footpath matters

Following a meeting with NF and Russell Goff a quote was provided for the gates on rights of ways project at a cost of £160 per gate to the Parish Council. Dorset Council will also pay £160 and carry out the works. This was agreed,

22/11-15. To receive feedback from Parish Reps

- i. The VH had a barn dance, the new treasurer of the VH is changing banks, the coin meters have been recalibrated due to higher electricity costs and the voluntary contribution for Car park users is working well.
- ii. Recreation- a grant has been applied for from Dorset Council for the Boules Court in the recreation area, this will be decided in March 2023, the hedges are coming along, more trustees are needed. A piece will be placed on the community Facebook page asking for volunteers and about the Boules Court to get feedback. A survey will also be considered. AA asked if the Boules Court would require planning permission, this will be looked into.

22/11-16. Correspondence- none

22/11-17. To confirm arrangements for the next meeting on 11th January 2023- TBA

The Chair wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

The meeting closed at 20.27