

TOLLER PORCORUM PARISH COUNCIL

Chair Neil Farmer

Clerk Michele Harding

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting Wednesday 11th January 2023 at Toller Porcorum village hall

Present:

Cllr Helen Jones (HJ)

Cllr David Ennals (DE)

Cllr Peter Crabbe (PC)

Cllr Jeremy Stavenhagen (JS)

Cllr Chris Wardle (CW)

In attendance:

Cllr A Alford (Dorset Council)

No members of public

Public Form (15 Mins): None in attendance.

23/01-1. Chairman's welcome- PC chaired the meeting as vice Chair, the Clerk was unable to attend in person but attended via zoom in order to take the minutes.

23/01-2. To receive apologies for absence- Cllrs Neil Farmer and Judy Miller, the Clerk attended via zoom to take minutes.

23/01-3. To receive declarations of interests and grants of dispensations- none

23/01-4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th November 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

23/01-5. Matters arising from the minutes-none.

23/01-6. Dorset Council Ward member report- AA reported on the following:

Dorset Council is to receive around £4.5m over the next two years to continue several key programmes, as well as launch some new initiatives.

UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), which matches and succeeds EU funding.

A new Investment Plan for Dorset, led by Dorset Council with input from a wide range of contributors, has been approved by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, and will see the county benefit from £4.5m of UKSPF money

Dorset Council has published its initial proposals to deliver a balanced budget next financial year, 2023-24. The council's total net budget for 2023-24 will be £348 million.

The council proposes to increase council tax next year by just under 2% and to levy the adult social care precept of 2%. This is less than the maximum 5% increase outlined in the Government's Spending Review in December 2022. The increase would be equivalent to £1.41 extra per week for a Band D property. Since becoming a unitary council in 2019, we have made efficiency savings of £76 million, and this money has been reinvested to protect frontline services.

Low-income households in the Dorset Council area can apply for the next round of the Household Support Fund to help with rising costs. Applications open at 9am on Monday 9 January 2023.

HJ commented on this was under the impression that the fund has already run out, AA will look into this.

23/01-7. 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	£343.30
HMRC	PAYE	£73.80

Toller Porcorum Parish Council

Chairman.....

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Laptop battery		£46.95
TPVH	Hall hire	£28.00

Proposed CW

Seconded HJ

Bank Balance as of 31st December 2022 £14,818.93

23/01-8. Planning

- i. **To consider any planning applications in circulation –**
P/PABA/2-23/00168- Woodland South East of Kingcombe Lane, Rampisham- Erect wooden tool shed- The application is for information only at this stage but Cllrs did not have any objections to the proposal.
- ii. **Tree felling applications- information from 1st December we will be notified of applications where felling is proposed (except reg 14)-** One of the requests that came out strongly from the Dorset Council sessions was to be notified of tree work applications where felling of trees is being proposed, so that parishes are aware of such proposals and able to respond to enquiries from local people regarding felling taking place. DC have confirmed that they will notify Parish Councils from 1st December on applications where felling is proposed (with the exception of regulation 14 applications for removal of dead and dangerous trees). This will be a temporary solution. The Business Manager for Place explained at the meetings that a new online register is being developed which should be launched in the new year. When this is available, we will then be able to choose what applications we receive notifications of.
- iii. **To consider any other planning matters –** JS explained that the works at Barton Close were agreed and will be taking place shortly.

23/01-9. Highways matters

- i. **Update on the new grit bin-** the new bin has been installed; it was meant to be sited further back into the hedge but there are concerns it could be damaged again- NF would be asked to follow this up at his site meeting on the 19th Jan with Dave Carey to confirm if this one is damaged highways will replace it.
- ii. **Update on the Flooding and drainage on Toller Road-** There is a meeting on 19th Jan with Dave Carey, Colin James both from DC and Neil Farmer to look at the issues and look at options to clear ditches and alleviate the flood problem in this area.
- iii. **Update on the depth gauge-** Further information on this will be considered at the meeting date above.
- iv. **Update on Bridge works including Powerstock Bridge-** this will be a further question from the meeting arranged on the 19th Jan.
- v. **To receive an update on Highways issues-**
JS confirmed that there have been no pothole reports since the last meeting. AA commented on the issue of the drain discussed at the last meeting near the VH car park, this will be added to the site meeting which AA hoped to attend.

JS commented on an issue during a local farm shoot where he was sprayed with shot whilst on a public footpath, Cllrs discussed the best approach and agreed that in the first instance JS will approach the farmer to inform him of the situation and see how that went, rather than escalate this further at his stage. If JS is concerned, he will ask NF to follow up.

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CW commented on the issue with the Toller Brook which is heavily overgrown and requires clearing, also the river Hooke had wood and other vegetation within the stream.

There are letters and information that can be sent by the PC drafted by Dorset Council to riparian owners if required.

The land in question is managed by an agent on behalf of the landowner so this could be added to current correspondence to see if this can be rectified. It was also suggested that the EA is contacted, the Clerk will look into this.

23/01-10. To receive an update of Rights of way/Footpath matters

- i. **Update on the gates project-** Russell Goff is currently awaiting landowner permissions.
- ii. **To consider the repair to the Finger Arm on Kingcombe Road and Cliff Lane-** the Clerk had gathered a quote for the repair at a cost in region of £200 to £400 depending on the repair required, but a grant may be possible. DE explained that there is a resident of the village who has repaired and maintained all the finger posts for the village and would be happy to carry out this repair when next in the village, the Clerk will follow up with information on the repair required with the resident. All agreed
- iii. **Rights of way notice board-** The state of the Rights of way information board next to the noticeboard was brought to the attention of the PC, Russell Goff has been contacted about this and how the PC could renew it, more info to follow.

23/01-11. To receive feedback from Parish Reps

- i. **Update on the DAPTC AGM-** HJ explained she attended the AGM on the 19th Nov and reported that all motions were agreed which were supported by the PC. Also, that the Working together document at this stage is only a draft and it is the concept of the document that has been agreed, there will be meetings arranged with parish reps from a range of parish and towns, this will commence in 2 -3 months.
- ii. **To consider any action on Climate Change by the Parish Council-** HJ asked for this to be considered in discussion with CW, a report had been circulated with a link to another Parish's Climate and Ecological Emergency Action plan for information at this stage. PC asked that HJ and CW bring something to the next PC meeting with their thoughts for consideration.
DE was against a policy on Climate change and had produced a report on his views on this topic and read this out to Cllrs. PC noted that this was DC's report, but the PC could look at ecology and environment policies that have an effect on the parish and how it functions.
Cllrs agreed this is a way forward HJ and CW will look into this with the assistance of the Clerk looking at other PC policies for the next PC meeting.

23/01-12. Correspondence

- i. **To consider the visit to the Kingcombe Centre-** an email invitation had been sent to the PC to visit the centre, DE commented that he would contact the centre and see what he can organise.

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- ii. **Update on the Ammonite meeting-** DE updated the PC on the meeting held on 13th December at the surgery with a partner, manager, and clinical team member and the parish reps. The surgery announced that due to the national shortage of doctors the surgery is closing one day a week on a Thursday, the time to collect prescriptions will be extended on the other days. The PPG is also yet to be set up, it is hoped that the Cllr reps will continue to meet. DE also noted that unfortunately the surgery had been unsuccessful with funding to update the surgery at this time.
HJ commented that whilst she was at the surgery with the CAB members of staff explained that they were not aware of the closure until the PC's had circulated the information supplied after Ammonite meeting to the community.
- iii. **Update on the letter ref Parsonage barns-** following the email sent regarding the state of the barns the agent, a response had been received explaining that there were no instructions from the landowner to action any of the issues raised by the PC at this time. Also, the agent made reference to the Beaver project and potential issues with the water course. NF had prepared a response including other issues that needed clarification for the agent, Cllrs considered the reply, this was agreed all.

PC reported on the changes to BT and analogue phones, these will be phased out in the coming years, so the PC needs to be aware of this and monitor this for those who are vulnerable in the village.

23/01-13. To confirm the date and items for the next meeting on 8th March 2023 and to confirm the dates for the coming year-

Meeting dates for the coming year:

8th March, APA 12th April, APC 3rd May, 12th July, 13th September, 8th November.

PC gave his apologies for the next PC meeting.

It is hoped that we will have speakers for the APA on the beaver project, fostering in Dorset and Chris Loder MP is aiming to attend many Parish meetings but these are all to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 20.30