

# TOLLER PORCORUM PARISH COUNCIL

Chair Neil Farmer

Clerk Michele Harding

## Minutes of the Parish Council meeting Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at Toller Porcorum village hall

### Present:

Cllr N Farmer (NF)

Cllr H Jones (HJ)

Cllr David Ennals (DE)

Cllr J Miller (JM)

Cllr Stavenhagen (JS)

### In attendance:

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

1 member of public

### Public Form (15 Mins):

A member of public attended the meeting and commented on the abbreviations within the minutes that need to be clearer.

**22/09-1. Chairman's welcome, update and housekeeping-**NF welcomed all to the meeting.

**22/09-2. To receive apologies for absence-** Cllr P Crabbe, Cllr C Wardle

**22/09-3. To receive declarations of interests and grants of dispensations-** HJ declared and interest in the Ammonite report regarding the CAB

**22/09-4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 22**

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 JM

**22/09-5. Matters arising from the minutes-** none as covered under agenda items.

**22/09-6. Dorset Council Ward member report-** AA reported on the following:

- Library Strategy- there is a further 12-week consultation on libraries
- The Local Plan timetable has been delayed as there is further work to be carried out, this has been moved to Q2 2026.
- JS asked if fracking has been included in the LP, AA explained that this will be guided by the NPPF and general planning principles.
- The draft budget is now being considered, there is a deficit of 29M this is due to inflation and staff pay awards. The total budget for Dorset Council is around 340M. A lot of this is spent on Adult Care services.
- EV charging points are planned to be placed in some rural areas. Most are being placed in towns first. DE commented on EV charging points and asked whether the council have considered the negative impact on the environment specifically regarding the disposal of the batteries, has this been discussed with Chris Loder MP who is against them. AA commented that Cllr Ray Bryan has been discussing this with Chris Loder MP at senior cabinet meetings.
- Tara Hansford has now left the Council to work for National Trust, so the Trailway projects are being managed by Russell Goff.  
A message will be sent to Tara to thank her for all the support she has given the PC and best wishes for her future role.

**22/09-7. Finance and Procedure**

**i. To ratify the Jubilee celebrations grant**

Proposed HJ

Seconded JM



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## 22/09-10. Highways matters

- i. **To receive an update on Highways issues-**  
JS has reported all potholes online. The road drains covers have now been cleared.  
The road edges have broken away on the high street due to the weather, the Clerk was asked to follow up the re-profiling of the High Street with Highways.
- ii. Lower road depth gauge- following a site meeting with highways officers the installation of a depth gauge is not as simple as first thought as this needs to meet certain criteria, another site meeting will be arranged with the officer and NF to look at what could be done to reduce the flood on the road.
- iii. Grit Bin- following the site meeting it was agreed to install a new grit bin in the same location but dig it in further back, and site on a concrete pad at a cost of £482 plus vat. Proposed DE Seconded JM

## 22/09-11. To receive an update of Rights of way/Footpath matters

- i. **To consider the Stiles to gate and other RoW queries**  
NF is to have a site meeting with Russell Goff in early October to discuss this project. Discussions were held on the ownership of the land near Mount Pleasant crossroads and its legal status when formerly adopted.  
Mr Sartin is building a shelter on the trailway on the sustrans owned section as a resting point.

There is a broken stile on NT land between Wynford eagle and the bridge which has been closed off which has been reported.

## 22/09-12. To receive feedback from Parish Reps

- The VH had a meeting and have installed an honesty box for the car park
- HJ will be attending the DAPTC AGM remotely in November.
- NF commented on the Recreation group, who will be applying for grants for a Boules Court in November from Dorset Council.
- NF noted that there are lots of logs in the hedgerows and these are being made available FOC for those who are struggling with the cost-of-living crisis.

## 22/09-13. Correspondence

- i. **Update from the meeting with Ammonite-**DE read out a report from the meeting. This will be available in the Toller Times and on the PC website-  
points raised:  
A very good meeting where all parties spoke on their issues and frustrations. A general lack of staffing in the NHS is an issue all over the country with a lack of Doctors in rural practices.  
The Ammonite group are looking to invest in the Maiden Newton surgery with a new telephone system in mid-October, if a grant is obtained they will be changing the layout so there is a larger area for the pharmacy, this will make the collection of prescriptions much slicker.

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Home Visits are only for those who are housebound.

The e-consult system is sometimes difficult to navigate but will continue going forward it was suggested that for those who do not have computers then volunteers could assist in the villages.

The PPG is to be reinstated.

There are clinics available at the surgery, but some patients may be offered appointments if they could travel to Bridport.

The reps from the parishes will continue to follow this up with the support of the Clerk until the PPG is up and running.

DE was thanked for following this up. Michele was thanked for administering the meetings on behalf of the parish reps.

**ii. Update on the review of the Church's place in the Community**

Following the Church Breakfast, a discussion took place on the church's role in the community and the Church being used as a community space, considering a kitchen and toilet facility within the building.

Following information gathered the PC does not have the power to grant funds to Churches. The PC could however support a community group who are holding events to raise funds towards the church projects.

**iii. To discuss Manor Farm**

JS commented on the state of the Agricultural buildings at Parsonage Barn, the roof needs repairing, and agricultural buildings are an important part of the village. It was suggested that the PC writes to the agent to request the landowner repairs and tidies up the area.

It was also noted that contractors have damaged the bridge over the river Hooke and this could cause flooding also the permissive path is blocked by a tree. The PC agreed to write to the agent. Clerk to follow up.

Proposed JS                      Seconded HJ

**22/09-14. To confirm arrangements for the next meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022.**

NF asked if the meeting date could be moved on 1 week this was agreed. Items for discussion are Budget and precept request.

The meeting closed at 20.56