

# DEWLISH PARISH COUNCIL

WARDEN HILL FARM, LONG ASH LANE, DORCHESTER, DORSET, DT2 9PW  
Amanda Crocker, Clerk      Tel: 07855 396073      Email Dewlish@dorset-aptc.gov.uk

Dear Councillor,

21<sup>st</sup> January 2025

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of Dewlish Parish Council on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2025 commencing 7.30pm at Dewlish Village Hall.

**Amanda Crocker**  
Clerk

## AGENDA

1. Public Participation
2. Apologies for absence
3. Declaration of pecuniary and other interests
4. Minutes of previous meeting dated 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024
5. Matters Arising from previous minutes for report only
6. To receive the Dorset Councillor's report – attached
7. Finance:
  - (a) To authorise the payment of accounts
  - (b) To agree the reconciliation of accounts and position against budget
8. To receive reports on the following matters and to agree actions
  - (a) Planning – nothing at the time of this agenda
  - (b) Police, Traffic and Roads – to consider the Police report received – attached
  - (c) Parish Amenities and Rights of Way
  - (d) Parish Surgeries
9. To consider councillor responsibilities
10. To receive an update on VE Day celebrations
11. Open Gardens 2025
12. Parish Councillors' reports on items not covered in the agenda
13. To consider meeting dates for 2025/26 - attached
14. Agenda items for the next meeting
15. Date of Next Meeting - Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023

**Report to the parish council 19/12/24**  
**Cllr Jill Haynes Chalk Valleys Ward**

Dear Clerks, councillors and members of the public,

Please find my report for Dorset Council for the end of the year. It has been a time of considerable change with both a new government and a new administration at Dorset Council. We are now starting to see some of the changes central government are looking to make and to be quite honest none of it looks very favourable to rural areas.

**Budget 2025/6**

Last week we held a budget day to try to understand what the changes will mean to Dorset Councils budget. We understand that next financial year we just get a single year settlement but from 26/7 onwards they will be multi-year – possibly three years at a time which at least helps with continuity planning. There are some areas we are going to lose funding and some positives. All the figures we are talking about at the council are very large and it is sometimes difficult to comprehend the challenge to balance a budget of this size.

We have already been told that we will be losing the Rural Services Delivery Grant of £3.2M. This was to help with the extra costs associated with delivering services in a rural and sparsely populated area. This will be a big blow to the council.

We should be gaining £2.9M to help the NHS with adult's social care discharges.

We hope to have a new prevention grant of £1M in Children's Services, but this has yet to be confirmed. The Extended Producer Responsibility legislation is all about packaging waste and now producers will have to pay for the collection and removal/recycling of that waste rather than the council doing this at a cost to the taxpayer. This will save the council about £7M.

We are anticipating a New Homes Bonus as a one-off grant of £3.2M. The bulk of this will go to our housing association partners to help provide social housing.

You will have seen the employer rise in National Insurance contributions in the budget this is going to be covered for the council for this year by a Government grant of about £4M. However, it does not cover the additional cost to our suppliers which I'm sure they will want to pass onto the council, and this equates to a cost increase of about £6M.

Each year the council reviews the actual cost to provide our statutory services and those demand lead services like Adult Social Care and Children's social care.

This year the current administration is looking to set a budget of £380M for the whole council. Within this budget there is increased spend in the following areas:

**\*£15M into Adult Social care**

A 10% increase in the spent to reflect the additional 500 people who needed these services this year bringing a total receiving services to some 4400. This is one of our biggest areas to control spend and we have such an elderly population, however, through good preventative work we have managed to bring down the predicted spend of £210M to £175M still scary figures!

**\*£4M for children's services. (5% increase)**

Since 2022 we have managed to reduce the number of children in care by 90 Children and our total number of children in care now is 385 – this includes foster care. This prevention work and working early on with families has provided cost avoidance of at least £6M and the council's children's services are considered an exemplar in the country.

**\*£4M for place-based services. (4% increase)**

This includes our roads and waste collection services and as more houses are built so the cost of providing these services increases.

We transport 7800 children daily to school!! The budget for our school transport including SEND (special needs) children is a hugely scary £40M. For years this budget has been extremely difficult to control, and the budget has risen year on year. This year after some excellent collaborative work across the directorates there is a £1M underspend on the budget. I believe we are the only council in the country to have gained control of this part of the budget.

In addition, the administration is looking to put aside an additional £18M to use for contingency and adding headroom to reserves.

The Council is still awaiting the confirmation of the government settlement but with the ballpark figures above the administration are looking a budget gap of about £49M for next year.

The way this gap will be addressed will be part of the budget setting process in January when the council have had confirmation of the government figures. Areas to be covered will include possible savings from prevention work across the council, income generation, commercial opportunities and a review of services provided.

The budget process is never easy but despite all the good work this year looks like it is going to be one of the most difficult I have ever encountered.

#### **Devolution Deal**

It looks as if the council is likely to progress with a submission for a Devolution Deal. Dorset is looking to work with Somerset and Wiltshire councils to form a "Heart of Wessex Mayoral Strategic Authority" following the release of the Devolution White Paper. This is likely to bring increased investment and funding to our council areas and see additional powers handed down to the region from central government. However, the Government are insisting that this comes with another layer of bureaucracy, and we will be expected to have an elected Mayor and a mayors office for the region.

#### **Chief Executive is leaving us.**

After many years at both West Dorset District Council and then as the CEO of Dorset Council Matt Prosser is leaving us to take up a new role as CEO of Wellington Council New Zealand. Matt has always been a champion for Dorset and successfully led us through local government reorganisation to form a unitary council. I wish him every success in his new job on the other side of the world.

It only leaves me to say a Merry Christmas to everyone and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

Best wishes Jill

## Item 7(a)

### Payments Requested - December 2024 + January 2025

Date	Payee	Comments	Folio	Precept £
20.11.24	DAPTC	Whole councillor training	BACS053	244.50
12.12.24	Dorset Council	Election costs recharges	BACS054	50.00
	Newton Flags	Dorset Flag	BACS055	92.40
20.01.25	A Crocker	Dec24/Jan25 salary	BACS056	401.87
20.01.25	HMRC	Dec24/Jan25 PAYE	BACS057	86.20
<b>Total amount requested</b>				<b>874.97</b>

## Item 7(b)

### Dewlish Parish Council Reconciliation of Accounts

Balance b/fwd		From 31.03.24		20355.27
	Add:	Income year to date		6311.40
	Less:	Expenditure to date		5882.64
<b>Balance as at 20.01.25</b>				<b>20784.03</b>
<b>Funded by:</b>				
	Deposit account	00260298	1702.41	
	Current account	01230392	19712.09	
				21414.50
<b>Add:</b>	Uncleared Income			
				0.00
12.12.24	Dorset Council	Election recharge	BACS054	50.00
28.11.24	Newton Flags	Dorset Flag	BACS055	92.40
20.01.25	A Crocker	Dec24/Jan25 salary	BACS056	401.87
20.01.25	HMRC	Dec24/Jan25 PAYE	BACS057	86.20
				630.47
<b>Balance as at 20.01.25</b>				<b>20784.03</b>
		Difference		0.00

**Budget Monitoring for the year ended 31st March 2025**

Description	2024/25 Budget	Actual	Balance	
<b>Receipts</b>				
Account Interest	- 75.00	186.40	111.40	
Precept	6,125.00	6,125.00	0.00	
CIL receipts		0.00	0.00	
Misc income		0.00	0.00	
VAT refunded		0.00	0.00	
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>6,200.00</b>	<b>6,311.40</b>	<b>111.40</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Payments</b>				
DAPTC Subs. + other subs	100.00	159.34	(59.34)	
Insurance	730.00	721.65	8.35	
Training	50.00	298.50	(248.50)	
Wages - Clerk	2,795.00	2,154.00	641.00	
Clerk Expenses - mileage	50.00	64.44	(14.44)	
Office costs	150.00	80.95	69.05	
Stationery & postage	50.00	4.60	45.40	
Computer costs- web hosting	145.00	0.00	145.00	
Telephones		210.49	(210.49)	
Venue hire	200.00	0.00	200.00	
Grass cutting	250.00	0.00	250.00	
Audit fees	70.00	71.00	(1.00)	
Honorarium	50.00	0.00	50.00	
Defib Maintenance	130.00	0.00	130.00	
Contingencies	100.00	82.09	17.91	
Election costs	50.00	50.00	0.00	
Grants	500.00	383.73	116.27	
Bridge upgrade		570.00	(570.00)	
Asset maintenance	700.00	855.38	(155.38)	
VAT		176.47	(176.47)	
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>0.00 6,120.00</b>	<b>5,882.64</b>	<b>237.36</b>	<b>0.00</b>
Balance b/fwd from 31.03.24	20,355.27		Monies held in bank	21,414.50
Income to date	6311.40	26,666.67		
<b>Earmarked Reserves</b>				
Election costs	400.00		Add:	
Training	(148.50)		Income not cleared	
Venue hire	400.00		Less:	
Grass cutting	500.00			
Audit fee	74.00			
Telephone box maintenance	200.00		Cheques not cleared	(630.47)
Upgrade of The Green	4,430.00			
CIL receipts	2,390.01			
General asset maintenance	902.96	9,148.47	Earmarked funds	(9,148.47)
Expenses for current year to date	5,882.64			
		<u>5,882.64</u>		
<b>Balance available not yet committed</b>		<b><u>11,635.56</u></b>	<b>General Reserve</b>	<b><u>11,635.56</u></b>
				0.00

## Dorchester Rural East Neighbourhood Policing Team Crime Report

December 2024 (covered from 30/11/2024 – 31/12/2024)

Dear Councillors,

Below is a breakdown of crimes/incidents that have occurred in your areas during the month of July.

**N.B.** Any crimes/incidents of a sensitive nature are not in this report, e.g., of a personal nature or which may identify individuals.

- We continue to patrol all areas and are using social media to keep members of the public apprised of our actions.

Dorchester NPT website address is [Dorchester | Your area | Dorset Police | Dorset Police](#)

Our Face Book Page address is: [www.facebook.com/DorchesterPolice/](http://www.facebook.com/DorchesterPolice/)

Our Twitter Page is: <https://twitter.com/DorchesterPolice>

Our Instagram Page is: <https://www.instagram.com/dorchesterpolice/>

Dorset Alert messaging system registration to receive messages is:

<https://www.dorsetalert.co.uk/pages/2451/1/Register.html>

Contacting Dorset Police (non-emergency)

Do it Online: [Contact us | Dorset Police](#)

Telephone: 101 \*(Calls to the 101 non-emergency number from both landlines and mobiles are free)

To report information to the police with 100% anonymity, contact the independent charity Crimestoppers online at [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org) or call Freephone 0800 555 111

### **DFCA**

#### **Broadmayne Parish Council:**

28-12-2024 Glebe Farm – hare coursing (2 separate reports)

#### **Knightsford Parish Council (Tincton/West Knighton/West Stafford/Woodsford):**

No Reports

### **DFCB**

#### **Crossways Parish Council:**

05-12-2024 Crossways – suspicious activity on Hybris Industrial Estate – possibly linked to scrap metal theft. (Further visit from same vehicle 17-12-2024 length of hose taken from skip)

17-12-2024 Crossways – criminal damage to van – both wing mirrors ripped off and petrol cap cover snapped off.

19-12-2024 Crossways – criminal damage to vehicle

21-12-2024 Crossways – theft of fuel from Woodsford Quarry

22-12-2024 Crossways – report of youths in old hangers and other remote areas in around the area of Crossways. Strong smell of cannabis. Report of anti-social behaviour from same youths around the skate park and in the woods near Moreton Train Station.

28-12-2024 Crossways – report of youths in old hangers Patrols are continuing and working with the Youth Outreach team.

\*\*\*Concern over the increased reports of youths in the remote areas around Crossways and risks involved around possible drug use, climbing the hay bales and crossing the railway lines. This has been under reported and it would be useful if members of the public could report when seen. This could indicate a pattern and identify the best times to patrol to engage and take any necessary positive action with the youths. \*\*\*\*\*

**Osmington Parish Council:**

No Reports

**Owermoigne Parish Council:**

12-12-2024 Nether Moynton – burglary/ dwelling break – under investigation

25-12-2024 Ringstead – Deer found with multiple shot wounds, alive when first found but subsequently died.

**DFCC**

**Cheselbourne Parish Council:**

19-12-2024 Cheselbourne – metal arch stolen from top of 6ft fence

**Dewlish Parish Council:**

No Reports

**Puddletown/Tolpuddle/Athelhampton/Burleston Parish Council:**

14-12-2024 Puddletown – theft of number plates

19-12-2024 Puddletown – theft from motor vehicle

26-12-2024 Southover – report of suspicious car left in field. Call made to Registered Keeper and all in order.

29-12-2024 Puddletown - Car reported abandoned in car park in Puddetown Recreational Ground

**DFCD**

**Buckland Newton Parish Council:**

29-12-2024 Buckland Newton – Report of scam, no monies lost. Someone purporting to be a friend of a friend asking for a gift card to be sent.

**Melcombe Bingham Parish Council:**

No Reports

**Piddle Valley Parish Council:**

30-11-2024 Piddlehinton - Report of possible hare coursing

19-12-2024 Piddlehinton – Horse’s mane plated.

**COMMUNITY CONTACT POINTS**

The scheduled Contact Points are:

10-01-2025 Crossways – Premier Stores 17:00 – 18:00

07-02-2025 Puddletown – Spar Stores 16:30 – 17:30

**There is no scheduled Community Contact Point in March 2025 as I am on annual leave for the whole month.**

A Community Contact Point is a pop-up event where you can speak to me to discuss an issue and receive crime prevention advice. You can also report a crime (incident) or discuss any issues affecting you or your community.

This is a drop-in style event with no need to make an appointment.

There may be additional Community Contact Point other than shown above and these will be advertised by Dorchester Police on the Dorset Police website and the Dorchester Police Facebook Page.

### **CYBER CRIME PREVENTION ADVICE**

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025 Crossways Library – time to be advised. This will be a drop-in style event and the Cyber Crime Protect and Prevention Officer, Hannah Bird, will be in attendance. I will send out more details to all the Parish Councils as soon as I have clarified the timings. If possible and if your Parish Council feels it is relevant to their area, I would be grateful if this could be advertised locally.

Hannah is knowledgeable on the subject and is willing to answer any technical questions that attendees may have.

If this is a success, it may be possible to arrange a similar event in other villages, please let me know if your villages are interested and provide me with a contact point so that I can discuss with them. The Cyber Crime events can be done as a drop-in style of a more formal presentation with a Q & A session.

### **IMPORTANCE OF REPORTING INCIDENTS**

Please report any incidents either via 101 or online via the Contact Us Section on the Dorset Police Website:

[Contact us | Dorset Police](#)

Dorset Police does not have the ability to monitor Community social media groups and valuable intelligence is missed.

In addition, if there is an ongoing problem, for example anti-social behaviour, I am unable to seek support for additional police resources to address the issues.

Regards

PCSO 6500 Alison Donnison

Dorchester East Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team



## DEWLISH PARISH COUNCIL – November 2024

### OVERVIEW OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The Parish Council has collective responsibility for all its decisions, and therefore must discuss and debate and decide matters as one body. When a vote is taken, the majority decision is binding on the whole council.

However, in order to provide more detailed oversight, and a higher quality of review, it is sensible to allocate responsibility for overview of particular topics to smaller groups of councillors. This allocation of responsibility has the added benefit that, when external liaison is required with individuals or departments in local government, a relationship may be developed over time between those individuals and the person with oversight on our council.

Our responsibilities may, for convenience, be grouped together under the following headings:

- Parish Amenities and Rights of Way
- Planning and Trees
- Policing, Traffic, and Roads
- Neighbourhood Planning

In addition, there is collective responsibility for matters such as financial and budget oversight. Communication of Parish Council matters via the Village Magazine, the Council and Village Websites, the Facebook page and other local media rests with the Chairman and the Clerk. Clearly there will be some overlap between these divisions, so overlap of membership will be required. There are also representatives on outside bodies such as the DAPTC.

Each month, the lead Councillor of each group will be required to provide a report to the meeting and where a more detailed responses is considered necessary a written report be attached to the agenda.

The Chair and Clerk is ex-officio a member of all the groups. These are the proposed responsibilities, and priorities:

#### **Parish Amenities and Rights of Way**

**Responsibilities:** Rights of way, grass cutting and weeding, village tidiness, maintenance, The Bridge, The Green, flood/emergency planning, street furniture e.g. dog bins, benches, signs. Liaison with relevant officers at Dorset Council and other bodies such as neighbouring parish councils on these matters.

Planning for winter snow readiness and other emergency scenarios, and liaison with emergency planning officers at County.

**Sub-categories:** Volunteer maintenance parties; Grass cutting.

**Lead Councillor:**

#### **Planning and Tree Applications**

**Responsibilities:** Overview of planning applications (incl. recommendations to full council), tree applications, liaison with Housing Trusts and other potential developers, housing needs surveys. Liaison with the Planning Department

at Dorset Council, and other housing trusts. Liaison with DC about minerals planning.

**Lead Councillor:**

**Police, Traffic and Roads**

**Responsibilities:** Police liaison, Neighbourhood Watch liaison and communication, ‘eyes and ears’ for the Parish Council for graffiti and vandalism in the parish. Traffic monitoring. Cycle paths, pavements, roads, signage and road markings, pothole monitoring. Road safety in the community, particularly for children. Liaison with Dorset Highways.

**Lead Councillor:**

**Neighbourhood Plan**

**Responsibilities:** To monitor the development and eventual publication of the Dorset Plan. To provide Council with a timescale as to when there is a need to undertake the setting up of a Planning Group to develop the Dewlish Neighbourhood plan.

**Lead Councillor:**

**Representatives on Outside Bodies**

**Village Hall**

**DAPTC**

## Proposed meeting dates for 2025-2026

**All meetings are held at Dewlish Village Hall, on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month and begin at 7.30pm**

2026

February 23<sup>rd</sup>

March 23<sup>rd</sup>

April 27<sup>th</sup>

May 25<sup>th</sup> Parish Council AGM and Parish Annual Meeting

June 22<sup>nd</sup>

July 27<sup>th</sup>

August No meeting

September 28<sup>th</sup>

October 26<sup>th</sup>

November 23<sup>rd</sup>

December No meeting

2026

January 26<sup>th</sup>

February 23<sup>rd</sup>

March 23<sup>rd</sup>