

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,

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of Dewlish Parish Council on Monday 22nd January 2024 commencing 7.30pm at Dewlish Village Hall.

Amanda Crocker, Clerk

Short democratic period for members of the public to air any concerns or raise matters of public interest relating to the Parish.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Declaration of pecuniary and other interests
3. Minutes of previous meeting dated 27th November 2023
4. Matters Arising from previous minutes for report only
5. To receive the Dorset Councillor's report - attached
6. 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
 - (i) To receive an update on the The Green, including land ownership
 - (ii) To receive an update on the Volunteer Working Party
 - (d) Parish Surgeries
7. To authorise the payment of accounts and confirm the reconciliation of accounts and position against budget
8. To consider possible events for the D-Day commemorations
9. Parish Councillors' reports on items not covered in the agenda
10. To receive an update on the coming Elections
12. To consider meeting dates for 2024/25 - attached
13. Agenda items for the next meeting
14. Date of Next Meeting - Monday 27th February 2023

Report to the Parish Council December 2023
Councillor Jill Haynes, Chalk Valleys Ward, Dorset Council

Dear Clerks, Councillors and Residents,

Please find my Dorset Council report for November and December. There is still a lot more work to be done on the budget and in particular we will not know our actual government grant and settlement details until 21st December giving the number crunchers much unwanted work over Christmas. The weather has been particularly bad, and many have suffered with the high rainfall and flooding, my deepest sympathy if this has happened to you and if there is anything in particular I can assist with please let me know. I therefore wish you all a Merry Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

Best Wishes Jill

Dorset Shared Prosperity Investment Fund

The allocation to Dorset Council is £6.4M across three categories!! This is a HUGE amount of available grant funding so get your thinking hats on and apply.

The Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) and the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) are part of UK government Levelling Up policy. Their aims are twofold: To level up economically through improvements to productivity and to increase pride in place. They fulfil a broadly similar function to that covered by EU regional funding in the recent past, the main differences being (i) these funds are to be administered by Local Authorities rather than Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEP) and (ii) rules governing how the funding can be used are much less prescriptive. Funding is to be used for three Investment Priorities: Community and Place, Local Business, and People and Skills. Funding can be used for any combination of 41 defined Interventions within the three Investment Priorities.

The funds will be opening next week and are available to businesses, schools, towns and parishes, community groups and the voluntary sector on a first come first served basis. Please share this as widely as possible this is a great opportunity to get proper funding into our rural areas. Please check the Dorset Council website for the information there isn't a link for me to send just yet.

Planning update

As of the 6th December central government has agreed an increase in planning fees to reflect the true cost of determining an application. Fees will rise by 30% for major applications and 25% for other applications. The increase in fees come with an expectation on councils to make decisions in a timely manner. Decision times are being reduced from 23 weeks to 16 weeks with immediate effect on all applications paying the new rates. Failure to determine in the new timescale will result in a refund of the application fee.

Dorset Council is one of the largest planning authorities in the country and receives over 4000 applications every year. As previously mentioned in my reports recruitment continues to be a problem with considerable competition from the private sector. Our Building Control section is rated very highly and although we compete with private sector, we service over 70% of the market due to the good service provided. Currently there are 33 towns and parishes which have a neighbourhood Plan.

Budget

We are predicting that our end of year figure will be a £15M overspend on a total revenue budget of £361M. The bulk of the overspend has been due to the high rates of inflation during the year running at over 10%. Construction materials for our highways for example have risen by over 20%. Our budget for 24/25 will require savings across the council of £22M to be made in efficiencies in year. We are determined not to cut services but to look at ways of working differently to make the savings. It will mean that there will need to be some staff cuts as we streamline services.

We are assuming that inflation will run at 3.2% in the coming year. 1% variance inflation causes + or - £2.8M difference to Dorset Councils budget. The recently announced raise in the National Living Wage will be managed through our inflation

assumptions. The draft budget is assuming that we will take the 3% increase in council tax and 2% increase in the Adult Social Care precept. It is disappointing that we did not receive any additional funding from central Government in the autumn statement and as a rural area council we are challenging central Government that the formula for funding is wrong and does not take into consideration the additional costs that a very rural area brings to the council. It makes me personally very cross that we are penalised in this way when London boroughs with much more business rates in their budgets get as much as quadruple the grant which Dorset receives.

Childrens services update

Dorset Council has 460 children in care of which some 66 are unaccompanied asylum seekers. The numbers of Dorset children in care are reducing and dropped 75 last year to this year. However, our cost remain the same as our provider costs have escalated this year partly due to inflation but also because some of the providers are to be quite frank making money for their shareholders from this area as they know there is insufficient provision. Some are showing profits of £500M in the last year. We are working hard to create our own children's accommodation in Dorset with four new sites opened this year to help control these costs. Some of the children in care have extremely high-cost placements because of their high needs. The NHS has closed all the mental health beds for level 4 the most complex cases and this has pushed these children out into council care. Our most expensive case costs over £60,000 a week! Our costs in this area have increased over 1000% in the last 5 years.

The key to controlling the costs is to know the children of our area and to provide support and help as early as possible. To help make our services accessible we are developing family hubs across the area with two opened this year and two more scheduled to open next year. We currently are working providing early help with some 1500 children to help keep them safe and well living with their own families. The council supports 7102 children with special needs, 601 children being home educated and importantly 295 young adults as care leavers. The service obviously also works closely with our schools and colleges, both council run, church schools and academies.

Dorchester Rural East Neighbourhood Policing Team Crime Report

December 2023

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/

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)

***** THE EMAIL ADDRESS IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE FOR REPORTING – PLEASE USE ALTERNATIVE METHODS SHOWN BELOW ***** PLEASE SEE WITHDRAWAL OF 101 ADDRESS AT THE END OF THIS REPORT:**

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

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

Message an officer:

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

DFCA

Broadmayne Parish Council:

21/12/2023 Report of vehicles parked in residential road – some displaying for sale signs and trade plates. Liaised with Traffic Officers and Dorset County Council

Knightsford Parish Council (Tincleton/West Knighton/West Stafford/Woodsford):

No Reports

DFCB

Crossways Parish Council:

01/12/2023 Warmwell Holiday Park – silent 999 – all in order upon call back

06/12/2023 Warmwell – theft of watch from kitchen

08/12/2023 Moigne Combe – theft from motor vehicle

29/12/2023 Crossways – Anti-social motorbikes on private land

Osmington Parish Council:

No Reports

Owermoigne Parish Council:

02/12/2023 Ringstead pocket dial 999

DFCC

Cheselbourne Parish Council:

No Reports

Dewlish Parish Council:

No Reports

Puddletown/Tolpuddle/Athelhampton/Burleston Parish Council:

02/12/2023 Puddletown Forest – abandoned 999 – all in order upon call back.

04/12/2023 Tolpuddle – report of poachers in the area – area attended by officers – area search no trace.

05/12/2023 Tolpuddle – criminal damage to car parked in lay-by.

06/12/2023 Tolpuddle – theft of milk urn

DFCD

Buckland Newton Parish Council:

No Reports

Melcombe Bingham Parish Council:

No Reports

Piddle Valley Parish Council:

09/12/2023 Piddletrenthide Burglary – theft of wine

16/12/2023 Piddlehinton – car parked in lay-by on fire – arson.

26/12/2023 Piddletrenthide – shooting over bridlepath – officers attended Words of Advice given

Other

December has been a busy month for Road Traffic Incidents, flooding, fallen trees, these are not included in the report.

I have also been providing follow up support to people that have been the victim of scams. The level of support is based upon my first visit and the victim's willingness to engage. I often will attend just on one occasion and ensure advice is passed on how to avoid scams. However, sometimes I will arrange to visit over a minimum of 3 months to ensure that they are unlikely to fall victim to a scam again and offer ongoing reassurance.

Regards

PCSO 6500 Alison Donnison

Dorchester East Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team

Financial Papers for January 2024

Dewlish Parish Council

Payments Requested - January 2024

| Date | Payee | Comments | Folio | Precept £ |
|-------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------|---------|---------------|
| 26.11.23 | A Crocker | November 23 salary | BACS018 | 173.74 |
| 26.11.23 | HMRC | November 23 PAYE | BACS019 | 61.60 |
| | J | | | |
| 27.11.23 | Seymour | Reimburse re wreath & buglar | BACS020 | 56.48 |
| | A Barnett | Paints, etc | | 56.23 |
| 21.12.23 | DAPTC | Mail host storage | BACS021 | 45.00 |
| 16.01.24 | A Crocker | December & January salary | BACS022 | 374.97 |
| 16.01.24 | HMRC | December & January PAYE | BACS023 | 81.00 |
| Total amount requested | | | | 849.02 |

Reconciliation of Accounts

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|----------|-----------------|
| Balance b/fwd | From 31.03.23 | | | 11135.50 |
| Add: | Income year to date | | | 13905.66 |
| Less: | Expenditure to date | | | 4041.99 |
| Balance as at 16.01.24 | | | | 20999.17 |
| Funded by: | | | | |
| Deposit account | 00260298 | | 2984.36 | |
| Current account | 01230392 | | 18975.74 | |
| | | | | 21960.10 |
| Add: | Uncleared Income | | | |
| | | | | 0.00 |
| 26.11.23 | A Crocker | November 23 salary- inc back pay | BACS018 | 292.13 |
| 26.11.23 | HMRC | November 23 PAYE | BACS019 | 61.60 |
| 27.11.23 | J Seymour | Reimburse re wreath & bugaler | BACS020 | 50.00 |
| 20.12.23 | DAPTC | FastHost mail storate | BACS021 | 45.00 |
| 16.01.24 | A Crocker | December 23 & January24 salary | BACS022 | 374.97 |
| 16.01.24 | HMRC | December 23 & January24 PAYE | BACS023 | 81.00 |
| | A Barnett | Reimburse cost of paint, etc | BACS024 | 56.23 |
| | | | | 960.93 |
| Balance as at 16.01.24 | | | | 20999.17 |
| Difference | | | | 0.00 |

Budget Monitoring for the year ended 31st March 2024

| Description | 2022/23 Budget | Actual | Balance |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Receipts | - | | |
| Account Interest | | 124.94 | 124.94 |
| Precept | 5,835.00 | 5,835.00 | 0.00 |
| CIL receipts | | 2,390.01 | 2,390.01 |
| Misc income | | 5,000.00 | 5,000.00 |
| VAT refunded | | 555.71 | 555.71 |
| Total receipts | 5,835.00 | 13,905.66 | 8,070.66 |

0.00

Payments

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| DAPTC Subs. + other subs | 100.00 | 92.24 | 7.76 |
| Insurance | 760.00 | 695.01 | 64.99 |
| Training | 100.00 | 0.00 | 100.00 |
| Wages - Clerk | 2,250.00 | 2,025.00 | 225.00 |
| Clerk Expenses - mileage | 100.00 | 22.59 | 77.41 |
| Office costs | 150.00 | 9.48 | 140.52 |
| Stationery & postage | 50.00 | 3.68 | 46.32 |
| Telephones | | 169.30 | (169.30) |
| Venue hire | 200.00 | 0.00 | 200.00 |
| Grass cutting | 250.00 | 0.00 | 250.00 |
| Audit fees | 75.00 | 0.00 | 75.00 |
| Honorarium | 50.00 | 146.90 | (96.90) |
| Defib Maintenance | 150.00 | 0.00 | 150.00 |
| Contingencies | 100.00 | 106.23 | (6.23) |
| Election costs | | | 0.00 |
| Grants | 500.00 | 0.00 | 500.00 |
| Bridge upgrade | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Asset maintenance | 1,000.00 | 624.40 | 375.60 |
| VAT | | 147.16 | (147.16) |
| Total payments | 0.00 | 5,835.00 | 4,041.99 |

0.00

| | | | | |
|--|-----------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Balance b/fwd from 31.03.23 | 11,135.50 | | Monies held in bank | 21,960.10 |
| Income to date | 13905.66 | | | |
| | | 25,041.16 | | |
| | | | Add: | |
| Earmarked Reserves | | | Income not cleared | |
| Election costs | 400.00 | | Less: | |
| Telephone box maintenance | 200.00 | | Cheques not cleared | (960.93) |
| Upgrade of The Green | 12,390.01 | | | |
| General asset maintenance | 1,058.34 | | | |
| | | 14,048.35 | Earmarked funds | (14,048.35) |
| Expenses for current year to date | 4,041.99 | | | |
| | | <u>4,041.99</u> | | |
| Balance available not yet committed | | <u>6,950.82</u> | General Reserve | <u>6,950.82</u> |
| | | | | 0.00 |

Proposed meeting dates for 2024-2025

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

2024

February 26th

March 25th

April 22nd

May Following elections on 2nd May Parish Council AGM

June 24th

July 22nd

August No meeting

September 23rd

October 28th

November 25th

December No meeting

2025

January 27th

February 24th

March 24th