

MINUTES OF DEWLISH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 26th
FEBRUARY 2024 AT DEWLISH VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7.30PM

Present: Cllrs A Barnett, W Britton, A Fisher

Chair: Cllr M Fell

Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

Also present: 2 members of the public, Dorset Cllr Jill Haynes

1. Public Participation

23.140 Three particularly bad potholes, two of which are on Shailes. There are three bad points for flooding on the road in front of the village hall. It was noted that the bags put there by Dorset Council some years ago to prevent flooding are now making it worse. This will be reported again and Cllr Haynes will be copied in.

Funds for the church – It was noted that, in the Village News Magazine, Hilton Parish Council are recorded as having given a grant to their local Church. However, it is understood that the churchyard is closed and the Dewlish churchyard is still open. Under existing legislation, the Parish Council is not able to give a grant to the Church.

2. To receive apologies for absence

23.141 Apologies have been received from Cllr Chris Uden (holiday) and Cllr Josh Booth (work).

3. To receive Declarations of Interest

23.142 No interests were declared and no requests for dispensations had been received.

4. Minutes of the meeting hold on 22nd January 2024

23.143 A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Barnett proposed them to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Britton and agreed unanimously. The Chair signed the minutes in the presence of the meeting.

5. Matters arising from the minutes – for report only

23.144 No matters arising.

6. To receive the Dorset Councillor's Report

23.145 Cllr Haynes' reports are issued to members each month and attached to the agenda. In addition, Cllr Haynes reported that the double council tax charge on second homes was confirmed at the last Full Council, although a full year's notice must be given to the homeowner so this would not come into effect until 2025. At the same time, it was agreed that those who houses sit empty for more than a year will have to pay double council tax. Some of the funding raised from the additional charges will be used towards social housing.

Cllr Barnett raised the issue of the grants for trees and whether it would be worth the Parish Council

Signed:

looking into this. It was agreed that this would be worthwhile, and Cllr Barnett will look into this and bring his findings back to the March meeting.

ACTION: CLLR BARNETT

7. To receive reports on the following matters and to agree actions

23.146 Planning

P/TRC/2024/00798 Old Parsonage Farm House, Middle Street – T1 Conifer; fell; 22 Beech trees – reduce in height to 5m

No problems are seen with the felling of the conifer tree. The application is to bring the beech trees down to the height of the original hedge and plant 25 to 30 young beech trees between the trunks of the existing trees. Although the reduction in height of the trees will change the streetscape, the height is still significant, and the planting of the young trees will add to the overall impression. Members had no objection to the work.

23.147 Police, Traffic and Roads – to consider the Police report received

A copy of the report had been issued with the agenda.

23.148 Parish Amenities and Rights of Way

- (i) To receive an update on The Green, including land ownership – Three statements have already been taken and more are due to be heard. These will then be forwarded to the Land Registry.
- (ii) To receive an update on the Volunteer Working Party – Cllr Barnett reported that the weather has not been conducive to undertaking any work but, as soon as it improves, the volunteers have a list of tasks to undertake.

23.149 Parish Surgeries

Cllrs Uden and Fell continue to attend on the third Saturday of each month.

8. Finance

23.150 To authorise payment of accounts

The following payments have been requested:

A Crocker	February salary	BACS025	208.34
HMRC	February PAYE	BACS026	40.40

The total amount requested is £248.74.

Cllr Fisher proposed the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Barnett and agreed unanimously.

23.151 To confirm the reconciliation of accounts and position against budget

A copy of the reports had been issued with the agenda. No comments were made.

9. To consider possible events for the D-Day commemorations

23.152 The big band is booked for Saturday 8th June and will be combined with a fun day but just for the afternoon. Family/group events will be organised. The bonfire will be held on the 6th June with picnics – there may also be a band. Charging an entry would be difficult but there might be some buckets at the entrance or perhaps a collection on the day to assist with costs.

The figure to be funded by the Parish Council will be confirmed at the March meeting.

It was suggested that the Parish Council organise the teas and cakes on the Saturday afternoon.

Two D-Day flags will be ordered at a cost of £45.60.

ACTION: CLERK

10. Parish Councillors' reports on items not covered by the agenda

23.153 Nothing was raised.

11. To receive an update on the coming Elections

23.154 Members were reminded that proposers and seconders need to sign and print their name and the print should be the same as the signature i.e. if they sign A Smith, the print should also be A Smith and should agree with the Electoral role.

All nominations should be delivered to Dorset Council between March 12th and Friday 5th April at 4pm. The Clerk will issue additional instructions to all members to ensure the nominations are completely correct and members are aware of the deadlines.

ACTION: CLERK

12. To confirm the date for the May Annual Parish Council meeting

23.155 The meeting will be held on Monday 13th May from 7.30pm. The Annual Parish Meeting will be held beforehand at 7pm.

13. Agenda items for the March meeting

23.156 - D Day

14. Date of next meeting

23.157 The next meeting will be on the Monday 25th March 2024 commencing 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.19hrs

Signed: