

UPPER MARSHWOOD VALE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: John Vanderwolfe FILCM Chartered MCIPD

5 Halletts Way, Axminster, EX13 5NB 01297 34444 johnvw@tiscali.co.uk

Minutes of a Virtual Council Meeting held on Thursday 7th January 2021 commencing at 6pm

Present: Cllrs M Bowditch (Chairman), A Cameron, J Sewell, A Edwards, J Gillingham, J Piper and E Rowe

In attendance: The Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe) and Cllr S Christopher (Dorset Council) and about six members of the public.

Non-Attendance: Cllr's F Bailey, C Rabbetts, T Richards, J Brown, R Wyatt

172	Apologies Apologies were received from Cllr A Edwards (sickness). The clerk made the point that if a member was unable to attend the meeting, they must send an apology to either the chairman or the clerk.
173	Declarations of interest There were no Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct made at this stage of the meeting.
174	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on the 19 th November 2020 having been previously circulated, were agreed as a true record.
175	Matters Arising There were no matters arising
176	Democratic Period A complaint had been received from a parishioner who had experienced a distress flare being set off, which had caused her horse's unnecessary stress. Whilst accepted that fireworks can be set off at certain times this does not include distress flairs, which should only be used for the emergency use to which they are designed for.

161	<p>Accounts for Payment: Accounts for payment had been circulated prior to the meeting, and were therefore noted for payment: Websafe Solutions £350, Creeds £585, HMRC PAYE £191, Society of Clerks £100, S Lee Garden Services £1332.</p>
162	<p>Financial Update</p> <p>The financial update showing budget against actual spend and receipt was noted. The bank reconciliation of the 27th December 2020 showed financial assets of £17,371.54</p>
163	<p>Marshwood Speed Camera Project</p> <p>It was resolved to go ahead with this project. The clerk suggested setting aside a budget of £5k for this project within this year's accounts, and £1k in the 2021/22 budget. This was agreed.</p>
164	<p>Budget and Precept</p> <p>The clerk had prepared a draft budget, which had been circulated prior the meeting. The meeting noted that the Band D Equivalent figures had been reduced by 4 from 2019/20. To maintain the same level of precept demand as last year the Band D rate would increase by 49p to £38.70. Resolved that the budget for 2021/22 be set at £12,651 with a precept demand of £12,120.</p>
165	<p>Dorset Council Report</p> <p>Some residents aged over 80 have had their first vaccine, this has not been without issue given that this involves some of the most vulnerable members of the community at a most challenging time of the year.</p> <p>As you would expect I do receive emails from those who let holiday accommodation who have been forced to close. I will be working with Dorset Councillor Tony Ferrari and council officer Katie Hale to see what can be done further to assist the holiday letting businesses and hospitality businesses etc.</p> <p>Work has continued with the clearance of dangerous trees on Norway Lane. There was particular concern of trees potentially falling on properties.</p> <p>I continue to engage with Dorset Council officers and the police in respect of speeding in Marshwood.</p> <p>I have spoken with local residents in Marshwood , who have spoken of a very good community spirit, with neighbours all pulling together to help each other.</p> <p>There is increasing concern about damage being done by four wheeled drive vehicles in sensitive parts of the Marshwood Vale Ward, for instance on common ground, land of intrinsic habitat interest owned by the National Trust. This damage is typically undertaken by the off roaders under cover of darkness and is causing great distress to many. I am I contact with Council Officers and of course</p>

the police and would welcome any comments/information that you may have. I continue to be informed of residence concerns regarding speeding and communicate with the police and highways safety team.

- Dorset Council has started the process of arranging COVID vaccinations for care home staff, creating Vaccine Champions.
- The roll out of vaccinations will continue in the New Year. The Council is working very closely with health partners on this.
- The NHS is contacting people who need the vaccination in order of priority, as agreed with Government.”

I have spoken to Dorset Council Leader Spencer Flower, who is pressing for our local teachers to be given priority to receive the covid-19 vaccine.

‘The public have an important part to play to help the NHS to deliver the vaccination programme.

The key overarching messages for patients are:

Please don’t contact the NHS to seek a vaccine, we will contact you;

When we do contact you, please attend your booked appointments.

If you can’t make an appointment let us know as soon as possible and we can then offer the slot to someone else. You will be called again

and please continue to follow all the guidance to control the spread of the virus and save lives.

It’s really important we don’t lose sight of the things we all need to continue to do to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Self-isolation, regular handwashing, wearing a face covering and limiting social contact all remain critical to protecting ourselves, our loved ones and our communities

We know the impact of COVID has hit many individuals and families hard financially. We’ve been working in partnership with Citizens Advice to provide advice and support to those facing redundancy, debt, housing problems and more. Residents can ring the Dorset Citizens Advice Adviceline – details are on the Dorset Council Website. Dorset Council has been awarded up to £922,153 from the government’s Covid-19 Winter Grant Scheme to support children and families across the county.

Some of this money will be used to make sure families who need it, including those who receive free school meals, will receive food vouchers during the Christmas holidays and February half term. Families will receive details of this scheme direct from their school.

We’re also working with Citizens Advice to target support to help families facing fuel poverty this winter - more details will be available shortly.

We are promoting befriending and mental health support for anyone facing isolation or loneliness.

As part of our delayed convergence work the Assets and Property service

	<p>restructure was launched on 9 Dec. Dorset Council is hoping to minimise any compulsory redundancies, but of course restructures are always stressful for the people affected, and the Council is very aware that this comes at the end of a particularly difficult time. We are ensuring robust support is in place for all those affected.</p> <p>Quick update on Planning transformation</p> <p>The Planning transformation to converge of six systems into one has progressed well this year, despite the small matter of a global pandemic.</p> <p>The first phase to transfer information from the former North Dorset District Council has been completed.</p> <p>Data from West Dorset will be transferred in January, followed by the remaining legacy council systems. Once the transfer of data is complete, work will start on transforming the user experience of our planning portal, the aim is to make this better, but in transition there can be complications so please bear with the team.</p> <p>Senior officer recruitment – children’s and adults corporate and exec director roles</p> <p>Following a robust process, Theresa Leavy has been appointed permanently to the role of Executive Director for People – Children’s, I am delighted by this appointment and I am sure you will welcome this announcement.</p> <p>We’ve also appointed Andrew Billany as Corporate Director for Housing and Community Safety – again he was working in an interim role, like what he saw of Dorset Council and applied for the permanent position and was appointed against stiff competition.</p> <p>Recruiting to these roles on a permanent basis is good news for us a council, as it gives more stability and consistent leadership.</p> <p>If you are concerned about the safety or wellbeing of a child or young person, please call the council’s Children’s Advice and Duty Service on 01305 228866. Call 999 if you think someone may be at immediate risk of harm</p> <p>If you are concerned about a vulnerable adult who may be at risk, call 01305 221016 during office hours or 01305 858250 out of hours. Call 999 if you think someone may be at immediate risk of harm. Dorset Council operates a homelessness emergency out of hours service every day including Bank Holidays. Telephone 01305 22100</p>
166	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>Nil</p>
167	<p>Dealt with by Delegation</p> <p>WD/D/20/002116 Bridge Farm: Extension of holiday Park. Support</p>
168	<p>Determinations</p>

	Nil
169	Correspondence Nil
170	Items of Urgency Concerns that there could be unlawful visitors camping near to Lambert's Castle will be investigated.
171	Closing of Meeting The meeting closed at 7.10pm
172	Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on Thursday 18 th February 2021 at 6pm. This will be a virtual meeting.

Signature of Chairman