

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 16th July 2020

Present: Cllrs M Bowditch (Chairman), F Bailey, A Cameron, A Edwards, C Rabbetts, E Rowe, J Piper and J Sewell

In attendance: The Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe) and Cllr S Christopher (Dorset Council)

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| 119 | Apologies Cllr Gillingham, Cllr T Brown, Cllr R Wyatt and Cllr T Richards. Noted that some councillors are having problems accessing virtual meetings, therefore the clerk would issue a dispensation to avoid them becoming out of compliance with the six month rule under the Local Government Act 1972. |
| 120 | Declarations of interest There were no Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct made at this stage of the meeting. |
| 121 | Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on the 18 th June 2020 having been previously circulated, were adopted as a true record. |
| 122 | Matters Arising There were no matters arising |
| 123 | Democratic Period No requests to join the virtual meeting or to put forward any questions or statements had been received |
| 124 | Accounts for Payment The following accounts were agreed for payment: Salaries £247.99, HMRC |

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| | <p>£185.60, Cartridge People £58.25 and Dorset Parish & Town Councils Association £227.75. Cllr J Piper was concerned about the lack of spending and the amount of reserves. The clerk stated that the general reserves at the end of March stood at £8,211, which was within a reasonable amount for the budget of £13,174.</p> <p>Cllr E Rowe asked if there had been a problem with payments to Bettiscombe Hall. The clerk replied that because they had not forwarded an invoice in March he had estimated the bill. They had asked for a payment for the cancelled meeting in March and he had pointed out that their £10k Government payment was designed to cover that.</p> |
| 125 | <p>Financial Update</p> <p>The accounts had been circulated prior to the meeting, and were agreed. The bank reconciliation on the 28th June stood at £15,088.48.</p> |
| 126 | <p>Merger of Websites</p> <p>The cost of merging the Neighbourhood Plan website to the Parish Council website would be in the region of £350. A question was asked whether this funding would come from the Neighbourhood Plan Grant, to which the clerk replied that it would not, and that it would need to come from reserves as there was insufficient funds in the website budget. Resolved that the merger take place with a ceiling limit of £350 payable to WebSafe Solutions Limited.</p> |
| 127 | <p>Dorset Council Report</p> <p>The report from Cllr Christopher had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted. <i>Copy of as appendix A</i></p> |
| 128 | <p>Planning Applications and Determinations</p> <p>WD/D/20/001502 Brimley Mill House, Stoke Abbott: Internal alterations to include removal of spiral staircase, formation of doorways and steps. Members supported the application.</p> <p>1. Determinations :the following were noted:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) WD/D/20/0012228 Jesmond, Norway Ln, Stoke Abbott: Tree works. No objections b) WD/D/20/001408 Molly Bawn, Stoke Abbott. Tree works. No objections |

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| | c) WD/D/20/001008 Cottage, Bettiscombe Manor: Works to windows and roof. Approved |
| 129 | <p>Highways</p> <p>There were a number of footpaths that were difficult to walk because of overgrown grass and brambles. The clerk stated that if details were provided, and with the landowner's permission, the Lengthsman could deal with this. Landowners are responsible for maintaining gates and stiles, but can get a 25% payment for new structures. Asked about paths being blocked by crops he pointed out that a cross field path had to be cleared within 14 days by law, and that a field edge path should never be blocked. A cross field footpath must be at least 1m wide (2m bridleway) and 1.5m for a field edge footpath (3m Bridleway). <i>Reference Rights of Way Act 1990.</i></p> <p>There were three bollards sunken on the road near to Lamberts Castle. Cllr Christopher noted this. Cllr Gillingham had reported some defects which would be passed on to Cllr Christopher.</p> <p>It was agreed that highways had done a good job in the Marshwood area.</p> |
| 130 | <p>Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils Report</p> <p>No meetings had taken place</p> |
| 131 | <p>BAVLAP Report</p> <p>No meetings had taken place.</p> |
| 132 | <p>Beneath the Vale</p> <p>The next edition would be circulated shortly. Agreed that that edition and the previous one would be financed by the Covid-19 emergency grant.</p> |
| 133 | <p>Correspondence</p> <p>All correspondence had been circulated. Cllr Cameron wished thanks to the clerk to be recorded for sending out loads of information regarding Covid-19 during the lockdown period.</p> |
| 134 | <p>Items of Urgency</p> <p>Cllr J Sewel informed the meeting that the post office would not be resuming at the church in the foreseeable future due to Covid-19 restrictions.</p> |
| 135 | Closing of Meeting |

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| | There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 7pm |
| 136 | <p>Next Meeting</p> <p>Thursday 27th September 2020. This probably will be a Zoom meeting.</p> <p>It was hoped to possibly have a face to face meeting in November if conditions appertaining to Covid-19 permit.</p> |

Signature of Chairman -----

Date -----

Dorset Council Report Appendix A

Since the last virtual meeting of The Upper Marshwood Vale Parish Council I have continued to be actively involved in supporting vulnerable people and assisting local businesses.

Dorset Councillors have had virtual meetings every week and I have liaised constantly with other Dorset councillors in particular the leader Spencer Flower together with Ray Bryan re highway matters: involving amongst other issues road closures (including Norway Lane) and also footpath matters.

I have spoken with concerned parties, regarding drainage problems (including Bluntshay Lane).

I have been involved with: (this is an non exhaustive list),

Planning and enforcement, together with education and supporting community groups.

I have spoken with our MP about residents concerns and also Parish Councillors and those involved with both farming and conservation

I have chaired a number of meetings including the Western and Southern Area Planning Committee meeting using Microsoft Teams and attended the Audit and Governance meeting. and had discussions with members of the senior leadership team of Dorset Council

I have attended the Economic Development and Advisory Panel.

I have worked with council officers on a daily basis to resolve difficulties and to facilitate the continual provision of services by Dorset Council and the restart of facilities run by voluntary groups