

CHILD OKEFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Child Okeford Parish Council Meeting held on 4th December 2023 at Child Okeford Community Centre at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr. Barbara Ireland, Cllr. Robert Smith, Cllr. Tim Cotton, Cllr. Karen Knapton, Cllr. F Griffiths, Cllr. S Jespersen

In Attendance: Laura Foulkes – Parish Clerk
Members of the Public: One resident

Apologies for absence were received from: Alan Blundell - Footpaths Officer, Cllr. Mark Kerridge, Cllr. Mary Giles (Chair)

23.12.01 To Receive Declarations of Interest in Matters on the Agenda

Cllr. Tim Cotton abstains from comment on planning application P/HOU/2023/06713 due to the close proximity of the property to own.

23.12.02 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 6th November 2023.

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6th November 2023.

Proposed: Cllr. B Ireland **Seconded:** Cllr. K Knapton

23.12.03 To Discuss Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

- a. Village horse signs. Review of village has been completed. 5x signs have been agreed in various locations. **Action:** Clerk contact Adam Frost estimator at Dorset Council for cost of one sign and forward on to Fontmell Parva - suggestion for sign there.
- b. Cllr. F Griffiths confirms a 20mph limit sign on Duck Street is not missing, it is not a requirement and has never been there.

23.12.04 Public Participation

- a. Resident expresses objection on planning application P/HOU/2023/06713

23.12.05 Ward Councillors Report

- a. Report (to be circulated prior to the meeting)

23.12.06 Footpaths Report

- a. None received

23.12.07 Tree Matters

- a. none to report

23.12.08 Highways Matters

- a. Notice from Parish Council to residents: If a resident has an issue or concern regarding potholes or road signs or markings etc. please use the Dorset Council website to log them, this will result in a speedier response from the Highways department
- b. 20mph limit - Speed tubes report received. Resident petition to be carried out - residents please partake.
Cllr. F Griffiths asks why Dorset Council need a survey, would it not be better to supply a petition. Cllr. S Jespersen confirms Dorset Council need to see significant community support as not enough evidence has been provided so far. Facebook is a good supplement but not sufficient as a stand alone. Dorset Council require the following:
 1. how many people have you consulted? (needs to be a significant number)
 2. how many responded?
 3. of that, how many supported it? (needs to be a significant number)
 4. how many oppose it?

The Parish Council decide to send out petition - a physical one in community areas (such as school, pubs, shop, church, village hall, community centre) and a digital one on the Facebook page and the website. The Parish Council will review the number of responses and decide if more information is needed.

23.12.09 Planning Matters

- a. To Receive Decisions of Dorset Council- nothing to report.
- b. To Consider Planning Applications

Planning Applications Received as of 30/11/2023:

- **P/HOU/2023/06713**

Cross House The Cross Child Okeford DT11 8ED

Proposal: Erect a side extension to create an annexe

The Parish Council observe objection: with concerns for the impact on the heart of the conservation area and other listed buildings in the vicinity, the prominence and character of the village in terms of materials.

- c. To Consider Planning Appeals – nothing to report.
- d. Other Planning Matters -nothing to report.

23.12.10 Finance, Accounting and Administration Matters

- a. To Approve the Schedule of Payments

The Council **RESOLVED** Approval of the Payments Schedule and total amount of £4556.86 for November 2023.

Proposed: Cllr. B Smith **Seconded:** Cllr. K Knapton

- b. To Approve the Statement of Accounts to 30.11.2023.

The Council reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the Statement of Accounts to 30.11.2023.

Proposed: Cllr. B Smith **Seconded:** Cllr. K Knapton

- c. Other financial matters

- Cllr. T Cotton agreed to replace Cllr. M Giles as back-up authorising person for Parish bank accounts.
- Parish Council to finalise 2024 Financial Budget. This past year the Parish Council has seen a significant increase in statutory payments and therefore foresee a rise of 5.58% for precept £24,980 **Action:** Clerk to send of precept to DC

Proposed: Cllr. B Smith **Seconded:** Cllr. T Cotton

- New playground equipment - finances coming from general reserves in Parish Council budget. Parish Council agreed that CORGI will not be considered for financial funding for this project due to the fact that it was set up for the Community Centre building alone.
- Playground update: A large piece of concrete was discovered underneath the area once work commenced. The Parish Council considered options to have it removed and/or reinstate the rubber. The Parish Council agreed unanimously to pay the extra to have the concrete removed to enable the new grass covering to be laid and for the longevity of the covering and equipment.
ACTION Clerk apply for VAT to be returned asap on all 3 invoices

23.12.11 Correspondence and Information

Correspondence report circulated prior to meeting

- Electric Vehicle Charging Points to be added to the agenda for January meeting.

23.12.12 Matters of Interest

- a. Road lines for outside the school and bus stop update - Dorset County Council Highways Officer will be assessing and adding to his list of works for spring 2024 (Winter weather tends to halt line marking work).
- b. **Action:** Cllr. T Cotton to write a piece for The Hill regarding the new playground.
- c. Cllr. Fran Griffiths announces resignation from Parish Council, giving 3 months notice.
- d. It is agreed that Cllr. Tim Cotton will be new Chair of the Parish Council.
- e. Four positions are now open for the Parish Council.
- f. **Action:** Clerk to request a PCSO to visit during school rush hour to help with drop off parking.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 8th January

2024. The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.54pm

Signed Dated Chairman of the Council