

CHILD OKEFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Child Okeford Parish Council Meeting held on 5th February 2024 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. Mary Giles (Chair), Cllr. S Jespersen,

In Attendance: Laura Foulkes – Parish Clerk
Alan Blundell - Footpaths Officer
Members of the Public: 4

Apologies for absence were received from: Cllr. Mark Kerridge

24.02.01 To Receive Declarations of Interest in Matters on the Agenda

24.02.02 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 8th January 2024.

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8th January 2024

Proposed: Cllr. M Giles **Seconded:** Cllr. B Ireland

24.02.03 To Discuss Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

24.02.04 Public Participation

- a. A resident raises question regarding the current internet fibre connection works - Is there any one person or organisation that can explain what is happening. Cllr. S Jespersen explains that both companies (Wessex and Gigiclear) are laying their cables at the same time, the upside is that it is all being carried out at once. Fibre internet available soon to residents.
- b. A resident raises concerns about the quality of work, specifically making good of the tarmac. Cllr. S Jespersen explains that this is something that can be raised with Dorset Council. Once work has been completed, the Parish Council will contact the Communities Highways Officer (around the end of April) to organise a visit to inspect and draw up a job list.
- c. Discussion regarding VOIP (Voice over Internet Protocol). Parish Council have no further information as to when this will be rolled out. **Action: Cllr K Knapton to seek more information as to how this will affect residents.**

24.02.05 Ward Councillors Report

- a. Grass cutting at Knotts Close and Station Road junction, re resident question as to who is responsible for this specific area. Cllr. S Jespersen explains it is not resident responsibility. **Action: Clerk to research rural cutting**
- b. DEFRA Annual Recycling league table - Dorset Council number 1 in the country!
- c. 20MPH limit - it has been agreed to take it to Stage 2 which is a public consultation. This is due to take place in the 2nd quarter of the year (summer). This is for anyone from anywhere to log objections, if the decision is made to proceed, stage 3 is planned to take place at the end of the summer 2024.
- d. Dorset Community Tree Fund - funded by Dorset Council. This scheme also supports planning and design as well as funding for new trees. Not confined to public land but does have to be a public body to apply. **Action: Cllr. S Jespersen to add information to The Hill**
- e. Household Support Fund - Round 4 will open for applications at 10am on 6th Feb 2024. Supermarket vouchers. **Action: Clerk to add to Facebook page**

24.02.06 Footpaths Report

- a. Considerably better now wet weather has reduced
- b. Chisel Farm Lane and Hanford, to confirm this isn't blocked but the footpath signs have broken. New signs have been ordered.

24.02.07 Tree Matters

- a. TPO/2023/0060 provisional Tree Preservation Order - for information only

24.02.08 Highways Matters

- a. Electric Vehicle Charging Points - Resident survey. Not a huge response. At this point there is not much enthusiasm for the installation of EVCP's. The survey will remain on the Facebook page and the website until 12th Feb 2024. More to come at the next meeting
- b. Parking - The Parish Council considered and discussed the suggestions made by a resident regarding provision of additional parking for School staff and parents, however the Parish Council has no authority here. The Community Highways Officer has explained that people can legally park there.
- c. Horse signs - some have been erected and have been appreciated by riders, there are some more to be erected.

24.02.09 Planning Matters

- a. To Receive Decisions of Dorset Council- nothing to report.
- b. To Consider Planning Applications
 - **P/HOU/2023/06740** Proposal: Erect two storey and single storey extensions. Demolition of existing outbuildings and erect new garage and office. Location: Dairy House

Parish council observe to object: Objection 1. On grounds of the light pollution in a dark sky and otherwise un-polluted area. Objection 2. On grounds that the building material and design is not in-keeping to the character of the current building and surrounding area.

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

24.02.10 Finance, Accounting and Administration Matters

- a. To Approve the Schedule of Payments
The Council **RESOLVED** Approval of the Payments Schedule and total amount of £18,295.76 for January 2024.
Proposed: Cllr. B Smith Seconded: Cllr. K Knapton
- b. To Approve the Statement of Accounts to 31.01.2024
The Council reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the Statement of Accounts to 31.01.2024
Proposed: Cllr. B Smith Seconded: Cllr. T Cotton
- c. Other financial matters

24.02.11 Correspondence and Information

- a. Report circulated prior to meeting

24.02.12 Matters of Interest

- a. Councillors agree that residents Geoff Sparrow and Michael Salisbury will be co-opted into Parish Council as new Councillors at the next meeting.
- b. Neighbourhood Plan - Cllr. T Cotton gives a brief summary of the report and the conclusion that currently they can't see a benefit to a Neighbourhood Plan. But that an updated Village Design Statement could be (the current is out of date). The report can be found on the Child Okeford website.
- c. D-Day commemoration activity for 6th June 2024 - Cllr. B Ireland suggested Lamp Light of Peace. The Parish Council agreed to buy if the church agree.
- d. The Councillors say goodbye to Chair, Mary Giles and say thanks for all her hard work and dedication. Cllr. T Cotton steps in as Chair.
- e. The Parish Council now have a profile page on Facebook. They will post information on this, and share it to the Child Okeford Public Forum page too.
- f.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 4th March 2024.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.25pm

Signed Dated Chairman of the Council