

CHILD OKEFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Child Okeford Parish Council Meeting held on 4th March 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, Cllr. Mark Kerridge

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

Apologies for absence were received from:

24.03.01 To Receive Declarations of Interest in Matters on the Agenda

24.03.02 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 5th February 2024.

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5th February 2024

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

24.03.03 To Discuss Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

- A. Residents Geoff Sparrow, Sally Brady and Micheal Salisbury are opted into the Parish Council and took their places as Councillors.

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

- B. School parking - Cllr. M Kerridge raises school parking concerns and letters from residents. Cllr. K Knapton has discussed with the school - there is enough parking for the school staff but not the nursery staff. The school is aware of the issue, and agreed that the nursery staff will park in the Community Centre while building work is carried out on the new housing development. Cllr. S Jespersen suggests schemes for sustainable travel and car avoidance. Dorset Council and Bike Ability offer child cycle training schemes for schools. Cllr. T Cotton suggests for councillors to circulate ideas on this matter and they are taken forward to the school to help. Cllr. M Salisbury offers to contact the school.

- C. Grass verge cutting - Clerk has contacted Dorset Council as enquiry, matter to be added to next agenda with update from Dorset Council

24.03.04 Public Participation

- a. Resident would like to see village Planning Applications, can they be added to the website for residents to see. **Action:** Clerk to start adding future planning application numbers to the planning application section on the village website.

24.03.05 Ward Councillors Report

- a. Dorset Council approved budget on 23 February £3.77m. that will provide 450 services to 38,000 residents
- b. Council Tax going up by 4.99% There is support for low income families.
- c. Long term empty properties will face a 100% premium council tax in 2024 and 100% premium for second homes will come into effect in 2025.
- d. Cllr. S Jespersen has done an inspection of the recent work carried out by the internet companies and agrees it is sub-standard. **ACTION:** Clerk to chase the request sent last week and to get a date for the visit by the Highways Department at Dorset Council.

24.03.06 Footpaths Report

- a. Blockage behind Homefield has now been removed.
- b. Rangers have been informed, it has been requested to renew some wobbly styles
- c. Manor House Fields now fenced around it, but there is plenty of room for a footpath.

24.03.07 Tree Matters

- a. Preservation Order P/TRC/2024/00850 T1 - Ash - Remove due to ash dieback - no objection
- b. P/TRC/2024/01033 Proposal:T1 - Conifer - Fell due to unstable root plate. Elm House, High Street - no objection
- c. P/TRC/2024/01032 Proposal:T1 - Holm Oak - Manor Barn, Upper Street - no objection

24.03.08 Highways Matters

- a. Electric Vehicle Charging Points - Resident survey yielded a total response of 16, and therefore it is deemed not appropriate / needed / wanted at this point.
- b. Speeding through the village - Cllr. F Griffiths has been in contact with the Local Highways Officer, we are not allowed to install chicanes or barriers. But urges residents to report concerns, near misses and issues to Dorset Road Safe Partnership using this email address: dorsetroadsafe@Dorset.PNN.Police.uk and see <https://www.dorsetroadsafe.org.uk/enforcement-operations/reporting-traffic-concerns/>
Action: Clerk to add to Facebook, website and The Hill publication

24.03.09 Planning Matters

- a. To Receive Decisions of Dorset Council - nothing to report.
- b. To Consider Planning Applications - nothing to report.
- c. To Consider Planning Appeals – nothing to report.
- d. Other Planning Matters -nothing to report.

24.03.10 Finance, Accounting and Administration Matters

- a. To Approve the Schedule of Payments
The Council **RESOLVED** Approval of the Payments Schedule and total amount of £608.03 for February 2024.
Proposed: Cllr. B Smith Seconded: Cllr. T Cotton
- b. To Approve the Statement of Accounts to 29.02.2024
The Council reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the Statement of Accounts to 29.02.2024
Proposed: Cllr. T Cotton Seconded: Cllr. B Smith
- c. Other financial matters - none

24.03.11 Correspondence and Information

- a. One item to discuss from resident regarding planning of village dwelling, with revised design. However, the Parish Council have previously submitted comments on the former design and therefore would need further communication from the Planning department at Dorset Council to be able to submit further comment.

24.03.12 Matters of Interest

- a. The Parish Council send condolences to the family and friends of Sylvia Holdeman (previous long standing chair of the Child Okeford Parish Council) who sadly passed away last month. The Parish Council, in conjunction with the Village Hall committee are organising a lasting memorial and tree planting to commemorate her hard work and dedication to the village.
- b. D Day 80th commemoration - Rev. Andrew Gubbins will organise a service, tributes and bell ringing to take place Thursday 6th June 2024 and with Cllr. B Ireland the Parish Council agreed to buy Lamp Light of Peace
- c. Cllr. B Smith looking into costs for the stones at The Cross. To be on next agenda
- d. Cllr. K Knapton raises concerns about people exercising dogs on the recreational ground and reminds residents this is not permitted. Signs are there.
- e. The Parish Councillors say goodbye to Cllr. Fran Griffiths and thank her for all her hard work!

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 8th April 2024.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.26pm

Signed Dated Chairman of the Council