

THROOP AND HOLDENHURST VILLAGE COUNCIL
FULL COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 28th July 2021 at 7.00pm at Village Hall

Holdenhurst Village Road, Dorset. BH8 OEE

Present: Cllr S R Fisher (Chair), Cllr. L W Sabih (Vice Chair), Cllr T Blackmore, Cllr N J Corcoran, Cllr J-A Houldey and Cllr M J Waters

Daniel Lucas, Acting Town Clerk & RFO

Apologies, Cllr T Blackmore

33. Apologies for Absence (033/21)

Apology received from Cllr T Blackmore.

3. Declarations of Interest (034/21)

There were no declarations of interest declared on this occasion.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting (035/21)

Cllr Waters highlighted that the minutes did not record that he was tasked to bring a report concerning the Longbarrow Allotments which appeared on the current Agenda for discussion.

Cllr Fisher commented that Minute 22 where it referred to two electors, this should in fact have been the two Unitary Councillors, Cllrs Wilson and Northover.

Proposed by Cllr Houldey that the minutes be received subject to the amendments above.

Seconded by Cllr Sabih.

Voting: Unanimous.

36. Announcements (036/21)

Acting Village Clerk confirmed that the Village Council was now registered with the Information Commissioner's Office.

37. Public Participation (037/21)

There were no members of the public who wished to speak on this occasion.

38. Public Questions (038/21)

There were no public questions on this occasion.

39. Councillor Questions (039/21)

There were no questions from councillors on this occasion.

Voting: Unanimous.

40. Matters Arising (040/21)

Queen's Trees – Cllr Corcoran advised Council that he is working with BCP Council on this matter. The Village Council does not have the open spaces available to accommodate the trees. He has emailed the necessary BCP Officer/Head of Department and that this is still work in progress.

Parish Website/Communications – Cllr Houldey advised Members that work is progressing with the Council's chosen contractor – Aubergine 262Ltd. She reported that it is a big project and she anticipated that it may take two to three months to finalise.

Allotments – Cllr Waters produced a report which appeared in the Agenda Pack and appears as "Appendix A" in the Minute book. In talking to the report Cllr Waters remarked that there should be a lease to the Allotment Association but that this has now lapsed. He remarked that progress should be made in drafting a new lease and his report set out the recommendations he wished to make. The recommendations were then read out by Cllr Waters.

The Acting Village Clerk made comment about the recommendations and that they seemed sound, although note was made of the limited Council resources in obtaining the necessary expert legal help here.

Cllr Houldey raised the issue the issue about historic rent being held due to the transfer of the allotments to the Village Council.

Cllr Waters confirmed that he understood this was indeed the case.

Cllr Sabih queried whether we can somehow "piggy-back" on the back of BCP Allotments and whether officers and expertise can be called upon here.

Cllr Waters also observed that he had seen a draft lease but that he is not a lawyer so could not say whether it was fit for purpose. Further discussions were therefore needed.

An elector at this point intervened to confirm that historic rents were being held.

Cllr Houldey proposed the recommendations as set out in the report.

Cllr Storrs Seconded.

Voting Unanimous.

RESOLVED: Authorise the Council's Clerk to commence the process of drafting and obtaining agreement to the content of a new lease agreement between the Village Council and the Longbarrow Allotments Association.

Delegate authority to the Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and one other Councillor, to obtain any required professional legal advice, in order to facilitate the drafting of a proposed new lease agreement and to authorise payment of any associated invoices.

Receive a further report from the Clerk seeking final Council agreement of the proposed new lease content and outlining appropriate contract monitoring and management procedures.

At this stage the Chairman brought Item 17 forward on the agenda due to the members of public present.

41. Planning Applications: (041/21)

Application: [7-2021-7824-C](#) Hicks Farm Throop Road and land East of Lavender Road and Taylor Drive Bournemouth

Change of use to Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) together with the formation of an associated car park. Access and infrastructure - Regulation 3 (Revised Application)

Cllr Corcoran opened the debate and stated that the notice seemed to be mopping-up items from May.

Cllr Houldey expressed concern about the website still showing as a "delegated decision" and queried whether this would in fact go to BCP Council's Planning Committee given this status.

Cllr Fisher remarked about the widening of Throop Road to the weir and made reference to the BH Active document where a shared cycle-lane of 3.5m for cyclists and 2m for pedestrians is being implemented. Cllr Fisher

explained it was not clear, but it appeared to be a superhighway for cycling. In referring to this document she highlighted that page 13 refers to street-lighting across the field and she felt it would distract wildlife. Comment was also made that this area flood for 3-4 months of the year and that it was too dangerous. Cllr Fisher also expressed that £100million for shared cycleways was set aside at BCP Council.

Cllr Storrs remarked that you can currently get to Hurn with the current footpath so could not understand why BCP would want to do what is proposed.

An elector intervened at this point also and highlighted if this was for commuting purposes what commuters was BCP Council on about.

Cllr Corcoran also added for information that Hurn Parish Council have serious concerns too about the proposal.

Cllr Fisher added further that pedestrians are scared for themselves given the conflict that occurs between shared use with cyclists. She remarked that the SANG application had been changed and that the footpath was now a shared footpath.

An elector intervened and questioned whether they should object again.

Cllr Sabih commented that you should be able to enjoy the countryside. Lights aren't necessary but that cycling was good for mental wellbeing. He added that if it was constructed that breaks in the path should occur for safety reasons and to control speed.

An elector at this stage commented and queried why can't a footpath be placed on Throop Road. The Chairman politely highlighted that this was on the agenda later.

Cllr Corcoran added that commuting habits will change and that the focus should be on safety and that the Council should not object to cycling in principle. He felt it was not a negative to have safe cycleways. He felt that the Council should be careful so as to not be seen as negative to cycling and that there was a difference between cycling for leisure and commuting purposes.

Cllr Houldey felt strongly about looking at alternative crossing points.

The Acting Village Clerk asked Council how it wished to respond.

It was proposed by Councillor Houldey and Seconded by Cllr Corcoran that we write to BCP Council Planning Department in the strongest terms about the website showing as delegated seeking confirmation that this shall be a committee matter, having already sent an objection to the scheme.

Voting: Unanimous.

42. Proposed Footpath in Throop Rd – Via Community Infrastructure Levy Bid process (Unitary Cllr Borthwick). (042/21)

The Chairman explained that Cllr Borthwick was invited to attend but that he had explained he shall not be attending.

Cllr Storrs opened the debate and explained the routing of the proposed footpath. He felt the reasons for the footpath stemmed around safety concerns and the route itself of the footpath was not the cause of the problem; but those cars and traffic were. He felt that traffic calming measures should be looked at.

An elector intervened and questioned what the point of the allotments to the corner route was.

Cllr Waters explained this was coming from Community Infrastructure Levy and that such large sums of money should not be relied upon.

Cllr Fisher proposed that the Council supports the routing of the footpath at the bank end (Townsend to Westfield) but that reservations should be expressed about the route from the allotments to the end of the route, especially concerning safety of footpath users here.

Cllr Storrs seconded the proposal.

The proposition was put to the vote.

Voting Unanimous.

RESOLVED. That the Council supports supports the routing of the footpath at the bank end (Townsend to Westfield) but that reservations be expressed about the route from the allotments to the end of the route, especially concerning safety of footpath users here.

43. Proposal for Village Council Noticeboard in Holdenhurst (043/21)

Cllr Sabih explained that there was a need for a Village Noticeboard in Holdenhurst and that the principle of a noticeboard should be supported by the Council. He proposed that a noticeboard be purchased.

Cllr Houldey seconded the proposition.

Voting: Unanimous.

44. Throop War Memorial – Letter received from an elector (044/21)

A letter was received from an elector about a Throop War memorial which appeared in the Agenda Pack and appears as “Appendix B” to the minutes for the minute book. The elector spoke to the item and felt it was a good idea to have somewhere to go and reflect to respect the fallen. She also explained that someone had offered to make a good donation to this cause.

Cllr Fisher added that it had been a matter which has taken many years to come to fruition.

Cllr Corcoran explained there was a wooden memorial in the church and that he had seen a quotation for £1150 +VAT would be required to replicate this for an outdoor memorial.

Cllr Fisher explained that a bench could also be considered, and she was of the opinion that it should be self-supported via donations or good will contributions from the community given the limited precept and Council resources available.

Cllr Waters felt this was a good idea for a small working group for councillors and electors to work together on.

Cllr Storrs commented that the Royal British Legion may be able to assist and felt the memorial should be those who had fallen in all conflicts and not just the first and second world wars.

Cllr Corcoran proposed that a working group be established with a quorum of 3 cllrs and a maximum of 4 be created and that those members of the public who wished to assist also be included.

Cllr Houldey Seconded the proposal.

Voting Unanimous.

RESOLVED: that a working group be established to look at the provision of a Throop War memorial with a quorum of 3 cllrs and a maximum of 4 be created and that those members of the public who wished to assist also be included.

45. Holdenhurst Neighbourhood Watch Scheme (045/21)

An elector presented to Council for information about the neighbourhood watch scheme. She felt strongly that it brought the village together and gave a sense of cohesion and as if residents felt like they belong. She explained the scheme and how the police advise to report anything to them no matter how small. She commented that Townsend was a problem in 2001 and it has now been resolved with resources and working together. She also highlighted the recent incidents of the church hall windows being smashed and the targeting of the stables. She also added that technology has also advanced, and that WhatsApp was a good tool here. She further commented that a Resilient Community Co-Ordinator had been identified and that they can help with signs and stickers and publication etc...She stressed that residents should not tackle people but of course to call the police. The elector also felt this could be accommodated on the Village Council's emerging website.

A second elector added to the topic by stating that there was something in existence at Willow Mead.

Cllr Waters felt that the Village Council should have an over-arching say.

All members felt that the website can and should accommodate the Neighbour Watch Scheme and can assist if necessary.

Voting: unanimous

46. Identified Future BCP Council Initiatives within Village Council area (046/21)

A338 – Cllr Sabih commented that the road-over was still being discussed but currently unfunded.

Stour Valley Park – Cllr Fisher remarked from Christchurch to Wimborne and beyond well-funded with the centre on Hicks Farm.

Throop SANG – Cllr Fisher remarked there may be further SANG's required in the area.

Burial Grant it was noted that there maybe potential for 10,000 graves at the Muscliffe Lane site.

Future Residential Housing – Cllr Fisher commented that members and the public should keep an eye out for the Issues and Options Consultation on BCP Council's emerging Local Plan.

47. Identified Future Village Council Initiatives (047/21)

These were identified and noted for information only.

48. Village Clerk's Report (048/21)

The Acting Village Clerk produced the spreadsheet of payments made directly and the Bank reconciliation which appeared on the agenda, a copy of which appears as "Appendix C" to the minutes.

Proposed: Cllr Fisher as an accurate record

Seconded: Cllr Corcoran.

Voting Unanimous.

The Meeting ended at 8.58 p.m.

Chairman

SIGNED