

THROOP AND HOLDENHURST VILLAGE COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday 22nd March – 7:00pm
Village Hall, Holdenhurst Village Road, Dorset BH8 0EE

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

Apologies: Mr. P Biles (Village Clerk)

Public attendance 4

1. **Welcome from the Chair (227/22)**

The Chair welcomed everyone and stated that in the absence of the Village Clerk, Cllr. Waters had been asked to undertake the necessary elements of the Clerk's role in respect of this meeting.

2. **Apologies for Absence (228/22)**

None:

3. **Announcements (229/22)**

- 3.1 **War Memorial update:** The Chair confirmed that, as a result of a number of fund-raising initiatives as well as the receipt of a number generous donations, the target total of £4,970 has now been reached. The memorial has now been commissioned and the working group will now oversee the next phase and make final arrangements for its installation and subsequent unveiling and dedication ceremonies.
- 3.2 **Area Forum:** The Chair reminded those present that the next Throop, Muscliff, Strouden, Townsend and Holdenhurst Area Forum is due to take place at the Bournemouth School for Girls on Wednesday 29th March. Cllr. P. Hall confirmed that he would be attending.
- 3.3 **May ACM/APM:** The Annual Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 24th May 2023 preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting.
- 3.4 **Chair:** Cllr. S. Fisher stated that she does not intend to stand for re-election as Chair of the Village Council at the forthcoming Annual Council meeting. Cllr. Fisher will continue to be Village Councillor.
- 3.5 **The King's Coronation events:** Three events are currently known to be planned within the Parish for celebrating the coronation of The King in May. There will be an event on Holdenhurst Village Green on Saturday 6th May, another will take place in the garden of Throop Mill Cottage on Monday 8th May and there will be an Old Age Pensioner lunch held at the Village Hall in Holdenhurst on Saturday 13th May.

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4. Declarations of Interest (230/22)

There were no declarations of interest stated.

5. Minutes of last meeting 18th January 2023 (231/22)

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Village Council were signed by the Chair as an accurate record of the meeting.

6. Public Participation/Questions (232/22)

- 6.1 Cllr. Houldey asked a question on behalf of a member of the public who is seeking the Village Council's support in putting pressure on BCP Council to change their decision not to allow horse riders to use the new multiuser and cycle route, including the new river crossing. Cllr Houldey stated that she felt this matter was of considerable interest to many local horse riders in the parish area and after a brief discussion, the Chair agreed that a vote should be taken upon the request.

Resolved to: Delegate authority to the Village Clerk to write to BCP Council in support of the request and to seek their re-consideration their decision not to allow horse riders to use the new multi-user and cycle route.

Proposed: Cllr. Houldey

Seconded: Cllr. Sabih

Voting: 6 – 1 in favour.

7. Democratic 15 minutes: (233/22)

- 7.1 Concern was raised concerning the level of unsociable behaviours observed around the exit gate area of the proposed new SANG.

8. Matters arising from previous minutes; (234/22)

- 8.1 The Village Clerk has received a response from BCP Planning concerning the rules governing the installation of solar panels in the conservation area. The advice will be made available on the Village Council's website but in brief Solar panels installed on a house roof falls under the scope of "permitted development".
- 8.2 BCP have confirmed that they are not prepared to install a new Grit container on the corner of Throop and Holdenhurst roads because it is only the existing ones on the existing network that are sourced. BCP further advised that the locations of the existing grit bins as well as the "Manual Gritting" of the conurbation is currently subject to a review which will subsequently be due for implementation with effect from the 23/24 Winter Service period.
- 8.3 It was noted by the meeting that the empty Grit Container in Throop Village appears not to have been addressed, as yet, by BCP council.
- 8.4 BCP have reported that, unfortunately they have not been able to locate the blocked/flooded gully outside Muccleshell Cottages on Throop Road, that was recently brought to their attention. Further clarification concerning the site of the

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problem will be sought by the Village Clerk to check whether there has been any confusion with respect to its location before contacting BCP again.

9. Clerks Report: (235/22)

- 9.1 Village Councillors had received copies of the Bank Reconciliation completed by the Village clerk on 6th March 2023 and no queries or questions were raised.
- 9.2 The Village Clerks normal Cost v Budget report (updated on 6th March 2023) was also submitted to Councillors. No queries or questions were raised.

10. Longbarrow Lease Up-date: (236/22)

- 10.1 **Cllr. Waters, on behalf of the Village Council's Allotments Working Group**, gave a brief verbal update to the meeting. Cllr. Waters stated that, during the latest consultation meeting between the Council's Working Group and the Longbarrow Allotment's Chairman and representative, the content of a draft lease was discussed and left with the Allotments Chairman to allow an opportunity for further consultation within the Allotments Committee. The Allotments Chairman would also obtain any independent legal advice his Committee thought appropriate. The meeting was constructive and it was clear to both parties that there is significant "common ground" to be built upon.
- 10.2 The Village Council's Chairman has now received a positive written response from the Allotments Committee Chair and the expectation is that, once the necessary legal provisions have been included (land transfer/covenants) another meeting will be arranged prior to the final documents being presented to the Village Council for its consideration and agreement.

11. SANG Update: (237/22)

- 11.1 The Chair gave brief overview of the SANG's history and the current matters that are causing concern despite being raised at the joint consultation group meetings between the BCP project team and representatives of the Village Council. There continue to be on-going issues and areas of concern and the working group will continue to remind BCP of their obligations and to monitor the situation.
- 11.2 Having observed BCP contractors undertaking hedge clearance/removal work in the SANG recently, local residents became concerned that the work was taking place during the bird nesting season, which is contrary to the relevant environmental protection legislation, and any further work of this nature should now be left until later in the year if still considered necessary.

12. Hicks Farm Update: (238/22)

- 12.1 General discussion concerning the Hicks Farm site with no new information available at this stage.

13. Naming the SANG: (239/22)

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- 13.1** Cllr. Houldey presented a report to Councillors concerning BCP Council's decision to name the SANG "Throop Nature Park". The report outlined a number of concerns expressed by both Parish residents and the Parish Council SANG Working group. These concerns were brought to the attention of the BCP project team together with alternative name, "Stour Valley water meadows" being suggested as a more accurate and appropriate name for the SANG.
- 13.2** As a result of not receiving a positive response the Parish working group undertook a poll of residents. The detailed results are contained in the report and overwhelmingly demonstrate that local opinion in the parish area support the view that the name of the SANG should be changed to "Stour Valley water meadows"
- 13.3** The report seeks the Village Council's consideration of the issues outlined in the report and to agree to delegate authority to the Village Clerk to write to BCP Council requesting that the name of the SANG is officially changed.

Resolved to: Delegate authority to the Village Clerk to write to the leader of BCP Council and relevant officers requesting the official change of name to Stour Valley water meadows.

Proposed: Cllr. Houldey

Seconded: Cllr. Sabih

Voting: Unanimous.

14. Neighbourhood Plan (240/22)

- 14.1** The Village Clerk has now requested quotes for consultancy work regarding the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan from six companies. One quote has been received, two have declined to quote and we are currently awaiting responses from Three of the companies.
- 14.2** The Village Clerk is still therefore endeavouring to obtain three quotes as instructed at the last council meeting. The Clerk will submit the results of his enquiries at the next Council meeting in May and seek a suitable resolution which will allow the Council to make further progress on the development of a Neighbourhood Plan if it wishes to do so at that stage.

Meeting closed at 8.15 pm. Signed.....