



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

10 MARCH 2025

COMRADES HALL

PRESENT: Cllr. Tim Beer, Cllr. Rebecca Burt, Cllr. Stephen Curtis, Cllr. Stuart Curtis, Cllr. Philip Dixon, Cllr. Andrew Frampton, Cllr. Bob Harris, Cllr. Garry Miller, Cllr. Sonia Raymond, Cllr. Nathalie Roberts, Cllr. Yvonne White.

ATTENDANCE: Councillor Simon Christopher (Dorset Council), Helen Cudmore (Clerk).

In the absence of the Chairman, Councillor Frampton was nominated to chair the meeting, proposed by Councillor Beer, seconded by Councillor Burt and unanimously approved by the Parish Council. The Meeting commenced at 7.30 pm, Councillor Frampton welcomed Councillors and members of the public to the meeting. There were two members of the public present.

1. APOLOGIES AND APPROVAL OF ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Beck, Dyke and Webb and from PCSO Bishop and unanimously approved by the Parish Council.

2. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS, DISPENSATIONS AND REGISTER OF INTERESTS UPDATES

a. To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors and employees on matters to be considered at the Meeting.

None.

b. To receive requests for dispensations.

None.

c. To grant any requests for dispensation.

None.

d. To receive any updates to the Register of Interests from Councillors.

None.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes from the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 10 February 2025 were confirmed as a true record, unanimously approved by the Council and duly signed by Councillor Frampton.

4. MATTERS ARISING

None.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

a. Report from Councillor Simon Christopher, Dorset Council

Councillor Christopher stated that he had brought two documents to the meeting which may be of interest to the Parish Council, relating to housing strategy and affordable rural housing. Councillor Christopher reported on an application to extend and alter the Abattoir in Bridport which had recently been presented at the Planning Committee, despite it having received officer approval and not objected to by Bridport Town Council. Councillor Christopher stated that it was rare that this should go to Committee and stated that despite many emotive objections to the application, the Committee voted eight in favour with one abstention. Councillor Christopher stated that the Abattoir was seen as important by some in terms of job creation, especially in an area which depends heavily on seasonal employment. Councillor Christopher stated that another case which he wished to highlight involved local builders CG Fry & Son who had received outline planning permission for a mixed-use development in Wellington, Somerset. Issues arose concerning nutrient neutrality, specifically related to phosphates and nitrates and planning permission was withheld for the last phase of the development. CG Fry & Son challenged this decision, appealing to the Planning Inspectorate, the High Court, and the Court of Appeal, all of which upheld the requirement for an appropriate assessment at the discharge of conditions stage. Seeking to overturn these rulings, CG Fry & Son appealed to the Supreme Court, with the hearing taking place on February 17 and 18. The Supreme Court has yet to issue its judgment on this matter. Councillor Christopher stated that this case is hugely important to Dorset as there are five areas in the county which have been impacted by the nutrient neutrality issue.

Councillor Christopher stated that Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Poole (BCP) Council's draft Local Plan, which outlined a strategy for growth up to 2039—including the development of 24,000 new homes and 72 hectares of employment land—has been rejected by government-appointed inspectors. Councillor Christopher stated that this was important as if there is unmet housing need in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, then Dorset would have a duty to co-operate with neighbouring councils and may face pressure to accommodate some of this shortfall, especially in areas bordering Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. Councillor Christopher reported that there are Governor vacancies at Broadwindsor School should Councillors be interested in the positions or know of others who may be. Councillor Christopher stated that he had spoken with Jan Britton at Dorset Council regarding the path

to the Cricket Ground and stated that he had received a negative response but stated that he will continue to press for this. Councillor Christopher asked for questions.

Councillor Frampton asked whether a positive judgment for CG Fry & Son at the Supreme Court would unblock the stop on the development at the Land South of Fullers or whether there are other factors involved. Councillor Christopher stated that he would seek clarification from the Planning Officer. Councillor Frampton stated that there is another proposed small development in Broadwindsor and asked if they were not proceeding because of the nutrient neutrality issue. Councillor Christopher stated that the issue is causing a general block in five different areas including parts of the Marshwood Vale. Councillor Frampton stated that as he understood, the sewerage infrastructure in the Parish is at full capacity and that any new application would have to incorporate some form of septic tank treatment system.

Councillor Christopher stated that there is a general feeling that rural authorities are underfunded, Councillor Frampton stated that the direction of travel seems to be that parish councils are having to take on more areas of responsibility from Dorset Council and it was disappointing to hear about the path but stated that he understood that budgets are being extremely stretched. Councillor Frampton thanked Councillor Christopher.

b. Report from Dorset Police

The Clerk read aloud the report from PCSO Bishop which stated that on the evening of Monday 17 February, a gate had a padlock removed from it and was left open in the Broadwindsor area. There doesn't appear to be any further issues relating to this. In the last week or two a Land Rover was stolen from the Thorncombe area, followed by the theft of a trailer and quad bike in the same area and Devon and Somerset have had similar issues. In his report, PCSO Bishop stated that his next engagements were at Comrades Hall on Monday 17 March at 11:30 am and then at Drimpton Village Hall on Friday 28 March at 9:30 am. Councillor Frampton reported that on the previous Wednesday night, roofing sheets had been stolen from the farm at the bottom of Clan Hill.

6. CORRESPONDENCE AND NOTICES

a. Burstock Resident, Dog Fouling

The Clerk reported that she had received correspondence from a resident reporting that dog fouling in Burstock is a constant issue and becoming worse, and had asked for Parish Council help. The Clerk stated that she had replied and that in the past the Parish Council has engaged the Dog Warden, installed additional bins, put up notices and written in local newsletters but stated that nothing had worked that well. Councillor Frampton asked for any additional suggestions and stated that it was difficult to police. The possibility of installing an additional bin was discussed, albeit at some expense, new notices and contacting the Dog Warden. The Clerk was asked to contact the Dog Warden and place a notice on the noticeboard.

b. Broadwindsor Resident, Speed Restriction Markings, West Street

The Clerk stated that a local resident had asked for Parish Council support in getting the speed restriction markings in West Street reinstated. A member of the public stated that he could confirm that there is a problem of speeding vehicles in that area and that the SID does have an effect on some drivers, but others ignore it. The Clerk stated that she would log this with Dorset Council and push for action to be taken. The member of the public stated that there is interest in getting a new Speed Watch Team in place for Broadwindsor and that would be an ideal place for the team to be situated. Councillor Christopher asked for an email to be sent to him about this and stated that he would liaise with the Highway Safety Officer.

7. ACCOUNTS

a. To receive the Finance Report

Councillor Frampton referred Members of the Council to a spreadsheet highlighting income and expenditure which had previously been circulated. The current balance as of the 28 February 2025 was £39,869.32. There were no questions.

Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Harris, seconded by Councillor Beer and agreed by a show of hands, the Council unanimously approved the Finance Report.

b. To approve payment of £84.00 for HMRC (NI)

c. To approve payment of £290.39 for Total Web Solutions (Hosting Plan)

d. To approve payment of £210.00 for DAPTC (Future Planning Event)

e. To approve payment of £27.99 for the Clerk (Expenses March 2025)

Councillor Beer proposed that the payments be approved en bloc.

Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Beer, seconded by Councillor Harris and agreed by a show of hands, the Council unanimously approved payments b to e.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. Applications Received and Circulated for Consultation

P/FUL/2024/07244, Whetley Farm, Main Road, Mosterton, DT8 3HE

P/LBC/2024/07245, Whetley Farm, Main Road, Mosterton, DT8 3HE

Councillor Beer reported that he and Councillor Curtis had visited the applicant, and that the application would provide for much improvement and stated that there were no reasons for objection and recommended that the Parish Council fully support the application.

P/LBC/2025/00839, Manor Farm, Pitmans Grave Crossroads to Junction, Littlewindsor Farm, Littlewindsor, DT8 3QU

Councillor White reported that she and Councillor Roberts had visited the applicant and carried out a site visit and that the application was seeking permission to convert the extension to the listed building and replace the tiles with slate and make general improvements. Councillor White stated that there were no reasons for objection and recommend that the Parish Council fully support the application.

b. Other Applications

None.

c. Results

The following results were reported.

P/TRT/2025/00181, Seaborough Court, Seaborough, DT8 3QY: Consent

P/VOC/2025/00201, Havendale, Drimpton Road, Broadwindsor, DT8 3RS: Granted

P/TRT/2024/07603, Brent Paddock, Axe Lane, Drimpton, DT8 3FN: Consent

P/LBC/2024/06369, Broadwindsor House, Clanden Hill, Broadwindsor, DT8 3PX: Granted

d. Future Planning Event, 4 March 2025

The Clerk reported that she had attended this event with Councillors Dyke and Beck and that she had circulated a summary of the key information from the day and also a report focusing on Neighborhood Plans (NP) prior to the meeting. The Clerk stated that it was a well-attended event as planning was currently a very hot topic. The Clerk stated that the general advice was that the Parish Council should review its Plan sooner than later and to that end she had contacted the planning consultant who had supported the original NP to ascertain whether she had capacity to help with a review. The Clerk stated that she had received a reply and due to a number of factors including increased workload and uncertainties around funding she would be able to place the Parish Council on a waiting list and would review the situation again in July. The Clerk stated that the original NP had taken considerable effort and time from members of the Council and members of the community and that there had been some frustration that on a couple of occasions, planning decisions had overruled the NP. However, the Clerk stated that from the information available at this time, it seems better to have a reviewed plan in place than not to have one, and that this should provide protection from speculative development, especially as housing targets are now mandatory and not just advisory. Councillor Frampton asked whether a review would be a light touch, the Clerk stated that it may well be but stated that until the current NP is reviewed, it was not possible to confirm. The Clerk stated that she would add this to the next agenda. Councillor Harris asked whether housing targets would change and stated that if they are, then surely a more in depth review would be needed. The Clerk stated that Dorset Council does not have a Local Plan in place and as such have offered to help with identifying housing numbers. Councillor Dixon asked who co-ordinates the infrastructure needed for the increase in houses and can that question be asked of Dorset Council. The Clerk stated that she did not know. Councillor Dixon stated that there needs to be jobs for those in new houses. Councillor Harris stated that there should be public transport links and that there was an interesting case not long ago, when an application was refused due to insufficient public transport, and stated that he was not aware of anywhere within the Grouped Parish that had suitable public transport for people to get to work on. A member of public stated that he had been speaking with the Chairman and that he had said that Broadwindsor has a school, shop, pub and a church and given all four elements may be a prime target for development. The Clerk stated that she would add this to the next agenda.

9. MAINTENANCE OF NOTICEBOARDS

The Clerk stated that at the last meeting it was agreed to review all noticeboards prior to an action plan being agreed and stated that she had updated the contact sheets. Councillor Beer stated that the Blackdown noticeboard needs varnishing, but it is structurally sound. The Clerk stated that varnish could be shared for other noticeboards. Councillor White stated that the noticeboard in Seaborough really needs replacing, the Clerk stated that she would obtain quotes and report back.

10. EVENTS

a. Annual Parish Meeting, 17 April 2025

The Clerk reported that the Annual Parish Meeting has been confirmed for 17 April at Comrades Hall and stated that Edward Morello MP has agreed to attend and present. The Clerk asked for suggestions on how to attract more people to attend and stated that she would shortly be producing a draft agenda.

b. Lewesdon Hill, 26 April 2025

Councillor Frampton reported that the National Trust is promoting Lewesdon Hill and holding an event on 26 April. Councillor Frampton stated that the event will include a talk on the lost pilot, a talk on iron age settlements, an ecologist and archaeologist will be onsite and there will be a three mile walk. Councillor Frampton stated that the event is open to members and non-members of the National Trust and is free.

c. VE Day 80th Anniversary, 8 May 2025

Councillor Frampton stated that there is a local resident who has researched her grandfather's role in the war, he was the Brigadier of the 43rd Wessex Division and she has formed a presentation around the research. Councillor Frampton stated that the presentation will be held at Comrades Hall on the evening of 8 May at 6.30 pm and Sir Barney White-Spunner will also be involved. Councillor Frampton stated that he and Robert Hedditch will also be speaking about their great uncles and highlighting their personal stories. In addition, Councillor Frampton stated that the pub will be serving fish and chips as part of a war time themed evening and the beacon will be lit on the Allotments at 9.30 pm. Councillor Frampton reported that there will be a service at the War Memorial in Broadwindsor 11.00 am and that Broadwindsor School are keen to take part as there are a number of children with direct family links to those who are named on the memorial. The Clerk stated that this was a Grouped Parish event.

d. Oak Apple Day, 31 May – 1 June 2025

Councillor Roberts reported that there will be a number of events happening to celebrate Oak Apple Day, including a flower festival and classic car display. Councillor Frampton stated that there will also be a live music event at the Cricket Ground on 30 May with a bar and BBQ. Further details to be provided at the next meeting.

11. WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT

The Clerk stated that it had now been ten years since she developed the website and that she wished to update the site and ensure compliancy with new accessibility rules. Councillor Beer stated that he may be able to help.

12. BROADWINDSOR GROUP PARISH COUNCIL CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

No report.

13. ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk stated that allotment renewals would be issued by the end of the week.

14. MUGA UPDATE

a. Update on request from BADCE to sub-lease land by the MUGA

The Clerk reported that Battens were now liaising with Dorset Council's legal department and BADCE.

b. Update on drainage issues

Councillor Miller stated that a simple modification would allow the drainage situation to be much improved for the short term and would require a contractor to carry out the work.

15. COMMUNICATIONS WITHIN THE GROUPED PARISH AREA

No report.

16. HIGHWAYS

a. Review of reported highways concerns to Dorset Council

The Clerk reported that there had not been any updates since the last meeting. Councillor Frampton stated that there is a problem with drainage at the bottom of Clan Hill and that traffic lights had been there for some time. Councillor Frampton stated that there had long been a problem when excessive rain falls, the drains can't cope, and that Dorset Council has tarmacked over the top which seems to have made the problem worse. Councillor White stated that she was under the impression that Dorset Council promoted a hedge to hedge approach to highway maintenance, the Clerk stated that she had not seen any evidence of that.

b. Parking in Broadwindsor

Councillor Frampton stated that at the last meeting he had raised the issue of parking on the one way system in Broadwindsor, most notably when there was an event on at Comrades Hall or the pub as he was concerned about accessibility for emergency vehicles and asked whether this was an issue which needed reviewing by the Parish Council. Councillor Dixon asked how often this occurs, Councillor Frampton stated that perhaps the Hall holds a large event once a month. Councillor Raymond stated that the centre of Broadwindsor was at gridlock the other evening due to a combination of the chip van being in the Square and cars parked at the junction and stated that this was not due to an event but just general traffic coming into the village. Councillor Stephen Curtis stated that the half circle outside of the old shop is

overfilled with cars as is other parts of the Square. Councillor Frampton stated that further thought and discussion is needed on this matter.

17. MATTERS OF INTEREST AND INFORMATION

a. Items for next Agenda from Members of the Council

Councillor White stated that she had been invited to take part in a defib awareness session in Misterton on 12 April and that if anyone else would like to go, to provide their name to her. Councillor White stated that she had twelve people from Seaborough also attending.

b. Items for next Agenda from Members of the Public

A member of the public reported that he had inspected Hursey Common that day and as expected it was very wet and as far as sport was concerned, he believed that it was too dangerous to invite people to take part in sporting activities. The member of the public stated that it may be worth considering selling the football posts and nets. The member of the public stated that for the last eighteen months he had housed the Parish Council's mower and stated that he would like it relocated fairly quickly. The member of the public stated that he had read that the Cricket Club may be interested in maintaining the mower but reminded the Council that in peak summer periods, the mower would be required once a week to cut the grass in the sports field. The member of the public stated that dog fouling was becoming a problem again as was the problem of mole hills. The Clerk stated that she had made enquiries with DVLA about vehicle registration and obtained an insurance quotation for driving the mower on the highway. The Clerk thanked the member of the public for his patience in keeping the mower longer than expected and confirmed that the Council will prioritise efforts and get the mower moved and continue on with discussions about its future use.

18. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No further comments.

19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Clerk reported that the next meeting would be at 7.30 pm on Monday 14 April 2025 at Blackdown Village Hall.

20. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Deferred until the next meeting.

21. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Deferred until the next meeting.

22. CLOSE

The meeting of the Parish Council was formally closed at 9.15 pm, Councillor Frampton thanked everyone for attending and for their participation.