



## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

**13 JUNE 2022**

**DRIMPTON VILLAGE HALL**

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Rowland Hibbard, (Chairman), Cllr. Tim Bassett, Cllr. Steve Chubb, Cllr. David Chumbley, Cllr. Stuart Curtis, Cllr. Rick Dyke, Cllr. Bob Harris, Cllr. Kevin Madder-Smith, Cllr. Sonia Raymond, Cllr. Dorothy Rowe, Cllr. Yvonne White.

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

The Meeting commenced at 7.30 pm and was opened by Councillor Hibbard. Councillor Hibbard welcomed Councillors and members of the public and thanked them for taking part. There were six members of the public in attendance.

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### **1. APOLOGIES AND APPROVAL OF ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from PCSO Bishop and from Councillors Hughes and Sewell 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 Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council held on 9 May 2022 were confirmed as a true record and unanimously approved by the Council.

#### **4. MATTERS ARISING**

Councillor Dyke stated that at the last meeting, the Parish Council discussed as he would argue the few irresponsible dog owners and their recent actions which he believed were deplorable and that there was a view expressed that little could be done that hadn't already been tried. Councillor Dyke stated that he had read a newspaper article about QR codes being used on entrances to fields in Hertfordshire which could be scanned using a smartphone to inform visitors of how the fields were being used and warnings of what they should and should not be doing. Councillor Dyke stated that Victoria Prentis MP had referred to this at a recent CPRE meeting and gave the impression that this is going to be something that the Government is looking to fund. Councillor Dyke stated that it was worth keeping an eye on this. Councillor Hibbard informed that there was a television programme on that evening about the problem of dog fouling. Councillor Hibbard stated that he wished to thank all the communities for their efforts in making the jubilee celebrations a fantastic success. Councillor Raymond stated that 185 people had attended the event in Blackdown and Councillor Hibbard stated that a considerable amount of work went in to making the event a success. Councillor Hibbard stated that the events in Broadwindsor had been wonderful and thanked all those who had been involved. Adrian Gray of the Broadwindsor Fun Group stated that they are yet to have their debrief session but on the whole the events went reasonably well, stating that as many activities were offered free of charge, they did not make a huge profit, but stated that it was not about that. Adrian Gray stated that the Fun Group had given away ten meal packs to elderly and disabled residents and stated that it was important to reach those people who could not attend the events.

#### **5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Members of the public were invited to address the Council by Councillor Hibbard. There were no comments.

##### **a. Report from Councillor Simon Christopher, Dorset Council**

The report from Councillor Christopher had been circulated prior to the meeting. Councillor Christopher thanked Councillor Dyke for his time with Councillor Spencer Flower when he visited Broadwindsor. Councillor Christopher stated that Councillor Flower very much understands the need for the pavement down to the Cricket Club and stated that it had been a positive visit. Councillor Christopher stated that it never ceases to amaze him the regularity of hearing about dog attacks on people, especially children and stated that dogs attacking sheep is a huge issue, not surprisingly in North Wales. Councillor Christopher stated that farmers have enough to worry about at the moment with increases in costs of fertiliser and diesel. Councillor Christopher stated that a number of local roads have been resurfaced and stated that when issues arise, he does report them. Councillor Christopher stated that he had provided Councillor Hibbard with information about the number of local people on the housing register. Councillor Christopher stated that we are living in rapidly changing times which brings an enormous amount of pressure. Councillor Christopher stated that Councillor Rowe had highlighted a point about a mock for sale sign in Broadwindsor which he believed

would put many people off selling their homes with that company. Councillor Rowe stated that there is an ongoing problem with additional signage being put up in the village and stated that this sign in particular has been put up by the crossroads by an estate agent to advertise an event in Mosterton. Councillor Christopher stated that you can have too many signs and stated that he would look into the matter.

Councillor Frampton asked if there were any developments in potentially reducing the speed limit past the Cricket Club and at the bottom of Clan Hill. Councillor Christopher stated that Councillor Frampton had touched on a big issue across Dorset and stated that he had attended a meeting in County Hall with the Vice Chair of Chideock Parish Council and stated that parish councils across Dorset are upset with speed limits and there is an idea that some officials want it to be impossible for there to be more 20 mph limits on A and B roads, and stated that parish councils generally like 20 mph limits and want them to be extended across the County. Councillor Christopher stated that this issue had been thrown back to the Cabinet for reconsideration. Councillor Frampton stated that he was not sure that the request is for a 20 mph limit but a buffer zone to go from 60 mph to 40 mph and stated that this request dates back many years. Councillor Christopher stated that he had asked Councillor Flower if he was aware of any other road that goes from 60 mph to 20 mph and stated that he had replied that he was not aware of any. Councillor Frampton asked if the Parish Council can do more to push this matter. Councillor Christopher stated that that the Parish Council could write to Councillor Flower and ask him for a way forward with the request for the pavement and the reduction in the speed limit. Councillor Chubb asked if it is actually legal for a road to go from 60 mph to 20 mph and stated that there are also issues at Horn Ash. Councillor Raymond asked about the representative from Broadwindsor Cricket Club who attended a previous meeting to discuss reducing the speed limit, Councillor Frampton stated that he had carried out a speed survey and submitted it to Dorset Council but had not received any reply. Councillor Rowe stated that she had been informed that three hedgehogs had been found dead on that stretch of road and suggested that a sign informing that there are hedgehogs and to reduce speed could be put up. Councillor Christopher stated that this should also be included in the letter to Councillor Flower. A member of the public stated that in Wiltshire dummies in high visibility jackets were being placed in hedges as a way of encouraging vehicles to reduce their speed and suggested that this could be implemented in Dorset. Councillor Christopher asked the member of the public to send him an email about this.

Councillor Rowe stated that at the last Parish Council meeting Councillor Christopher stated that he had asked for the planning application for the Land South of Fullers to be sent to the Planning Committee and that the case officer was minded to approve the application. Councillor Rowe stated that subsequently in discussion with Councillor Christopher it appeared that the decision as to whether the application should be referred to the Committee rested with Anna Lee and two other persons. Councillor Rowe stated that a group of local residents including herself have been actively campaigning throughout all of this process and had put forward to the Planning committee, the many reasons why the application should be

considered very carefully and had copied Councillor Flower into all correspondence. Councillor Rowe stated that at the 'eleventh hour' new information came to light about the River Axe and river nutrient pollution which could prevent development taking place which she had shared with Parish Councillors. Councillor Rowe stated that the River Axe is within a designated Special Area of Conservation in which the whole of Broadwindsor and thus this development falls within. Councillor Rowe stated that on 6 June this information was sent to all the appropriate Councillors and Bob Burden the Case Officer and stated that on 7 June the following message was received from Bob Burden, 'I wish to confirm that the application has been withdrawn from the agenda because the site falls just within the River Axe catchment area.' Councillor Rowe stated that application could be refused in the future and certainly cannot go ahead until the river pollution is found to be negligible. Councillor Christopher stated that he had first become aware of the deferral of the application during a face to face conversation with the Vice Chair of the Planning Committee and stated that he could not say what will happen next. Councillor Christopher stated that there is clearly concern about pollution of rivers generally and that this features from west to east of the County and stated that he had spoken with Rebecca Pow, Under Secretary of State at the Department for Environment, on two occasions about this problem.

Councillor Rowe stated that she was shocked to find out that on 16 March 2022, Natural England and the Department for Levelling up, Housing and Communities wrote to all Chief Planning Officers and Local Planning Authorities who may be affected by River Nutrient Pollution, informing them that no development could be allowed for any proposal which included even one overnight stay. These letters stated that no development should be permitted unless they can mitigate the phosphate discharge from the developments. Councillor Rowe stated that Dorset Council had received this letter on 16 March, yet still put forward the planning application. Councillor Christopher stated that all Dorset Councillors had been informed of the concerns of Natural England and stated that it was not just an issue for Dorset. Councillor Christopher stated that planning is very much fluid with the Government often changing the rules. Councillor Hibbard asked Councillor Christopher whether it was the lobbying by Councillor Rowe and local residents that prompted the deferment of the planning application or whether a decision had already been taken by Dorset Council due to the concerns raised by Natural England. Councillor Christopher stated that he was not privy to that information and stated that it is important that the Parish Council's concerns are listened to and that is why applications should go to the Planning Committee and stated that not enough go to Committee. Councillor Hibbard thanked Councillor Christopher for his report and comments.

The Clerk stated that she had been asked by Councillor Sewell to raise a number of points in relation to the report by Councillor Christopher. In relation to the Cost of Living Help, the Clerk asked Councillor Christopher what exactly is being done for those residents who live in rural areas of Dorset who already have additional costs. Councillor Christopher stated that he included in his report where assistance is available from Dorset Council and stated that this is

a huge issue for those living in rural areas. Councillor Christopher stated that a large proportion of the world's food is grown by Russia and Ukraine and the increase in prices has had a significant effect upon farmers. The Clerk stated that Councillor Sewell had wanted to raise the point that poor broadband and mobile phone coverage in this area were highlighted many years ago and action is needed not more words. Councillor Christopher stated that on 1 June Chris Loder MP visited the Ward and talked to local people about improving broadband and mobile coverage and stated that he had met with Selaine Saxby, MP for North Devon and Chair of the All Parliamentary Broadband Group in Cullompton to stress the problems that West Dorset faces. The Clerk stated that Councillor Sewell had wanted to raise the point that extending the 20 mph request was made many years ago and is not a new request and had asked why the planning application Land South of Fullers had been deferred, asking whether it was due to the Natural England guidance which had been published in March. The Clerk stated that Councillor Sewell had wanted to ask whether Dorset Council was following this guidance. Councillor Christopher stated that there is an experienced case officer looking at this application and that he will make his own decision in due course as to when it comes back to the Planning Committee. In relation to planning reform, the Clerk stated that Councillor Sewell had asked to make the comment that if a neighbourhood plan is in place, then surely it must be used to make decisions in the area which it covers. Councillor Christopher stated that since the Broadwindsor Group Neighbourhood Plan was approved the world has changed somewhat and stated that many people require additional space at home to accommodate home working. The Clerk stated that Councillor Sewell had asked to make the comment that with regard to the new infrastructure levy, what does this mean for future community infrastructure levies and those areas that have monies not allocated yet or spent. Councillor Christopher stated that the new levy may require developers to contribute towards mitigating issues around drainage. The Clerk stated that Councillor Sewell had asked to make the comment that the state of Dorset rivers remain topical and as she had stated at the last two Parish Council meetings, Natural England has brought out guidance on nutrient levels in the River Axe back in March, yet Councillor Christopher had not raised this with the Parish Council. Councillor Christopher stated that this matter had already been addressed.

Councillor Rowe stated that people should be careful of just accepting that things have changed and that it is a little dangerous to assume that everyone is working from home. Councillor Rowe stated that the Government now seems to be encouraging people to get back into their workplace and stated that although home working is going to be a part of people's lives, it can lead to an insular society which is not good for the economy or mental health. Councillor Hibbard agreed. Councillor Christopher stated that he is a great advocate for people working in their workplaces and talking to people face to face and that this has become one of the greatest dangers of COVID. A member of the public stated that the Neighbourhood Plan was approved by both the Government and Dorset Council and therefore should be adhered to until it comes to its end. Councillor Christopher stated that the Plan was indeed approved by an Inspector but as previously mentioned, stated that planning is fluid and things change. The member of the public stated that it isn't fluid.

Councillor Christopher stated that things develop and there can be deviations. The member of the public asked what was the point in making the Plan, Councillor Christopher stated that it was a guide. Councillor Hibbard stated that this was the subject of another discussion and closed the agenda item.

**b. Report from Dorset Police**

In his absence, the Clerk read aloud a report from PCSO Bishop. The report stated that overnight between the 12 and 13 May, insulation sheets were stolen from a building site in the Drimpton/Netherhay area. On the 15 May, Dorset Police had a report of possible intruders on the same site, torches could be seen after building hours and a vehicle was seen driving off towards the Clapton area. A large number of insulation sheets were stolen. In the early hours of 22 May, a vehicle was seen parked outside of a farm in the Seaborough area, with a door open. Someone quickly got in and then drove off, nothing has been reported stolen and no crime appears to have occurred. The report stated that if anyone has any information about the above incidents, please contact Dorset Police on 101, or online at [www.dorset.police.uk](http://www.dorset.police.uk). In his report PCSO Bishop stated that he would be at the Broadwindsor Post Office in the Comrades Hall at 11.00 am on Tuesday 14 June should anyone wish to come and speak with him.

**c. Co-option to Broadwindsor Group Parish Council, Broadwindsor Ward**

The Clerk reported that Dorset Council did not receive any requests for an election to take place and therefore the Parish Council can now fill the vacancy by co-option. The Clerk stated that she had copies of the notice and asked for those with keys to post on their relative noticeboards. The Clerk stated that the deadline for expressions of interest will be 13 July and therefore the co-option can take place at the September meeting.

**6. CORRESPONDENCE AND NOTICES**

**a. Comrades Hall, Funding Request for Play Area Improvements at Bernards' Place**

Sheila Hawkins stated that she had sent a report to the Clerk for circulation and stated that as part of a major project of improvements taking place at Comrades Hall in Broadwindsor, the Comrades Hall Management Committee plans to install new, improved play equipment on Bernards' Place. This will include a rope climbing eagles' nest, an inclusive dish roundabout, see-saw and swings and it is also intended to replace the current youth shelter with a new, larger timber structure. Sheila Hawkins stated that grant funding is in place from The National Lottery Community Fund, and Comrades Hall funds, amounting to approximately two-thirds of the cost, including planning costs. Sheila Hawkins stated that a planning application was submitted to Dorset Council in March 2022 and that they are still awaiting the outcome. Sheila Hawkins stated that plans have been made for a crowdfunding campaign as soon as planning permission is granted to cover the £20,000 shortfall in funding. The cost of the project has increased over the time since the original estimates were received in 2020, and on which the grant funding was based. Sheila Hawkins stated that the Committee would like to request grant funding from Broadwindsor Grouped Parish Council to help cover either unanticipated costs such as the Arboricultural Report from Hellis Solutions (£1,248 incl VAT)

which the Committee was required to commission at the request of Dorset Council Planning Department, and which was not included in the original budget. Alternatively, a contribution could be made towards an individual piece of equipment, costs of each had been included in the circulated report. Sheila Hawkins stated that a specific amount has not been named in the report but a sum in the region of £1,200 would be extremely gratefully received by the Comrades Hall Management Committee. Councillor Hibbard thanked Sheila Hawkins and asked for comments or questions.

Councillor Rowe stated that full support should be given to the Committee for the project, stating that the Committee had worked so hard and come so far. Councillor Chubb stated that previously Drimpton Village Hall had borrowed money from the Parish Council and repaid the loan and suggested that perhaps this option could be looked at. Councillor Frampton stated that he fully supported the project and stated that some time ago there was talk that there would be an area for the pub to place seating and picnic tables so that families could migrate to Bernards' Place and use the play equipment. Councillor Frampton asked if this was going ahead. Sheila Hawkins stated that all of the play equipment was being moved closer to the Hall and that the plan was to leave a space by the square end of the green for community events. Councillor Chumbley stated that a space was being left for other activities and that was one of the reasons to get a larger shelter. Sheila Hawkins stated that as far as she was aware, she hadn't been asked by the pub to put tables and chairs at Bernards' Place. Councillor Dyke stated that it was touched on some months back but was not being progressed. A member of the public stated that he thought that it was a good idea but asked if the pub was ready to assist with some funding if they were going to use space at Bernards' Place. Councillor Dyke stated that the priority for the pub was to get fully up and running and to get the food service operational and that this was not a proposal that was being progressed at the current time. Councillor Chumbley stated that he was on the Comrades Hall Committee, and he agreed with Councillor Chubb that perhaps the possibility of a loan from the Parish Council should be considered and stated that he would hope that a grant would also be offered. Councillor Chumbley stated that the Hall does receive money and raise funds and it was therefore right to look at the option. Councillor Bassett stated that if the Committee had a loan, then surely it could access a larger sum than the original grant request. Councillor Chubb asked if the FMR Trust had been approached, Sheila Hawkins stated that an application had been submitted and the Clerk stated that this would be considered at the July meeting. Councillor Hibbard asked if there were any objections to this proposal, no objections were raised. Councillor White asked if the National Lottery had been approached, Sheila Hawkins stated that a grant had already been received and that she had exhausted many grant funding bodies. Councillor Hibbard stated that the Parish Council will wait to hear from the Committee after their next meeting.

**b. Broadwindsor Resident, Vehicle Speed Concerns on Drimpton Road, Broadwindsor**

The Clerk stated that she had replied to the resident to inform that his communication would be discussed at this meeting and had forwarded it to the Community Highways Officer. Councillor Hibbard stated that the speed indicator devices are set to be rotated at the beginning of month, Councillor Harris stated that he believed that one of the devices will be coming to Drimpton. Councillor Chubb stated that it was difficult to do any more as a Parish Council, Councillor Hibbard stated that he believed that the Parish Council was being proactive with this matter. Councillor Curtis stated that the hedge on the left hand side could do with cutting back as the 20 mph sign is not visible. It was agreed to inform Dorset Council of this and await to hear back from the Community Highways Officer.

**c. Broadwindsor and District Community Enterprise Ltd (BADCE), Application for a Loan for the Purchase of the Freehold of the Community Shop Premises**

Councillor Hibbard stated that this proposal had been sent to him and the Clerk some time ago in confidence and that it was a request from BADCE for the Parish Council to help them gain access to loan finance through the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) to support the cost of purchasing the freehold of the building used for the Community Shop. Councillor Hibbard stated that the Shop was doing well and paying rent each month and that they would have more than enough money to make the loan repayments as it was less than they currently pay in rent. The Clerk reported that she had had a meeting with Stewart Urry and discussed the proposal and had sought advice from DAPTC as to whether the proposal was legal and eligible and had been informed that in principle it was. The Clerk reported that if Councillors could recall the loan accessed for the MUGA, the application process is in two stages, firstly borrowing approval must be granted from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities which would go through DAPTC and then once received, an application is then made to the PWLB. The Clerk stated that the application must demonstrate loan affordability, a full budget, the business case and details of any risk mitigation plans. The Clerk stated that the proposal was for a £50,000 loan over a thirty year term and stated that she had with her the current interest rates should anyone wish to review them.

Councillor Chumbley stated that the proposal made good economic sense and would ensure that the Shop remains in the village for the community, as it may be that the building could be sold at a later time or that rent could be increased. Councillor Hibbard stated that the cost of re-siting the shop alone would be most likely in the region of £25,000. Councillor Chubb stated that the Shop has played a vital role especially over the last couple of years and that he proposed that the proposal go ahead. Stewart Urry, Secretary for BADCE addressed the Council and stated that the relationship with the freeholder is very good and stated that although he values the property at £100,000, he has generously offered to sell it for £75,000 – a considerable discount. Stewart Urry stated that it was difficult to value such properties and stated that these buildings are located at the outskirts of villages all across Britain and stated that last year a similar building in Yetminster had been marketed at £99,000 and stated that it is a valuable building, and the Parish Council will have charge over the freehold. Stewart



Urry stated that the loan terms will be passed directly to the Shop to make the repayments and that no financial costs will be incurred by the Parish Council. Stewart Urry stated that the Shop is economically sound, it has always been profitable, and that this proposal will secure its long term future. The Clerk stated that although the Parish Council seems minded to support the proposal, the loan application must above all demonstrate community consultation and therefore a process of engagement will need to put in place. Councillor Hibbard asked whether at the BADCE AGM, it could be requested that people send emails to the Clerk with their thoughts on the proposal and summarised that overall, the Parish Council is in favour of the proposal. The Clerk stated that she would add information to the Parish Council's website and Facebook pages and add to the July agenda and will circulate the latest interest rates which are published daily. The Clerk stated that a public meeting may also need to be called.

#### **d. War Memorial Project, Broadwindsor**

Adrian Gray of Broadwindsor Fun Group addressed the Parish Council and stated that Broadwindsor does not have an external war memorial and that the idea of installing one had been discussed with David Leader many years ago. Adrian Gray stated that he is now fundraising to purchase a Royal British Legion Tommy statue which is a tribute to all those who gave their lives during World War 1 and World War 2 and the many sacrifices and loss that communities paid. Adrian Gray stated that one of the ways that he was trying to raise money was through the sale of printed tshirts and he stated that he is also thinking about running a special event. Adrian Gray stated that the biggest hurdle seems to be where to put the Tommy statue and asked the Parish Council for suggestions. Councillor Frampton stated that this was a fantastic idea but stated that it could be bigger and better! Councillor Frampton stated that he would be very happy to donate a block of limestone to use as a memorial and suggested that a stonemason could carve the names of all those who lost their lives on an insert. Councillor Frampton stated that he did not know exactly how many names there would be, Councillor Chubb stated that some research had taken place a number of years ago. Adrian Gray stated that the figure should be installed at a location which is visible when driving through the village and suggested the Cross Keys. Councillor Rowe stated that a stone memorial and a Tommy would be a great idea. Adrian Gray stated that he could approach the Fun Group to see if it was a project that they would take on. Councillor Raymond suggested that order forms for the tshirts be made available in the village and payment could be made upfront. Councillor Frampton stated that if the memorial was located at Cross Keys, it could be sited either on the Orchard Mead side or next to the wildflower verge but stated that it would not be a quick process as planning permission would be required. Councillor Frampton stated that depending on the number of names, the memorial could cost between £1000 and £1500. Councillor Hibbard stated that it seemed that in general, the Parish Council supported this idea and Councillor Chubb suggested that further information be brought to the next meeting. Councillor Hibbard thanked Adrian Gray.

## **7. PARISH COUNCIL RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)**

### **a. Community Updates from Councillors**

The Clerk stated that Councillor Hughes had kindly forwarded data in relation to COVID rates for the last seven days and reported as follows. There have been six new cases recorded, the case rate per 100,000 population was 61.4 (national 85.9) and deaths and hospital admissions which relate to a wider area were one, down from seven and thirteen, up two respectively. The Clerk stated that the R Value for the South West region was 0.7 - 0.9.

## **8. ACCOUNTS**

### **a. To receive the Finance Report**

Councillor Hibbard referred Members of the Council to a spreadsheet highlighting income and expenditure which had previously been circulated. The current balance as of the 31 May was £30,304.78. There were no questions.

### **b. To receive and note the Internal Audit Report 2021/2022**

The Clerk referred Councillors to the Internal Audit Report, there were no questions.

**Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Chumbley, seconded by Councillor Hibbard and agreed by a show of hands, the Council unanimously received and noted the Internal Audit Report for the 2021/2022 period.**

### **c. To consider and approve Section 1, Annual Governance Statement of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2021/2022**

The Clerk referred Councillors to Section 1, Annual Governance Statement of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2021/2022, there were no questions.

**Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Chumbley, seconded by Councillor Hibbard and agreed by a show of hands, the Council unanimously approved Section 1, Annual Governance Statement of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2021/2022.**

### **d. To consider and approve Section 2, Accounting Statements of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2021/2022**

The Clerk referred Councillors to Section 2, Accounting Statements of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2021/2022, there were no questions.

**Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Chumbley, seconded by Councillor Hibbard and agreed by a show of hands, the Council unanimously approved Section 2, Accounting Statements of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2021/2022.**

### **e. To consider and approve the End of Year Accounts for 2021/2022**

The Clerk referred Councillors to the End of Year Accounts for 2021/2022, there were no questions.

**Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Chumbley, seconded by Councillor Hibbard and agreed by a show of hands, the Council unanimously approved the End of Year Accounts for 2021/2022.**

Councillor Bassett proposed that the following payments be approved en bloc. There were no objections.

**f. To approve payment of £6.26 for HMRC (NI)**

**g. To approve payment of £18.00 for Drimpton Village Hall (Hire Charge)**

**h. To approve payment of £557.65 for DAPTC (Annual Subscription)**

**i. To approve payment of £200.00 for Castle Gardens Limited (Seeds and Compost)**

**Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Bassett, seconded by Councillor Hibbard and agreed by a show of hands, the Council unanimously approved items f to i.**

**j. To note payment of £127.90 for The Defib Pad (Defibrillator Pads)**

Councillor Hibbard reported that this payment had been made in line with the Parish Council's Financial Regulations as it was deemed to be an essential purchase.

**k. Update on Compensation Request for Damaged Lawn Mower**

The Clerk reported that a claim had been submitted to Zurich, the Parish Council's insurance provider which had included the documentation provided by Dr. Graham Small and stated that she was awaiting a response. Councillor Rowe asked about the pole which was still in the ground, the Clerk stated that she had reported this to Dorset Council and asked for it to be removed.

## **9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**a. Applications Received and Circulated for Consultation**

None.

**b. Other Applications**

The Clerk reported that the following applications had been received from Dorset Council for information only.

P/NMA/2022/03380, 12 Marksmead, Drimpton, DT8 3RZ (Amendment to planning permission P/HOU/2021/02832) (For information only)

P/CLP/2022/03117, 32 Redlands Lane, Broadwindsor, DT8 3ST (Certificate of Lawfulness) (For information only)

The Clerk stated that she had received the following application after the agenda had been published and asked for a lead Councillor. Councillor Bassett agreed to lead on the consultation process.

P/HOU/2022/03539, 9 Oxhayes, Drimpton, DT8 3RP

### **c. Results**

The Clerk reported the following results:

P/TRC/2022/01701, 8 Kings Court, Broadwindsor, DT8 3QA (Tree Works): No Objection

P/HOU/2022/01638, Old Village Hall, Red Lane Junction to Junction at Seaborough Court, Seaborough, DT8 3QY: Granted

P/HOU/2022/00383, 6A Fullers, Broadwindsor, DT8 3PY: Refused

## **10. CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY**

### **a. Working Group Update**

Councillor Dyke reported that he had met with Sheila Hawkins to discuss a strategy for the year ahead which will include putting together a climate emergency action plan. Councillor Dyke stated that there will be a number of actions including looking at the collection of crisp packets which used to happen but does not at the moment. Sheila Hawkins stated that they will also be participating in the Big Green Week in September.

## **11. ALLOTMENTS**

### **a. Update Report**

The Clerk reported that she had contacted Dorset Council regarding the proposal to install a composting toilet at the Allotments and had been informed that she would need to submit at permitted development pre-application to obtain advice as to whether planning application was required at a cost of £120.00. The Clerk stated that there would be no reduction for the Parish Council. The Clerk was asked to submit the application on behalf of the Parish Council. The Clerk apologised that she had not included the grant request within the Accounts section of the agenda as discussed at the last meeting and stated that she would include on the July agenda.

## **12. WELCOME PACK UPDATE**

The Clerk reported that this item was being deferred.

## **13. COMMUNICATIONS WITHIN THE GROUPED PARISH AREA**

Councillor Dyke reported that following an OFCOM ruling, BT has paused its digital roll out. Councillor Frampton asked about the plan to stream future meetings, the Clerk stated that she had contacted Beaminster Town Council to enquire about how they do this and had been informed that additional equipment is required to produce a good quality recording. The Clerk stated that she may require support with this and would revisit this matter shortly.

## **14. HIGHWAYS**

### **a. Report from the Footpaths Officer**

Councillor Rowe stated that she was disappointed after the last meeting that there seemed to be little appetite from Councillors to do anything about the problems faced by farmers with gates being left open and dogs worrying livestock and stated that we owe it to our farming community to find some way to support them. Councillor Rowe stated that she likes the idea of the QR codes on gates and stated that the Parish Council must try and educate people to respect the countryside. Councillor Hibbard stated that he very much takes this on board and

stated that the Parish Council needs ideas on what they can do. Councillor Dyke asked about the type of notices previously put up and stated that he had seen some produced by the NFU. Councillor Frampton stated that they had used signs produced by the NFU, mainly encouraging people to keep their dogs on a lead and stated that they had been torn down and dog poo bags thrown into the hedges. Councillor Raymond stated that despite putting up notices her farm gates are left open more or less every day and last week some beef animals escaped the field, which could have caused an accident. A member of the public stated that last year she had been walking across a field where she knew sheep were in and she had alerted a family walking their dog. The member of the public stated that the children in the family had begged their parents to put the dog on a lead but they refused. The member of the public asked whether farmers could go into schools to educate children on the reasons why they should close gates and keep dogs on a lead. Councillor Rowe stated that she had long thought it a good idea to get into schools and stated that we should be exploring ideas.

#### **b. Verge Management in the Grouped Parish Area**

Councillor Rowe stated that her report had been circulated prior to the meeting and stated that she would like to propose that the Parish Council take responsibility with immediate effect for mowing the two verges at the crossroads. Councillor Rowe stated that there are two options, to pay a contractor to do this or to engage the help of volunteers and stated that her preferred option would be to pay someone to do this. A member of the public stated that Dorset Council will not be giving any additional funds to the Parish Council to take on this job and that he hopes that members of the community will help out. Councillor Chubb stated that Dorset Council is paid to cut the verges and he was opposed to the Parish Council now having to pay again and that Dorset Council should be put under pressure to fulfil their duty. Councillor Rowe stated that she had been informed by Russell Goff that the verges will not be cut again until August. Councillor Madder-Smith stated that as Dorset Council leave it so long between cuts the grass becomes very high and then when they do cut it, they scalp it back to mud which looks awful. Councillor Rowe stated that the Parish Council has been given the opportunity to mow these two areas for the benefit of the community and keep them looking smart and tidy for the pleasure and enjoyment of the village. Councillor Harris stated that if it is a question of what they look like rather than a safety issue, then surely people will want to volunteer to keep them looking nice. Councillor Madder-Smith stated that he had received complaints about people clearing the debris from the front of their houses and leaving on the verges. Councillor Chubb stated that this was fly tipping and should be reported. Councillor Dyke stated that by using volunteers there may be further issues similar to the recent one with damage caused to someone's own mower and more requests for compensation. Councillor Chubb stated that volunteers can be trained, Councillor White stated that if you employ someone to do this then you take on the responsibility for how they behave. A member of the public stated that an external contractor would have in place their own insurance. Councillor Rowe stated that the member of the public had very kindly offered to mow the verges again, the member of the public suggested making an appeal through social media for other volunteers. Councillor Hibbard stated that the Parish Council wants to keep

the verges tidy and that we need to work out the best way to achieve this. Councillor Frampton stated that he has a topper which goes on the back of the tractor which may be suitable to cut these small areas. The Clerk stated that at the last meeting the Parish Council had resolved to formally adopt the verges and asked if there had been agreement from Dorset Council, Councillor Rowe stated that she had been informed by Russell Goff that this was not necessary and that the Parish Council was allowed to cut the verges whenever they wanted to without any formal agreement and that Dorset Council would continue to do their cuts.

### **c. Grouped Parish Speed Limits and SIDs Update**

Councillor Hibbard stated that the SIDs are in place and operational and will be rotated around the different locations each month and that the training has taken place. Councillor Hibbard stated that the limits will be set at 20 mph in Broadwindsor and 30 mph for Drimpton and that these parameters can be set using a mobile phone app. Councillor Chubb asked about the type of data that can be downloaded, Councillor Harris stated that he was not sure whether you can download data from the app, Councillor Hibbard stated that you have to go through Dorset Council. Councillor Harris stated that they have been asked not to change the settings as they are set to be in tandem with other villages and the messages displayed are related to the speed of the vehicle going past. Councillor Raymond stated that the SID from Burstock into Broadwindsor does not display a message until you reach it, Councillor Harris stated that it depends upon what speed you are travelling at it from a distance. Councillor Chumbley stated that the SID is sited too close to the bend, Councillor Harris stated that it was difficult to find appropriate locations to put the SIDs. A member of the public stated that there have been cases of batteries being stolen, Councillor Hibbard stated that they are locked and that they are also insured.

## **15. AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

### **a. Report from the Broadwindsor Group Parish Community Land Trust**

Councillor Hibbard reported that all footings for the fifteen houses have been put in and that there was a site meeting last week and everyone seems happy with progress. Councillor Hibbard stated that bricks had been delivered to the site and there are now containers for the insulation which can be locked at night. Councillor Hibbard stated that the AGM will take place on Monday evening and representatives from Abri and from CG Fry will be in attendance to provide an update. Councillor Hibbard stated that there are now drone photos of the development and Sheila Hawkins stated that there are photographs on the CLT site showing progress from the start courtesy of Brian Hesketh. Councillor Hibbard reported that there are still a couple of issues including the footpaths on the development which are 1.5 m wide, and Highways have asked that they be 2m wide.

## **16. MATTERS OF INTEREST AND INFORMATION**

### **a. Items for next Agenda from Members of the Council**

Councillor Frampton asked if there should be a report from the pub, the Clerk stated that she had taken this off the agenda for this month as the pub was open and running but stated that she could put it back on the agenda. Councillor Dyke stated that the only update is that food

is now being served on Thursdays and Sunday lunch and stated that this will be extended at an appropriate time.

**b. Items for next Agenda from Members of the Public**

None. Councillor Hibbard paid thanks to three members of the community and Councillor Rowe for their considerable efforts in their response to the Land South of Fullers planning application which was considered and concise and stated that the work that they had put into this was admirable.

**17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Residents were invited to give their views and ask questions of the Parish Council on any outstanding issues on the agenda or raise issues for future consideration. A member of the public asked if a councillor had been appointed to look after Hursey Common and stated that there will need to be a work party organised shortly. The Clerk stated that this had not been confirmed but stated that she had contacted Dorset Wildlife regarding the Management Plan and was awaiting a response.

**18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Clerk confirmed that the date of the next meeting will be 11 July at Broadwindsor Cricket Pavilion and asked if a backup plan was needed in case of poor weather. The Clerk stated that she would book Comrades Hall.

**19. CLOSE**

The meeting of the Parish Council was formally closed at 9.33 pm, Councillor Hibbard thanked everyone for attending and for their participation.