



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

13 SEPTEMBER 2021

BLACKDOWN VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Cllr. Rowland Hibbard (Chairman), Cllr. David Leader (Vice Chairman), Cllr. Tim Bassett, Cllr. Steve Chubb, Cllr. David Chumbley, Cllr. Stuart Curtis, Cllr. Peter Hardwill, Cllr. Bob Harris, Cllr. Fraser Hughes, Cllr. Kevin Madder-Smith, Cllr. Dorothy Rowe, Cllr. Jacqui Sewell.

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 eight members of the public in attendance. Councillor Hibbard informed that the meeting was being recorded.

1. APOLOGIES AND APPROVAL OF ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Frampton and White 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.

Councillor Sewell expressed an interest in Agenda Item 6a.

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.

Councillor Leader reported that he had provided the Clerk with an updated Register of Interests.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes from the informal online meeting held on 12 July 2021 were confirmed as a true record and unanimously approved by the Council.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Hibbard informed of the resignation of Councillor Bodycombe and thanked her for her efforts, Councillor Sewell noted her contribution to the development and production of the Welcome Packs.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public were invited to address the Council by Councillor Hibbard. There were no questions. The Clerk stated that she had been asked to raise two issues from a local resident who was not able to attend the meeting. The first related to next year's jubilee and whether the Parish Council had any plans and funding available and the second matter raised related to the public footpath running to the side of Broadwindsor Church and The Hayes. The local resident informed that the footpath is impassable. Councillor Rowe asked that this matter be forwarded to her for reviewing and the Clerk stated that she would add the first matter to the agenda for October.

a. Report from Councillor Simon Christopher, Dorset Council

Councillor Hibbard welcomed Councillor Christopher to the meeting. Councillor Christopher stated that he had submitted three reports and stated that he had since then had a virtual meeting with Chris Loder MP an in-person meeting with two other MPs and Cabinet Minister Oliver Dowden and had passed on his concerns about poor broadband coverage across the Grouped Parish and not as much coverage from BBC as he would like. Councillor Christopher stated that concerns over local buses had been featured within the Bridport News recently and confirmed that this matter was very much on the agenda for Chris Loder MP who, he reported, is not impressed with the First Group. Councillor Christopher stated that Chris Loder MP is working hard to improve bus services for the local area. Councillor Christopher stated that the Bridport News also covered the application for the extension to the quarry near Chard Junction which had been rejected. Councillor Christopher stated that the Strategy Committee had spent over three hours reviewing the application and one aspect that they did not support was the fact that so much of the material was described as 'decorative' and therefore not for industrial use. Councillor Christopher stated that he continues to receive correspondence about footpaths and stated that work is also being carried out on the Local Plan which will not be finalised until the second part of 2023.

Councillor Sewell stated that she welcomed the inclusion of making the A35 safer in Councillor Christopher's report and asked what had happened to the A35 Diversion Group, stating that the last meeting was with Oliver Letwin in 2019. Councillor Christopher stated that he had mentioned this during his meeting with Chris Loder MP and that he was working on the matter. Councillor Sewell stated that she was pleased to read that there had been a meeting with David Sidwick, Police and Crime Commissioner for Dorset and that rural crime had been highlighted. Councillor Sewell stated that when planning applications are reviewed, security matters do not seem to be taken into consideration. Councillor Christopher stated that he had had a meeting with David Sidwick and that rural crime was indeed a big focus for him and that resources had been devoted for the Rural Crime Team.

Councillor Christopher stated that derelict buildings are a concern for all and would like to see better use of these buildings. Councillor Christopher stated that he would be happy to receive emails about these concerns.

Councillor Leader thanked Councillor Christopher for his comprehensive report on Common Water Lane and asked what implications the application by the British Horse Society will have on Common Water Lane. Councillor Christopher stated that he would rather go through the letter from the solicitor face to face with Councillor Leader and then put something together and forward any queries back to the solicitor. Councillor Leader asked Councillor Christopher whether he could see a way forward as he had stated in his report that this was going to be a very difficult matter to resolve. Councillor Christopher stated that the GLEAM website (Green Lanes Environmental Action Movement) lists a whole group of cases from across the country and this could be looked at together. Councillor Leader stated that one of the farmers whose farm borders Common Water Lane has spent a considerable amount of time filling in the ruts and is hoping that they will not re-open in the winter months. Councillor Leader asked whether Councillor Christopher could give any reassurance. Councillor Christopher stated that you cannot legislate against everything and that some 48 hours ago, he was having the same discussion with David Sidwick and that he was pleased to see that he is taking rural crime seriously and would like to see him attend more parish council meetings.

Councillor Chubb stated that he had read that there was currently a back log of planning applications due to the COVID-19 pandemic and an influx of applications and asked Councillor Christopher if any plans had been put in place to prevent potential long delays as had occurred in the past. Councillor Christopher stated that there are currently delays with very few applications going to committee and stated that planners are being poached from the Council into private business.

Councillor Rowe asked Councillor Christopher if Dorset Council is committed to its green lanes and unclassified county roads as she had been informed by the Community Highways Officer that Dorset Council did not have the funds to reinstate those which were impassable and would close them off. Councillor Christopher stated that, that was the reason why he approached the specialist solicitor to get advice as he did not feel that sufficient dialogue had taken place between the Council's solicitors.

Councillor Hardwill stated that he had noted that Highways England had now become National Highways and stated that it will be the same people just with a different uniform. Councillor Hardwill stated that he was extremely frustrated that local people are told what is going to be done for them instead of asking what they require doing. Councillor Hardwill provided a number of examples of this and stated that in respect of Common Water Lane, that this was an extremely useful road with good connectivity and if brought back into use and tarmacked, would be helpful to the community. Councillor Hardwill stated that local people dealing with local transport issues should be listened to.

Councillor Christopher stated that he agreed with the comments made by Councillor Hardwill. Councillor Hardwill stated that the product produced by the Chard Junction Quarry was such a valuable aggregate. Councillor Christopher stated that this matter had been discussed with Chris Loder MP. Councillor Chubb stated that many houses are planned for this area and that the Quarry was an important employment site. Councillor Christopher stated that the Committee had voted six to three against, and as the decision went against the Officer's recommendation, he would not be surprised if there was an appeal. Councillor Sewell stated that relating back to his report, if grass cuttings are emptied into the river, this will be detrimental to fish. Councillor Sewell asked that Councillor Christopher's reports be put online so that parishioners can read what has been discussed at meetings. Councillor Christopher stated that they could be and that if anyone does have concerns, to email him. Councillor Sewell asked Councillor Christopher if he would sponsor Broadwindsor's Fireworks evening, he stated that he would be happy to.

b. Report from Dorset Police

In the absence of PCSO Bishop, the Clerk read aloud his report. The report stated that on the 21 August Dorset Police received a report of damage to the porch doors of the Church in Drimpton, it is unknown why this occurred and if it was an attempted break-in, but nothing had been stolen. Graffiti and drug paraphernalia has appeared at an empty barn in Broadwindsor, no-one has been seen at the barn, but this could have appeared at anytime over the last couple of months. In his report, PCSO Bishop stated that he had now been given the go ahead to start face to face engagements again and will be returning to the coffee morning/Post Office again from 14 September at 11.00 am and thereafter monthly on the second Tuesday of each month.

c. Election - Broadwindsor Group Parish Council Vacancy, Burstock Ward

The Clerk reported that one valid nomination was submitted to Dorset Council in respect of the Burstock ward vacancy and that the Parish Council could now welcome Stuart Curtis. Councillor Hibbard congratulated Stuart Curtis and asked him to sign his Declaration of Acceptance of Office form, which was duly witnessed by the Clerk. Councillor Curtis joined the Parish Council meeting.

6. CORRESPONDENCE AND NOTICES

a. Broadwindsor Group Parish Community Land Trust, Request for Grant of £600.00 towards administrative costs

Councillor Leader stated that this request has been made to the Parish Council as the Community Land Trust (CLT) currently has no funds and that there are a number of actions that it must carry out including the payment of registration fees, insurance and community involvement which will include the printing of leaflets. Councillor Leader stated that £600.00 will just about cover expenditure for the next twelve months. Councillor Hibbard stated that he was aware that the CLT had done all it had to and that it had encountered delays and as such had to resubmit new surveys. Councillor Harris asked whether funds could be obtained from other means, Councillor Leader stated that he had approached the Parish Council as

the CLT was originally set up at their instigation and that in its five years of operation, the CLT had not asked for any funds from the Parish Council and therefore felt that it was an appropriate request. Councillor Leader stated that he did not know from where else he could obtain such funding. Councillor Bassett proposed that this be supported, seconded by Councillor Chumbley with Councillor Harris objecting. The Clerk was asked to add this matter to the Accounts for the October meeting.

b. Broadwindsor Resident, Maintenance of Back Lane

The Clerk reported that she had circulated the letter from the resident prior to the meeting and following the discussion at the last meeting had contacted Magna Housing to discuss the matter and to try and find a solution to the problems caused by a lack of maintenance. Councillor Leader stated that he had read the reply and subsequently went to look at the site and spoke with the neighbouring property in Trusthams and was of the belief that the area in question was the responsibility of Magna Housing. Councillor Hibbard stated that a meeting was required and asked the Clerk to arrange.

c. Broadwindsor Resident, Comrades Hall Entrance/Exit Safety Concerns

Councillor Hibbard asked for any comments. Councillor Leader stated that the resident he believed was seeking some form of signage to indicate pedestrians coming out of the hall and stated that the road is 20 mph and that there are already lots of signs in Broadwindsor and questioned whether another one was needed. Councillor Sewell suggested road markings to highlight pedestrians coming out of the hall. Councillor Rowe stated that there is plenty of space between the door of the hall to the end of the car park and that surely people should be left to decide how to safely exit the car park. Councillor Chubb stated that both the driver of a vehicle and pedestrian has a duty of care and it's a matter of common sense. Councillor Hibbard concluded that no further action be taken.

d. DAPTC, Notice of Annual General Meeting 13 November 2021

The Clerk reported that this will be an on-line meeting and should any Councillor wish to attend to inform her as soon as possible in order to reserve a place.

e. Beaminster Museum, Gardens and Allotments Exhibition

The Clerk stated that this was circulated prior to the meeting.

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

a. Community Updates from Councillors

Councillor Madder-Smith reported that customers of the Community Shop are still being asked to wear masks and sanitize hands but that many people do not seem to want to do this anymore. Councillor Madder-Smith stated that it was being left to discretion and wasn't being policed. Councillor Chubb stated that Drimpton Village Hall will shortly be hosting an Artsreach event and has been advised that the hall should only be at 70% capacity, that doors should be open and that people should be advised to wear masks. Councillor Sewell stated that this was the same for Comrades Hall and reported that people will be asked to wear masks when moving around the Hall at the forthcoming Macmillan Coffee Morning

event. Councillor Rowe stated that she does not feel it fair to insist that people wear masks and stated that she takes lateral flow tests and does not wear a mask. Councillor Chubb stated that lateral flow tests are not completely accurate and wearing masks protects others, stating that people have different views on the matter. Councillor Hibbard stated that people should do what makes them feel safe.

8. ACCOUNTS

a. To receive the Finance Report

The Clerk referred Members of the Council to a spreadsheet highlighting income and expenditure which had previously been circulated. The current balance as of the 31 August was £37,124.19. There were no questions.

The Clerk stated that in relation to Agenda item 8f, she had acquired three quotes and confirmed that the provider proposed was the cheapest and most local. The Clerk stated that the mower would be available to be used across the Grouped Parish area. Councillor Leader stated that it had been a difficult summer with the mower continuously going wrong and stated that it had been repaired many times but that a new one was now required. Councillor Leader stated that the Sports Field Committee does have some funds accrued over many years of fundraising and would like to donate £4000.00 to the Parish Council. Councillor Harris asked who would pay the VAT on this purchase, the Clerk stated that the Parish Council was making the purchase and would reclaim the VAT element back. Councillor Madder-Smith asked where the mower is kept, Councillor Leader stated that it is kept on his property and will be insured.

b. To approve payment of £21.60 for Total Web Solutions (Storage)

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

d. To approve payment of £60.53 for Clerk (Expenses August and September 2021)

e. To approve payment of £60.00 for DM Payroll Services (Payroll)

f. To approve payment of £5410.00 for Small Engine Services (Ariens Apex 52 Model 991315 Mower)

g. To approve payment of £40.00 for M Webb (Allotment Deposit)

h. To approve payment of £25.00 for D Taylor (Allotment Deposit)

i. To approve payment of £50.00 for DAPTC (Online Training)

Councillor Chubb proposed that payments b to i be approved en bloc, this was seconded by Councillor Bassett. Councillor Hardwill stated that he very much welcomed the donation of £4000.00 and paid thanks to the Sports Field Committee.

Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Chubb, seconded by Councillor Bassett and agreed by a show of hands, the Council unanimously approved payments b to i.

The following payments which were approved under the Scheme of Delegation on 22 June 2021 were formally noted.

£50.40 for Total Web Solutions (Storage)

£6.26 for HMRC (NI)

£558.00 for Defib Shop (Kittwhistle Defibrillator Cabinet)

£8,953 for Dorset Council (2 x Speed Indicator Devices for Broadwindsor and Drimpton, Poles, Panels, Fixing and Installation)

£540.36 for DAPTC (Annual Subscription)

£35.00 for DAPTC (Councillor Training)

£773.50 for Dorset Council (Waste Services March 2021 – March 2022)

The following payments which were approved under the Scheme of Delegation on 13 July 2021 were formally noted.

£100.00 to Windrose Rural Media Trust (Grant)

£72.00 for Total Web Solutions (Storage)

£139.86 for Clerk (Expenses June and July 2021)

£1042.20 for Clerk (Salary Adjustment April, May, June 2021)

£6.26 for HMRC (NI)

9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. Applications Received and Circulated for Consultation

P/FUL/2021/01713, Blackenfields Farm, B3164 Whetley Cross to High Street, Broadwindsor, DT8 3QT

Councillor Sewell reported that there are no immediate neighbours and that she could see no reason to raise any objections to this application.

P/HOU/2021/02352, Vennacott Farm, Causeway Lane, Blackdown DT8 3LE

Councillor Hardwill reported that this was a sensible extension which would not have a negative impact and therefore he could not see any reason to raise an objection.

P/LBC/2021/01809, Manor Cottage, Marshwood, DT6 5QG

Councillor Hardwill reported that the proposal will be an improvement and Councillor Sewell stated that it was a sensible replacement. No objections or concerns were raised.

P/COU/2021/01917, Littlewindsor Farm, Littlewindsor, DT8 3QU

Councillor Sewell reported that this was a retrospective application for an established business that had been operating for some time. Councillor Sewell stated that the business was creating employment and financial benefits for the area and that she could not see any reason to object.

P/FUL/2021/01830, Unit 14 Horn Park Quarry Business Park, Broadwindsor Road, Beaminster, DT8 3PT

Councillor Chumbley reported that he had visited the site and reviewed the plans and the proposed location for the new building was according to the plan, where the turning circle is

for artic lorries. Councillor Chumbley stated that he presumed and hoped that this would be picked up by the Planning Department. In terms of some of the statements which had been included in the application relating to employment and the need for the additional unit, Councillor Chumbley reported that there are already units to let on the site but stated that as an industrial estate the proposal would not have any negative impact upon residential dwellings.

P/HOU/2021/02453, Stonelea, Crewkerne Road, Drimpton, DT8 3RG

Councillor Chubb reported that he had visited the site and stated that the new extension will be about 1m higher than the original. Councillor Chubb stated that he could not see any reason to object to the application.

b. Other Applications

P/FUL/2021/01826, Units 18-21 Horn Park Quarry Business Park, Broadwindsor Road, DT8 3PT

The Clerk reported that Councillor Chumbley was also going to review this application and report back at the next meeting. Councillor Chubb asked why new buildings were being proposed when there are empty ones available.

P/FUL/2021/02213, West Dibberford Farm, West Dibberford, Beaminster, DT8 3HD

P/FUL/2021/02112, North Dibberford Farm, North Dibberford Road, Beaminster, DT8 3HD

Councillor Curtis agreed to review the above applications and report back to the Clerk.

TPO/2021/0042, Hursey Common, Common Hill, Broadwindsor, DT8 3LN

Councillor Hibbard reported that he had been contacted by local residents and informed of a provisional Tree Preservation Order (TPO) for Hursey Common, which also included the residents' own private land. Councillor Hibbard stated that he had emailed Dorset Council with a number of questions but had not yet received a reply. Councillor Sewell stated that anyone can apply for a TPO on any tree, anywhere. Councillor Chumbley asked if Dorset Council has to inform the Parish Council of who applied for the TPO, Councillor Hibbard stated that he did not know. Councillor Rowe stated that from a villager point of view, her first thoughts were that the TPO may be a good idea and asked what the status of Hursey Common is and whether villagers have any rights to cut down trees. Councillor Leader stated that it was a registered common with no known owner and he did not believe that there were any commoner rights associated with the Common. Councillor Leader stated that the Parish Council had taken on the responsibility for the Common a number of years ago and that there is a management plan and that work is carried out in accordance with that plan. Councillor Sewell asked if the trees were all healthy and whether the Tree Officer has actually visited the site to inspect the trees. Councillor Leader replied that some trees are healthy and some are not and stated that some Ash had suffered from dieback. A local resident addressed the Council and explained that part of their field had been included in the woodland area and stated that it was actually a hedge, not a woodland area and stated that they were hoping to have laid this hedge this winter and now cannot. The local resident

stated that she had tried to contact the Tree Officer at Dorset Council for the last month and that she had been given advice that Dorset Council should have made a site visit to specify which trees were being proposed and that advice had also been given that TPOs are usually for trees in the public view. The local resident stated that she has no issue with having TPOs on their land but very much feels like this is a personal attack on her family due to the request that they had made regarding a new access. The local resident stated that it was very upsetting. Councillor Chubb stated that the Parish Council should get as much advice as possible, Councillor Hibbard stated that the Council should follow up the questions he had asked to Dorset Council and seek a response. Councillor Hughes stated that it was wrong to propose a blanket cover for all trees on Hursey Common. The Clerk was asked to contact the Tree Officer and add this matter to the October agenda. Councillor Rowe asked what the policy of the Parish Council is for Hursey Common, Councillor Hibbard stated that it is to keep Hursey Common safe and that in the past trees which have become dangerous have been felled and that advice is sought from a number of agencies including Dorset Wildlife Trust.

c. Results

None.

10. BROADWINDSOR GROUP PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

a. Proposed Amendment to Neighbourhood Plan

Councillor Hibbard stated that it had only been three years since the Neighbourhood Plan had been approved and that he had received a couple of requests for amendments to be made, both relating to planning issues, the first to extend the development boundary and the other to include a new site. Councillor Hibbard stated that the guidance for making an amendment to a Neighbourhood Plan was lengthy and the process would require a committee and may well go as far as requiring a referendum. Councillor Hibbard stated that he would not wish to be part of any committee and that it was a decision which needed to be made by the Parish Council. Councillor Bassett stated that he was totally against this proposal, stating that a great deal of time was spent producing the plan which is now law and no amendment should be made this early on. Councillor Sewell also stated that she would not be prepared to serve on any new committee and stated that the previous committee had worked day and night and that there had been ample time for members of the public to be involved and propose sites for inclusion. Councillor Chubb stated that he had become most disappointed in the process following the decision taken by Dorset Council on two planning applications where the Neighbourhood Plan had been ignored. Councillor Chubb stated that he would advise those with planning applications to submit them to Dorset Council. Councillor Sewell stated that the new Dorset Plan has no-one responsible for rural areas and Councillor Chubb asked why another one was being produced so soon after the former one and how much money was being spent on this. Councillor Chubb stated that it may be worth contacting Jo Witherden again to seek advice, Councillor Hibbard stated that he would contact her.

11. BROADWINDSOR COMMUNITY PUB PROPOSAL

a. Update Report

Councillor Leader reported that there had been difficult and robust negotiations with Palmers, and that they are at a position where there is an agreement, albeit not signed which will mean that the pub can potentially survive as a community pub with a financial arrangement which will not cripple the business. Councillor Leader stated that funds are needed in order to carry out some essential work and that the plan is to have a share offer similar to what was offered with the Community Shop, which will allow shareholders to become stakeholders with voting rights, a model which worked well for the Shop. Councillor Leader stated that it is probable that there would be a paid manager and paid chef and that this could be a partnership, who would work to a management group and that the pub would be set up as a not for profit organisation. Councillor Leader reported that the pub will have to have a turnover of between £140,000 to £150,000 to make things work and stated that it was not going to be an easy process.

Councillor Leader stated that between £25,000 and £35,000 needs to be raised in order for the enterprise to get started and that although through the various questionnaires support has been overwhelming, the share offer will really indicate the level of support within the community. Councillor Leader stated that the business needs to be registered with the FSA before any further action is taken and that the forms were due to be sent off the next day and that there is a four week turnaround period. Once registered, grants and funding can be applied for. Councillor Leader asked whether the Parish Council would consider supporting the business to start up, stating that quite a bit of money needs to be raised in a short space of time and that if it is not, the enterprise could collapse. Councillor Leader stated that because the freehold is not being sold by Palmers and that the business is predominantly based around alcohol, they are not eligible for many grants. Councillor Leader stated that this really was a community enterprise with its funds and support coming directly from the community. Councillor Hibbard thanked Councillor Leader.

Councillor Harris stated that he was concerned that if the Parish Council puts in a lot of money, what assurances has it and stated that the Council has not seen a business plan or any financial projections and therefore it was very difficult to make any decision. Councillor Chubb stated that the Parish Council does support the village halls and community shop and that it would be good to support this new community enterprise. Councillor Chubb stated that he was a little sceptical as to whether it would work, given that pubs are closing all of the time and wondered how many people will use it. Councillor Chubb stated that however, there are still good pubs offering good food which are doing well. Councillor Sewell stated that this would not be a huge investment for the Parish Council and that the enterprise needs to offer a wider community service, allowing space to be used for lunch clubs, mums' clubs, cooking school lunches etc. Councillor Leader stated that they are looking at using the pub as a community space and that he has been approached by many clubs and groups wishing to use the space. Councillor Leader stated that there is a robust business plan which

he will make available and that considerable amount of professional expertise from the community has been given and advice sought from external organisations such as the Plunkett Foundation. Councillor Leader stated that like all businesses, there are no guarantees.

Councillor Bassett asked what Palmers would be contributing, Councillor Leader stated that the usual business model is that all drink is purchased through Palmers and that they take an 8% of both drink and food revenue. Councillor Leader stated that they have successfully negotiated a much lower deal for the first two years, which will then increase to 8% and that Palmers have the responsibility for the building and everything in it and have promised to take on some substantial work before handing over. Councillor Leader stated that on balance it was not a bad deal. Councillor Hughes stated that with regard to the Community Shop, at the time it was felt that the community had to give it a go, whatever the result and stated that he felt the same about the pub, if it did fail, then the community has given its best shot. Councillor Hughes stated that a great deal of help has been sought from those with industry experience. Councillor Sewell proposed that the Parish Council support the enterprise in principle stating that she believed that it would have a unique offer for the community. Councillor Harris proposed that the Parish Council wait until it had reviewed the business plan. A member of the public stated that it would be more helpful if a limit of support was discussed, Councillor Chubb stated that the Parish Council supports the halls and shop with a £1800 grant each year. Councillor Hibbard suggested a proposal that the Parish Council support the new enterprise up to a level of £1800.00 and that a business plan be made available for the next meeting, there were no objections.

12. REVISION TO CODE OF CONDUCT

a. Review of Training

The Clerk reported that she had previously circulated the new LGA Code of Conduct and asked Councillors for feedback following the DAPTC training as to whether the Parish Council would wish to adopt it. The Clerk stated that this had been adopted by Dorset Council and that all parish and town councils were being encouraged to adopt to ensure uniformity. The Clerk stated that Dorset Council will be introducing a new way for Councillors to register their interests and this will be online and will be much easier to edit and update. The Clerk stated that she will circulate information once received. The Clerk stated that Dorset Council has also adopted a new complaints policy for the Code of Conduct and the DAPTC training also includes this. The Clerk reported that DAPTC is happy to add extra dates for their training and should any Councillor wish to take part, to let her know as soon as possible. Councillor Hibbard stated that he had made a suggestion that when complaints against Councillors are made then the person making the claim should make a payment which is returned if the claim is upheld.

13. BUS BACK BETTER: A LONG-TERM STRATEGY FOR BUSES IN ENGLAND

Councillor Sewell reported that Somerset County Council will be holding another zoom meeting shortly and that she will circulate the link. Councillor Sewell stated that Somerset

seem to be encompassing the rural areas and supporting buses through utilising other services and stated that she feels as though Dorset and Devon should be doing the same. Councillor Sewell reported that after two years of lobbying the number 6a bus now stops at Yeovil College and that common sense has prevailed. Councillor Chubb asked whether this still has to be paid for privately, Councillor Sewell stated that it does.

14. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW UPDATE

The Clerk reported that the consultation is now live with a deadline of 28 October and stated that full details have been circulated to all Councillors. The Clerk stated that this was a legal process carried out by Dorset Council to ascertain the most suitable way of representing people and proposals could include parish name changes, merges or abolishment of parish councils.

15. DAPTC WESTERN AREA COMMITTEE AGM REPORT

No report.

16. CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY

a. Working Group Update

No report.

17. ALLOTMENTS

a. To consider request from Tenant for beehive/insurance implications

Councillor Madder-Smith reported that he had contacted the West Dorset Beekeepers' Association and had been advised that hives should not be kept on allotments and that most Parish Councils have this written into their allotment contracts. Councillor Madder-Smith stated that he had also spoken with a local beekeeper who had also advised against this unless the person was very experienced. The Clerk reported that the request had now been withdrawn.

18. HIGHWAYS

a. Report from the Footpaths Officer

Councillor Rowe stated that she had received a couple complaints from local residents about blocked footpaths and had advised them to report online which she had also done. Councillor Rowe stated that these were addressed and resolved and asked the Clerk whether she would pass on the details of the local resident who had also raised a concern. The Clerk stated that she would forward Councillor Rowe the information after the meeting.

b. Verge Management in the Grouped Parish Area

Councillor Rowe stated that the wildflower verges in Broadwindsor had not been successful this year and that she had been assured by Russell Goff that next year would be better. Councillor Rowe stated that she is attending a meeting with Russel Goff and will draft a report for the next meeting on how to go forward from here. Councillor Rowe stated that there had been a double disappointment in that the seeds sown in other parts of the village had not done well either. Councillor Rowe stated that for next year, she would like to

progress two projects, the wildflower verges being maintained by Dorset Council and encouraging local people to sow their own wildflower seeds, thereby creating a sense of ownership in the project.

Councillor Chubb stated that hedges had been cut very early this year and had become very overgrown into the roads, causing a dangerous situation. Councillor Chubb stated that he was trying to find out information as to when they are supposed to be cut each year.

A member of the public stated that he wished to report back on the milestone that he referred to at a previous meeting and stated that he had contacted the Milestone Society for advice and looked at the history and had been informed that the face of the milestone had been removed at the start of the Second World War to prevent enemies knowing local distances. The member of the public stated that there is nothing behind the plate and therefore not worth removing. The member of the public stated that out of interest he had found out that the two large stone blocks at Redlands Yard and another at the bottom of what he refers to as Broadwindsor Hollow are anti-tank blocks. The member of the public stated that the milestone will now be treated with an approved anti-fungal substance and once white again, the letters will be repainted. Councillor Chubb thanked the member of the public for their help.

c. Back Lane, Broadwindsor

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting.

d. Common Water Lane Update

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting.

e. Fly Tipping on Hursey Common

Councillor Hibbard stated that a report had been received that grass cuttings had been dumped on Hursey Common next to the stream. Councillor Sewell stated that if grass cuttings get into the stream they can kill the fish. The Clerk was asked to add this to the website and Facebook pages and seek advice from the Community Highways Officer on how it can be removed.

f. Fingerpost Maintenance Tender Update

The Clerk reported that one expression of interest had been received from Chris Edgerley and that he had asked whether it would be possible for his fee, if appointed, be donated to the RNLI. Councillor Leader stated that he had spoken with Chris Edgerley and that he had stated that if this was not possible, he would take on the role without payment. The Clerk was asked to contact Chris Edgerley and thank him for his interest and confirm that he has been successfully appointed.

g. Adopted Telephone Kiosks Update

Councillor Hughes stated that he had raised this matter as the box was starting to look very tatty but understood that plans may be in place to address this. Councillor Leader stated

that he believed that Chris Edgerley would be painting the box. A member of the public stated that she normally maintains the inside of the box, keeping it tidy but had not been able to do this recently. Councillor Leader stated that it is on a list of works to be done and that a plan is in place. Councillor Chubb stated that a group has formed to look after the box in Drimpton and that they have just ordered some parts to repair it. Councillor Chubb stated that if they have any spare paint, they will pass on to Broadwindsor.

h. Old Shop, Broadwindsor

Councillor Hughes stated that he had also raised this matter and stated that the Old Shop was looking a little dilapidated and wondered if the Council could write to the owner to ask whether they could improve the situation. Councillor Sewell advised that as the building is listed, the Enforcement Officer could be contacted. Councillor Madder-Smith reported that someone had tidied the outside of the property recently. Councillor Hibbard stated that the Enforcement Officer should be contacted.

i. Road Surface in Littlewindsor

Councillor Hibbard reported that he had been contacted by a local resident about the state of the road surface through Littlewindsor and asked the Clerk if she had received an email, the Clerk stated that she had not. Councillor Hibbard stated that this item should be deferred until communication had been received. Councillor Hardwill stated that the road in question is particularly bad.

19. AFFORDABLE HOUSING

a. Report from the Broadwindsor Group Parish Community Land Trust

No update.

20. MATTERS OF INTEREST AND INFORMATION

a. Items for next Agenda from Members of the Council

Councillor Rowe stated that she could attend the Dorset Community Action Breakfast Club on 29 September. Councillor Chubb asked whether future meeting venues had been agreed, the Clerk stated that they had not. Councillor Chubb stated that other venues should also be considered.

b. Items for next Agenda from Members of the Public

A member of the public asked whether the Parish Council could publish its draft minutes, subject to approval in order that members of the public can have the opportunity to comment. The Clerk stated that she absolutely agreed that the current process made it difficult for public comment and stated that it was a historic process adopted under a previous Chairmanship. The Clerk stated that many parish councils do this and stated that she would add this to the agenda for the next meeting.

21. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Residents were invited to give their views and ask questions of the Parish Council on any outstanding issues on this Agenda or raise issues for future consideration. A member of the

public stated that he had been informed by Dorset Council that they will not consider any application that is not within the Neighbourhood Plan area and stated that is why an enquiry about an amendment had been made. Another member of the public stated that Dorset Council do use this as an excuse. Councillor Chubb stated that he found this advice very hard to believe based on previous applications when Planners had ignored the Neighbourhood Plan. The first member of the public stated that he had had ties with Broadwindsor all of his life and it seems impossible for local people to build or purchase an affordable house if it is not within the boundary. Councillor Chubb stated that they should submit their application and come back to the Parish Council, although the Council did not have any legal planning authority. The first member of the public stated that they had been advised to come to the Parish Council to seek an amendment to the Neighbourhood Plan, Councillor Hibbard stated that this was a difficult situation. Councillor Sewell stated that she could provide some support in steering them in the right direction and also suggested engaging the support of Councillor Christopher.

22. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Clerk confirmed that the date of the next meeting is 11 October but that a venue had not been agreed. It was then agreed that this meeting be held at Drimpton Village Hall, that the November meeting be held at Blackdown Village Hall and the December meeting be held at Comrades Hall.

23. CLOSE

The meeting was formally closed at 9.30 pm, Councillor Hibbard thanked everyone for attending.