



MINUTES OF THE INFORMAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
8 NOVEMBER 2021
ONLINE MEETING

PRESENT: Cllr. Rowland Hibbard (Chairman), Cllr. David Leader (Vice Chairman), Cllr. Tim Bassett, Cllr. Steve Chubb, Cllr. David Chumbley, Cllr. Stuart Curtis, Cllr. Andrew Frampton, Cllr. Peter Hardwill, Cllr. Bob Harris, Cllr. Fraser Hughes, Cllr. Kevin Madder-Smith, Cllr. Dorothy Rowe, Cllr. Jacqui Sewell, 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. A minute's silence was observed to remember those who lost their life in all wars.

1. APOLOGIES AND APPROVAL OF ABSENCE

Apologies were received 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.

e. New Digital Register of Interests

The Clerk thanked Councillors for completing their online register of interests and stated that there were a number still outstanding and offered support. The Clerk stated that after

checking online, she believed that there may be a technical problem as some entries seemed to be missing.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes from the meeting held on 11 October 2021 were confirmed as a true record and unanimously approved by the Council. Councillor Hibbard stated that he wished to express his apologies to Mr. and Mrs. Shute for not intervening more swiftly at the last meeting when personal comments were made to them by a member of the public. Councillor Hibbard thanked Councillor Leader for stepping in.

4. MATTERS ARISING

None.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public were invited to address the Council by Councillor Hibbard. A member of the public stated that application P/TRT/2021/03836 was on the agenda and stated that he had stated at last meeting, that if the Parish Council did not consider the application at that meeting then it would run out of time as the period for comments has now closed. Another member of the public asked if Councillors had had the opportunity to speak with their respective villages about the Jubilee celebrations as he had not received any feedback. Councillor Hibbard stated that this matter was on the agenda for discussion later.

a. Report from Councillor Simon Christopher, Dorset Council

Councillor Hibbard welcomed Councillor Christopher to the meeting. Councillor Christopher asked the member of the public to email his concerns regarding the planning application and stated that he would be pleased to receive it. Councillor Christopher stated that he had included his exchange of correspondence with the Chief Executive in his report and stated that he had been asked by another parish council to sponsor some of their Platinum Jubilee Celebration events. Councillor Christopher reported that Dorset Council's Cabinet had convened that morning and there were serious financial concerns around the demand-led services which included vulnerable adults and children. Councillor Hibbard expressed his concerns over the lack of communication from some of the Planning Department to the Clerk, most notably when she is seeking deadline extensions and stated that it was very frustrating. Councillor Christopher stated that he was delighted that this matter had been raised as he stated that various parts of the Planning Department were in his opinion, not functioning well including the processing of applications, land charges and enforcement. Councillor Christopher stated that he had launched the subject at a meeting as to whether the Portfolio Holder for Planning should have a lead member to support him. Councillor Christopher stated that he has already spoken to the Deputy Leader about this matter.

Councillor Sewell stated that with regard to a recent planning application, she had noted that names had not been redacted which is against GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) rules and an anonymous comment had been uploaded and stated that in a

recent email from Highways, forty-two plus contacts had been listed which should not happen. Councillor Sewell stated that she had contacted the Monitoring Officer and that an apology had been received. Councillor Christopher asked Councillor Sewell to email the details of this matter to him and stated that he would liaise with the appropriate officers.

b. Report from Dorset Police

In the absence of PCSO Bishop, the Clerk read aloud his report. The report stated that fortunately there were no crimes to report at this time and stated that he would be attending the Post Office session on Friday 12 November instead of the Tuesday for this week.

c. Broadwindsor Group Parish Vacancy, Broadwindsor Ward

The Clerk reported that the deadline for any petitions for an election to take place is 15 November and stated that after that date she will be notified by Dorset Council and if there has not been sufficient requests then the vacancy can be filled by co-option and will be included on the December agenda.

6. CORRESPONDENCE AND NOTICES

a. Broadwindsor Resident, Planning Policy and Hursey Common

The Clerk reported that this correspondence had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting. Councillor Hibbard asked for comments. Councillor Hibbard stated that the Parish Council was aware of the need for the Secretary of State's permission for the erection of any fence on common land. The Clerk stated that she had spoken with the Tree Officer from Dorset Council and asked the question as to why parish councils are consulted on applications for Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) but not on tree works applications which involve trees with TPOs. The Clerk stated that she had been informed that there had been a policy change some five years ago and as there was no legal requirement for Dorset Council to consult on tree works applications, they had stopped sending them out to parish councils. The Clerk stated that the Tree Officer did not know why parish councils are only consulted on applications with TPOs but offered to speak with colleagues and find out. The Clerk stated that as soon as a reply is received she would inform the Parish Council. Councillor Hibbard stated that perhaps Tree Officers feel as though they are qualified to meet with an applicant to discuss potential works and assess whether it is appropriate. Councillor Leader stated that the application referred to in this correspondence was actually on the agenda for discussion later in the meeting and suggested that he would wait and speak then. A member of the public asked to speak, Councillor Hibbard agreed but asked for comments to be brief. The member of the public stated that the Clerk had already stated that the Parish Council is not normally notified of tree works applications but stated that it was on the agenda for discussion later in the meeting. The member of the public stated that if the Parish Council wishes to have an opinion on TPO applications, then it should also have an opinion on every single application for tree works for trees with TPOs and stated alternatively, should the Parish Council choose not to have an opinion on TPO applications, then there is clearly no point in having an opinion on applications for tree works with TPOs. The member of the public stated that this was contradictory and a ludicrous situation.

Councillor Leader stated that although the Parish Council is not the legal owner of Hursey Common, it is recognised as a custodian and stated that it is probably right that it is consulted in this tree works application. The member of the public stated that the applicant is claiming that all of the trees listed in the application belong to him and not Hursey Common and stated that if the Parish Council believes that some of the trees are on Hursey Common, then the applicant has submitted a false statement. Councillor Bassett stated that whilst he appreciated the comments from the member of the public, that this was not the time for a member of the public to be speaking. The member of the public stated that it was entirely relevant for him to make comments, Councillor Sewell stated that comments need to be made within the public participation part of the meeting.

b. Dorset Council, Dorset's EV Chargepoint Installation Programme

Councillor Hibbard stated that this correspondence had been circulated and asked for comments. Councillor Sewell asked whether any funding would be provided. Councillor Christopher stated that Dorset Council was keen to embrace charging points and green technology and stated that he would raise the matter with Councillor Gary Suttle. Councillor Leader asked if village halls could be considered as a suitable location for communal use charging points, Councillor Christopher asked Councillor Leader to forward an email and that he would move forward with the request.

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

a. Community Updates from Councillors

Councillor Sewell stated that she is publicising the vaccination walk in service offered in Beaminster and reported that the next one would be on Saturday between 12.30 pm and 5.00 pm. Councillor Hibbard stated that this was good news.

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 October was £50,359.24. There were no questions. The Clerk stated that the Parish Council had received some Community Infrastructure Levy monies of £2592.73 and stated that a similar amount was ringfenced for Backdown and other projects. Councillor Sewell proposed that some of the money be used to support the playground improvements at Comrades Hall, the Clerk stated that she would add to the agenda for the December meeting.

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 £5400.00 for Broadwindsor Community Pub (Grant)

e. To approve payment of £39.00 for DAPTC (Training)

f. To approve payment of £96.78 for Clerk (Expenses October 2021)

Councillor Hibbard asked the Clerk whether a formal request needs to be made by Blackdown Village Hall to draw down CIL funds, the Clerk asked for a project outline with costings. Councillor Hardwill stated that he would do this. Councillor Hardwill asked whether any of the funds for the Community Pub would be returned to the Parish Council, Councillor Hibbard stated that this amount reflected three years of grant support and would not be returned. Councillor Bassett proposed that payments b to f be approved en bloc, this was seconded by Councillor Sewell.

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

The Clerk stated that she would be seeking approval after the meeting under the Scheme of Delegation for the opinions expressed by the Council.

9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. Applications Received and Circulated for Consultation

P/LBC/2021/04144, Rose Cottage, School Lane, Kittwhistle, Blackdown, DT8 3LE

Councillor Hibbard reported that he had visited the applicant and spoken with neighbours and that no concerns had been raised. Councillor Hibbard stated that the application proposed some practical improvements which would enhance the property.

P/FUL/2021/03204, The Old Stables and Grooms Cottage, Seaborough, DT8 3QY

Councillor White reported that the stables are very close together with a small courtyard in between and stated that there would not be much privacy as two separate dwellings. Councillor White stated that the works proposed mirror what was previously applied for in the 1980s and which was approved. Councillor White stated that the intention is to keep them as two separate buildings but use them as one dwelling. Councillor White stated that a seventy page Ecology Report had accompanied the application as there are thousands of bats around the buildings and a number of restrictions have been proposed which included the onsite presence of a qualified bat expert to supervise work around the eaves and for the works to take place after 1 October and be completed by 1 May. Councillor White stated that most of the work was internal rather than external and stated that one comment had been made regarding the increase in surface water and whether this had been caused by wear and tear to the private road by contractors. Councillor Sewell stated that this could be raised in the Parish Council's submission to Dorset Council and stated that the Clerk had sent an additional application that day for the same site which includes the erection of a car port, the realignment of the driveway and associated landscaping and stated that it made sense to do the works at the same time. Councillor White stated that she sensed further applications are to be submitted.

P/FUL/2021/03608, Land to the West of Higher Way

Councillor Curtis stated that he had visited the applicant and stated that eventually they wish to change the use of the pig buildings to residential use. Councillor Sewell informed that an application had been submitted previously but that the buildings were not

substantial enough for a conversion. Councillor Curtis stated that he did not believe that there was a need to create another entrance at this time and that it would not be a safe entrance to come out on. Councillor Hardwill stated that there had been a plan to convert the old farm buildings and the applicant had been informed by a Highways Officer that the existing entrance would need to be widened and that on one side this would impact on the garden of the cottage. Councillor Hardwill stated the proposed new entrance would not make it any safer, it would see the removal of part of a hedge and create a new road over agricultural land. Councillor Hibbard stated that the Parish Council opposes this application, Councillors agreed.

P/FUL/2021/02965, Pipe House, Kittwhistle, DT8 3LG

Councillor Hibbard reported that the application comprises mainly internal alterations, including the removal of an unused garage door and that these are sensible improvements. Councillor Hibbard stated that there are no immediate neighbours and that he cannot see any reason to raise an objection.

P/HOU/2021/04305, Ashleigh, Three Ashes to Greenham Lane, Horn Ash, TA18 8QB

Councillor Bassett reported that he had visited the applicant and that the proposal is for a single-storey extension to replace an existing conservatory at the rear of the house. Councillor Bassett stated that the extension will not be much bigger than the conservatory and that it will not be visible to any neighbours. Councillor Bassett stated that he had spoken to the neighbour at the front of the property and that no concerns had been raised.

b. Other Applications

P/TRT/2021/03836, Hursey Common, Main Street, Hursey, DT8 3LN

The Clerk reported that after the last meeting, the Council was made aware that some of the trees listed in the application could potentially be part of Hursey Common and for that reason she had spoken with the Tree Officer regarding an extension and had been informed that he would welcome comments from the Parish Council the next day. The Clerk stated that it was valid for this application to be on the agenda. Councillor Leader reported that he had had a meeting with the applicant, looked at the application and walked the entire length of the southern side of Hursey Common and stated that the works proposed mostly relate to the erection of a fence on the applicant's land, which would involve the removal of some lower limbs of bushes and trees to allow the fencing work to take place. Councillor Leader stated that there is an existing fence on the Common side which has been there for a long time but is now in disrepair. Councillor Leader stated that the works proposed are perfectly reasonable and that it makes sense as there is a proposal to put livestock in that field and the fence would keep animals out of the Common. Councillor Leader stated that the application also includes some hedge planting and some laying of a hedge towards the house known as Shepherds Meadow. Councillor Hibbard thanked Councillor Leader for the site visit and the Clerk for pursuing the application and stated that the Parish Council therefore supports the application.

P/FUL/2021/04334, The Old Stables and Grooms Cottage, Seaborough, DT8 3QY

The Clerk stated that as previously mentioned, this application had been received seeking approval for the erection of a car port, the realignment of a driveway and associated landscaping and that Councillors Sewell and White would be leading the consultation.

c. Results

None.

10. BROADWINDSOR COMMUNITY PUB PROPOSAL

Councillor Leader reported that some time ago an application was made to the FCA (Financial Conduct Authority), the regulatory body to create a not for profit community benefit organisation. Councillor Leader stated that unfortunately this process was taking longer than had been expected and that it was hoped that a result would be forthcoming. Councillor Leader stated that until this happens, the project cannot move much further forward.

11. LEWESDON HILL PROJECT

Councillor Frampton recalled an intriguing story he had been told as a child about a man called Jean Decloedt. Jean was born in 1916 in London and was the eldest son of two Belgian diplomats. At the breakout of war, Jean joined the RAFVF (Volunteer Force) and was stationed at Burtonwood base near Warrington. His job as a member of the 37th Maintenance Unit was to repair and service allied planes, mainly spitfires and deliver them to squadrons around the country. On 15 March 1942, Councillor Frampton's late grandfather Jack Frampton, John Studley and Jack Wakely were on Home Guard duty in Broadwindsor. It was a dry, foggy and windy night and they heard the sound of an engine faltering and spluttering. In the cockpit unbeknown to them was Jean Decloedt taking a Super Marine Mk 2 Spitfire BL483 to 317 Squadron, based in Exeter. Sadly, he crashed into Lewesdon Hill on the north side. When the Home Guard reached it they found Jean and he had been killed on impact. Armed with only sticks the Home Guard didn't know if they would discover a German plane or airman on the run. The following day Dudley Tolley from Wantsley Farm managed to squirrel away one of the wooden propellers which hangs in Beaminster Museum to this day. Councillor Frampton stated that next March is the 80th anniversary of this event and that Jean has no surviving family and this story isn't remembered on Remembrance Sunday. Councillor Frampton reported that he has spoken with the National Trust Area Officer to discuss the possibility of erecting some form of memorial and information board at Lewesdon, on the site of the crash and will be contacting Broadwindsor School. Councillors Hibbard, Sewell, Bassett and Leader expressed their support for a memorial and thanked Councillor Frampton for his efforts in bringing this event to their attention. Councillor Frampton stated that he would report back at the next meeting.

12. QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Councillor Hibbard asked for any updates from Councillors. Councillor Leader stated that the Fun Group are busy with their preparations. Councillor Chubb stated that he had not had the chance to consult with the local community but would do so and report back. Councillor Rowe stated that after reading the report from Councillor Christopher, parish councils can support their communities by acting as a conduit to help with tasks such as road closures and additional refuse collections. Councillor Sewell stated that she would like to see a theme run across the whole Grouped Parish and stated that the Parish Council could be the facilitator. Councillor Hughes stated that he was aware of differing views about whether West Street should be closed for the celebrations and stated that the community should be united. Mr. Gray, Chairman of the Fun Group stated that there are no plans to close West Street and stated that this was a decision taken after much public consultation with the community and raised at their Annual General Meeting (AGM). Mr. Gray stated that he is aware that this matter has been raised again by local residents and that they have been informed of the reasons why they are not planning on closing West Street. Councillor Hibbard stated that he would imagine that it is for the Committee to take the decision and apply for any road closures if needed. Mr. Massey reported that the beacon has been checked to ensure that it is fit for purpose and that it is hoped that a choir will be put together. Mr Massey stated that he hopes to have secured a piper which is the theme across the country and internationally and that he would provide a full update for the Parish Council at the next meeting.

Councillor Rowe stated that she was aware of the descent in the past and stated that she would think it a good idea for all Councillors to see the letter received from a local resident, applauding the work of the Fun Group and setting out valid points as to why West Street should be closed. Councillor Rowe stated that a committee of three should be listening to the whole community and there should be a referendum on the matter. Councillor Rowe stated that the community should all get together and make the celebrations the very best that they can be. Councillor Hardwill stated that a meeting had been arranged in Blackdown to discuss the celebrations but had to be cancelled. Councillor Hardwill stated that as soon as it has been rescheduled, he would forward any plans made.

Mr. Gray stated that it was not the case of three people making a decision, it was a democratic process involving lots of people and consultation. Mr. Gray stated that he had sent a letter to the local resident and stated that he feared that if these problems continue there will not be a committee left. Councillor Sewell stated that she had attended the AGM and that there were lots of people in attendance and all except one, had voted to keep the event small. Mr. Gray stated that decisions made cannot continually be raised again and stated that the fireworks event was extremely successful with a lot of money being raised. Mr. Gray stated that he fears that this issue will undo lots of good work. Councillor Rowe stated that the fireworks event was excellent but stated that she believed that the Fun Group didn't want the event to go ahead originally and that it was because of other people

that the event was held. Mr. Gray stated that he personally had reservations about holding such an event due to environmental concerns but acting democratically had been swayed by community requests. Councillor Hibbard thanked Mr. Gray and the Fun Group for all of their efforts. Councillor Christopher stated that it was important to hold great community events and that he would be keen to sponsor fireworks.

13. BROADWINDSOR GROUP PARISH WELCOME PACKS

Councillor Rowe reported that she had provided a short update which had been circulated and stated that she had collected the remaining packs and updated the covering letter. Councillor Rowe stated that she had delivered four packs and that four packs had been left in the Community Shop. Councillor Rowe stated that she very much wanted to move forward with this in the new year and improve the packs. Councillor Bassett stated that he had also delivered a number of packs in Drimpton and stated that he had had to modify the content. Councillor Rowe asked Councillor Bassett to email her with the changes he required and stated that she had also included a feedback sheet. Councillor Sewell stated that a local resident was keen to help with the updating of the packs and that she would liaise with Councillor Rowe should she want this support.

14. BRIDPORT LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP (BLAP)

Councillor Sewell reported that BAVLAP has now ceased and that Upper Marshwood Vale Parish Council is currently a member of BLAP but are thinking of withdrawing as the group is very much urban focussed. Councillor Hibbard summarised by saying that the consensus seems to be to not join at this time. There were no other comments.

15. CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY

a. Working Group Update

No report.

16. ALLOTMENTS

No report.

17. HIGHWAYS

a. Report from the Footpaths Officer

Councillor Rowe stated that she had provided a short report prior to the meeting and read this aloud. Councillor Rowe stated that a local resident had worked extremely hard and produced a Grouped Parish walk as part of a small project by the Community Land Trust (CLT). Councillor Rowe stated that she would continue to liaise with him and offer support for printing and publication and stated that this walk would form the basis of a number of shorter walks around different villages. Councillor Hibbard stated that this would be a great addition to the Welcome Pack.

b. Verge Management in the Grouped Parish Area

Councillor Rowe stated that the verges at the crossroads in Broadwindsor had now been cut and that she and Councillor Leader will be meeting Russell Goff to discuss the way forward for next year.

Councillor Frampton thanked Councillor Christopher for his very kind sponsorship of the recent fireworks event hosted at Broadwindsor Cricket Club. Councillor Frampton stated that about a year ago, a request had been made to Dorset Council for a footpath to be installed to the Cricket Club to provide a safer access route for members of the public. Councillor Frampton stated that at that time, he had been informed that Councillor Ray Bryan had stated that there wasn't sufficient foot traffic to agree to the request. Councillor Frampton asked whether the fireworks event which was so well attended by the community would strengthen the case for a footpath and stated that now the Cricket Club owns the ground, many more community events are likely to be held there. Councillor Christopher stated that he is continuing to battle for safer footways and that he would be meeting up with a Dorset Council Officer that week to discuss safety matters. Councillor Frampton stated that school children will be using the grounds for coaching in the summer as well. Councillor Christopher stated that in January he had showed the area to the Lead Member for Education and stated that the difficulty is getting money from budgets, stating that it should come from Highways rather than Education funds.

Councillor Rowe stated that the Cricket Club was a great community asset, not just for Broadwindsor but for the wider community and stated that the Parish Council should put as much pressure on Dorset Council as it could to get the footpath installed. Councillor Sewell stated that the speed limit on the road also needs to be reduced. Councillor Christopher stated that this was the subject of his meeting with the Dorset Council Officer and to look at the many concerns raised in the past. Councillor Hardwill stated that sensible speed limits are needed and that everyone understands that you should go from 60mph, to 40mph and then to 20mph and stated that local people with local knowledge should also attend such meetings. Councillor Hardwill stated that with respect to hedge cutting, the hedges on the B3162 coming into Drimpton have been well trimmed back and stated that farmers are doing a great job. Councillor Hardwill stated that the hedges in Drimpton itself are overgrown and need cutting back and stated that he was pleased to see that the area around Cross Keys had now been tidied up. Councillor Christopher stated that he hoped that Councillor Leader would be able to join him at the meeting and that Councillor Hughes was also going to be present. Councillor Sewell stated that if parish councils were given their own budget for hedge cutting they would be better placed to ensure value for money. Councillor Christopher stated that if the Parish Council wished to make that point, he would lobby Councillor Ray Bryan. Councillor Hibbard suggested that the Clerk draft a letter to Dorset Council.

c. Review of Speed Limits in Grouped Parish Area

The Clerk reported that this matter had been raised at the last meeting by a local resident and that she had invited the Community Highways Officer to attend the meeting but that it had not been possible for him to do that. The Clerk stated that looking at previous communication from Dorset Council, a change to a speed limit would require a change to the traffic regulation order which would cost Dorset Council between £15,000 and £20,000 and as such any request would only be considered if there was a strong evidence of need. Councillor Leader stated that with respect to the speed indicator devices, the posts have been up for some time but that a problem with the device itself had been identified and that Dorset Council was working with the manufacturer to resolve this. Councillor Hibbard stated that the speed indicator devices, once installed will be able to provide hard data to take forward. Councillor Chubb asked Councillor Christopher whether at his meeting he could also discuss the speed limits on the road from Drimpton coming into Broadwindsor. Councillor Christopher agreed and stated that for the purpose of the minutes, the Council Officer at the meeting would be Mr. Lake.

d. Village Signage

Councillor Rowe reported that she had been contacted by a number of people complaining about the renovation of the milestone, stating that it was out of character being painted white rather than natural stone and that a laminate of some sort was covering the letters. Councillor Rowe stated that milestones are part of our heritage. The member of the public who had co-ordinated the renovation addressed the Council and stated that he had carried out extensive research and that everything stated by Councillor Rowe was incorrect. The member of the public stated that research had shown that the milestone was originally painted white and that the letters giving distances were originally carved on the face of the stone. The member of the public stated that according to the Milestone Society, in 1940 stonemasons were instructed to remove the distances and the metal plate which was then put back on in the 1970s. The member of the public stated that the aluminium plate has been repainted with the correct enamel base coat, the lettering has been picked out with the correct enamel gloss and stated that he is waiting for the person assisting with the sign writing to come back with the white matte enamel to go over the rest of the plate. The member of the public stated that he has full photographic evidence to prove that he is correct should anyone wish to see it. Councillor Rowe stated that she was just reporting back comments which had been made to her. Councillor Hardwill asked about the presence of something plastic, the member of the public stated that there was no plastic on the milestone. Councillor Chubb suggested that there is a need to communicate the work carried out and research to the community. Councillor Leader stated that he had lived in the village for sixteen years and that the metal plate was not a new addition.

The Clerk stated that she had been asked to include village signage on the agenda at last month's meeting in response to comments made about village entrances by a member of the public. The Clerk stated that she had contacted the Community Highways Officer and been advised that signage would be paid for by the Parish Council and that a safety visit would need to be carried out by Dorset Council. The Clerk stated that costs vary for signage and that Dorset Council also has its own sign shop. Councillor Sewell stated that this could be tied into the Jubilee celebrations next year. Councillor Leader stated that all the entrance signs in the Grouped Parish were poor and suggested a working group be formed to take this forward. Councillor Rowe stated that she very much agreed with these thoughts. Councillor Hibbard asked the Clerk to include this matter on the next agenda.

18. AFFORDABLE HOUSING

a. Report from the Broadwindsor Group Parish Community Land Trust

No update.

19. MATTERS OF INTEREST AND INFORMATION

a. Items for next Agenda from Members of the Council

None.

b. Items for next Agenda from Members of the Public

A member of the public thanked the Chairman for confirming that the Parish Council is aware of the need to apply to the Secretary of State for consent for any works which would prevent or impede access on common land and stated that he trusts that this would be minuted. The member of the public stated that as it appears that the Parish Council is in support of the tree works and the erection of the fence, asked who would be applying to the Secretary of State for consent. Councillor Hibbard stated that he did not believe that the proposed fence would intrude on the Common and Councillor Leader stated that he had looked at this and believed that the fencing of common land as referred to in documentation related to the actual separating of common land into different parcels or different areas and actual fencing on common land and what the applicant is seeking to do is to erect a fence on their own land. Councillor Leader stated that he cannot see that this falls into the definition requiring Secretary of State consent. Councillor Hibbard stated that he was confident that the Planning Department would be aware if any permissions were required and would advise the applicant accordingly.

20. 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 paid thanks to Councillor Christopher for sponsoring the fireworks and to Councillor Leader for his non-stop catering skills. The member of the public stated her support for the Lewesdon Hill memorial and stated that she looked forward to liaising with Councillor Rowe on the Welcome Packs. The member of the public stated that comments made earlier in the meeting regarding decisions taken by only three people with regard to the Jubilee

celebrations were totally inaccurate, she stated that she agreed with comments made by Councillor Chubb regarding village signage and stated that the member of the public who had co-ordinated the renovation of the milestone had already agreed to share information. The member of the public stated that she was very willing to publish events and news from other villages in the Grouped Parish and encouraged Councillors to send them to her. The member of the public who had co-ordinated the renovation of the milestone held up an image from the Milestone Society on his mobile telephone and stated that this had been taken in the 1970s or 1980s and clearly showed the milestone painted in white with the metal plate attached and stated that he has all the historical evidence to support the work carried out.

21. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Clerk confirmed that the date of the next meeting is 13 December and stated that Comrades Hall had been booked but that this would be reviewed nearer the time. Councillor Hibbard stated that if COVID cases continue to go down then it may be possible to convene an in-person meeting but stated that he was very aware of the high number of cases in Drimpton and Broadwindsor. Councillor Leader stated that he would urge caution given the high number of cases locally, Councillor Bassett agreed. Councillor Hibbard stated that the situation would of course be reviewed before the next agenda is sent out.

22. CLOSE

The meeting of the Parish Council was formally closed at 9.20 pm, Councillor Hibbard thanked everyone for attending and for their participation and wished anyone affected by COVID a speedy recovery.