

**Clerk to the Council:**

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**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7.30pm in the Thorncombe Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllr's J Higgs (Chairman), D Marsh, M Stead, A Hiscock and P Basham.

**In Attendance:-**The Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe), Cllr S Christopher and six members' of the public.

Draft until Approved

<b>882</b>	<b>Apologies</b> No apologies for absence received.
<b>883</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct</b> Cllr M Stead declared a pecuniary interest in the planning application for Magdalen Farm as he does work for them. He would leave the room during discussions on this item
<b>884</b>	<b>Minutes</b> The minutes of the meeting held on the 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2023, having been previously distributed; were agreed as a true record; and were then signed by the chairman.
<b>885</b>	<b>Matters Arising from Minutes</b> Cllr D Marsh informed the meeting that the Dorset Ring and Ride service would now continue following a financial donation.
<b>886</b>	<b>Surgery</b> A parishioner had asked about the upkeep of what she believed to be a passing place near Wild Woods. Cllr M Stead stated that this was not a passing place. The next surgery will be staffed by Cllr D Marsh; and will be on Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March.
<b>887</b>	<b>Democratic Period</b> A parishioner spoke about his concerns about the large amount of dogs mess in the Gribb View area. The chairman would place an article in the parish magazine. Cllr Marsh would put something out on Facebook. It was suggested that the local PCSO becomes involved with the problem.

	<p>A parishioner felt that some planning applications are by passed by a number of changes to conditions. He was informed that planning does have the authority to permit minor changes without them having to be consulted on under planning rules.</p> <p>A parishioner provided some details regarding an application for a farm workers dwelling in Holditch.</p>
<b>888</b>	<p><b>Planning</b>  .P/FUL/2023/07359 Magdalen Farm, Winsham: creation of permanently wet offline wetland scrapes with ephemeral margins; online backwater connected to River Axe south sculpted butterfly banks and two board walks. There has recently been an officer’s report that had concerns relating to flooding. Members felt that they could only support this application if these concerns were successfully dealt with.</p> <p>An application for an agricultural workers cottage at Manor Farm in Holditch had sadly been missed due to the Christmas and New Year’s holiday period. The clerk would request a brief extension of time to enable a corporate view to be formulated.</p>
<b>889</b>	<p><b>Accounts for Payment</b>  Resolved to ratify the following payments: Fly Software £5.99, J Higgs £50.00, RBL £27.00, Thorncombe Village Hall £20.00, Hugo Fox £47.98, SLCC £100.00 and Water2Business £35.54.</p>
<b>890</b>	<p><b>Financial Update</b>  The financial update had been circulated prior to the meeting and was agreed. The financial assets as of the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024 were £23,974.97.</p>
<b>891</b>	<p><b>Business Risk Assessment Review</b>  The Business risk register had been circulated prior to the meeting and was agreed. Members felt that they had done all within their power during the year to ensure the safety of the finances of the council</p>
<b>892</b>	<p><b>Dorset Councillor’s Report</b>  Cllr Christopher had circulated his report prior to the meeting which was duly noted.</p>
<b>893</b>	<p><b>Bus Services</b>  Loadings on the Bridport service were now around 40%, with the Axminster service maintaining 80%. There is a transport coordination meeting in Bridport on the 17<sup>th</sup> February.</p>
<b>894</b>	<p><b>Community Shop</b>  Still awaiting end of year accounts.</p>
<b>895</b>	<p><b>Rights of Way</b>  Various problems caused by storm damage had been reported.</p>
<b>896</b>	<p><b>Playfield</b></p>

	<p>The apparatus known as the cheese box will be removed as it is in a poor</p> <p>The rotten wooden fencing around the field will be removed</p> <p>Members had received four quotations for a seesaw and resolved to accept the quotation from Caloo for £3,880.50 plus Vat. Agreed that the CIL fund would be utilised for this project.</p>
<b>897</b>	<p><b>Police and Neighbourhood Watch</b></p> <p>No items</p>
<b>898</b>	<p><b>School</b></p> <p>Members had received a grant application from the Thorncombe Parents and Friends Association. The application had been received outside the deadline for grants and lacked in detail. It was therefore agreed not to provide any funds.</p>
<b>900</b>	<p><b>Allotments</b></p> <p>No items</p>
<b>901</b>	<p><b>Website</b></p> <p>No items</p>
<b>902</b>	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>Relevant correspondence is emailed out as required.</p>
<b>903</b>	<p><b>Elections May 2024</b></p> <p>The clerk stated that elections for Dorset Council and town and parish councils in Dorset will take place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024. It was agreed that an information evening would take place on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March.</p>
<b>904</b>	<p><b>Closing of Meeting</b></p> <p>The chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.45pm</p>
<b>905</b>	<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p> <p>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.30pm</p>

Signed ----- Chairman

Date -----