

**Clerk to the Council:**

Mr J.F. Vanderwolfe FILCM, Chartered MCIPD  
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**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023 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 three members' of the public.

Draft until Approved

792	<b>Apologies</b> No apologies received
793	<b>Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct</b> No declarations were made at this stage of the meeting.
794	<b>Minutes</b> The minutes of the meeting held on the 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2023, having been previously distributed; were agreed as a true record; and were then signed by the chairman.
795	<b>Matters Arising</b> No items
796	<b>Monthly Surgery</b> No issues to discuss. It was suggested that it would be better to move this surgery to a Friday to correspond with the monthly visit of the police officer. Cllr D Marsh would be present for the next surgery which would be in September.
797	<b>Democratic Period</b> A parishioner was concerned about the length of the grass in the cemetery which is owned by the council and the growth of the hedges and trees. The clerk would contact the Thorncombe Environment Group.

<b>798</b>	<b>Accounts for Payment</b> Resolved to ratify the following payments: JB Enterprises Ltd £43.38, PAYE Quarter 1 £233.40, DAPC £280.27 and Dorset Council £51,000.00.
<b>799</b>	<b>Financial Update</b> The finance update was approved. Financial assets as at 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2023 were £74,787.89. Noted that this figure included the payment of £51,000 by the Community Shop to pay off the loan.
<b>800</b>	<b>Internal Audit Report</b> Members had been circulated with the report by Mr D Knowles, our internal auditor. No issues had been raised. Members accepted the report and thanked the clerk.
<b>801</b>	<b>Dorset Councillor's Report</b> The report, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, was noted. Cllr S Christopher discussed with members the position regarding the ship which would be moored in Portland Harbour for asylum seekers. Mention was also made to correspondence that had been circulated to all councillors regarding the resurfacing work being undertaken in the parish. Concerns were expressed that the road to Birdsmoor Gate, which is in a poor state of repair, was not included on the list. The clerk was asked to email Cllr Christopher regarding this.
<b>802</b>	<b>Footpath 44/93 Vembury Farm</b> The clerk had circulated the proposed diversion to our honorary footpath officer, who had visited the site and had indicated that he fully supported the proposal. Members agreed to support.
<b>803</b>	<b>Bus Services</b> Thursday services remain at around 60-70% loading. Clerk would contact Tatworth and South Somerset regarding funding as many people use their bus service.
<b>804</b>	<b>Community Shop</b> Chairman stated she was pleased that loan had been paid off. This will give the shop a number of rent free years. New manager is in post and is shadowing outgoing manager, who will shortly retire. New lines being introduced in the shop
<b>805</b>	<b>Rights of Way</b> No issues
<b>806</b>	<b>Police</b> No issues.
<b>807</b>	<b>Playfield</b> The training on inspections of play equipment will take place on Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July, commencing at 9.30am.

<b>808</b>	<b>Planning</b> No planning applications
<b>809</b>	<b>Correspondence</b> Correspondence is circulated as it comes in
<b>810</b>	<b>Closing of Meeting</b> The chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.20PM
<b>811</b>	<b>Next Meeting</b> Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7.30pm

Signed ..... Chairman

Date .....