

Clerk to the Council:

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Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on the Tuesday 4th May 2022 at 7.30pm in the Thorncombe Village Hall

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

In Attendance:-The Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe) and Cllr S Christopher (Dorset Council).

Draft until Approved

535	Election of Chairman Cllr J Higgs was proposed as chairman for the ensuing year by Cllr D Marsh, seconded by Cllr P Basham. There were no other nominations; therefore Cllr Higgs was duly elected.
536	Declaration of Office Cllr Higgs made his Declaration of Acceptance; which was witnessed by the Clerk, Mr J Vanderwolfe.
537	Election of Vice Chairman Cllr D Marsh was proposed by Cllr J Higgs and seconded by Cllr P Basham. There were no other nominations; therefore Cllr Marsh was duly elected.
538	Apologies An apology had been received from Cllr Hiscock due to illness. This apology was accepted
539	Declarations of Interest No Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct were received at this stage of the meeting
540	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on the 5 th April 2022, having been previously circulated, were agreed as a true record.
541	Matters Arising No items

542	Monthly Surgery Cllr Marsh reported that a number of items had been discussed at the surgery meeting. A complaint had been made about the increase in Dorset Car parking charges. Agreed that this was not something that we could deal with. A request for assistance with Broadband in the Village Hall will be looked at in conjunction with the Village Hall Committee. The PlusBus timetable would be put In the magazine and a more regular council update would be included. There had been a request for more dog/litter bins, concerns about a gate at the top of Gribb View and also concerns about a tree in the Churchyard. It was understood that the trees had been examined, however that point could be raised at the forthcoming Parish meeting later in the week. Cllr Higgs would run the next surgery.
543	Democratic Period No items
544	Election of Councillors to Outside Bodies Agreed that the present responsibilities would be retained as last year.
545	Annual Governance Statement 2021/22 Members felt that they had complied with the points outlined In this document throughout the year
546	Accounting Statement 2021/22 The document was adopted
547	Certificate of Exemption under AGAR 2021/22 Members agreed that they had met the criteria for exemption from a Limited Assurance Review due to the gross income and expenditure amounts being below the £25,000 limit.
548	Accounts for Payment Resolved to ratify the following payments: Ashfords £493.20, HMRC PAYE £231.20, Dial a Grass Cut £270.00, Dorset Council £10,498.67 and A Hiscock £21.23. Agreed that the parish council would provide financial assistance to the Platinum Jubilee Street party being organised by Mrs Glazier.
549	Financial Update The finance update was approved. Financial assets as at the 2 nd May 2022 stood at £22,297.17.
550	Dorset Councillor's Report Cllr s Christopher had provided a written report to members, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. He read out correspondence from the Dorset Council Solicitor regarding trying to resolve long term issues on public rights of way within the parish
551	Closed Churchyard. The chairman, Cllr Basham and the clerk had met with the Secretary of the Parochial Church Council on the 30 th April. She had agreed to provide expenditure figures to the Annual Parish Meeting this Thursday. Agreed that a decision would be taken at the June Council meeting as to whether the council took over the responsibility of the churchyard from the Parochial Church council or not.

552	<p>Rights of Way It was agreed that because of the correspondence between the Dorset Council solicitor and Cllr S Christopher, and the hope that a meeting could be set up with the aim of solving some of the long term problems, no action would be taken against this council at this time.</p>
553	<p>Playfield A concert held on the 22nd April had raised £365 towards the playfield funds.</p>
554	<p>Bus Services The 688 Thursday service to Axminster is normally 100% full and the service 14 service averages a 60% loading. There will be a quiz evening in August to raise funds for the bus services.</p>
555	<p>Community Shop/ Allotments/Former Telephone Box/ DAPTC/Community Car Service No reports on this items was given at this meeting</p>
556	<p>School –written report as below</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The spring term started with 44 on the roll (Reception to Year 6) and ended with 41; plus 6 in Little Acorns (nursery) throughout the term. • Mr Rourke remains in place as Acting Head of School and Mrs Rice continues as Executive Head. • The whole school participated in awareness events including World Book Day, World Maths Day and British Science Week. • Eased Covid restrictions enabled inter-school events, more visitors to school and 'in-school' events hosted by our Parents Friends Association (PFA). • Both classes enjoyed 'A Journey through Easter Trail' led by the Reverends Michelle and Philip Butcher at St Mary's Church. • The Local Governing Body continues to meet twice per term; vacancies exist for Foundation and Community governors. • The Summer term started with a roll of 42 plus 6 in Little Acorns (nursery). • Indications for September 2022 admissions suggest 6 likely to join Reception; more promising than last year's admission of one.
557	<p>Neighbourhood Watch/Police The PCSO will normally be in attendance at the Community Shop on the last Friday in the month from 10.30 until 11.30am</p>
558	<p>Planning Applications P/FUL/2022/01971 Hodge Ditch, Chard Junction Quarry Deepening of a 1.4 Ha area of the previously worked area known as Hodge Ditch to release approximately 50000 tonnes of previously unreachable sand and gravel Resolved to support this application</p>

	P/LBC/2022/02180 Goughs Barton, Stonelake: Internal alterations Resolved to support this application
559	Closure of Meeting The meeting was closed at 8.35pm
560	Next Meeting The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 7 th June at 7.30pm

Signed Chairman

Date