

Clerk to the Council:

Mr J.F. Vanderwolfe FILCM, Chartered MCIPD
Newenham
5 Halletts Way
Axminster
EX13 5NB

☎ 01297 34444

✉ johnvw@tiscali.co.uk

Minutes of a Council Meeting held on Tuesday 4th March 2025 at the Thorncombe Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr's J Higgs (Chairman), M Stead, A Hiscock, P Basham , J Fox and W Luty-Wells

In Attendance: -The Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe), Cllr S Christopher (Dorset Council) and three members of the public

Draft until Approved

| | |
|------------|---|
| 186 | Apologies for Absence No apologies received |
| 187 | Declaration of Interest under the Code of Conduct No declarations, under the Code of Conduct were made at this stage of the meeting. |
| 188 | Minutes of the Previous Meeting The minutes of the meeting held on the 4 th February 2025, having been previously circulated, were adopted as a true record and were signed by the chairman |
| 189 | Matters Arising from the Minutes Nil |
| 190 | Council Surgery There had been a burglary at Sadborow of farm machinery. A parishioner had voiced her concerns about the lack of a mobile signal during a period when the power was down. The next surgery would be on the 28 th of April. Cllr Fox would host this. |
| 191 | Democratic Period The owner of Goggans Farm explained to the meeting about the proposed works to the property and the conversations that he had undertaken with the Conservation |

| | |
|------------|---|
| | Officer, who he stated was now happy with the proposed works. He had employed a structural engineer to ensure that the property was safe. |
| 192 | Accounts for Payment The following accounts were ratified: Hugo Fox £23.99. |
| 193 | Financial Update Members examined the income and expenditure against budget and agreed it. Financial Assets stood at £21,297.44 |
| 194 | Annual Business Risk Assessment Review Members had been circulated with the Business Risk Assessment and agreed that they had done all within their power to protect the council during the year. |
| 195 | Report on Gov Email Address Cllr A Hiscock informed the meeting that this was now in place. Some councillors were now using the new email address. |
| 196 | Dorset Councillor Report The Chief Executive of the council has left his position to take up a position in New Zealand. The new Chief Executive is Sam Crow. The proposed evening charges in car parks is now being reviewed. |
| 197 | Finger Posts Following the visit by Mr Beer it was estimated that the cost would be in the region of £3,200 to undertake the repairs to the four fingerposts. Members agreed to survey the area and discuss further at the April meeting. |
| 198 | War Memorial The clerk had contacted the company who had undertaken the survey of the Hawkchurch war memorial. Hawkchurch had been impressed with their services. The company are called Humpries and Jones, and they are from Crewkerne. The charge to Hawkchurch had been £350 plus Vat. They would undertake the survey during the spring and report back. The clerk was thanked for arranging this. |
| 199 | Community Shop A report had been circulated. |
| 200 | Allotments No issues |

| | |
|------------|---|
| 201 | Playfield An estimate for works to the trees was approved. |
| 202 | Rights of Way Letters to be distributed to landowners had been prepared by the clerk and handed to the Honorary Rights of Way Warden for distribution. |
| 203 | Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils No update |
| 204 | Police and Neighbourhood Watch No update. |
| 205 | Other Reports The Western Area Transport Action Group (WATAG) minutes of their annual general meeting, and general meeting had been circulated. |
| 206 | Highways Concerns expressed that a recent road closure at Birdsmoor Gate had not had diversion signs in place in line with Chapter 8 Road Signage rules. Clerk would contact Cllr Christopher on this matter. |
| 207 | Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P/HOU/2025/00590 Park View, South Street, Thorncombe: retain garden building Members felt this was over development and that the previous objection remained. Council strongly against this application. • P/VOC/2025/00864 Woodlands Workshop, Holditch: erect two holiday units , raised on stilts. Variation of condition. Members noted this application .WD/D/19/540.removing wording ‘and enforced where necessary’ • P/HOU/2025/00246 Turnpike Cottage, High Street: Air source pump. Support. • P/FUL/2024/01670 Goggans Farm, Holditch: Revised plans. Members noted amended plans but earlier objection remains. |
| 208 | Correspondence Distributed as appropriate |
| 209 | Closing of Meeting The chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.30pm |

| | |
|------------|---|
| 210 | Next Meeting Tuesday 1 st April 2025 at 7.30pm |
|------------|---|

Signed ----- Chairman

Date -----