

Minutes of a meeting of Church Knowle Parish Council
held in the Church Knowle Village Hall
at 6:30pm on Tuesday 14th November, 2023

PRESENT

Council Members:

Cllr Mr Derek Burt [DB] (Chair)
Cllr Mrs Jayne Wilson [JW] (Vice-chair)
Cllr Mr Will Slack [WS]
Cllr Mr Howard Fry [HF]
Cllr Mr Carl Grice [CG]
Cllr Mrs Hazel Parker [HP]

Clerk to the Parish Council:

Mr Andrew Parsons [AP]

C. K Parishioners & Members of the public:

Lesley and Vince Elliott
Kath Best
Rob Cawley
Kate Unwin

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

342.23 Apologies for non-attendance were received from Cllr Billa Edwards. The Parish Council sends Cllr Edwards its condolences for the recent loss of her husband..

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

343.23 It was established that no-one was recording the meeting. Cllr Wilson said that she would take no part in discussion relating to the Mushroom field.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

344.23 Mrs Kath Best reminded the Council that she had given permission for the gravedigger to bring his machine across her field from the public footpath to the cemetery but that nothing had yet been put in place. The clerk undertook to prepare the paperwork for an easement, obtain the required legal advice and get this underway.

345.23 Complaints were made about the lateness posting the minutes and agendas. The clerk who had recently moved house undertook to post these in good time in the future.

346.23 Objections about the Mushroom field entrance. There was much discussion about the strict necessity of the new entrance but it was agreed that it was difficult to raise any objections on the strict basis of the planning application.

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

347.23 It was proposed by Cllr Parker that Cllr Burt continue in the Chair, seconded by Cllr Wilson and passed unanimously. Cllr Wilson remains as Vice Chair.

VACANCIES FOR PARISH COUNCILLORS AND CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBER

348.23 There are currently two vacancies for Parish Councillors which are being advertised through the usual channels. No new applications have been received.

REPORT FROM DORSET COUNCILLOR

349.23 The report from Cllr Brookes had been previously circulated. There were no issues arising from this.

350.23 There is a new round of Community Grants available. The clerk reported that he had enquired of the grant department whether the refurbishment of the stone footbridge would be an eligible project. He was told that the number of people benefiting from the grant was an important consideration. It was agreed that the clerk would put together an application for a grant to repair the stone footbridge.

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10th OCTOBER 2023

351.23 The minutes which had previously been circulated were read.

It was resolved that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting.
Proposed by Cllr Wilson, seconded by Cllr Slack and passed unanimously.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

352.23 There were no matters arising from the minutes.

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

353.23 The Clerk reported that the funding application was with the grant body and that he would investigate the progress of this and expedite any required action.

PLANNING MATTERS

Planning Applications

354.23 P/LBC/2023/05723 - Construction of new access to Mushroom Field.
Given that there is already an access to the field through the farmyard it was considered that a new access might not be strictly necessary. However on agricultural grounds and those given in the application it was considered that the application was valid.

The vote to have no objection to the application was carried with 1 For and 5 Abstentions

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

355.23 Surface water at East Creech and Furzebrook. The road drains and culverts are continually being blocked by roots and debris and should be replaced as many of them are cracked and not functioning properly. Surface water on the road surface is leading to potholes.

356.23 It was reported that the culvert running under the road and serving the drain opposite Knowle Close is blocked with roots, has cease to function and needs work., possibly replacement.

357.23 Salt stockpile at Imerys. It was agreed to check on the stockpile of winter road salt that is held by the Parish Council and order more if necessary. This is kindly stored in Imerys' yard. The Chairman [DB] agreed to put this in hand.

THE CEMETERY

Administration and Applications

358.23 - No new applications -

359.23 The clerk is to produce the paperwork necessary for an easement to allow the gravedigger passage across a portion of the field between the public right of way and the cemetery across the field belonging to Church Farm. This will be discussed at the next meeting and will be arranged with the complete agreement of Mr and Mrs Best of Church Farm.

FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

ACCOUNTS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL FROM 11th OCTOBER 2023 TO C.O.B, 14th NOVEMBER 2023

360.23 The accounts were examined and approved.

Approval proposed by HP, seconded by HF and passed unanimously.

SETTLEMENT OF INVOICES PAYABLE AT THE MEETING

361.23 The Chairman and Clerk presented the invoices payable. These were examined and the resolution to accept and pay the invoices was proposed by HP, seconded by HF and passed unanimously. All of the invoices were duly paid.

ITEMS IN PROGRESS

362.23 Council website – The clerk reported that this is being updated.

CORRESPONDENCE

363.23 The Council had been copied in on an email to environmental agencies reporting a dead otter found in the parish. It was noted that these creatures were now living in the waterways.

OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DEEMS OF IMPORTANCE

364.23 No other items.

PERIOD FOR DISCUSSION

365.23 Cllr Parker thanked the Council for its card and good wishes [314.23].

366.23 Cllr Grice reported that the Perenco community liaison meeting had been cancelled and moved to January.

ITEMS PROPOSED FOR NOVEMBER 2023 AGENDA

367.23 The following items were proposed for inclusion in the December 2023 Agenda:

- Discussion of the Precept and any special projects that may need funding for the coming year.
- Progress on the Website
- Update on the status of the Neighbourhood Plan
- The cemetery easement for the gravedigger.
- Repairs to the stone footbridge.

NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

368.23 The next meeting of the Church Knowle Parish Council will be held at the Furzebrook Village Hall on Tuesday 12th December at 6-30pm.

369.23 There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7:47pm

Approved by Chairman :..... Date:.....