

Minutes of a meeting of Church Knowle Parish Council  
held in the Church Knowle Village Hall  
at 6:30pm on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2024

---

**PRESENT**

**Council Members:**

Cllr Mr Derek Burt [DB] (Chair)  
Cllr Mrs Jayne Wilson [JW] (Vice Chair)  
Cllr Mr Will Slack [WS]  
Cllr Mr Ian Gilbert [IG]  
Cllr Mrs Judi Newns [JN]  
Cllr Mr Howard Fry [HF]  
Cllr Mrs Hazel Parker [HP]

**Clerk to the Parish Council:**

Mr Andrew Parsons [AP]

**C. K Parishioners & Members of the public:**

Dr Jonathan Evans  
Mr R Cawley

**Dorset County Councillor:**

Cllr Ben Wilson

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

325.24 Apologies for non-attendance were received from Cllr Carl Grice.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

326.24 It was established that no-one was recording the meeting. Cllr Parker declared that she was a member of the organisations proposing the planning applications and would not take part in the discussions or vote.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD**

327.24 - There were no presentations from members of the public -

**VACANCIES FOR PARISH COUNCILLORS AND CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBER**

328.24 There have been no new applications to join the Parish Council and the one remaining vacancy will continued to be advertised as usual.

**REPORT FROM THE DORSET COUNCILLOR**

329.24 Cllr Wilson said that the main item of interest in Purbeck was the Ferry enquiry that had been put back until next year owing to the large number of people wishing to make a representation. A consortium of councils and bodies opposing the fare increase had been formed and had appointed a barrister to represent their interests. There was nothing to report that would affect Church Knowle.

**MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2024**

330.24 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 Newns, seconded by Cllr Gilbert and passed unanimously.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER MEETING**

331.24 There were no arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

## **THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

332.24 Cllr Newns reported that the Neighbourhood Plan steering committee had not held a meeting since the last parish council meeting but was proposing to meet in the next couple of weeks. The housing needs survey was being finalised and the importance of only circulating the fair final version was emphasised.

## **PLANNING MATTERS**

333.24 Cllr Newns (Planning) reported that Mr Estop is gathering further evidence to support the New Inn camping application.

### **Planning Applications**

334.24 P/FUL/2024/06280 Church Knowle Village Hall BH20 5NN Install solar panels and EV charging points.

The Parish Council resolved to support the application. Proposed WS, seconded IG and passed unanimously (one abstention – HP)

335.24 P/TRC/2024/06551 St. Peter's Churchyard BH20 5NF Reduce and maintain trees.

The Parish Council resolved to support the application. Proposed JN, seconded WS and passed unanimously (one abstention – HP)

336.24 P/FUL/2023/07201 The Old Rectory BH20 5NF Change of use of agricultural land and construction of tennis court. This is for information only as the applicant is appealing the planning decision to refuse the application. The parish council had no objection to the original application.

## **THE PLAYING FIELD**

337.24 - No matters regarding the Playing Field -

## **HIGHWAYS MATTERS**

338.24 In response to a query about the Furzebrook road over rail bridge Cllr Gilbert (Highways) said that Dorset Council are to send out engineers to assess the work required. He reported that British Rail engineers he had contacted said that in their opinion the present arrangement was not safe.

## **THE CORFE RIVER**

339.24 Cllr Newns (Planning and Environment) reported that a letter from the consortium of parishes and organisations with an interest in the Corfe River has been sent to Wessex Water. There is a Wessex Water consultation day in Dorchester that she will be attending with the clerk.

340.24 She noted that Wessex Water had been found to be negligent and fined £500,000 with costs for a sewage discharge into the environment at Melhsham.

## **THE CEMETERY**

### **Administration and Applications**

341.24 No new applications.

## **FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

• **ACCOUNTS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL FROM 9<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2024 to C.O.B. 12<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2024**

342.24 The accounts were examined and approved.

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

#### ● **SETTLEMENT OF INVOICES PAYABLE AT THE MEETING**

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

#### ● **APPLICATION FOR GRANTS**

344.24 The Clerk reported that he had investigated the possibility of grants from both the Corfe Charity and Suttles Quarry. The Corfe Charity is only open to residents of Corfe Castle and Suttles Quarry funding that will become available is to administered by a Dorset Council convened committee and Worth Matravers and Corfe Castle parishes will naturally have first call on this.

#### ● **PRECEPT FOR 2025**

345.24 The Clerk presented an analysis of the running costs of the parish council, its assets and responsibilities for the previous year and a projection, much the same, for the coming year. The necessity of having a contingency against unexpected expenses and having funds to undertake minor repairs and projects in the parish was discussed and agreed. The 2024 precept was £15,500 and in view of the inevitability of costs increasing it was agreed that the 2025 precept be set at £16,000.

346.24 Cllr Wilson said that the parishioners had already paid for many services in their council tax and that the parish council must not take on tasks that are the responsibility of the Dorset Council for which it has already been paid.

347.24 The council resolved to set the annual precept for 2025 to £16,000. Proposed IG, seconded JN and passed unanimously.

348.24 It was suggested that a review of the council's banking be undertaken to ensure that the funds are in the best interest bearing accounts. The clerk is to put this in hand.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

349.24 The councillors have received a letter from the Information Commissioners Office regarding a complaint from a parishioner. It was agreed that the matter had already been dealt with exhaustively in 2023 and that as it related to a matter that had been definitively decided and confirmed with a stamped order on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2019. The parish council resolved that the clerk is to write to the Information Commissioners Office in the following form:

*The parish council regards the continued pursuit of this subject that was definitively decided by the proper authority, the Dorset Council on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2019 as vexatious, entirely without merit or the possibility of any result. The parish council has no powers over footpaths, these are entirely the province of the Dorset Council and any submission must be properly addressed to it.*

Proposed by Cllr Gilbert, seconded by Cllr Parker and passed unanimously.

350.24 A mail has been received from Mr Thomas asking if the resiting of the playing field equipment can be revisited. The council resolved that unless there was a history of police reports, complaints from other neighbours (there are none) and a real benefit to the community, the resolution (307.24) from the last meeting where the matter was fully considered would stand.

**OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DEEMS OF IMPORTANCE**

351.24 - No other items -

**PERIOD FOR DISCUSSION**

352.24 Cllr Fry said that the hedge growth obscuring the Horses highway warning sign needed more equipment than he had. However another parisioner with the proper equipment will do the work.

**ITEMS PROPOSED FOR DECEMBER 2024 AGENDA**

353.24 No additional items were proposed for inclusion in the December 2024 Agenda:

**NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

354.24 The next meeting of the Church Knowle Parish Council will be held at the Furzebrook Village Hall on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 6-30pm.

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

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