

Minutes of a meeting of Church Knowle Parish Council
held in the Church Knowlege Hall
at 6:30pm on Tuesday 11th March, 2025

PRESENT

Council Members:

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

Clerk to the Parish Council:

Mr Andrew Parsons [AP]

C. K Parishioners & Members of the public:

Mr Ben Edwards
Mrs Pippa Edwards
Mr Matthew Jones
Mr Ellwood.

Dorset County Councillor:

Cllr Ben Wilson

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

056.25 Apologies for non-attendance were received from Cllrs Parker and Grice.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

057.25 It was established that no-one was recording the meeting. There were no declarations of interest by members of the Council.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

058.25 Mr Ellwood enquired about the status of the work at the Cotness Lakes. The Clerk and Chairman reported that all the parties to the work and the relevant authorities were in contact and that there was no outstanding action required.

059.25 There was a presentation by Mr Edwards of the damage done by off road vehicles straying, often deliberately from the Unsurfaced Rights of Way. While the public is permitted to pass along these rights of way, departing from them is trespass and as much of the area has heritage or environmental protection, damage can result in a criminal prosecution.

069.25 The responsible authorities including Dorset Wildlife Trust, English Nature and the Police are aware of the problem and are monitoring it.

070.25 It is proposed to erect signage at key positions informing offroad enthusiasts of the protected nature of the site and the prohibitions against straying from the rights of way in order that there can be no doubt about the illegality of the practice.

VACANCIES FOR PARISH COUNCILLORS AND CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBER

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

Cllr Slack left the meeting to attend to a family matter.

REPORT BY DORSET COUNCILLOR

072.25 Dorset Councillor Ben Wilson gave an account of the general news from the Dorset Council.

- The budget of £417m has been approved and a graphic breakdown of this is available on the website.
- The 30mph speed limit in Church Knowle is progressing well, should pass its final approval this month followed by the erection of the signs.
- Public Consultations for Public Space Protection Orders to prevent camping at Studland and wildfires on open heathland are underway.
- Natural England are conducting a Deer Drone Survey to assess the deer population and measures needed to control it.

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11th FEBRUARY 2025

073.25 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 FEBRUARY MEETING

074.25 There were no matters arising arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

075.25 Mrs Philippa Edwards (from the floor) reported that the Neighbourhood Plan is progressing and that a housing needs survey will be conducted with help from Dorset Council. This will be well advertised.

PLANNING MATTERS

076.25 P/VOC/2025/01128 – New highway entrance to the Mushroom Field. It seems that this entrance was approved by Planning under application P/FUL/2024/00337. The Parish Council had objected to this. The present application constitutes a technical change for the surface from gravel to asphalt. There is no objection to this change of surface.

THE PLAYING FIELD

077.25 The recommended treatment for the Playing Field woodwork was still outstanding and this will be put in hand.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

078.25 - No outstanding matters -

THE CORFE RIVER

079.25 Cllr Newns (Planning and Environment) is continuing to liaise with Wessex Water and reported that even though their budget had been cut by £800m they were committed to putting in place the increase in storage required to prevent the sewage overspill into the Corfe River.

THE CEMETERY

Administration and Applications

080.25 - No new applications

FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

• **ACCOUNTS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL FROM 12th FEBRUARY 2025 to C.O.B. 11th MARCH 2025**

081.25 The accounts were examined and approved.

Approval proposed by IG, seconded by JN and passed unanimously.

• **SETTLEMENT OF INVOICES PAYABLE AT THE MEETING**

082.25 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 JN and passed unanimously. All of the invoices were duly paid.

CORRESPONDENCE

083.25 Email from Mr Jones requesting amendment to the September 2024 minutes at 289.24 to reflect the fact that the rope bridge is rated and insured for a much higher load than 6 people but that this was a recommendation to discourage crowding. It was agreed to amend the item to read:

289.24 The safe capacity of the rope bridge that was the subject of planning application P/FUL/2024/3999 was discussed. The bridge although insured and rated for a much higher load had signage recommending a maximum of 6 people. He said that Dorset Council had assisted in the preparation of the Risk Assessment.

084.25 The clerk reported that he had had an email from someone in Eastbourne, Sussex who has press cuttings and a very handsome gilt key from the original opening of the Church Knowle Village Hall. This has been passed to the Village Hall Committee for their attention.

OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DEEMS OF IMPORTANCE

085.25 - No other items -

PERIOD FOR DISCUSSION

086.25 Cllr Newns asked what the arrangements were for roadside hedge cutting in lanes. This normally the responsibility of the householder but is often done by farmers.

ITEMS PROPOSED FOR THE APRIL 2025 AGENDA

087.25 Signage and any other measures to address the damage being done by offroad vehicles at the Cucknowle hill tops.

NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

088.25 The next meeting of the Church Knowle Parish Council will be held at the Furzebrook Village Hall on Tuesday 8th April 2025 at 6-30pm.

089.25 There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7:53pm

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