

Minutes of the Meeting of Church Knowle Parish Council
held in the Church Knowle Village Hall
at 6:30pm on Tuesday 11th November, 2025

PRESENT

Council Members:

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

Clerk to the Parish Council:

Mr Andrew Parsons [AP]

C. K Parishioners & Members of the public:

Mrs Best
Mrs Bolton

Dorset County Councillor:

-

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

306.25 Apologies for non-attendance were received from Cllr Ben Wilson.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

307.25 There were no declarations of interest and it was established that the meeting was not being recorded.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

308.25 Mrs Best noted that the license for gravedigger to cross her land with his machine should be renewed.

309.25 Mrs Bolton gave an analysis of the results of the recent traffic survey. She said that although the catalyst for any action on traffic control measures on these roads was the recent overturning of the container transporter there has been a long history of near misses and residents have been campaigning for 30 years to have a speed limit. She made the point that although the Dorset Highways response may say that very few vehicles are exceeding speed limit this is because the current default speed limit is 60mph. If one sets the speed limit at the proposed 30mph, safe for this stretch of road, there are a significant number. It was observed that the volume and tonnage of the HGVs using the road has increased in recent years and there is a much greater volume of traffic now using the Blue Pool.

310.25 Cycling and running events often use the picturesque roads in the Parish as part of their route, as do casual cyclists and runners. These roads are often narrow with poor visibility and a speed limit would go a good way towards improving overall road safety.

VACANCIES FOR PARISH COUNCILLORS AND CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBER

311.25 There is still a vacancy on the Parish Council. There have been no new applications to join the Parish Council and the vacancies will continue to be advertised as usual.

REPORT BY DORSET COUNCILLOR

Dorset Councillor Ben Wilson gave his apologies and his report has been circulated to the Council prior to the meeting.

312.25 His report contained an email from the Arne Parish Council requesting that the speed limit be re-evaluated. This is added as an appendix.

It was resolved that the Church Knowle Parish Council supports this application and will communicate this to the interested parties.

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14th OCTOBER 2025

313.25 The minutes that had been previously circulated were read. It was resolved that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting. Passed unanimously.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

314.25 Cllr Newns reported that she has had a solicitor's letter from Mr Jones (Blue Pool) stating that he had not intended to question her integrity (267.25).

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

315.25 Cllr Parker thanked the Parish Council for its vote of appreciation (277.25).

316.25 Cllr Parker asked why the figures produced by Jacqui Cuff were being examined as they should be unbiased and objective. Cllr Newns explained that in her initial assesment Jacqui had a figure of 11 and in her report this figure had doubled to 22. Given the demographic and low business activity in the parish this seems unrealistic and merits examination.

317.25 The Neighbourhood Plan group met on Monday and focussed on the environment with the result that a policy is being written. The Neighbourhood Plan is moving forward.

PLANNING MATTERS

318.25 There were no planning applications to consider.

THE PLAYING FIELD

319.25 Two offers were received for the firewood from the felled ash tree. It was resolved to accept the higher offer of £200 from Nick Foale.

320.25 It was agreed to replace the felled tree with another tree as required by the permission. As selection of trees will be presented to the Council and a selection made in the next couple of months.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

321.25 Cllr Newns presented the signs to discourage off-road vehicle activity on the Cotness Ridge. These will be funded by others and erected in the near future.

THE CORFE RIVER

322.25 There is nothing new to report. Other parishes on the river are taking an interest in the level of pollution and the possibility of getting samples analysed by an independent laboratory in the future was discussed.

323.25 The question of cutting back overgrowth and keeping the banks maintained on the Corfe River was discussed.

THE NEW INN

324.25 The New Inn is presently closed and the lease is being advertised by the owner Punch Taverns. It was resolved to register the Inn as an Asset of Community Value in order to maintain its use as a public house.

THE CEMETERY

325.25 - No new applications have been received -

FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

• ACCOUNTS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL FROM 15th OCTOBER 2025 to C.O.B. 11th NOVEMBER 2025

326.25 The accounts were examined and approved unanimously

• SETTLEMENT OF INVOICES PAYABLE AT THE MEETING

327.25 The Chairman and Clerk presented the invoices payable. These were examined and the resolution to accept and pay the invoices was passed unanimously. All of the invoices were duly paid.

• APPLICATION FOR GRANTS

328.25 - No applications -

• PRECEPT

329.25 No extraordinary expenses were anticipated for the precept and the Clerk will present an analysis and the proposed precept at the December meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

330.25 - There was no correspondence to consider -

ELECTION OF NEW CHAIRMAN

331.25 Cllr Burt wished to relinquish the chair and nominations for a replacement were invited. There was one candidate, Cllr Gilbert and he was elected unanimously.

PERIOD FOR DISCUSSION

332.25 Cllr Grice said that he had attended the Perenco and Imerys liaison meetings. Perenco are extending their Wareham well and will continue their operations here for many years to come.

333.25 It has been suggested that a bin be provided for dog waste bags in the playing field. The clerk will look into the feasibility and operation of this.

334.25 A suggestion for a community compost heap has been received. Compost heaps have to be properly managed especially with regard to rats and the Council did not consider that this was practical.

335.25 The Council has to plant a new tree in the Playing Field. It was unanimously agreed that this could be planted in memory of the late David Pierce. The Clerk will seek the approval of his widow for this.

OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DEEMS OF IMPORTANCE

336.25 - No additional items -

ITEMS PROPOSED FOR THE DECEMBER 2025 AGENDA

337.25 - No new items proposed -

NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

338.25 The next meeting of the Church Knowle Parish Council will be held at the Furzebrook Village Hall on Tuesday 9th December 2025 at 6-30pm.

339.25 There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:15pm

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