

Minutes of the Meeting of Church Knowle Parish Council  
held in the Church Knowle Village Hall  
at 6:30pm on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2026

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**PRESENT**

**Council Members:**

Cllr Mrs Judi Newns (Chair) [JN]  
Cllr Mr Derek Burt (Vice Chair) [DB]  
Cllr Mr Howard Fry [HF]  
Cllr Mrs Hazel Parker [HP]  
Cllr Mr Carl Grice [CG]  
Cllr Mr Peter Thompsett [PT]

**Clerk to the Parish Council:**

Mr Andrew Parsons [AP]

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

10 Members of the public.

**Dorset County Councillor:**

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**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

242.26 Apologies for non-attendance were received from Cllr Slack and Dorset Cllr Wilson.

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

243.26 Cllr Grice declared that he has a retail outlet at the Blue Pool. The meeting was not recorded.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD**

244.26 Joanna Tiffin, the new CEO of Margaret Green introduced herself and said that the Margaret Green Animal Sanctuary sees itself as an integral part of Church Knowle and will continue to foster good relations with the community.

245.26 The Sanctuary has plans to build new stables and kennels to house and care for horses and dogs. These plans will be discussed with the Parish Council in advance of being submitted. Cllr Parker said that when the Sanctuary had housed dogs some decades ago there had been a problem with barking causing a nuisance and that this should be taken account of in any expansion scheme.

245.26 Sue Lewis said that she and Brian had been without internet or telephone for many weeks owing to an error by BT when they changed their telephone from a business line to a domestic line. Their telephone has been cut off and BT appear unable or unwilling to reconnect it. She asked if there was anything the Parish Council could do to help. Cllr Newns suggested that she contact a newspaper consumer rights column and the local MP Lloyd Hatton as this seemed to provoke more action than the bureaucratic route.

246.26 A resident living close to the Church said that there was a very loud party at an airbnb property that continued until 12-15am and that it caused a considerable nuisance to the nearby community. The Council stated that the Noise Act 1998 applied, it therefore was an offence to make noise after 11-00pm and that the Council would contact the owner, notify him of the Act and the complaint.

247.26 There was a request that the boughs from the ash tree on the short path to the cemetery be trimmed.

248.26 Most of the public attendees were present to note their objection to the Blue Pool planning application P/FUL/2025/06766. It was agreed that all present were opposed to the application and these points were made:

- Many objections have been formally made and it is incumbent on the Dorset Council to answer every one. Not just force this application through in the face of substantial local opposition.
- This will have an adverse effect on other local garden centre businesses in these hard economic times and the garden centre market is well served in the area at present.

249.26 The Chair recommenced the meeting which is suspended for the Public Discussion Period and brought the Planning agenda item forward.

One planning application was considered:

250.26 P/HOU/2025/06766 Furzebrook Estate Proposed Garden Centre.

The Council's position of opposing this development is unchanged and it is in no doubt that this represents the view of the Parish.

The Council resolved to object to this application. (1 abstention)

251.26 The Council is of the opinion that the Dorset Council has acted in an undemocratic way and failed to fulfil its duties and obligations to act fairly and properly as a public body with regard to this and other planning applications and a vote of Censure and No Confidence was proposed.

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

252.26 There have been no new applications to join the Parish Council. This will leave two vacancies on the Parish Council and these will continue to be advertised as usual.

### **MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2026**

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

### **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

254.26 There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

### **REPORT BY DORSET COUNCILLOR**

Dorset Councillor Ben Wilson was unable to make the meeting but his written report was circulated.

255.26 Cllr Parker observed that while the report made much of "rewilding" the capacity of the country to feed itself was ever diminishing and this would inevitably lead to disaster. Farmers were being paid more to "rewild" than to grow wheat.

### **THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

256.26 Pippa Edwards has handed the chair of the of the Neighbourhood Planning Committee to Nicola Pitcher. The Council thanks Pippa for all her good work on the Plan and showed its appreciation with a unanimous Vote of Thanks.

257.26 The steering committee is considering how it should assess the Housing Needs part of the Plan and will consult on this soon.

### **THE PLAYING FIELD**

258.26 A walk around the playing field to assess the work and repair required will be scheduled.

### **HIGHWAYS AND RIGHTS OF WAY**

259.26 Mr Bailey has identified that there is still a major problem with deer being killed in the Parish despite the introduction of deer warning road signs. There is a serious problem on the Furzebrook road in the vicinity of Imerys. These incidents have been logged on the Dorset Highways portal. He suggested that the warnings on the signs be strengthened to make them more specific by the addition of standard plates saying "for 2 miles" or their prescribed equivalent.

The Council resolved unanimously to support this motion.

260.26 The Arne Parish Council, supported by Cllr Wilson (Dorset Council) has applied for a speed limit from the Stoborough Roundabout to Imerys. The Dorset Council says that the road does not meet the criteria and that it should have pavements and signs. However the local residents do not want these urban features but they do want a speed limit. The Church Knowle Parish Council has consistently supported the move to have a speed limit on the Furzebrook Road.

261.26 It was agreed that the Clerk should liaise with Dorset Council Highways

### **THE NEW INN**

262.26 The support for the New Inn to be an Asset of Community Value is on-going and Statutory Declarations are being prepared that confirm the historical use of the Inn car park for overnight parking and activities ancillary to the operation of the pub.

### **THE CEMETERY**

262.26 The cemetery does not have a topographical plan showing the location and numbering of the graves. It has historically been recorded on a Word document that has no spatial relation to what is on the ground. This is has a high potential for error and the advantage of the undertakers, the grave digger and the Council all working from the same easily readable plan cannot be overstated.

It was resolved to put the production of an up to date topographical plan in hand and obtain quotes from surveyors able to produce this.

263.26 Action is required to resolve the mislocation of the ashes in L127.

### **FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

#### **• ACCOUNTS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL FROM 12<sup>th</sup> AUGUST to C.O.B. 8<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2026**

264.26 The accounts were examined and approved unanimously.

265.26 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.

266.26 The Council resolved to make a donation of £200 to the Corfe Valley News.

#### **• APPLICATION FOR GRANTS**

267.26 - No applicable grants -

### **REPORT ON ITEMS IN PROGRESS**

268.26 Dog bin for Playing Field

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

269.26 Letter from Mr Bailey regarding deer signs. Discussed under Highways.

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

270.26 - None -

**PERIOD FOR DISCUSSION**

271.26 The Council thanked and commended the Chair on the hard work, diligence and persistence she has put in on various issues but especially holding the Dorset Council to account over its handling of planning matters and applications.

**ITEMS PROPOSED FOR THE OCTOBER 2026 AGENDA**

272.26 - None -

**NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

273.26 The next meeting of the Church Knowle Parish Council will be held at the Furzebrook Village Hall on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2026 at 6-30pm.

274.26 There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:18pm

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