

Minutes of a meeting of Church Knowle Parish Council
held in the Church Knowle Village Hall
at 6:30pm on Tuesday 14th September, 2021

PRESENT

Council Members:

Cllr Mr Derek Burt [DB] (in Chair)
Cllr Mrs Hazel Parker [HP] (Vice Chair)
Cllr Mrs Deborah Evans [DE]
Cllr Mrs Jayne Wilson [JW]
Cllr Mr Howard Fry [HF]

Clerk to the Parish Council:

Mr Andrew Parsons [AP]

C. K Parishioners & Members of the public:

Cllr Cherry Brooks
Mr John Smith
Mr Tom Smith
Mrs Gillian Hole
Mr Tim Kavanagh

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

106.21 Cllr Billa Edwards gave her apologies for non-attendance.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL – (Current Meeting)

107.21 None.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

108.21 The recording of Parish Council meetings was discussed as the Smiths said that they were recording this one. The rule appears to be that anyone can record a Parish Council meeting under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014. However the covert recording of any meeting is problematic and may be illegal. That the meeting is being recorded must be made clear so that members of the public who do not wish to be recorded in the Public Discussion Period have the opportunity to present their views in another way and have this right respected.

There were no presentations in the Public Discussion Period.

RESIGNATION OF CHAIRMAN

109.21 Cllr Burt resigned as Chairman and proposed that Cllr Parker take the Chair. Cllr Parker accepted the nomination and proposed that Cllr Wilson be Vice Chairman. Both accepted the posts and the motion to appoint them was passed unanimously.

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10th AUGUST 2021

110.21 The minutes which had been previously circulated were read. Cllr Wilson proposed that they should be accepted as a true record of the proceedings and her proposal was seconded by Cllr Fry. The minutes were duly approved in a unanimous vote.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 10th August 2021 MEETING

111.21 The Boating Lake at Cotness and Associated Activity:

Cllr Burt reported that Cumulus Outdoors are still at Cotness and the Council instructed the Clerk to write to Cumulus and find out, as a point of information, their future intentions at Cotness.

Action: Clerk to write to Cumulus Outdoors.

PLANNING MATTERS

Planning Applications

112.21 **6/2021/0237 – Construct workshop – Construct blockwork wall. (Swallow Cottage, Grange road BH20 5AL).**

The drawing were inspected by the Council but were found to be insufficiently clear to assess the proposed work.

113.21 **6/2021/0262 – Withy Lakes - Application amended from “Erect Detached Dwelling” to “Erect Detached Self-Build Rural Exception Site Dwelling”**

Indicative drawings have now been added by the Applicant to the planning documents. The clerk advised the Council that the applicant is under no obligation to adhere to any aspect of these and they are irrelevant to any future application.

The Council decided to examine these and three Councillors declined to comment, one objected to them and one considered the design reasonable.

The Council confirmed that its position in objecting to this development was unchanged.

Unlawful Developments

None

Planning Applications Received after Publication of Agenda

The Clerk advised the meeting that none had been received.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

114.21 **Fingerpost Renewal**

The Clerk reported that Roger Bond of the AONB Fingerpost Project was still researching the details of the original fingerposts but had not got back to him yet. It was decided that it was time to chase this up.

Action: Clerk to ascertain the status of the Church Knowle Fingerpost Project from Roger Bond.

115.21 **Speeding**

The clerk reported that the data sets from the two speed monitoring devices had been received and the data would be analysed and discussed at a future meeting.

116.21 The possibility of implementing a Community Speed Watch scheme which is manned by volunteers with speed guns was discussed.

117.21 Speed is and has been an on-going concern in Church Knowle and the clerk is to contact Stephen Mephram the Community Highways Team Leader to see if a walking tour of the Church Knowle problem locations can be arranged. Cllr Fry volunteered to accompany him if this can be arranged.

Action: Clerk to contact Stephen Mephram (the Community Highways Team Leader) to organise an on-site walking assessment of appropriate speed restrictions.

118.21 **Footpaths**

Mr Kavanagh described a difficulty that he has with the official routing of a footpath that is shown on the official map as running through his front garden. While the users of the footpath take a different route, and have done for generations that is acceptable to both them and him he is keen that the official map show this route instead of that running through his property. He has done extensive historical research on this and would like to see if there is anything that could help his cause in the Parish Council archives.

It was arranged that he would meet a Bucknowle Farm, where they are presently housed at 10am on Friday 24th.

Cllr Brooks says that she recalls that this footpath was considered at a committee some three years ago but that they resolved that the existing official route must stay.

Action: Clerk and Chairman to give Mr Kavanagh access to the temporary Council archives at Bucknowle Farm

THE GRAVEYARD

119.21 **Approval of Memorials**

No new applications have been received.

120.21 **Administration and Applications**

The ashes of Sir John James are to be interred in the grave of his wife on 3rd October at 12:15pm and the correct fee and paperwork has been received from the undertakers, Albert Marsh. Cllr Parker recalled that 3 graveyard plots had been booked in his name and that we should now inquire as to whether any of these had now become free.

ACCOUNTS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL FROM 11th AUGUST 2021 TO C.O.B, 14th SEPTEMBER 2021

121.21 The accounts were examined and approved. Proposed by JW, seconded by HF.

SETTLEMENT OF INVOICES PAYABLE AT THE MEETING

122.21 The Chairman and Clerk presented the invoices payable. These were examined. JW proposed the invoices should be accepted and paid. This was seconded by HP and they were duly paid following unanimous vote by the Members.

FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

123.21 The Council expressed considerable regret at the resignation of Cllr Tony Higgens owing to external pressures and commended him for the length, diligence and energy of his service with the Parish Council.

124.21 DAPTC have said that a full complement of Councillors for Church Knowle would normally be 9 and Cllr Higgens resignation leaves the Council with 3 casual vacancies to fill. The clerk is to contact the Dorset Council electoral services to ensure that the correct procedure and advertising regime is observed and a campaign will be initiated to recruit more Councillors.

125.21 Increased Community Involvement by the Council was discussed as part of this campaign and it was agreed that Cllr Evans would liaise with the Clerk and produce a paid full page in the Corfe Valley News to promote the Council and attract community input.

COMMEMORATIVE BENCH

126.21 The research into the Commemorative Seat for Les Bugler was undertaken by Tony Higgens. A combination of a Rowan and a hardwood half round tree seat seems the best selection and it is hoped that Tony will present this to the Council at the next meeting and an order can be placed. The toxicity of the Rowan will be checked, as it is in a playing field.

Action: Tony Higgens and Cllr Evans – present final selection of seat and tree for ordering at the next meeting.

THE QUEENS GREEN CANOPY PLATINUM JUBILEE INITIATIVE

127.21 Cllr Evans reported that she had met with the Chief Executive of the Margaret Green Animal Sanctuary and that the idea of a planting along the footpath from the stile across the field was well received. The tree planting scheme for the Platinum Jubilee is being well received and sites with community involvement will be investigated in Furzebrook and East Creech. The idea of a permanent Christmas tree outside of the Reading Room has some support.

CORRESPONDENCE

128.21 Councillors have had a letter hand delivered to their homes by Mr John Smith purporting to be from Mr Tom Smith but unsigned. This letter alleges harassment, bullying and undertakes to take legal advice against the Council over its opposition to the development scheme at Withy Lakes. The Clerk advised that there was nothing in the letter that need trouble the Council and the Council agreed that it would wait for and respond to any legal correspondence from the Smiths.

There was a brief discussion during which Mr John Smith said that he had written the letter with Tom Smith's name at the bottom. The Chairman closed the topic pending further developments.

ITEMS PROPOSED FOR THE OCTOBER 2021 AGENDA

129.21 The following additional items were suggested for discussion at the October meeting in addition to the standard and on-going agenda items:

- The status of the development application at Withy Lakes and any responses to correspondence addressed to the Dorset Council.
- Footpaths
- Internal Notice/Display board for these and organising a Painting Party or a contractor to paint these with the BT kits.
- The possibility of producing a statutory Neighbourhood Plan and its role in the planning process.

PERIOD FOR DISCUSSION

130.21 Cllr Parker has received a report about a dog attacking a parishioner. The general and statutory requirement to keep dogs under control, especially in rural areas where there is livestock and many walkers and visitors, was discussed and it was resolved to note this in the CVN.

131.21 Cllr Wilson reported that she had provisionally booked the Furzebrook Village Hall for a range of dates from April next year so that the pre-Covid practice of alternating the meetings throughout the Parish could resume.

132.21 The possibility of producing a Neighbourhood Plan was discussed as this has a statutory bearing on the planning process. Cllr Brooks confirmed this.

Action: Clerk to research this

NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

133.21 It was agreed that the next meeting of the Church Knowle Parish Council would be held at the Church Knowle Village Hall on Tuesday 12th October at 6-30pm

134.21 There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20:40hr