

# Osmington Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 7.00pm

**Present:** Cllr Mrs S Miller (Chair), Cllr Mrs H Ballard, Cllr Mr N Ireland (Dorset Councillor), Cllr Mr B Kuflik, Cllr Mr J Little and Cllr Mr J Medrecki.

**Also in attendance:** Miss Leigh Johnson (Clerk) and 19 members of the public.

## 29/24 Election of Chairman

It was **resolved** (unanimously) that Mrs Sandra Miller be elected Chairman for the year 2024/25.

## 30/24 Appointment of Vice-Chairman

It was **resolved** (unanimously) that Mr Joe Medrecki be appointed Vice-Chairman for the year 2024/25.

## 31/24 Appointment of Other Officers to the Council

It was **resolved** that other officers of the council be appointed for the year 2024/25 as set out below;

Rights of Way Officer – Cllr Little  
Playing Field Officer – Cllr Medrecki  
DAPTC Area Representatives – Cllrs Kuflik and Little  
Speed Watch Co-ordinator – Cllr Ballard

## 32/24 Public Participation Time

- 32.1 A resident spoke in objection to the request to place an Article 4 Directive on a geographical area in Ringstead. He informed members that he had recently converted two WWII bunkers and renovated a building which housed the café, all with the full support of Dorset Council. He felt that by removing permitted development rights was an infringement of civil liberties and there were already numerous planning safeguards in place along the Jurassic coast. These comments were seconded by two other residents.
- 32.2 A resident asked when the public consultation regarding the proposed Traffic Regulation Order would begin. He was interested in how the new speed reductions would be policed and measured. It was noted that no specific date had been set for the consultation at the moment.
- 32.3 A resident raised some questions regarding the governance of the Village Hall and how its trustees were appointed. It was felt that the village hall had increased commercial activities whilst there had been a decrease in charitable activities. The resident would like to see the return of more charitable activities as he felt that the three aims of the village hall were not being fully met.

The Chair responded that all charitable organisations were subject to strict rules from the Charity Commission and the Village Hall would have to adhere to those rules.

- 32.4 A resident agreed that there should be more openness from the Village Hall trustees. He also wanted to reinforce the comments made regarding the Article 4 Directive and objected to any further restrictions being placed on his Grade 2 listed building and scheduled monument that was his garden.
- 32.5 A resident also spoke in objection to the request for an Article 4 Directive at Ringstead. He informed members that the request had originated for The Creek and The Orchard and now had been expended to cover a larger area. It was unknown how many residents would be affected and how many were in support of this request.
- 32.6 A resident asked when the drains would be unblocked and The Chairman agreed to chase this up.

Members were asked if the new goalposts had been installed and it was confirmed that they had.

A plea was made to Cllr Ireland in his role as a Dorset Councillor to lobby for a disposal site for nitrous oxide cannisters.

- 32.7 A resident enquired as to the need for a public consultation for the proposed new speed limits. It was noted that the new limits and notices would require a consultation period which would give members of the public the opportunity to put forward their views.

Members were informed that the Village Hall trustees use to include appointments from local groups and it would be good to return to this.

### **33/24 Apologies**

An apology for absence was received from Cllr Mark Johnson.

### **34/24 Declarations of Interest and Grants of Dispensation**

Cllr Little declared a personal interest in agenda item 9.3 as a resident of the lane and remained in the meeting during its consideration.

### **35/24 Minutes**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meetings held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024 and 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### **36/24 Matters arising from the minutes**

4<sup>th</sup> March 2024

18.3 – The Spring Clean had taken place and all participants were thanked for their efforts.

19.4 – The storm drains at Osmington Mills had still not been cleared.

21.7 – Cllr Ireland had registered the defibrillators on as many websites as possible.

Cllr Medrecki expressed his thanks to the long-standing councillors that were no longer on the parish council.

### **37/24 Planning Matters**

The following planning decisions were noted;

- 37.1 **P/HOU/2024/01006** – Carisbrooke, Mills Road, Osmington Mills, Dorset, DT3 6HE – Loft alterations and conversion including new and enlarged rear dormers and creation of roof terrace. Erect replacement single storey extension and shed. Construct swimming pool, extend decking, apply external cladding and later existing fenestration – **Granted**.
- 37.2 **P/HOU/2023/05366** – Owl Cottage, Access to Southdown Farm, Ringstead, Dorset, DT2 8NQ – Demolition of existing two-storey side extension and outbuildings. Erect two-storey side extension with a rear undercroft. Associated renovations and minor alterations to cottage. Proposed ancillary and incidental buildings - **Granted**.
- 37.3 There were no planning applications for consideration.
- 37.4 Members discussed the request for an Article 4 directive to be placed on a geographical area at Ringstead. Consideration was given to points of objection raised by members of the public and noted that there were no comments in support of the application.

Cllr Medrecki informed those present that it was wrong to be concerned that it would take away permitted development rights and that it only concerned commercial developments. He stated that any permitted development rights that were removed by the proposal could still be applied for through the normal planning processes.

As it was unclear as to the background and support for this request, it was **resolved** not to support it.

### **38/24 Parish Amenities**

- 38.1 The Chairman provided a brief outline of the role of the Playing Field Officer and members discussed the need to appoint a Rospa accredited operative to undertake future monthly inspections of the play area.

A question was raised regarding the waste bins at the playing field and how these were emptied. It was agreed that the Clerk would make enquiries and report back to members.

It was **resolved** that Weymouth Town Council be approached to undertake the future safety inspections of the play area at a cost of £40.00 per month.

- 38.2 In response to a written request from a resident, members discussed the wood pile at the bottom corner of the field and the grass cuttings that appeared to be

encroaching on the field. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the contractor who felled the trees to arrange for the wood to be removed and a site visit to look at the area would be deferred until weather permitted.

- 38.3 A request had been received from four residents regarding the naming of their access lane to aid deliveries.

It was **resolved** that the addition of the “street name” The Alley be approved.

### **39/24 Highway and Rights of Way Matters**

- 39.1 Cllr Ireland informed members that the jetting of drains would need further work and planned to request further investigation from Dorset Council.

### **40/24 Finance**

- 40.1 The Clerk, as RFO, presented the final accounts for the financial year 2023/24 for approval by the Parish Council in advance of the annual audit process.

It was **resolved** that the final accounts be approved.

- 40.2 It was **resolved** that the Community Infrastructure Levy funding of £6645.77 be allocated to the proposed play area upgrade.

- 40.3 Members considered the annual public liability insurance renewal.

It was **resolved** that the insurance be renewed with Zurich at a cost of £850.14.

- 40.4 The cashbook balances, budget report and bank reconciliation were received and approved.

- 40.5 It was **resolved** to approve the following payments

Leigh Johnson – salary/expenses for March and April	£752.45
HMRC – Tax for March and April	£104.20
Halcyon Landscapes Ltd – Grass cutting for April	£367.50
DAPTC – Annual subscription	£291.04
Osmington Village Hall – Hire for April and May and 50% recharge for commercial waste collection	£155.17
Dorset Council – Waste collection April to June	£236.34
Zurich Insurance Renewal	£850.14

It was **resolved** to retrospectively approve the following payment/s made in accordance with Financial Regulation 4.1

Unity Trust – Bank charges	£18.00
Arron Giffen – Tree works	£1200.00
Hugo Fox – Website fee for April	£11.99

It was also **resolved** that all future payments be approved and the appropriate budget heading be allocated at the meeting.

## 41/24 Council Matters

- 41.1 Cllr Kuflik informed members that he would continue to publish The Osmington Oracle as a resident of the village and not under the umbrella of the parish council. Members welcomed the success of the newsletter and had received good feedback from residents.
- 41.2 It was **resolved** that a special meeting be held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 7pm to sign off the internal audit and submit the paperwork for the external auditor.

The meeting ended at 8.08pm

Chair

Date