

# Osmington Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7.00pm

**Present:** Cllr Mr N Ireland (Chairman and DC Councillor), Cllr. Mrs H Ballard, Cllr Mr P Botham, Cllr Mrs C Dempsey, Cllr Mrs S Miller and Cllr Mr V White.

**Also in attendance:** Miss Leigh Johnson (Clerk) and 4 members of the public.

## 100/22 Public Participation Time

100.1 A resident raised the following matters;

1. The footpath from Craig's Farm Dairy to Osmington Mills had been repaired.
2. Some of the leaves had been cleared from pavements in the village.
3. During Storm Eunice, the coast path sign at the end of Shortlake Lane had been snapped off. This had been reported for repair/replacement.
4. It was noted that three of the village gates could be accessible for cleaning, however the fourth gate was not and would be highly dangerous to attempt to clean. It may be an option for a commercial company to clean the gates and enter into an annual maintenance contract for their upkeep.
5. Parking at the junction of Chapel Lane and Roman Road often caused issues for vehicles to pass. Would it be an option to have double yellow lines at the junction? Cllr. Ireland responded that it would not be an option.

100.2 Another resident raised the following matters;

1. Concern was raised about a dog within the grounds of the Sly Fox and the resident was advised to contact the dog warden.
2. It was noted that the Speed Indicator Device was not working. Cllr. Ireland confirmed that the batteries needed to be replaced and the device moved.
3. The concern regarding speeding traffic through the village was raised again. Cllr. Ireland responded and stated that he had met with the new Road Safety Officer at Dorset Council who was aware of the concerns from villagers. Legislation remained unchanged and he had to follow the guidelines and statistics.
4. A query was raised regarding agenda item 8.1 – Application for Grant Funding and the process and criteria were briefly explained.

100.3 A resident put forward concerns regarding agenda item 5.1 P/CLE/2022/00790 – The Orchard, Fishers Place. Members noted the concerns, which included a discrepancy in the boundaries as shown in the plan, the application being in an AONB, permitted development rights and the potential dual use of the land.

## 101/22 Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. Mrs F Groves.

## 102/22 Declarations of Interest and Grants of Dispensation

Cllr. N Ireland declared an interest in agenda item 8.1 as a member of the Osmington Society and left the meeting during its consideration.

## 103/22 Minutes

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

## 104/22 Matters arising from the minutes

**96.1** – The check sheet for the play area inspections had been finalised and would be sent to the Playing Field Officer.

**96.2** – The Clerk would provide options and costs for the replacement of the noticeboards at the next meeting. Cllr. White would also explore options for the refurbishment and maintenance of the existing boards.

**97.3** – The Chairman provided an update which had been received regarding the steps and footpath down to Osmington Mills beach. A new ranger was now in post and the work would need to be re-costed. Waterside had agreed to fund the works and Cllr. Miller suggested that alternative options be explored, such as free-standing metal steps.

**99.1** – In the absence of Cllr. Groves, Cllr. Miller provided an update regarding the purchase and placement of the Jubilee Tree. The chosen tree was a Whitebeam and a spot had been located and agreed with The Smugglers Inn. The tree would need to be protected by a small fence and netting and quotes would be sought for this work.

**99.2** – Several members had taken part in and won the quiz held on 6<sup>th</sup> February. The winnings were donated to Pancreatic Cancer in memory of Michael White.

## 105/22 Planning Matters

The following planning decisions were noted: -

There were no planning decisions.

The following planning application/s were considered: -

105.1 **P/CLE/2022/00790** – The Orchard, Fishers Place, Ringstead Bay, DT2 8NG – Application for a certificate of lawfulness for existing use of land for storage.

It was **resolved** to **Object** to the application for the following reasons;

1. The application required more scrutiny as some complex issues had been raised and would need to be clarified by an expert.
2. There remained a continued dispute regarding boundaries shown on the plan.
3. Members agreed with the comment submitted by S Wallis, *“the grant of an LDC is equivalent to a grant of planning permission for obtaining a caravan site licence. Perhaps the owner would accept an Article 4 Direction on this plot of land to restrict the scope of permitted development rights and offer some protection from works that could threaten the character of an area of acknowledged importance”*.
4. The parish council request that due to the complexity of both the application and submitted objections, that it go to the planning committee and not be a delegated decision.

- 105.2 **P/FUL/2022/01195** – PGL Holiday Park, Shortlake Lane, Osmington, Dorset, DT3 6EG - Demolition of existing high ropes activity base and construction of replacement activity base for high rope apparatus.

It was **resolved** to make no comment regarding this application.

### **106/22 Parish Amenities**

- 106.1 It was noted that the tree works around the playing field had now been completed.

- 106.2 Cllr. White raised the age and condition of the play area equipment and proposed that new equipment be explored, possibly with the addition of an area for adult gym equipment.

Members discussed the need for adult gym equipment and felt that it would be under utilised and wasn't a necessary addition. However, the play area would benefit from a complete revamp and options for grants, funding and costs would be explored.

- 106.3 Members discussed the need for an additional litter bin at the bus stop outside Plough Close. If there was a need for a litter bin at this location, consultation with residents would be undertaken before any firm decision was made. Further information and costs would be considered at the next meeting.

- 106.4 It was **resolved** that the Annual Village Clean would be undertaken after the Jubilee week in June and a date would be confirmed at the next meeting.

- 106.5 The cleaning of the village gates was discussed and it was agreed that this was not a safe task for any member or volunteer to undertake. Cllr. Ireland would contact Dorset Council Highways to ask for advice or assistance.

- 106.6 The telephone box had not been replaced to date. It may be necessary to identify an alternative supplier if a date for the replacement was not secured very soon. Cllr. Botham informed members of a company that may be able to provide this service.

### **107/22 Highways and Rights of Way**

- 107.1 Potholes at Lower Church Lane remained a concern. Cllr. Ireland would raise this matter again with Dorset Council.

- 107.2 Upper Church Lane had been scheduled for repair in the following months.

- 107.3 The gate latch at Pixon Barn had been repaired.

- 107.4 Cllr. Miller informed members that the rotten bridge behind the old coastguard cottages had been repaired although the condition of the footpath had yet to be tackled.

### **108/22 Finance**

- 108.1 An application for Community Grant Funding had been received. However, further information was required to determine the application so this was deferred until the next meeting.

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

108.3 It was **resolved** to approve the following payments: -

WWCS Grass cutting – January/February	£324.00
Roger Eastlake – Fencing and stile repair	£348.00
Leigh Johnson – salary/expenses – January/February	£655.14
HMRC Tax – January/February	£56.20
Osmington Village Hall Hire – March 2022	£24.00
Arron Griffen Tree Surgery Ltd – tree works at playing field	£1950.00
Weymouth Town Council – Play Area Inspection 2021/22	£691.72
St. Osmund’s Church – Churchyard contribution	£250.00

108.4 Members considered a number of documents prepared by The Clerk in readiness for the annual audit of the financial year 2021/22.

It was **resolved** that;

- (a) The Council’s Risk Assessment be approved for consideration by the Internal Auditor;
- (b) The Council’s Asset Register be amended as discussed and approved for consideration by the Internal Auditor;
- (c) The Internal Controls be noted; and
- (d) Paula Harding of Barker Fox be appointed as Internal Auditor for the financial year 2021/22.

#### **109/22 Council Matters**

109.1 Members noted the dates of future meetings and confirmed that the Annual Parish Meeting would be held from 5.30pm on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at the village hall. The Annual General Meeting would take place on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022 from 7pm.

109.2 The Clerk would circulate the weekly DAPTC newsletter to all members.

The meeting ended at 8.43pm.

Chairman

Date