

Osmington Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 9th May 2022 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr Mr N Ireland (Chairman and Dorset 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 7 members of the public.

21/22 Election of Chairman

It was **resolved** (unanimously) that Mr Nick Ireland be elected Chairman for the year 2022/23.

22/22 Appointment of Vice-Chairman

It was **resolved** (unanimously) that Mr Vic White be appointed Vice-Chairman for the year 2022/23.

23/22 Appointment of Other Officers to the Council

It was **resolved** (unanimously) that other officers of the council be appointed for the year 2022/23 as set out below;

Rights of Way Officer – Cllr Miller
Playing Field Officer – Cllr White
Community Plan Executive Officer – Cllr Ireland
Coastal Change Pathfinder Group Representative – Cllr Groves
DAPTC Area Representatives – Cllrs Dempsey and Botham
Speed Watch Co-ordinator – Cllr Ballard

24/22 Public Participation Time

- 24.1 A resident enquired about the use of the noticeboards around the village. The Clerk informed the resident that the noticeboards had not been utilised during the Covid-19 pandemic and members had since tried to find a contractor to refurbish them. As no contractor had been found, it was agreed that they be replaced with low maintenance aluminium noticeboards.

With regard to planning application P/FUL/2022/01957 – Eweleaze Farm, the resident had noted that a significant number of support comments that had been submitted were from people outside of the area. The Chairman confirmed that there was nothing in Planning Policy that prevented this.

Concern was raised regarding the entry and exit to the track that accessed the site. A collision blackspot sign had recently been erected at the entrance.

- 24.2 A resident requested that future planning applications be posted on the website when they were received. This would enable a longer timeframe for residents to prepare and submit comments.

The Clerk agreed that The Osmington Plogger and Osmington Wildlife be added to the database of local groups.

- 24.3 A resident enquired about the addition of a litter bin at the Ringstead car park. The Chairman confirmed that any litter bin purchased and installed by the parish council would need to be sited on public land.

25/22 Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Frances Groves.

26/22 Declarations of Interest and Grants of Dispensation

Councillor Ireland declared an interest in agenda item 11.5 (Grant funding application) as a member of the Osmington Society and left the meeting during its consideration.

27/22 Minutes

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 7th March 2022 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

28/22 Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

29/22 Planning Matters

The following planning decisions were noted;

- 29.1 **P/VOC/2021/02869** – Land South West of Upton Farm, Upton, Ringstead, Dorset – Change of use of countryside management compound to part countryside management compound and part siting of log cabins and shepherds' huts for holiday use. Adaption of former RAF building for ancillary holiday use, reception building and learning centre. (Variation of condition 8 of planning permission ref. WD/D/16/002931 regarding occupancy of log cabins and shepherds' huts) – Variation of Condition 2 of planning approval WD/D/18/000387 – amended plans – **Granted.**
- 29.2 **P/HOU/2021/01710** – The Old Vicarage, Church Lane, Osmington, Dorset, DT3 6EJ – Extensions and alterations to include removal of rear addition and erection of pergola and greenhouse (Amended scheme to that approved under WD/D/19/001586) – **Granted.**
- 29.3 **P/LBC/2021/01711** – The Old Vicarage, Church Lane, Osmington, Dorset, DT3 6EJ – Removal of rear addition, extensions and internal and external alterations (Amended scheme to that approved to that under WD/D/19/001587) – **Granted.**

The following planning application/s were considered: -

- 29.4 **P/FUL/2022/01957** – Eweleaze Farm Campsite, Osmington, DT3 6ED – Change of use of agricultural land to camping site for 42 days per years.

It was **resolved** to **OBJECT** to this application for the following reasons;

1. AONB – There is a detrimental impact on this open landscape in an AONB with substantial damage to the land and no time to recover. The purpose of the AONB is to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the landscape and to promote a landscape for life. This site is an irreplaceable national asset set in a prominent location along the Jurassic Coast. The impact on the area is residual. The burnt grass from open fires can be seen across the land. The Parish Council strongly agrees with the comments in the AONB submission.
 2. Precedent – This will set an adverse precedent for all other landowners in the area.
 3. Traffic and Access – In 2018 Highways objected to the application. No changes have been made to the entrance and the track remains unsuitable for the volume of vehicles created by the campsite. There are passing places stated in the application, if the first passing place is full there is no way past to access additional passing places and there are frequent queues on Osmington Hill. Collision blackspot notices have recently been installed at the entrance to the campsite.
 4. The application states that the visibility of the site is not an issue. The campsite can be seen from areas such as Bowleaze Cove, Littlemoor and Osmington Mills. The site is also directly adjacent to the South West Coast Path and visible from the sea.
 5. Economic and Social Benefits – There is no economic upside to Osmington village and the volume of traffic and campers has an impact on villagers.
 6. Waste – Further information regarding the storage/collection/disposal of waste is required.
 7. Application Inaccuracies – There are many inaccuracies included throughout the report. The Planning Officers submission for the 2021 refused application states that the primary council is Weymouth, with no mention of Osmington Parish Council. As a result of this, the extract from the second appendix that the agent is using to support this application is a copy of Weymouth TC's minutes which state that they had no objection to that application. Although that application was refused, it is nevertheless concerning that DC's Planning Officer made such a fundamental mistake, which the Applicant's Agent is now using to support this application, even though the Agent may be unaware of the fundamental error.
 8. The 28-day national policy is prescribed for a specific reason and it is felt that a change of use for this sensitive landscape is wholly inappropriate.
- 29.5 **P/FUL/2022/02060** – Woodlands Bunker, Ringstead Farm, Dorchester, DT2 8NF – Convert derelict World War II bunker into holiday home.

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

- 29.6 **P/LBC/2022/02060** – Woodlands Bunker, Ringstead Farm, Dorchester, DT2 8NF – Convert derelict World War II bunker into holiday home – Listed Building Consent.

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

30/22 Parish Amenities

- 30.1 Councillor White provided a brief update regarding the play area and parish field. It was noted that the play area inspection had identified a few minor things that required attention. It was also noted that the pergola required a timber treatment to preserve the wood.

It was agreed that the Clerk source a new "No dogs" sign for the play area.

- 30.2 Members noted the need for more regular grass cuts to keep the playing field and play area in better condition.

It was **resolved** that additional grass cuts be approved at an additional cost of £28.35 per month.

- 30.3 Members discussed the installation of an additional litter bin near to the bus stop at Plough Close. The Clerk provided estimated costs for the purchase, installation and emptying of the bin.

It was **resolved** that an additional bin be purchased for installation at Plough Close. The Clerk would obtain details of bin sizes and designs.

- 30.4 Consideration was given to the replacement of the wooden noticeboards around the village and surrounding hamlets. Members looked at different options and quotes from five suppliers.

Councillor White had received a quote for the refurbishment and future maintenance of the existing boards. Concern was raised that the boards may fall into disrepair again in the future if the proposed contact no longer wished to maintain the boards.

Councillor Miller confirmed that the board at Osmington Mills was in good condition and this should be retained for now.

Members discussed this at length and it was **resolved** that two new noticeboards be purchased, subject to installation costs. A triple board for location outside the church and a double board for the car park at Ringstead.

- 30.5 Councillor Ireland provided a brief update regarding the installation of the new telephone box. It was hoped that an installation date would be provided by the end of the week.

31/22 Highway and Rights of Way Matters

- 31.1 Councillor Ballard informed members that several trees had been cut along the Roman Road bridleway. No permission had been granted, although permission was not required as the trees were not subject to TPO's. In light of this information, Councillor Ballard had created a map which she would submit to Dorset Council and apply for TPO's for the remaining trees.

- 31.2 Upper Church Lane had now been resurfaced.

31.3 Lower Church Lane remained in a very poor state and it was agreed that the Clerk would contact DC Highways to address this.

32/22 Finance

32.1 The Clerk, as RFO, presented the final accounts for the financial year 2021/22 for approval by the Parish Council in advance of the annual audit process.

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

32.2 The Clerk explained the process for the audit regime and the requirement to complete a Certificate of Exemption.

It was **resolved** that the Certificate of Exemption be signed by the Chairman and submitted to the External Auditor.

32.3 Members considered the annual public liability insurance renewal.

It was **resolved** that the insurance be renewed with Zurich at a cost of £764.64.

32.4 In the absence of Councillor Groves, The Clerk provided an update regarding quotes for the Jubilee tree fencing and surround.

It was **resolved** that Roger Eastlake be contracted to provide and install the fencing and surround for the Jubilee tree.

32.5 The Clerk had previously circulated an application from the Osmington Society for a community grant to help towards the costs of the planned Platinum Jubilee village street party.

Members voted 4:1 in favour of the application for funding and it was **resolved** that The Osmington Society receive £100.00 towards the cost of the village street party.

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

32.7 It was **resolved** to approve the following payments

Leigh Johnson – salary/expenses – March (paid for end of year)	£551.30
HMRC – Tax – March (paid for end of year)	£40.60
WWCS – grass cutting for March and April	£374.22
St. Osmund’s Church – Churchyard contribution 2022/23	£250.00
DWP – Empty trade bins – March to June	£141.44
Leigh Johnson – salary/expenses – April	£487.66
HMRC – Tax – April	£37.40
Osmington Village Hall – Hire for May	£48.00
Osmington Village Hall – 50% recharge for trade bin empty	£94.38
The Cumbria Clock Company	£198.00
Osmington Village Hall – Recharge paid for defib pads	£59.87

Osmington Society Grant	£100.00
Zurich Insurance Renewal	£764.64

33/22 Council Matters

- 33.1 Councillor Ireland noted that the Community Infrastructure Levy payment from Mulberry House had been received. The email from Dorset Council had contained a link to explain how CIL payments worked and members found this very useful.
- 33.2 Councillor White confirmed that the pub had been sold and the new owners were due to take ownership in 15 days.

The meeting ended at 8.38pm

Chairman

Date