

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on  
Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022, at 7 pm in the village hall**

**Councillors Present:**

Trena Fox (TF) Chair  
C Dyke (CD)  
L Goff (LG)  
P Valinski (PV)

S Falkingham (SF) (Vice Chair)  
Mrs M Harding (Clerk)  
Cllr A Alford (Dorset Councillor)  
17 members of the Public

**22/3-1 Welcome and to receive apologies of absence** - TF welcomed all to the meeting and received apologies from Di Padfield.

**22/3-2 To receive declarations of interest and/or grants of dispensation-** None.

**22/3-3 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022**  
Proposed CD    Seconded SF

**22/3-4 To receive matters arising from the minutes for information only-** TF reported that a resident had paid £200 towards repairs to the Drift to be able to access their livestock. The Clerk updated the PC on the issues of the drift- the grips have been cleared and dug out to remove water at intervals. The landowner is aware of the track surface but as there is room to pass and repass and the hole is obvious it will not be closed, and it is down to the landowner and not DC to make any repairs to the track which is believed will be being done in the spring. SF asked if the permissive path has been recorded with the definitive path team, this is ongoing.

**22/3-5 Democratic Forum (15 minutes for members of the public to raise any issues on agenda items)-**

CD reported on the village hall and the plans to install a defibrillator on the wall outside. There will also be training sessions provided.

CD also asked for the PC to consider upgrading part of the car park, with hard standing parking places. As there are parking issues when there is wet weather, and the car park is out of use. The VH would be in a position to make a contribution to this cost. This will be added to the April agenda following a site visit and costs of any potential works.

TF reported that the litter pick will take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> April notices are on the notice board and around the village. A copy will be placed on Facebook and the website when received by email.

AA (DC ward Cllr) reported on the leaders report previously circulated to Cllrs, also a new funding stream is now available for projects in the community to benefit vulnerable people.

The draft recommendations from DC on the Community Governance review are now out for consultation. AA reported on a British Solar renewables project proposed at Wraxall Manor, the company are speaking to parishes in the area, AA can arrange for them to attend a PC meeting if this was of interest.

**22/3-6 Chairman's report-**

Cherri and I have met with several play companies gathering quotes for the play area equipment and surfacing. The MUGA gate latch has been repaired damage with the high winds as the gate would not shut. Also, the new fence has been repaired where some have been climbing over from the car park. Some people have been using the MUGA for cycling and skating, they were reminded that the surface is not suitable for this use.

## MAIDEN NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

### 22/3-7 Council Property: To receive the monthly risk assessment reports- all completed.

- i. To consider the use of the Quarr land for "Open space grassland habitat" The Clerk reported that following the planning approval of the Quarr development advice had been gathered on the land that has been suggested to be gifted to the PC for community benefit. The land as noted in the S106 is for Open Space grassland habitat. The PC will start the process of taking over the area, so it can plan the future use in line with the S106. It was also noted that CIL contributions from this development will be in the region of £18000, but this is not paid until the development starts and will be paid over an 18-month period. Proposal that the Clerk progresses with the land transfer to the PC.

Proposed JE

Seconded LG

LG reported on the Old Fire Station house door and this needing to be repaired, it was noted that this is leased to the Fire station, a copy of the lease will be found to consider who is responsible for the repairs.

### 22/3-8 Planning Consultations-

#### i. To consider all planning applications:

- a. Planning appeal P/HOU/2021/03664-correspondence relating to a planning appeal in respect of Erection of porch at 18 Dorchester Road- for info and no comments required at this stage.
- b. P/FUL/2022/01364 Proposal: Erect extension to agricultural storage building. - the application only came in on the day of the meeting, Cllrs raised no objections.

- ii. To consider and other planning matters or enforcements-following the additional comments made by the PC on the application for the Shepherds Huts, further comments have been made by the agent on the planning portal.

### 22/3-9 Finance-

- i. To consider all payments due- The reports of payments were circulated prior to the meeting:

All payments due were authorised to be paid in line with the necessary internal controls and contracts. This report covers the period since the last meeting.

Payments	Detail	Amount
<b>Feb 22</b>		
Clerk	Salary/Exp	922.46
HMRC	PAYE	245.96
MNVH	Hall hire	16.00
J Carver	Grass contract	350.00
SSE	MUGA electricity	25.62
Vision ICT	Website hosting and support	161.26
S C Marsh	Hedge cutting at Allotments	302.40

Proposed JE

Seconded SF

Bank balances as of 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022 - £47,967.89

A savings account with Lloyds has been opened, and £25000 transferred to this account this will earn some interest.

The Council need to find a new internal auditor for 2021-22. Clerk has another internal auditor who audits other parishes who is willing to carry out the audit. The fee would be £75. This was agreed by the PC.

## MAIDEN NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

### ii. To consider the grass cutting tender for 2022-2025

The PC had sent out 4 specifications to interested contractors but only 2 had tendered for the contract. These were considered by the PC.

SF proposed that the PC continues with the current contractor J Carver at a cost of £14640 for the period of the next 3 years. JE commented on the cost difference and the savings that could be made by the PC if the other contractor were to be engaged, but Cllrs wanted to support local businesses and the convenience of a local contractor who will cut for events if required. The PC are not bound by the lowest tender.

The proposal was seconded by PV All Cllrs agreed

### iii. To consider the play area quotes

The PC had sent specs to 7 play companies and 6 had sent quotes. These ranged in cost from £11113 to £21874. It was agreed to create a working group to look at the quotes in more detail and bring this back to the PC for decision. TF, CD, LG and the Clerk will meet on site over the next couple of weeks.

## 22/3-10 Transport/Highways

- i. **To receive the transport report-** SF had supplied a report, this was circulated to all and placed on website and in the Herald. SF also sent out a long and detailed report on “Dorset Connectivity” a Network Rail paper, it discusses the alterations which will be necessary before an hourly service on our line can begin, some of these will not take place until 2034 to 2039. SF also reported on the changes to the officers for our area which is now based in Bristol

SF also asked if the PC could manage the funds for the “Friends of the Station” as some of the current friends are leaving the village. The Clerk will enquire but it is unlikely this is possible as it will not meet the financial regulations.

LG reported that the area around the bridge has now been cleared so this can be inspected by Dorset Council, Clerk to follow this up with the DC highways officer.

- ii. **To receive any rights of way issues** – the modification orders and definitive map changes are yet to be completed.

## 22/3-11 To consider items of correspondence received- report circulated

- i. **To update the Queens Jubilee and any celebrations in the village**

CD has booked the VH for the weekend, some events have come forward. The Allotments Association are holding a Hog roast. Suggestions will be collated at the April annual parish meeting, suggesting a street party. A group to run this event are welcomed to come forward.

- ii. **To update on the issues at the Doctors Surgery**

DP was unable to attend the meeting but had reported that a rep from each of the parishes who use the surgery have come forward for a meet with a rep from Ammonite Health. The parish reps will gather feedback from the residents in their respective villages. DP has asked for comments from residents via Facebook and the Herald.

- iii. **Other items to note:**

The fence erected by the river has been reported to the EA who are looking into this as access is required to the river in times of flooding.

The PC have received a request to use the playing field on 23<sup>rd</sup> April for the Scouting St George’s Day celebration. This was agreed assuming it does not clash with football tournaments.

## MAIDEN NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

The PC had received an email from a pressure group regarding the issues of green lanes and the use by motor vehicles. AA commented that he is unaware of this info, this will be forwarded to AA for his comment and any further information.

CGR- the draft recommendations for MNPC and FV to join and become a group Council were agreed but the PC needs to have the backing of the community, this will be discussed at the APM. Also, DC are supporting the request by FV to make the river the boundary of the two parishes. No's of Cllrs was not suggested in the draft so this would be confirmed at the same time.

**22/3-12 To confirm the date and items for the next PC meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and to make arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting-** It was agreed to hold the APM at 7pm on 7<sup>th</sup> April when residents will be asked to comment on the Community Governance Review suggestions, The Queens Jubilee celebrations, the play area project. Refreshments will be served. This will be followed by the April PC meeting.

**22/3-13 Democratic Forum 15 minutes-**

The meeting was closed at 8.10pm