

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Thursday 9th June 2022 at Maiden Newton village hall**

Councillors Present:T Fox (TF) (*Chairman*)J Edwards (JE) (*Vice Chairman*)

C Dyke (CD)

P Valinski (PV)

Cllr A Alford (Dorset Councillor)

Mrs M Harding (Clerk)

S Falkingham (SF)

D Padfield (DP)

L Goff (LG)

7 members of the Public

22/06-1 To receive apologies of absence received-none**22/06-2 To receive any declarations of interest and grants of dispensation- none****22/06-3 To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 5th May 2022.**

Proposed SF

Seconded JE

22/06-4 To receive matters arising from the minutes for information only- none.**22/06-5 Democratic Forum (15 minutes)- for members of the public to raise any issues or items-****22/06-6 Chairman's report-**

TF reported that she had attended the Frome Vauchurch Parish meeting. The Parish now has a new Chair and Secretary. The meeting agreed to the proposal for a group Council for Maiden Newton and Frome Vauchurch.

The Football club had a two-day event at the playing field, which was a great success, the field was left immaculate thanks to the organisers. The school also had a tournament and also left the field very tidy. TF commented on the play area regarding the comments made on social media. The PC had already made plans to replace the wet pour under some of the pieces of equipment including the hanging bars and seesaw due to health and safety and that some of the equipment needed upgrading. The PC have been setting aside funds to pay this work in the budget over the last few years. The Friends of the play area have been raising funds for new pieces of equipment, so the new springer is being funded by the Friends and they continue to raise funds for new pieces of equipment including those suggested by the residents at the Friends Spring Fair. TF reminded the meeting that this equipment costs thousands not hundreds of pounds. TF commented that she would like to see those who complain on social media at the PC meetings to make their comments rather than posting unhelpful comments online.

TF also reported that all the seats have now been painted in the village by Mr Fox, Cllrs thanked him for doing this work for the village.

22/06-7 To receive a report from Dorset Council -Anthony Alford-

Government Building regulations- the Council are improving energy efficiency of buildings and ventilation to conserve fuel and limit overheating. New residential buildings will require electric charging points.

Affordable homes- these are mainly built by Housing associations and there have been 529 built this year compared to 324 the year before and this has been influenced by DC. There are some houses built by CLT's in Drimpton and the Bridport Hospital site, these are co-ownership and support the communities.

The verge cutting is to be reduced to once a year on a cut and collect basis to encourage wildflowers.

Residents disagreed with this new policy as the narrow lanes are very overgrown and this creates a risk for cyclists and motor vehicles. If a road becomes a hazard, then this can be reported online for action, but AA will take these comments back to DC.

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22/06-8 Council Property: To receive the monthly risk assessment reports-

i. MUGA and playing field (TF/JE).

JE commented on the bins being left full after the events on the playing field but on later inspection these had all been removed. Skateboards have been used on the MUGA the young persons involved have been told this is not permitted. There has also been trouble at the station with skateboards, but this is not PC responsibility.

ii. Play area and village hall car park (CD).

The order for the play equipment has been placed and this is hoped to commence on 11th July, the play area will hopefully remain open but those areas being replaced will be cordoned off.

During the recent rain the mound has been used as a mud slide the grass surface may need to be changed in the future to a wet pour or rubber mulch product to prevent this from happening and keep this area safe.

CD commented on the negative impact the comments on Facebook are having in the community and with the Friends who work very hard to raise funds and this is not necessary.

CD reported on the VH Car park which belongs to the PC as there had been some discussion about making this area available for a football goal and move the parking area to the front of the Hall. This would include moving the main gate back to the side of the hall, change the entrance to the play area off the path to the houses by the station.

Cllrs discussed this proposal and given permission would be needed from Bellway homes to change the access to the play area, the ground works to create 5 or 6 parking spaces also the fact that many families use the area when hiring the hall for birthday parties, that if goal posts are installed then higher fencing would also be required so the balls do not end up in neighbouring properties. It was felt that this would not be a benefit at this stage also considering that the trampoline gained the most votes in the poll at the Friends event in April.

Cllrs noted that children are using the green in Harveys Close for football games and there is a goal posts on the site, so the community spaces are being used. The PC will put this on hold for 6 months and consider again once the funds have been raised for the trampoline as a further £6000 is required for this piece of equipment.

Proposed LG

Seconded SF

iii. Rock Pit Car Park and bus shelters- including Bus shelter project (JE).

Rock Pit Car park is in good order and well used, surface does not require maintenance at this time.

The proposals for the Bus shelter on Dorchester Road will now commence, the plan is to remove the current bus shelter and put a Tommy bench on the lower area and then install an up and over bus shelter, this will then be available to all as there will be no steps. The PC will have to gather permission to work on the highway including traffic management, employ a contractor to remove the shelter as this belongs to the PC but the land on which it stands is Dorset council land Gather permission to install the bench and shelter from DC this has already been agreed in principle. The budget set aside for this project is £6000.

iv. Historic monuments, Fire house (LG).

LG reported on the Fire engine house as the tenants have asked for support of the PC to enable them to apply for grants as the PC is the owner, the works required are on the roof and doors being a listed building this will require planning permission for repairs. It is hoped to get a grant from the National Lottery. Cllrs supported the project and would write a letter of support to the tenant.

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- v. **Allotments (TF)** -TF the Clerk and 2 Cllrs had inspected the allotments the majority of the allotments are in good order, but some do need attention, and these will be monitored and inspected again in July to see if there is progress. A couple for allotments have been vacated. Allotment holders were also reminded that the area s not a dumping ground for rubbish. When allotments are taken on the it is explained to that the plots take allot of hard work and are offered a half plot if available, or they can be offered a mini plot with the Allotment Association. It was agreed to supply each plot with a No sign so these can be visibly displayed on each plot at a cost of just under £3 per plot.

22/06-9 Planning Consultations-

i. To consider all planning applications:

- a. P/FUL/2022/02646-Erect Standalone timber structure-Greenford Church Of England Primary School
no objections
- b. P/HOU/2022/02790- Proposal: Install cladding and render to elevations, enclose porch, enlarge window to east elevation and add window to west elevation-Quincey Cottage-the PC Objected to this application as the render proposed is not in keeping with the surrounding properties being of brick and stone.

PV and the Clerk attended the planning seminar organised by Dorset Council, DC planning department are short staffed, but are catching up now, the planning portal still needs a great deal of work and Cllrs were able to give suggestions on the day. There will be further meetings arranged to consider the issues raised.

A new developer has purchased the Quarr development and contact has been made, the PC are awaiting further information.

22/06-10 Finance-

i. To consider all receipts and payments

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.

Payments	Detail	Amount
SSE	Electricity for MUGA	£13.12
M Harding	Salary /Exp	£736.78
HMRC	PAYE	£106.80
Maiden Newton VH	Hall hire- May and June	£32.00
DAPTC	Subscription	£402.02
DAPTC	Training	£8.04
L Carver	Grass contract	£406.66
K Hussey	Play inspections	£75.00
Keith Sumner	Internal Audit	£70.00
Receipts		none

Bank balances as of 30th April 2022 - £ 56,636.16

Proposed JE

Seconded PV

ii. To consider the use Scribe software for the Allotment management

The Clerk asked the Council to consider the accounting software for the management of the Allotments. The Council approved the purchase of the software

Proposed PV

Seconded LG

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22/06-11 Transport/Highways

- i. **To receive the transport report-** SF had supplied the transport report for June. SF asked for the PC to support a request for funding of a mobile phone at a cost of £120 per annum for the running of the service. The Country cars group will be sent a copy of the grant awarding policy to be considered at the July meeting.
- ii. **To consider any other Highways reports-**
Potholes near No2 Bull Lane to be reported.

22/06-12 Rights of Way report-

The RoW officer commented on an article in the Chimes regarding a walking guide freely available showing 18 walks in and around the parishes of Corscombe and asked the PC if this is something that MNPC can look into. The PC supported the idea and will look further into this at the July meeting when more information can be provided.

22/06-13 To consider items of correspondence received- a list of correspondence was circulated:

- i. It was suggested that a piece was placed in the Herald regarding evidence for use of the paths to be listed.
- ii. The final report has now been sent to Ammonite and a meeting has been arranged for 19th July with a rep from each of the parishes and the clerk would take minutes. It was noted that the CAB are no longer at the surgery offering support.
- iii. Dog Poo signs- further dog poo signs have been ordered and Dog poo bags will also be supplied around the village by the PC.
- iv. Play area and MUGA inspection reports have been completed.
- v. Annual Audit has been sent for external examination to PKF Littlejohn.

22/06-14 Items for the next Parish Council meeting 7th July 2022

Bus Shelter, Rights of Way and The Old Fire House.

22/06-15 Democratic Forum 15 minutes

CD commented that The Village Hall AGM is Weds 15th June at 6.30pm

Meeting closed at 8.05 pm.