

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Thursday 7th July 2022 at Maiden Newton village hall**

Councillors Present:

T Fox (TF) (*Chairman*)

J Edwards (JE) (*Vice Chairman*)

C Dyke (CD)

S Falkingham (SF)

D Padfield (DP)

L Goff (LG)

10 members of the Public

22/07-1 To receive apologies of absence received- Paul Valinski and Tony Alford and the Clerk Mrs M Harding, due to Covid, but was able to attend via zoom to take minutes.

22/07-2 To receive any declarations of interest and grants of dispensation- none

22/07-3 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th June 2022.

Proposed CD

Seconded SF

22/07-4 To receive matters arising from the minutes for information only- Work has now commenced at the play area, CD asked that before the steppingstones are installed that the location is agreed.

22/07-5 Democratic Forum (15 minutes)- for members of the public to raise any issues or items-

The applicant for the Petit Canard planning application attended the meeting and asked if the PC would amend their comments to support the changes to the business to a dwelling on the basis that there are other suitable eating establishments locally, as the planning department are asking for a full marketing assessment. A statement was read out at the meeting, giving their reasons for the changes to the restaurant, and that they wish to live in the village after being here for 23 years but that they will continue with the private catering business for the time being. This will be discussed later in the meeting under planning.

JE commented that he has purchased more poo bags and they will be given the Chair for collection by the poo fairies and will be located around the village.

It was reported that the CAB has been at the surgery in the week.

DP commented on the Ammonite meeting which has been postponed until September due to the increase in Covid and staffing issues and asked Cllrs if she could suggest a zoom meeting or try to bring the meeting to August. DP will gather feedback from the other reps and the Clerk will action.

22/07-6 Chairman's report-

TF reported that there are few changes to the allotment holders and some plots to be strimmed. The MUGA is ok, and the Millennium stone and War memorial have been cleaned and weeded. The flowers have been renewed at the Ware memorial and thanks to Mr and Mrs Baker for this. There are more dog poo signs available from the Chair for the village.

JE commented on accessible allotments in Sturminster Newton, it was noted that the Allotment Association have mini plots and raised beds for this purpose in the Maiden Newton Allotments.

22/07-7 To receive a report from Dorset Council -Anthony Alford-

AA was unable to attend the meeting but had sent a short report that the library strategy is taking longer than expected and he had sent a link on where to report verge issues on Dorset Council website.

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22/07-8 Council Property: To receive the monthly risk assessment reports-

i. Playing field pitch.

LG reported that following the use of the playing field for football some maintenance is required on the pitches, the football clubs are happy to carry out the necessary works if the PC could assist with the funding of the materials, this would be a cost in the region of £600. The PC agreed in principle to the costs with a more detailed list to follow, given there is no meeting in August.

Proposed SF Seconded CD

ii. To consider the bus shelter project update.

The Clerk and JE will prepare a spec to gather costs from contractors, and costs from Dorset Council regarding working on a highway for the September meeting.

iii. To discuss the green at Harvey's Close being used for children's games and football.

Over the last few weeks there have been comments on the use of the Harvey's Green as a green space for the use of the community. TF had been to the site and commented that it is a lovely community area. It was dedicated as a play area when adopted by the PC. At the time the PC did not want further play equipment on another site, so the area was made into a green with some trees and is maintained with regular grass cutting.

The area is currently being used for some football activity and the goal posts being used are being left on the site overnight and some are using these later into the evening, this is causing a nuisance to some in the area. Also, some concerns were raised with the issue of playing ball games near the road.

It was suggested that signs will be purchased to remind drivers to take care. The football goals and any other equipment used in the area will be requested to be removed after use and not left on the site overnight. It was also suggested that the area could benefit from some benches in the future. The fencing around the site will need some repairs in due course. These costs will be considered in the budget in November. It was suggested that the PC writes to all homeowners in the vicinity to let them know that this was the decision of the PC. SF noted that the fuel tanks are not located under the green but to the side of the green. It was also explained that if the grass needs cutting then the PC will instruct our contractor to cut the grass rather than residents cutting the grass as they are not covered by the insurance. A resident explained that they would put the goals outside of the fenced area overnight. The Chair noted that the Green will continue to be used as a community space for children to play on.

Further to this discussion on the use of goal posts it was commented that the playing field only has goal posts for the football clubs, and these are locked away after use, so the PC agreed to purchase their own sets to be located at the far end of the MUGA for all the village to use, it was hoped to purchase these in time for the summer holidays. A cost of £500 was set aside for this purchase. It was noted that there may also be a contribution from a resident as well.

Proposed JE Seconded DP

22/07-9 Planning Consultations-

i. To consider all planning applications:

Following the comments from the applicant of the Petit Canard, the PC agreed to amend their comments to support the changes to the restaurant as a private dwelling.

22/07-10 Finance-

i. To consider a grant for Country Cars towards the cost of a mobile phone contract of £120 per year

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The Council considered the request, and it was suggested that the costs could be shared with Toller Porcorum PC as well and proposed that MNPC makes a grant of £80 and asks Toller Porcorum to pay £40. All agreed.

Proposed JE Seconded LG

ii. 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	£13.81
M Harding	Salary /Exp	£645.40
HMRC	PAYE	£127.20
Starboard systems	Allotment software	£392.40
National Allotment Society	Subscription	£66.00
Baker	War memorial plants	£78.75
L Carver	Grass contract	£406.66
K Hussey	Play inspections	£75.00
Receipts		none

Bank balances as of 30th June 2022 - £ 54,798.71

Proposed JE Seconded LG

22/07-11 Transport/Highways

i. To receive the transport report- SF had supplied the transport report for July.

ii. To consider any other Highways reports- none

22/07-12 Rights of Way report-

The RoW officer commented on walking maps in Broadmayne and Bere Regis and asked if the PC had an OS licence to use the mapping system for creating a walking map for the Maiden Newton area. The Clerk will look into this.

22/07-13 To consider items of correspondence received-

a list of correspondence was circulated: The CGR draft recommendations are being put to the Dorset Council on 14th July recommending that Maiden Newton PC and Frome Vauchurch Parish meeting become a group council with 9 Cllrs, 7 for Maiden Newton and 2 for Frome Vauchurch, also that the boundary is changed for the parishes with the dividing line being the water course. A map of this is on the PC website and on the village notice board. This would not come into force until April 2024 after the May elections.

22/07-14 Items for the next Parish Council meeting 1st September 2022

Bus Shelter other items to be agreed prior to the meeting.

22/07-15 Democratic Forum 15 minutes - none

Meeting closed at 7.56 pm.