

At the Council Meeting of **COLEHILL PARISH COUNCIL** held at COLEHILL MEMORIAL HALL on **24th September 2019**, at **7.30pm**.

PRESENT

Cllr Emma Urquhart, Chairman

Cllrs Nigel Bridle, Clare Davison, Janet Dover, Leslie Gibson, KD Johnson, David Mitchell, Stefan Morawiec and Maria Roe.

APOLOGIES

Cllrs David Packer, Charlotte Greening, Susan Cowsill, Pete Cunningham, Andy Gale, Barry Roberts, Darren Williams

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs Z Caddy – Clerk.

Geoff Chopping – Furzehill Residents Association. Mr Chopping made enquiries as to whether planning applications have been made yet on the old East Dorset District Council site at Furzehill. He also spoke about the Parish plan/Neighbourhood plan and wants Councillors to realise that Furzehill wants to stay rural.

172.19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

173.19 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Cllr Emma Urquhart said that in the last month or so she had made strides to look at her personal impact on the environment and had as an example bought a bread-maker, so that when on average her families usage is one loaf a day, that is now 365 less plastic bags going into landfill and that as Councillors we should be leading from the front and be role models for positive progress.

174.19 PARISH PLAN

Cllr Urquhart explained that Wimborne have invited us to a couple of meetings concerning this, one was inviting Bruton Town Council to speak about their Town Plan, and the other was from a Consultancy company who are very experienced at working alongside Councils to produce neighbourhood, Town and Parish plans. The Members looked at the report kindly produced by Cllr Gibson detailing the differences between a Parish and neighbourhood plan. Cllr Mitchell said that 85-90% of the aspirations set out in the 2006 Parish plan have been implemented, and that producing even a Parish plan is very hard work. Cllr Roe said she can see a lot of strengths to opting for a Neighbourhood, and we could perhaps do one on our own. Cllr Johnson commented that once finished, it only holds merit for two years. Cllr Dover said it can be very tricky working with another town. Cllr Morawiec said that we are inextricably linked to Wimborne. Cllr Gibson explained about funding and then the referendum process and rules to get a neighbourhood Plan adopted. It was suggested that we ought to liaise with Wimborne to arrange a meeting to discuss the prospect of working together, how they see us and our involvement.

RESOLVED that a meeting with Wimborne Minster Town Council be arranged.
(8/1 : Janet Dover abstained)

175.19 LIBRARY

Members discussed the decision by the Finance and General Purposes Committee to ring-fence Grant Aid monies for a period of four years and it was RESOLVED to ring-fence these funds.

176.19 TREE SURVEY

The Quotes for the Autumn survey on trees on Parish land were looked at and it was AGREED to appoint Mark Hinsley to do the report.

177.19 CHAIRMANS RECEPTION

The preparations so far for the Annual Reception were reviewed and the Members NOTED that the invitations would go out the week commencing 7th October for the reception date of Friday November 15th.

178.19 AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS

YEAR END 31 MARCH 2019

The Members NOTED that the audit was completed on 1st September by PKF Littlejohn LLP. There were no issues arising.

RESOLVED that the Annual Governance and Accountability Return be approved.

179.19 DORSET COUNCIL'S CORPORATE PLAN

Cllr Roe reported on Dorset Council's Corporate Plan. She explained that the 6 Councils within Dorset and merged to create one unitary Dorset Council and nearly 500 staff have gone in the merger. Dorset Council are looking at a 4 year plan, to include all of the 450 services that they deliver. They currently have a 7 million overspend, but central Government is going to make available additional funding and the Council will find out how much this will be in around December. Cllr Morawiec said that delivering 'Affordable Housing' in Dorset is particularly challenging. Cllr Roe said that the next public meeting at Dorset Council is on October 17th.

180.19 EXPENSES

The arrangement with Members being able to claim lunch for a meeting which covered lunchtime where a lunch is not included was reviewed. The guidelines from Dorset Council for their Councillors was looked at to see what they are allowed to claim. It was AGREED that the following rules would be put in place:-

Lunch could be claimed if a meeting was outside the Parish, the length of the meeting exceeded 3 hours and ran past 1pm and the total time away from home including travel exceeded 5 hours in line with Dorset Council's allowance guidelines.

The idea from Cllr Johnson that an additional 5p per mile travel expense for car-sharing could be claimed was looked at also, and it was felt that in the interests of reducing the amount of vehicles travelling to the same place this would be a good idea as an incentive and therefore AGREED.

181.19 PLAY AREA INSPECTION TRAINING

Members looked at the cost of the last time two Councillors went on the Play Inspection training and concern was raised by several Councillors about the cost. Cllr Morawiec suggested those Councillors already trained could mentor the newer members. Cllr Bridle said he could find out from BCP Council if they have any inspection guidelines. It was voted on and it was decided not to send any additional Councillors on the training course. (8/1)

182.19 INSURANCE QUOTES

Members perused the three quotes obtained for the annual insurance and looked at the other option of the offer of a 3 year deal. Members had differing views on being tied to one company for 3 years, so a vote took place and it was agreed to go with Inspire for a year. (7/2)

183.19 CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING PARTY

The notes of the first meeting of the Climate Emergency Working Party (Appendix 1) and a list of suggestions made to the working party were looked at. Three ideas were discussed in turn.

The idea of working with St Michael's School on recycling printer cartridges. We would buy and supply them with a recycled plastic box, they will collect on one day a week and send off with their own cartridge recycling. Their children's Eco Club would be in charge of the project. We would promote the idea via social media and noticeboards and the school would also promote the idea. It was unanimously AGREED to support this initiative.

The second proposal was for the Council and its Committees to consider the environment in every decision they look at, and it would be the responsibility of the Chairman of the Committee, group or working party to ensure that this is taking place. This idea was voted on and it was AGREED (8 :1 Abstained).

The third idea was that single use bottles of water would no longer be purchased by the Council for with the committee room or litter pick/conservation days. The ideas were voted on separately.

Committee Room – Unanimously AGREED to stop providing single use bottles of water.

Cllr Johnson said that these bottles of water were still needed on litter picks and conservation days as it can be very hot and thirsty doing the heavier conservation work. Cllr Bridle said we could buy a large water carrier and paper cups. Cllr Johnson said that was impractical and part of the risk assessment that we provide water. Cllr Urquhart said that we could change the risk assessment or ensure we do have water but not in single use bottles, and that we could now put details on the posters and email our regulars to inform them that they could now do with bringing a re-useable bottle. A vote was taken (6/1 : 1 abstained) It was therefore AGREED that single use bottles of water would no longer be bought by the Council.

Existing stock is available to be used up and we will do some community education about the decision.

184.19 CHRISTMAS TREE HAULAGE

The quotes for the Christmas tree haulage were looked at and it was AGREED to use Dave Forrest.

185.19 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 27th August were submitted.

RESOLVED that the Minutes be approved and signed.

186.19 MATTERS ARISING ON THE MINUTES

148.19 Cllr Mitchell said that the meeting with the Memorial Hall Management Committee went well and they will strive to get their charity records/books in order.

187.19 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (a) HIGHWAYS & PLANS – 3 September
The report of the Meeting was submitted.

188.19 TRAINING

Members NOTED the training sessions currently on the DAPTC website. The Clerk was asked to share these dates and courses with the Councillors not in attendance.

189.19 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED that the accounts listed in Appendix 2 to these Minutes in the Minute Book be passed for payment and cheques drawn accordingly.

190.19 REPORTS

Members NOTED the following information:

- (a) DAPTC Towns and Larger Parishes draft minutes from the meeting on 6th September

The reports appear as Appendix 3 to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

191.19 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND MATTERS FOR FORTHCOMING AGENDA

Cllr Davison has been researching the Parish Boundary walk and said that it was about 7 hours long so ought to be split into two halves. The first section could be done on 26th October and the second possibly on 2nd November.

Cllr Johnson – The issue of internet access in the committee room on the next Finance & General Purposes agenda.

The Meeting ended at 9:13 pm.

CHAIRMAN