

At the Council Meeting of **COLEHILL PARISH COUNCIL** held at COLEHILL VILLAGE HALL on **6th December 2022**, at **7.15pm**.

PRESENT

Cllr Nigel Bridle, Chair

Cllr Leslie Gibson, Vice-Chair

Cllrs Clare Davison, Michael Gibbs, Mark Keniston, KD Johnson, Andy Todd and Emma Urquhart

APOLOGIES

No apologies.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs Z Caddy – Clerk.

Two members of the public.

231.22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

232.22 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

One member of the public made a representation in connection with an agenda item.

233.22 CHAIR'S REMARKS

There were no Chair's remarks.

234.22 PLANNING APPEAL APP/D1265/W/22/3303673

It was RESOLVED to support Dorset Council's refusal. Having read the planning officers reasons for refusal we now support their views and object to this development as well as supporting our residents in their objections.

235.22 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that in view of the nature of the business to be transacted it was likely that if a member of the public were present during the following item there would be a disclosure of 'Confidential Information' involving staff and they therefore be excluded from the meeting in accordance with Section 1(2) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

236.22 STAFF MATTERS

The Clerk left the room whilst this agenda item was discussed.

Following a review and discussion on the Confidential report from the Job Evaluation working group it was RESOLVED to move the combined position of Clerk/Proper Officer and Responsible Financial Officer to Spinal Point 33 on the NJC payscale effective from 1st April 23 automatically increasing each year, to point 36.

237.22 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 8th November 2022 were submitted.

RESOLVED that the Minutes be approved and signed.

238.22 MATTERS ARISING ON THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

239.22 DORSET COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

It was RESOLVED to contribute £3,472.50 to this shared transport project. This is less than originally requested by DCT following a revaluation since last week on their funding. Spending for this project falls under the Local Government Rating Act 1997 – ‘power to make grants of money for bus service appearing to be for the benefit of people living in the Council’s area or community bus service’

240.22 ANNUAL MEETING

It was NOTED that the Annual meeting next year will take place on 23rd May.

241.22 BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2023/24

Dorset Council have not yet advised what the Tax Base for 2023/24 will be but it is not anticipated to be largely different to last year.

The Members considered the receipts and payments for 2021/22, the estimated balances for 2023/23, the budget and earmarked reserves for 2023/24.

Cllr Bridle proposed a Parish Council Tax Levy of £125,534.19, seconded by Cllr Urquhart. With a budget of £174,729.21 and a predicted income of £153,833.18, this would mean that £20,896.03 would need to be drawn down from reserves.

RESOLVED that:

- (a) a precept of £125,534.19 be levied on Dorset Council. This gave an equivalent Parish Council Tax Levy of £40:50, no increase on that for 2022/23 (£40.50);
- (b) the budget for 2023/24 of £174,729.21 and the earmarked reserves be approved.

The budget appears at Appendix 1 to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

242.22 REEF UPDATE

Cllr Gibson gave an update on progress at the Reef in respect of the current trustees stepping down and the Council potentially taking over as sole trustees. A further update and decision will take place in January.

243.22 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no planning applications online to discuss.

244.22 OLIVERS PARK

It was RESOLVED to have the newly cleared area of the field cut over with a flail mower at a cost of £250.31 (plus VAT which is reclaimable) Power for this spending falls under the Public Health Act 1875 s164 – ‘power to manage land for recreation, public walks, pleasure grounds and open spaces’.

245.22 WILDFLOWER SEEDS

It was RESOLVED to spend £480.00 on wildflower seeds for next year. Power for this spending falls under the Public Health Act 1875 s164 – ‘power to manage land for recreation, public walks, pleasure grounds and open spaces’.

246.22 DELEGATED DECISIONS

The following decisions taken under delegated powers were ratified:
£174.97 (+VAT which is recoverable) for event fairy lights
£86.78 on Children’s Party Christmas presents (to note there are a few still to buy) Power for this spending falls under the Local Government Act 1972 s 1645 – ‘provision of entertainment’.

247.22 KYRCHIL CORNER TREE WORKS

It was RESOLVED to have the woods tidied up following the upcoming tree works and all logs (including those from previous tree works) stacked away from the road in proper habitat piles – cost £260.00. Power for this spending falls under the Public Health Act 1875 s164 – ‘power to manage land for recreation, public walks, pleasure grounds and open spaces’.

248.22

INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

The report from the Internal Auditor was NOTED. This report appears at Appendix 2 to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

249.22 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (a) HIGHWAYS PLANS & THE ENVIRONMENT – 22nd November 2022
The report of the Meeting was submitted.

RESOLVED that the report be approved and adopted.

- (b) FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES – 29th November 2022
The report of the Meeting was submitted.

RESOLVED that the report be approved and adopted.

250.22 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED that the accounts listed in Appendix 3 to these Minutes in the Minute Book be passed for payment and cheques drawn accordingly.

251.22 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND MATTERS FOR FORTHCOMING AGENDA

Fly tip on Long Lane

Little Lonnen – there’s a verge which needs attention.

Cllr Bridle has planted a tree at the Cemetery and turned the lights on at the Christmas tree turn on last Sunday.

The Meeting ended at 9:04 pm.

CHAIR