

MINUTES OF THE CORFE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT CORFE VILLAGE HALL, TUESDAY 19th JULY 2022.

Present: Cllr J Harrison, Cllr B Lenthall, Cllr C Brown, Cllr D Bradbeer, Cllr J Jackson, Cllr G Alexander, SCC Cllr R Henley.

Five members of the public.

Chairman Cllr J Harrison opened the meeting at 6.30pm, welcoming all.

87/09: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. – Cllr A Butler and SCC Cllr S Wakefield.

88/09: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. Cllr Harrison: Almshouse Trust. Cllr C Brown: Village Hall Committee.

89/09: MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 10th May 2022 were discussed briefly.
The Minutes have been circulated, published, and signed as accurate records.

90/09: MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES - Nothing was commented on.

91/09: REPORTS OF COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS.

Cllr R Henley of Somerset County Council and SWT highlighted several issues that appear in a written report submitted by Cllr D Johnson (See Appendix 1 below).

A member of the public asked Cllr Henley about clearing the grit/tarmac on the pavement in the village. Cllr Henley suggested contacting him by email so he could address the issue.

92/09: REPORTS OF PORTFOLIO HOLDERS.

PLANNING: Cllr J Harrison – Reported one application for minor extension. No objection from Councillors. Nothing further to report.

HIGHWAYS: Cllr B. Lenthall – Reported surface dressing of the main road through Corfe has been completed and that work to add the yellow warning of 30mph strips would be taking place shortly.
More work will shortly take place on Corfe Hill to address the ash die back and to replace poles so expect road closures while this work is undertaken.

RIGHTS OF WAY: Cllr D. Bradbeer - Reported that he had cleared vegetation growth from stiles within our area. He also warned of cattle and a bull being present in the field in Adcombe Lane and had nothing further to report.

WEBSITE: Cllr J Jackson – The website remains well used. He had nothing further to report.

VILLAGE HALL: Cllr. C. Brown – Gave a brief update on Village Hall matters of interest until Keith Gosling joined the meeting later to highlight this and other items:

The Village Hall has been used a lot over the past 2 months and despite the well-publicised inflationary pressures the Village Hall Committee is looking to maintain the current charges for renting the Hall, at least until October.

On maintenance matters, the blocked drains were cleared by Tony Dewhirst just before the Jubilee celebrations, although one of the manhole covers needed replacing. A hand drier has recently been installed in the Gents toilet and this should help remove the need for paper towels. That just leaves a hand drier to be fitted into the disabled toilet.

Draft new signage proposals for Queen's Acre have been passed to Cllr. John Harrison (Chair of Parish Council) and this also covers the thorny issue of rubbish on Queen's Acre.

Finally, Nigel Furniss (a good addition to the Village Hall Committee) is progressing draft plans to extend the Village Hall. These will be shared with the Parish Council in due course before moving forward to obtain planning permission.

Village Hall meeting minutes are now available for public viewing on the Corfe Village Website:

<https://www.corfevillagesomerset.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/VH-May-2022.pdf>

They are also displayed on the Village Hall Notice Boards as and when they occur.

GREEN PORTFOLIO – Cllr. G Alexander – Cllr Grace Alexander reported that conversations with Savills acting as land agents for some potential plots of land for a community growing area was still ongoing.

ALMSHOUSE CHARITY SELICKS GREEN REPORT – Cllr J Harrison – Nothing further to report since the last meeting.

93/09: FINANCES – Cllr J Harrison provided an update on finances. Our current cash position is a bank balance of £24,104.52. Monies currently being held within this total that are protected include: £3,327.00 reserved for the Corfe Gateway project and £1434.67 held on behalf of the suspended Corfe Lifts group. We therefore have a true Parish Council Balance of £19,342.85 as of 19/07/2022.

Payments made since last meeting on 10th May 2022 included: Zurich insurance for £857.41, Parsons landscapers for £137.23, and contribution towards the Corfe Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of £221.78.

Income received since the last meeting include HMRC VAT refund of £1,229.84 and a Village Hall Insurance contribution of £410 towards full premium.

94/09: CORRESPONDENCE – Nothing to report since last meeting.

95/09: ANY OTHER BUSINESS – A thank you from the Parish Council to Keith and Heather Gosling and helpers for organising the Corfe Village Platinum Jubilee celebrations was raised from the floor. Cllr B. Lenthall reported that this had already been actioned. No other business was discussed.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 13th September 2022 at 6.30pm

Appendix 1 – Report from Dawn Johnson Somerset County Council and SWT - July 2022

Following a rigorous interview and assessment process, the Appointments Committee for the new Chief Executive are putting forward Duncan Sharkey as candidate for Chief Executive of Somerset County Council at the Full Council meeting on Wednesday July 20th. If approved by Council, Duncan will initially be Chief Executive of Somerset County Council before heading up the new unitary Somerset Council from April next year. Duncan was previously Chief Executive of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead.

Somerset Prepared are looking for an Emergency Community Contact to be a first contact in Parishes/ Councils should an emergency situation arise, such as the storms that recently brought down trees and

electricity wires. Grants are available to set up a store to prepare for emergencies such as flooding, snow and other weather extremes. Support can be provided to set up a Community Emergency Plan. A Community Resilience Event will be held on the 13th October at West Monkton Village Hall. Please let us know if this is something the parish would like to follow through.

The first Somerset Reuse Week started Saturday 16 July. The Somerset Waste Partnership (SWP) awareness week aims to promote reuse as an alternative to buying new, recycling or throwing away. The Fixy van will visit Chard (Tues 19 July), Ilminster (Thurs 21 July), Frome (Fri 22 July) and the Blackdown Hills (Sat 23 July).

Teams are on standby to protect road surfaces in extreme heat. SCC's gritters will be mobilised to treat 'melting' road surfaces as the county prepares for extreme temperatures high enough for the asphalt to soften and melt. This makes the road surface unstable and potentially hazardous. SCC will be monitoring the situation carefully but if you spot a problem please call the contact centre immediately, or if it's at the weekend call 101 for Avon and Somerset Police and they will relay the location to the Highways teams. You can reach the contact centre on 0300 1232224.

Somerset residents who are struggling to pay the bills could be eligible for support with the cost of food, energy, water, and other essentials over the coming months. SCC has been allocated £3.8m to distribute before September 30 as part of the second round of funding provided through the Government's Household Support Fund. Applications are means-tested and can be made by anyone in urgent need of financial support. Please follow the link for further information; <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/somerset-household-support-fund/>

SWT is once again offering Parish and Town Councils across the district free trees as part of its commitment to work towards carbon neutrality and climate resilience by 2030. With Tree Planting Season now over SWT is looking ahead to September when the new Season begins. Councils can choose from a wider variety of bare root trees from last year to the value of £100 which will be delivered in the week commencing 19 November in a pre-arranged timeslot.

Somerset County Council, NHS Somerset ICB and Somerset Parent Carer Forum are keen to hear from children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), their families, professionals and health colleagues to help shape Somerset's SEND services going forward. Anyone who has been in contact with Somerset SEND services over the past year is invited to share their views and experiences in the annual SEND survey. The anonymous survey runs until Monday 19 September and can be found here: www.somerset.gov.uk/annualsendsurvey

Young people across the county have helped shaped Somerset's new Children and Young People's Plan, setting out how key issues such as mental health, climate change, sexual health, harassment and more will affect young people. Approved by Somerset County Council's Executive on Monday 11 July, the Children's and Young People Plan 2022-24 has been developed with young people to guide the work of Somerset County Council and its strategic partners.

Please continue to seek support from Sarah, Ross, and I with any local issues.