

MINUTES OF THE CORFE PARISH COUNCIL AGM
HELD AT CORFE VILLAGE HALL, WEDNESDAY 8 MAY 2024.

PRESENT: Cllr J Harrison, Cllr. B Lenthall, Cllr. C Brown, Cllr. D Bradbeer, Cllr. J Jackson, Cllr. A Butler.

Ten members of the public.

Chairman Cllr. J Harrison opened the meeting at 6.00pm, welcoming all.

05/11: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Cllr. G Alexander, SCC Cllr. S Wakefield and SCC. Cllr R Henley.

06/11: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Cllr. Harrison: Almshouses Trust. Cllr. C Brown and Cllr. A Butler: Village Hall Committee.

07/11: ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

Cllr. J Harrison was duly elected. Proposed by Cllr. Jackson and seconded by Cllr. B Lenthall

08/11: ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN.

Cllr. B Lenthall was duly elected. Proposed by Cllr. C Brown and seconded by Cllr. J Jackson.

09/11: MINUTES OF AGM MEETING HELD 16TH MAY 2023

Were discussed. The Minutes have been circulated, published, and signed as accurate records.

10/11: MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

Nothing was commented on.

11/11: CERTIFICATE OF EXCEMPTION FROM LIMITED ASSURANCE REVIEW.

Was approved and accepted by those present.

12/11: APPROVAL OF ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2023/24.

Was approved and accepted by those present.

13/11: APPROVAL OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTING STATEMENT 2023/24.

Was approved and accepted by those present.

The Chairman expressed thanks to Ken Brown for auditing the accounts.

14/10: REPORTS OF COUNTY COUNCILLORS.

SCC Cllr S Wakefield of Somerset County Council and SCC Cllr R Henley were not present due to other commitments. They have released this document, detailing their year one achievements.

<https://www.corfevillagesomerset.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/SOMERSET-COUNCIL-YEAR-ONE.pdf>

15/11: REPORTS OF PORTFOLIO HOLDERS.

PLANNING: Cllr J Harrison – Reported he had received details of four applications, two being non contentious and approved. Two others were for the future development of the White Hart Inn which were contentious and had received much comment. We are awaiting the planning department review on this and will forward news as soon as it becomes known.

HIGHWAYS: Cllr B. Lenthall – Reported that no verge mowing had taken place yet and that a new company called Keir were now in charge of this work. Concerns regarding the clearing of

drains in and around Corfe was also expressed. A feeling that the financial constraints being experienced by SCC/Highways could mean that Corfe Parish Council would now have to fund this themselves, warning those present that these costs could prove to be excessive per drain for private hire venting. Nothing further was reported.

RIGHTS OF WAY: Cllr D. Bradbeer - Had nothing further to report he will however be trimming around stiles in due course.

WEBSITE: Cllr J Jackson –

The look of the website (<https://www.corfevillagesomerset.org.uk>) was overhauled to make it more user friendly. The Keep Corfe Healthy WhatsApp group now has 84 participants and continues to provide a useful means of village communication. The email newsletters now reach 120 villagers, providing updates on the latest news and events in Corfe. The Facebook account (<https://www.facebook.com/corfesomerset>) has 648 followers.

Councillor Jackson expressed his thanks to Andrew Moloney for his assistance with the running of the social media platforms during the year.

VILLAGE HALL: Cllr A Butler/Mr K Gosling – Addressed those present on current Village Hall matters. Having already presented on this for the societies AGM, no further comment was therefore made.

GREEN PORTFOLIO – Cllr. G Alexander – Was absent having reported her concerns regarding recent flooding in Corfe which She hoped would be addressed in our future meetings.

ALMSHOUSE CHARITY SELICKS GREEN REPORT – Cllr J Harrison – Reported that a proposal to erect two one-bedroom bungalows within an area of excess and hard to manage garden is going forward with the charity who will be approaching the Parish Council in due course with plans after having pre-build discussions with the planning department.

16/11: FINANCES AND ANNUAL ACCOUNTS SUMMARY 2023/24 – Cllr J Harrison provided an update on finances as of 8th May 2024.

Our current cash position is a bank balance of £34,792.75. Monies currently being held within this total that are protected funds include: £3,327.00 reserved for the Corfe Gateway project and £1434.67 held on behalf of the suspended Corfe Lifts group.

The Corfe Lifts monies are being transferred to the Corfe Community Trust.

We therefore have a true Parish Council Balance of £30,031.08 as of 08/05/2024.

Payments made since last meeting on 20th March 2024 included: Brian Lenthall £180 (path cutting), Brian Lenthall £156.00 (transporting wood chip), Parsons £81.14 (grass cutting), Fenland Leisure products £480.24 (timber posts), Simon Callow £1353.40 (Post sourcing, stripping out, fitting) not cashed and Parsons £81.14 (grass cutting), not cashed.

Total being £1851.68.

Income since last meeting 20 March 2024 = £11, 550.00 (Precept Somerset Council 2024/25)

17/11: WHITE HART INN UPDATE – Cllr J Harrison updated those present on what the current position was regarding the planning applications for the White Hart Inn as the decision target date for approval or rejection had now been reached. Comments made from residents via the planning website had been very useful in respect of the application process and this was appreciated by those involved in ensuring the Community voice was being heard.

18/11: QUEENS ACRE PLAY PARK UPDATE – Cllr J Harrison updated those present on the refurbishment of the play park following recent repairs/re-barking and on the removal of the

dangerous excess concrete. Thanks were expressed to Tony Dewhirst and his team for their hard work.

To assist with any future repairs/ issue concerns a request for a volunteer to keep an eye out for potential problems and report back was recently made and our thanks go out to Jacqueline Breslin who has come forward to assist with this. The football goal, its size, its net and possible removal or replacement with something smaller to reflect the desired age range of users was then debated following on from some anti-social behaviour that had been reported previously. After some debate on the subject, it was agreed by those Councillors present that we should continue to monitor the situation and address any concerns if, or when, they occur. WhatsApp comments from residents about the use of the facilities at Queens Acre by local children/grandchildren/friends was also commented on when reflecting on the concerns to better understand the current resident's feeling on the subject.

19/11: CORRESPONDENCE – Corfe lifts has informed the Corfe Parish Council that funds lodged with them on their behalf would now be better served being held by the Corfe Community Trust. No other correspondence was commented on.

20/11: ANY OTHER BUSINESS – Bags of rubble from recent playground repairs left in the Village Hall car park was commented on. Cllr B Lenthall said he will address the situation.

PLEASE NOTE ALL MEETINGS ARE NOW ON A WEDNESDAY.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 3 July 2024 at 6.00pm