FROME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held in the Savill Hall, Cattistock on Monday, 25th November 2019 commencing at 7.00 pm.

Present

Cllr Palmer (Chair)	Cllr Tosswill
Cllr Mitchell	Cllr Kilby
Cllr Sennett	Cllr Harpur
Cllr Browning	Cllr Stovin

In Attendance

Mrs K Sheehan (Clerk), Cllr A Alford (Dorset Council), Mr M Gardiner (RoW rep), 6 members of the public.

Democratic Period

Councillor Palmer welcomed everyone to the meeting.
Applicants for The Orchard at Chalmington were in attendance to discuss the proposed variation in conditions relating to the temporary mobile home, noting that Dorset Council officers are not querying the 'mobile' nature of the construction, only the size. Objectors to the application were also in attendance, raising issues relating to flooding and pollution as well as deviation from the original planning consent. Other issues debated included a collapsed drain under the road and a 'withybed'. Cllr Palmer stated that all comments would be considered but recommended that all parties meet with Highways and Planning and any other necessary parties in an attempt to move this forward.

Recent poor weather leading to flooding of the roads and several Cattistock properties was discussed. A resident reported that bow waves from passing cars had been main cause of water ingress. A ditch in private ownership needed regular clearance and residents were encourage to report blocked drains/flooding incidences on Dorset Council's online reporting system to ensure issues are addressed.
Action: Clerk to arrange for clearance of flood debris from roads; enquiries with DC about ditch clearance.

19/053. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Lashbrook.

19/054. Code of Conduct and Declarations of Interests

Cllr Browning declared an interest in the application relating to The Orchard at Chalmington by virtue of employment at the same company used by the applicants as agents (as this was a separate part of the business she was able to participate and vote).

19/055. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Minutes of the last meeting held on 23rd September had been previously circulated. It was decided that the minute relating to Higher Chilfrome Farm be amended to include a reference to the proposed shipping containers.
Action: Clerk to amend and bring to January meeting for approval.

19/056. Matters arising from Last Meeting

Cllr Browning reported that the doors to Cattistock Lodge were again open and access to the property again possible.
Action: Clerk to contact solicitors/owners for an update and let them know about this.

19/057. Dorset Council Report

Cllr Alford reported that:

- The new Dorset Council Plan had been published outlining its priorities;
- Dorset Council was in purdah now until after the General Election;
- Brexit preparations also on hold until outcome of GE is known;

- After recent flytipping incidents, one case had been taken to court, resulting in a custodial sentence;
- Dorset Council Housing Guides had been published (Clerk to circulate to members).

19/058. Development Applications

a. Planning Applications currently in circulation:

WD/D/19/002097 The Orchard, Chalmington:

Frome Valley Parish Council considered this revised planning application, noting that the proposed revisions to the shepherd huts had been withdrawn and so the original designs would be used (permission already granted). On the basis of this, the Parish Councillors agreed to withdraw their objections lodged in respect of the revised shepherd huts only, all other objections would stand.

Action: Clerk to contact Planning Officer with revised comments

b. To note development decisions received since last meeting – NONE

c. To receive an update on the adoption of BT telephone kiosks

The Clerk reported that the legal process to adopt the Cattistock kiosk had now been completed. The consultation over the Frome St Quintin and Chilfrome kiosks would continue until 23rd December.

Action: Clerk to liaise with T White regarding move of defibrillator into the kiosk

Some discussion took place over the planning application relating to Home Farm in Chilfrome. Cllr Alford confirmed he had written to planning and expected the application to be called to committee shortly. He encouraged councillors to attend the committee to comment. Cllr Mitchell agreed to provide a written summary for this purpose.

19/059. Community Space

a. To receive an update from the Community Space Working Group:

Mr I Gregory, outgoing Chair of the CS Working Group, reported that:

- Weekly inspections would need to be undertaken and he would forward all previous inspection forms to the clerk;
- Some equipment left by boules court contractor needed removal;
- Outlined possible options with regards to trees at the CS;
- Signage recognising funding sources might be worth considering; and
- Defibrillator would now need someone to undertake fortnightly checks.

The quarterly inspection report previously circulated was noted.

Cllr Palmer thanked Mr Gregory for all his work over the years.

19/060. Highways & Footpaths

a. To receive an update from the RoWLO

Mr Gardiner reported that some works had been undertaken to Back Lane to remove some layers of mud. Cllr Palmer clarified that these works were not authorised or endorsed by the Parish Council which had taken a formal decision not to undertake any work to Back Lane, this being the responsibility of Dorset Council. Cllr Palmer emphasised that any villagers wishing to undertake voluntary works to Back Lane should be aware that any resulting liabilities or maintenance would be their own responsibility and that no further works should be carried out without obtaining necessary consents.

It was noted that the Sandhills fingerpost was in need of repair. It was agreed that Mr Gardiner would obtain quotes to be bought back for agreement by the Parish Council. Some councillors were unsure about repairing, given the frequency with which the posts were being broken.

b. To consider a complaint received regarding overhanging trees on Chilfrome Lane

Councillors considered a complaint about trees on Chilfrome Lane. It was agreed in the first instance that the Chilfrome councillors would make an informal approach to relevant landowner(s).

19/061. Finance and Procedural Matters

a. To authorise payments for goods and services received since the last meeting

Payments were authorised/receipts noted for the following:

Receipts

26-09-19	Dorset Council	Precept	£	5,649.99
			£	**5,649.99**

Payments		**Voucher**	**Chq**	**Amount**	
Staff	Salary/Expenses	CA077	100756	£	669.03
Royal British Legion	Wreath donation	CA078	100757	£	50.00
I Gregory	Community Space expenses	CA079	100758	£	233.34
Rampisham Manor Farms	Wood for bench	CS013	100036	£	141.60
P Evans	Bench design and construction	CS014	100037	£	1,150.00
I Gregory	Grassmats reimbursement	CS015	100038	£	460.80
ICO	Registration Fee	CA080	DD	£	35.00
				£	**2,739.77**

Proposed: Cllr Harpur **Seconded: Cllr Palmer** **RESOLVED FOR PAYMENT**

b. To note bank reconciliation

A previously circulated bank reconciliation was noted, no questions.

c. *To consider the Budget and Precept for 2020-21*

Members considered a pre-circulated draft budget for the new financial year. The following amendments were made – addition of £100 for maintenance of bus shelter and seats, removal of external audit line (below threshold), extra £100 onto capital projects. No change to precept, set at £11,300.

Proposed: Cllr Kilby **Seconded: Cllr Stovin** **RESOLVED**

d. To appoint an internal auditor for the 2019-20 financial year

Mrs M Harding reappointed for another year.

Proposed: Cllr Kilby **Seconded: Cllr Stovin** **RESOLVED**

e. To consider a grant request from St John Ambulance

A generic grant request was declined.

f. To receive an update on the future of the Parish Council website in accordance with website accessibility regulations

Members received an update from the Clerk. Cllr Alford agreed to make enquiries with Dorset Council about potentially supporting PCs in this transition.

19/062. Correspondence

The following matters were discussed:

a. *Matters discussed or raised with the Clerk*

Clerk reported on an email received complaining about the 'low bridge' signage in Chilfrome. Members felt that these signs were necessary for safety reasons so no action was proposed.

b. *To note action on other correspondence received since the last meeting*

- Various emails circulated to members.

19/062. Other Relevant Information

- Cllr Palmer agreed to liaise with Mr Gregory with regards to taking over the weekly playground checks;
- Defib checks – request help through Chimes article, and ask Village Fete Committee to nominate a representative;

- Cllr Tosswill requested a small waste bin in Chilfrome – Clerk was asked to find out costs and if collections could be made by Dorset Council.

19/063. Arrangements and items for the next meeting

The next meeting was agreed for Monday 27th January 2020 at 7pm in the Savill Hall.
Items for the agenda to be advised to the Clerk 7 days prior to the meeting date.