

Osmington Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 2nd September 2024 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr Mrs S Miller (Chair), Cllr. Mrs H Ballard, Cllr Mr N Ireland (Dorset Cllr), Cllr Mr M Johnson, Cllr Mr B Kuflik, Cllr Mr J Little and Cllr Mr J Medrecki.

Also in attendance: Miss Leigh Johnson (Clerk), Clare Jennings, Community Resilience Liaison Officer, Dorset Council and 7 members of the public.

65/24 Resilience Process and how to Progress a Village Emergency Plan – Presentation

Clare Jennings (Community Resilience Liaison Officer, Dorset Council) delivered a presentation regarding societal resilience and drafting an emergency plan for the whole of the community. Clare provided a brief overview of the role of the Local Resilience Forum and how risks were assessed and scored on the Dorset Risk Register.

Clare informed members that she would be able to assist in the drafting of a plan for the village, carry out an exercise with the plan and then review the plan.

Cllr Johnson asked where the plan would be held and access to the plan would be maintained. Clare informed members that a hard copy of the plan should be kept somewhere accessible and also an electronic copy that would also be accessible to the immediate emergency planning group.

Cllr Little asked about mutual support with nearby villages and Clare agreed that this was a good idea even if the villages involved used different emergency plans.

The Chair thanked Clare for her informative and interesting presentation.

66/24 Public Participation Time

No matters were raised.

67/24 Apologies

No apologies for absence were received.

68/24 Declarations of Interest and Grants of Dispensation

Cllr Ireland declared a personal interest in agenda item 10.2 as the spouse of the applicant and remained in the meeting during its consideration.

Cllr Ballard declared a personal interest in agenda item 10.2 as a member of the PCC and remained in the meeting during its consideration.

Cllr Little declared a personal interest in agenda item 10.2 as a member of The Friends of St. Osmund's and remained in the meeting during its consideration.

69/24 Minutes

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meetings held on 1st July and 30th July 2024 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

70/24 Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

71/24 Planning Matters

The following planning decisions were noted: -

- 71.1 **P/FUL/2024/03831** – Westdown House, Upton, Ringstead, DT2 8NE – Erect new store – **Granted**.
- 71.2 **P/VOC/2024/03962**– The Sunray, Main Road, Osmington, Dorset, DT3 6EU – Change of use and conversion of existing buildings to residential, change of use of land to domestic curtilage with new boundary walls, associated parking, opening a pedestrian access onto Preston Road and associated works to wall fronting highway. Alterations to the public house including: demolish an area of flat roofing and associated walls, demolition of a northern ground floor bay, the replacement of a dilapidated orangery, extension to terrace, the relocation of the patron entrance to the public house. Provision of a new pedestrian exit onto Preston Road (with variation of conditions 2 and 8 of Planning Application P/FUL/2023/01223 to alter parking spaces, reintroduction of Edwardian Bay, restoration of terrace and regularisation of office openings). – **Granted**.
- 71.3 **P/HOU/2024/03832** – Sherwood, Upton Fort Road, Osmington Mills, DT3 6HH – Proposed single storey front extension and side dormer alterations. – **Granted**.

The following planning applications were considered: -

- 71.4 **P/CLE/2024/03868** – Shortlake Farmhouse, Shortlake Lane, Osmington DT3 6 EF – Use of land for camping.

It was **resolved** to submit no evidence regarding this application.

- 71.5 **P/FUL/2024/04307** – Poxwell Lower Dairy Access to Lower Dairy Farm, Poxwell, DT2 8ND – Temporary siting of a mobile home (5 years) to accommodate agricultural worker.

It was **resolved** to submit no comment regarding this application.

- 71.6 **P/VOC/2024/04504** – The Sunray, Chapel Lane, Osmington, DT3 6EU – Erection of new class C3 residential buildings and change of use and conversion of existing outbuilding to C3 residential to create 12 units of residential accommodation. Alterations to the public house. Associated access, landscaping and parking (with variation of conditions 2, 5, 10, 12 of PA P/FUL/2023/05134 – to vary approved plans and to amend the plan numbers referred to in condition 5, 10 and 12).

It was **resolved** to support this application.

72/24 Notice of Motion

The following motion was proposed by Cllr M Johnson and seconded by Cllr B Kuflik:-

“At the annual meeting of the parish council dated 23th May 2024 under section 38/24 Parish Amenities, it was resolved that “**Weymouth Town Council be approached to undertake the future safety inspections of the play area at a cost of £40.00 per month**”.

Subsequent to this, at the parish meeting on 1st July 2024, as minuted under section 52/24, Matters Arising from the Minutes, the issue was raised by Cllr Kuflik who

requested that this resolution be revisited and competitive quotes be sought. It was confirmed by the Clerk that a notice of motion by two members would be required to reverse the decision made at the meeting.

As a consequence of this discussion it is proposed by Cllr Johnson, seconded by Cllr Kuflik that in order for the parish to ensure it is procuring this service at best value, that several quotes are obtained for the delivery of this service.”

A number of views were expressed by members both in support of and against the motion.

Those who voted in favour of the motion:-
Cllrs M Johnson, B Kuflik and F Little.

Those who voted against the motion:-
Cllrs H Ballard, J Medrecki and S Miller.

Those who abstained:-
Cllr N Ireland.

The Chair used her casting vote to vote against the motion and the motion was **Lost**.

73/24 Parish Amenities

73.1 Cllr Medrecki provided an update regarding the play area and informed members that the old latches and aluminium dog signs had now been replaced.

73.2 The grass cutting continued and the field looked good.

73.3 Cllr Medrecki had found two potential grants for the improvements to the play area and would bring ideas to a future meeting.

73.4 A complaint had been received from a resident regarding the height of a tree at the rear of his fence and the encroaching nettles at the bottom corner of the playing field. The resident had erected a new fence and he was unable to maintain the playing field side due to the nettles. Cllr Medrecki informed members that the fence had been erected on parish council land, not the within the boundary of the resident’s property.

It was **resolved** that the Clerk write to the resident to inform him of this and seek resolution.

73.5 It was noted that the two bins at the play area had been emptied throughout the summer by Cllr Johnson and contained very little litter.

It was **resolved** that the current arrangement be maintained and the bins not be removed.

73.6 The Chair provided a brief update regarding the amendment to the village hall lease. Several matters had arisen regarding former trustees and adherence to charity guidelines. As the lease was a legal document it was important that it be amended and updated accordingly. Once legal advice had been sought, it was proposed that a special meeting of the parish council be convened with the trustees of the village hall. The Chair informed members that a briefing note would be provided to all parties ahead of the meeting.

73.7 Cllr Kuflik informed members the brambles that had been cut back at the thatched bus stop had now re-grown. He enquired as to whether there had been a response from the owner of the property regarding this. The Clerk informed members that she would write to the owner as previously requested.

Cllr Medrecki stated that a War Memorial Grant was available for the maintenance of memorials and could be applied for if it was felt beneficial.

74/24 Highways and Rights of Way

74.1 Cllr Miller had been contacted by a resident from Upton who had concerns regarding the speed of traffic past her house.

It was **resolved** that the Clerk contact Dorset Council Highways to request new signage (Slow) for the area.

74.2 Cllr Ballard had been contacted by residents regarding parking on Chapel Lane and adjoining roads/lanes. Parking had impeded emergency vehicles access to a property recently.

It was **resolved** that the Clerk contact Dorset Council Highways to enquire about No parking signs.

74.3 Cllr Little stated that he had received around 10 complaints regarding noisy motorbikes driving through the village. Unless there was a specific time or day that this occurred, very little could be done to resolve this.

74.4 All footpaths had become overgrown and needed trimming. It was important to report this and other similar matters on the online portal.

75/24 Finance

75.1 The conclusion of the audit for 2023/24 was noted.

75.2 Liz Ireland provided an overview of the current financial position of St. Osmund's church and requested that the annual funding for the maintenance of the churchyard be increased as this had not been increased in the last 40 years. Members discussed this at length and noted that the church was an important parish amenity.

It was **resolved** that:-

1. An immediate contribution of £1,200 be made and
2. The annual contribution be reviewed at the budget meeting in January 2025.

75.3 Cllr Medrecki informed members that he was seeking to rationalise the current budget report and headings and would report to a future meeting regarding this.

75.4 The cashbook balances, budget report and bank reconciliation were received and approved.

75.5 It was **resolved** to approve the following payments: -

Leigh Johnson – salary/expenses – July and August	£687.54
HMRC Tax – July and August	£87.20
Osmington Village Hall – Hire for September	£20.00
Halcyon Landscapes – grass cutting for July	£367.50

Weymouth Town Council – play area inspections for July, August and September	£108.00
BDO – External audit costs for 2023-24	£252.00
Osmington PCC – churchyard maintenance	£1200.00

It was **resolved** to retrospectively approve the following payment/s made in accordance with Financial Regulation 4.1.

Hugo Fox – website fee for August	£11.99
Unity Trust bank charges	£18.00

76/24 Council Matters

- 76.1 Cllr Johnson would be attending two training courses in September.
- 76.2 The Chair informed members that she would attend the Dorset Coastal Forum and asked if another member would like to join her. The forum was scheduled for 24th October from 9am to 4pm.

The meeting ended at 8.40pm.

Chairman

Date