

Minutes of the Webex Virtual Meeting of Knowlton Parish Council
10th February 2021 7:30pm

Item	
129	<p>Attendance & Apologies</p> <p>Cllr Morgan Antell (Vice Chairman) Cllr Caroline Barnes Cllr Trevor Brown Cllr Steve Butler Cllr John Hayes Cllr Jerry Laker (Chairman)</p> <p>Cllr Robin Cook – Dorset Councillor Stour & Allen Vale Ward (Horton & Chalbury) Cllr David Tooke – Dorset Councillor Cranborne & Alderholt Ward (Woodlands & Wimborne St Giles) Mrs Lisa Goodwin (Clerk)</p> <p>Apologies received from:</p> <p>Cllr Spencer Planton submitted his resignation with immediate effect on 14th January 2021. Cllr Linda Stocks Cllr Anthony (Sam) Keet</p> <p>Public – none present.</p>
130	<p>Vacancy for HORTON by co-option</p> <p>No applications received.</p>
131	<p>Declarations of Interest & Grants for Dispensation</p> <p>None received.</p>
132	<p>Public Open Session</p> <p>No representations.</p>
133	<p>Confirm the minutes of the meeting held 13th January 2021</p> <p>The minutes, having been circulated to members prior to the meeting were confirmed as a true record and will be signed by the Chairman.</p>
134	<p>Accept the minutes of the Knowlton Parish Community Benefit Fund Committee Meeting held 25th Jan 2021</p> <p>The minutes, having been circulated to members prior to the meeting were accepted and the Clerk is authorised to issue grant payment.</p>

135	<p>Dorset Councillors Reports</p> <p><u>Cllr Robin Cook – Dorset Councillor Stour & Allen Vale Ward (Horton & Chalbury)</u> Please see Appendix A of these minutes.</p> <p><u>Cllr David Tooke – Dorset Councillor Cranborne & Alderholt Ward (Woodlands & Wimborne St Giles)</u> Please see Appendix B of these minutes.</p> <p>In addition to their reports, the Dorset Councillors responded to members questions.</p> <p>Dorset Council is continuing its campaign to recruit more Foster Parents to help relieve the financial costs of caring for children in Dorset. Cllr Cook will request an update from the Cabinet Member on this. https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/children-families/childrens-social-care/fostering/fostering.aspx</p> <p>With this in mind, Dorset Council has purchased the former St Marys School at Shaftesbury and there is currently a consultation on its future use which could possibly be for children in care as it has excellent facilities. https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/business-consumers-licences/dorset-property/current-building-projects/former-st-marys-school-site-shaftesbury.aspx</p> <p>Cllr Trevor Brown would be interested to know if the media advertising in respect of Fostering and the St Marys School Consultation proves worthwhile.</p>
136	<p>Correspondence – circulated by email prior to the meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorset Council phase 2 parking charges review – Town & Parish Councils invited to join working groups. • Climate & Ecological Emergency Support Group – reminder, notes of previous meeting and other dates. Cllr Trevor Brown took this opportunity to comment that he was surprised at the level of naivety and ignorance on climate change in the recent Dorset Council Consultation particularly contradictions reference wind farms and will be interested to see the results. • Dorset Prepared Flood & Winter Preparedness on-line event 17 & 18 February for Flood Wardens and Community Emergency Volunteers.
137	<p>Planning Applications & Matters</p> <p>3/20/2175/HOU Location: HAZELNUT COTTAGE, HORTON, BH21 7JA Proposal: New timber store with covered area to rear. Renovations to the existing property, including paint windows and replacement doors. Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p>3/20/1885/HOU Location: CHASE HOUSE, PARSONAGE LANE, WIMBORNE ST GILES, BH21 5NT Proposal: Creation of outdoor swimming pool and swimming pool plant outbuilding. Cllr Jerry Laker declared a non-pecuniary interest in the application and decided not take part in the decision of this item. Remaining members resolved to respond with NO OBJECTION provided the immediate neighbour is happy with the proposal.</p> <p>3/20/2262/HOU Location: 1 OLD DOWN COTTAGES, HORTON, BH21 7HL Proposal: Demolish existing garage extension and construct new side and rear extensions providing new dementia care annex accommodation. Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p>3/20/1968/FUL Location: PRIORS CORNER, CHALBURY, BH21 7EX Proposal: To demolish barn and erect a detached double storey dwelling. Members resolved unanimously to respond with OBJECTION to the proposal which is too large and would be inappropriate development in the Green Belt in accordance with NPPF p145. (comments are not required to be submitted to the Planning Committee).</p> <p>3/20/1174 HOU Notification of Appeal received against the refusal by Dorset Council to extend the existing ancillary outbuilding to form an annexe at 3 Matterley Cottages, Cranborne Road, Horton, BH21 7HN</p>

<p>138</p>	<p>Highways Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The edges are breaking up at the Woodlands Crossroads due to HGV's using Kings Lane. Cllr Morgan Antell will monitor and report to Dorset Council if it worsens. • Quotation received from Roger Bond for £2250 to refurbish the traditional Fingerposts at the Haythorne junction on the C2 Horton and in Horton Village. An application has been made to the Knowlton Parish Community Benefit Fund to support the cost. Further funding may also be available from the CPRE. Cllr Morgan Antell will inquire. • Other Highway matters listed in Actions List below.
<p>139</p>	<p>Rights of Way/Open Spaces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorset Council has issued a Definitive Map and Statement Modification Order by adding a footpath at Bowldish Pond to be recorded as part of Footpath 22, Wimborne St Giles. • Rights of Way matters awaiting action listed in 'Actions List' below.
<p>140</p>	<p>Burgess Field Play Area – Inspections</p> <p>Members considered the weekly visual play inspection sheets. No new actions identified. A few molehills have appeared. Additional 'No Dogs' signs have been put up in accordance with the Dog related Public Spaces Protection Order by Dorset Council which came into force on the 1 January 2021.</p>
<p>141</p>	<p>Tree Matters</p> <p>3/21/0079/TCA Location: 10 MARTINS COTTAGES, WIMBORNE ST GILES, BH21 5LX Proposal: Multi-stemmed Sycamore: Pollard to approximately 10 feet from ground level. Ash: Pollard to approximately 10 feet from ground level. Members agreed to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p>3/21/0080/TCA Location: ALL HALLOWS COTTAGES, 1 COACH ROAD, WIMBORNE ST GILES, BH21 5NJ Proposal: Macrocarpa: Fell. Members agreed to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p>
<p>142</p>	<p>Notes of the 97 Bus Meeting held 20th January 2021 & Agreement to 31st March 2022</p> <p>Members considered the notes of the joint Working Group meeting held 20th January. There has been a reduction in usage due to lockdown. <i>Noted.</i></p> <p>The Final Agreement for 15 months to 31st March 2022 not yet received for approval.</p>
<p>143</p>	<p>Dorset Local Plan Consultation</p> <p>The Chairman invited members to view the consultation and respond individually. Should anyone wish to formulate a response on behalf of the Parish Council to please advise the Clerk. It will be communicated to members for approval by the closing date of 15th March 2021.</p> <p>Cllr Steve Butler advised that Alderholt Parish Council has inquired with him if Knowlton PC will be responding in respect of the proposed number of new homes in Alderholt and how this may impact Knowlton parish. The Chairman suggested any relevant correspondence on this is circulated to the Clerk by Alderholt PC for members attention so they may consider if a response is required.</p>

144	<p>Wimborne St Giles Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>Dorset Council has been formally advised of the Parish Council's intention to investigate a Neighbourhood Plan and has requested confirmation of the boundaries. The Chairman will be meeting with Cranborne & Edmondsham Parish Council next week to seek their approval as the proposed boundary overlaps into their parish. Vale of Allen PC has already responded with their approval. A grant of £2245 has been obtained from Locality to support the preparation of the Plan and a Planning Consultant engaged to establish the viability of it in relation to the draft Dorset Local Plan currently out for consultation.</p>
145	<p>Actions List</p>
Sept 18	<p>E59/22 Report missing fingerpost at footpath by Haythorne Nurseries. MNT42137 Feb 2019: DCC has written to Landowners. Aug 2019 – recent correspondence with DCC forward to Cllr David Tooke. Oct 2019 –TB to monitor. Jan 20: Clerk to report fingerpost still missing and not sure if access is clear along this path. <i>Feb 21 Ranger has confirmed the way-marker will be done.</i></p>
	<p>E59/17 Slough House, obstruction and bridge. Feb 19, DCC have written to landowner to restore definitive route and install new bridge. July 2019 update received. DC Definitive Map Officer has advised it would be at least 2 years before they can investigate and potentially make an order if the path meets criteria. Clerk to ask Green Spaces Team for an update and whether a diversion order would be a good solution.</p> <p>Feb 2020 – Dorset Council has corresponded with the Landowner and agreed the Landowner can mark a permissive path and apply for a diversion order. Dorset Council accepts responsibility for a bridge on the definitive route, Clerk to request this is actioned shortly.</p> <p>March 2020 – Now routes established, Clerk to ask why Dorset Council cannot proceed and install bridge.</p> <p>April 2020: new bridge installed on permissive route. Clerk has reported unsafe stile MNT46943. Now planning permission has been granted for this property, it is expected there may be some changes in arrangements regarding route.</p> <p>July 2020: Cllr Trevor Brown has been corresponding with Dorset Council as the permissive route around the boundary has not been approved by Dorset Council and waymarkers have been moved off the definitive route. Cllr Brown suggests that Dorset Council should still install a bridge on the definitive route by the concrete slab.</p> <p>Sept 2020: Landowner has a 21 day closure on the path to allow construction of animal houses. Members agreed to write to Dorset Council regarding the importance of reinstating the bridge on definitive route and that the proposed diversion route of this path by the landowner is not satisfactory due to the rising spring.</p> <p>Oct 2020: Dorset Council awaiting quotations for bridge. Temporary Closure extended to allow building works from 8th October for 26 weeks. Members unhappy with extended closure and the necessity for it to be closed at all. Requested that Cllr David Tooke inquires if Dorset Council has checked the validity of this application.</p> <p>Nov 2020: Cllr David Tooke reported that the matter of the closure is in hand with Dorset Council.</p> <p>Dorset Council has received quotations of approx. £4500 to install a bridge on the definitive route and ask the PC to consider making a contribution. Members agreed to consider this once the definitive route is fully accessible. Dorset Council Ranger is continuing to monitor the access but satisfied at present all is in order as agreed with the Landowner. Dec 2020: Members discussed supporting financially the construction of a footbridge by DC which would enable the completion of the definitive route of the footpath across the drain. Contribution of £2000 agreed under financial matters. Clerk to inform DC of agreed contribution (confirmed).</p> <p>Jan 20: permissive route very muddy, water very high in drain, no hand rails on bridge on this route. Cllr David Tooke will request update from DC Ranger on this closure which has now been 6 months Feb 21: DT will inquire if the definitive path can be re-opened as the proposed works have not begun. Clerk to chase up funding from DC for the bridge.</p>
July 19	<p>E59/15 Horse safe path needs extending on incline as tarmac not safe for horse. <i>Clerk to chase up with Dorset Council.</i> MNT41120 Dorset Council met with Landowner March 3rd and have agreed actions to resurface where necessary and place appropriate signage for horse riders. July 2020: No resurfacing or signage. October 2020 Dorset Council has quote for resurfacing works and is awaiting approval to proceed. Jan 20: Cllr David Tooke will chase up progress. Feb 21: DC advise the cost is £2000 to lay tar and chip on the crossing points. Clerk to chase funding with DC.</p>
Nov 20	<p>E59/7 Woodlands off Jubilee Hill behind houses is waterlogged all year round, suspected sewerage. Cllr MA to investigate further, take photo evidence and report to Dorset Council. Public Health visited but too wet from rainfall to establish source of contamination. Officers will visit again in Summer. Clerk to report to Rights of Way for inspection. MNT50385</p>
Dec 20	<p>E57/5 Maldry Wood, rotten bridge reported to Dorset Council. MNT50359</p>
	<p>Church Hill, Woodlands, poor road surface. Reported by LS 1159657</p>

Jan 21	Report of way-markers missing around Woodlands Manor Farm. MA/LS to investigate.
146	Financial Matters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members reviewed and approved the effectiveness of the Internal Audit Procedure. • Members resolved unanimously to pay items below including Clerk's Salary: no payments.
147	Information for Report Only <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Litter Pick Woodlands – scheduled for 14th March 2021. Cllr Robin Cook suggested discussing with the Community Highways officer the possibility of safely litter picking areas not within 30/40mph speed limits.
	Next Meeting – <u>Wednesday 10th March 2021</u> at 7:30pm

Meeting closed at 20:55

These minutes are to be signed by the Chairman after approval at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

Signed;..... 10th March 2021

Appendix A**Cllr Robin Cook – Dorset Councillor Stour & Allen Vale Ward (Horton & Chalbury)****COVID-19 update**

Local infection rates have fallen again this, but they are not falling quickly and are still at high levels.

Hospital admissions have levelled off, but local NHS services are still under significant pressure and we are also seeing outbreaks in care settings across Dorset. Sadly these factors mean COVID-related deaths continue to rise. It remains critically important that everyone stays at home as much as possible and only goes out for essential reasons..

Travel to vaccination appointments safely

Great news that more and more people across Dorset are beginning to receive the COVID-19 vaccine and we are aware that many residents in the priority groups will be anxious to get their appointment when offered. Please remember, the safest way for someone to get to their vaccination appointment is to travel in their own car or with someone from their support bubble. If this is not possible, then COVID-secure taxis are a good option.

If you are thinking of offering to help by taking someone from outside of your household or support bubble, please think twice. COVID-19 can spread easily in a car – remember around one in three people with COVID do not show any symptoms, so you could have it without knowing and spread it to others.

Do you, or anyone you know, need support?

If you or anyone you know are clinically extremely vulnerable, you are advised to shield again, and we will write to you shortly.

If you don't have family, friends or a support network that can help you get the things you need [we can help you](#) – complete our online form on the Dorset Council website alternatively telephone 01305 221000.

Dorset local plan

The draft Dorset local plan is currently out for consultation from and runs for 8 weeks until 15th March. To assist residents in preparing their responses we are running a series of webinars about the themes that run through the Dorset Council Local Plan. These are shown on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12 noon. They can be viewed on the Dorset Council You Tube channel, or you can phone in using 020 3855 4234.

Details of dates, timing etc are published on the DC website. The webinar covering SE Dorset area is on You Tube on 11th Feb at 12 noon - follow the link <https://youtu.be/2QHNO8abakk>

In the light of current COVID developments I have discussed with the planning portfolio holder how best we can ensure maximum accessibility for this important element of the process and can we look at extending the consultation period. At this stage there are no plans to do this.

This is the first stage of a fairly lengthy process before we can expect the final plan to be adopted in 2023, and I am certain there will be many changes before then.

Charge point installation

Installation of 44 vehicle charge points has started in 18 Dorset Council car parks. Locally these include King Street, Wimborne and The Hub, Verwood.

The team will be completing the installation phases in the next few weeks and this is an exciting step towards the council's commitment to become carbon neutral.

The five existing rapid charge points, which were becoming unreliable, will also be replaced shortly, enabling vehicle charging at twice the speed. The removed charge points will be put back to use in council depots.

Cllr Robin Cook

10th February 2021

Appendix B

Clr David Tooke – Dorset Councillor Cranborne & Alderholt Ward (Woodlands & Wimborne St Giles)**210208 Alderholt & Cranborne Ward Dorset Councillor Report for Knowlton Parish Council****Budgets & Finance**

The Budget Strategy Report set out that Dorset Council will increase general council tax by 1.997%, and will levy 2.995% on the social care precept, providing a Dorset Council tax figure of £1779.39 for a Band D property.

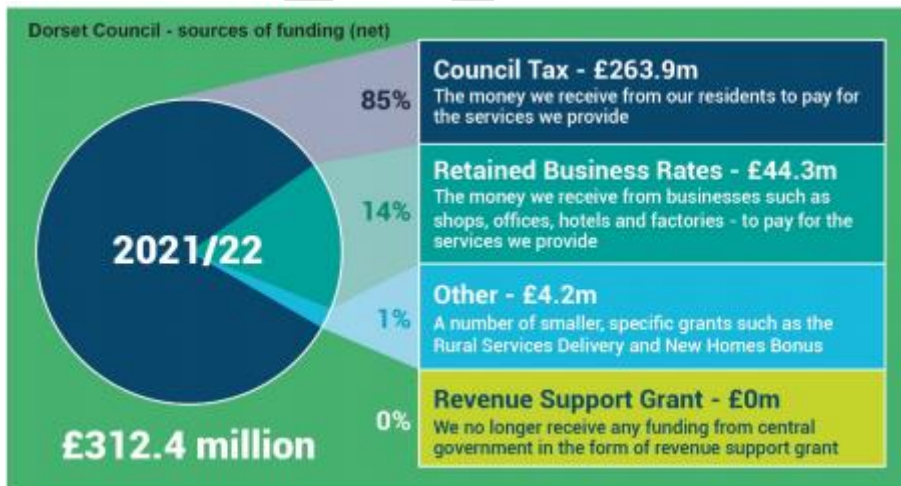
Dorset Council's share of the national £1.55Bn provided by Central Government to fund Covid-19 pressures will be £8.6 Million. This will be added to Contingency reserves to allocate against costs as they arise.

The Council's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) shows that whilst the budget gap has been closed for the next (21/22) Financial Year, there is still work to be done to around future projections – which could potentially rise to a cumulative budget gap of nearly £40 Million in FY 25/26.

Medium Term Financial Plan summary					
	MTFP Yr1	MTFP Yr2	MTFP Yr3	MTFS Yr4	MTFP Yr5
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Council tax	263.905	271.197	278.691	286.392	294.303
Business rates (NDR funding)	44.312	44.534	44.756	44.980	45.205
Other grants treated as general funding	4.177	3.515	2.475	2.475	2.475
Total funding	312.394	319.245	325.923	333.847	341.983
Budget requirement	312.394	328.199	345.100	362.984	381.416
Budget gap (cumulative)	0.000	(8.954)	(19.177)	(29.137)	(39.434)

The tactical and transformational savings which have always been a part of the logic of creating a Unitary Council will be key balancing the future budgets, and Councillors need to continue to look closely at how these targets are being met.

There are also a number of grants in our funding for 2021/22 which are not yet baselined and are therefore at risk in future spending reviews. These include, for example, the improved better care fund and the social care support grant; the latter of these having been increased by £0.3bn national, although only £426k of that came to Dorset as much of the funding was applied to "equalisation". This creates an issue in that councils with relatively high council tax are forced to raise it further still (through the social care precept) because they do not get a proportionate or equitable share of additional grant. Dorset Council leadership must continue its work with Government to rectify this.



Children in Care

As of the end of November 2020, there were 476 children in care; a rate for Dorset of 70 per 10,000 - against neighbouring authority average of 65. To reduce the number of children to a rate per 10,000 comparable with neighbouring authorities would mean a care population of 390. It is estimated that this would take three years to achieve.

As of the end of November 2020, 41% of all children in care were placed outside of the Dorset area – some 194 children and young people. To reduce this percentage to the target figure of 30% would require the creation of, or assured access to, 51 additional places for children and young people in Dorset. This growth in capacity in Dorset would reduce the need to send children outside of Dorset and away from their family, friends and school.

St Mary's School Purchase

Dorset Council has purchased the St Mary's School buildings and site, near Shaftesbury but in Wiltshire, at a cost of £10.5 Million, and is required to go out to Public Consultation regarding the best use of the site. The cost of the purchase has come from Dorset Council's capital budget, and the use of the site is expected to offset revenue expenditure that would otherwise be incurred elsewhere by the Council.

St Mary's is currently a large, well-equipped school, which was run as a private school until last summer. It is set within large grounds and has extensive educational facilities. The buildings date from the early 20th century to the 21st century, however despite appearances, it is not a historic building.

There is a main school building, assembly hall, large canteen refectory, many classrooms and small study rooms, as well as science laboratories, an art block and studios. There is a music block built in 2003 with an auditorium, a language block built in 1990s, conference facilities, a junior school built in 2000, a medical centre and a library. There is a drama studio which was converted in 1995, a gymnasium and purpose-built sports hall developed in 1992 with changing rooms and an indoor swimming pool complex built in 2006. There is also extensive living accommodation (former boarding houses) built from 1990s and extended in 2011, staff houses, a chapel and more. Outside facilities include playing fields, sports pitches and woodlands.

The Council's preferred option is the creation of a school for children and young people with SEND. However, there are alternative uses for the site which have been put forward, including a respite care centre, a training and conferencing suite and an innovation centre for a start-up businesses.