

**Minutes of the Meeting of Knowlton Parish Council**  
**9<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 7pm**  
**Horton & Chalbury Hall**

Item	
166	<p><b>Attendance &amp; Apologies</b></p> <p>Cllr Morgan Antell (Vice Chairman)  Cllr Caroline Barnes  Cllr Trevor Brown  Cllr Steve Butler  Cllr Anthony (Sam) Keet  Cllr Jerry Laker (Chairman)  Cllr Nicky Sherwood  Cllr Robin Cook – Dorset Councillor Stour &amp; Allen Vale Ward (Horton &amp; Chalbury)  Mrs Lisa Goodwin (Clerk)</p> <p><b>Apologies received from:</b></p> <p>Cllr Rupert Andrews  Cllr Linda Stocks  Cllr David Tooke – Dorset Councillor Cranborne &amp; Alderholt Ward (Woodlands &amp; Wimborne St Giles)</p> <p><b>Public</b> – none present</p>
167	<p><b>To Appoint a new Chairman</b></p> <p>Cllr Jerry Laker has submitted his resignation as Chairman but will remain a Councillor representing Wimborne St Giles. Cllr Laker nominated Cllr Steve Butler as Chairman, seconded by Cllr Morgan Antell. Resolved to appoint Cllr Steve Butler for the remainder of the municipal year.</p>
168	<p><b>Applications to fill the vacancy for Horton by co-option</b></p> <p>None received. The vacancy has been advertised on the village noticeboards and on the Knowlton News E-Network.</p>
169	<p><b>Declarations of Interest &amp; Grants for Dispensation</b></p> <p>None.</p>
170	<p><b>Public Open Session</b></p> <p>None present.</p>
171	<p><b>Confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022</b></p> <p>The minutes, having been circulated to members prior to the meeting were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.</p>

171	<p><b>Dorset Councillors Reports</b></p> <p><b><u>Cllr Robin Cook – Dorset Councillor Stour &amp; Allen Vale Ward (Horton &amp; Chalbury)</u></b> Please see <b>Appendix A</b> of these minutes.</p> <p>Cllr Robin Cook congratulated Cllr Steve Butler on his appointment as Chairman and thanked Cllr Jerry Laker for this past Chairmanship.</p> <p><b><u>Cllr David Tooke – Dorset Councillor Cranborne &amp; Alderholt Ward (Woodlands &amp; Wimborne St Giles)</u></b> Please see <b>Appendix B</b> of these minutes.</p>
172	<p><b>Correspondence – circulated by email prior to the meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dorset Council Community Governance Review – draft recommendations for Full Council on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022. The report and associated papers can be viewed at <a href="http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk">www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</a>. Knowlton Parish is not effected by any changes in this review.</li> <li>• Members are invited to respond to a survey by Dorset Council on their Town &amp; Parish Council’s newsletter. <i>No response to be made.</i></li> <li>• New Premises Licence Application for Cloud Nine Glamping at St Giles House, Wimborne St Giles, BH21 5NY. <i>Noted, no comments.</i></li> <li>• Invitation to comment on Dorset’s Draft Enhanced Partnership Plan &amp; Scheme. Read the full draft at <a href="http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk">www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</a> and complete survey.</li> <li>• Correspondence from the ‘Dorset Deserves Better’ Campaign asking Dorset Council to re-think the Local Plan to better serve the population, enrich the county and tackle climate change and loss of wildlife. Knowlton Parish Council is invited to join the campaign and co-sign the open letter to Dorset Council but members agreed they do not wish to support this campaign.</li> </ul>
173	<p><b>Planning Applications &amp; Matters</b></p> <p><b>3/21/1716/HOU 3 CHURCH HILL, WOODLANDS, WIMBORNE, BH21 8LW</b> Proposal: Raise the height of the post and rail fence from 1 meter to 1.4 metre. Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p><b>P/HOU/2021/04725 HIGH HOPES FARM, SLOUGH LANE, HORTON, BH21 7JL</b> Proposal: Extension at first floor level. Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p><b>P/HOU/2022/00079 2 REMEDY GATE COTTAGES, WOODLANDS, BH21 8NG</b> Proposal: Erect two storey extension, single storey extension, alterations and replace front porch. Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p><b>P/FUL/2021/05773 LAND AT VERWOOD ROAD, WOODLANDS, BH21 8LS</b> Proposal: Erect two dwellings with new vehicular access and associated car parking. Members resolved unanimously to OBJECT to this proposal in the Green Belt as the site is not situated within the village infill envelope for either Woodlands or Whitmore. The proposed dwellings are too large in respect of scale, height and visual impact (HE2) and out of character with the surrounding dwellings (HE3) <i>Members request this application is referred to the Planning Committee if the officer’s recommendation is at variance to the above.</i></p>

	<p><b>P/FUL/2021/05722 THE OLD DAIRY, WOODLANDS, BH21 8LX</b>          Proposal: Demolition of existing building and construction of two dwellings with associated access, parking and landscaping.          Whilst members have no objection in principle to the development of this site to replace the existing building, the proposal for two dwellings will have significant impact on the openness of the Green Belt in terms of scale, height and visual impact (HE2) and therefore OBJECT to this proposal.  <i>Members request this application is referred to the Planning Committee if the officer's recommendation is at variance to the above.</i></p> <p><b>P/FUL/2022/00450 CRANBORNE ESTATE, 4 HIGH STREET, CRANBORNE, BH21 5PS</b>          Proposal: The construction of two butterfly banks (on the estate) to provide habitat for the rare small blue butterfly. The banks will be approximately 30m long, 3-4m wide and 1-2m high, constructed from chalk subsoil that will be scraped from an area of 900m<sup>2</sup> and 600m<sup>2</sup> to the south of each bank. The bank will be seeded with bird's foot trefoil etc. food plant of the butterfly. They will provide habitat in an otherwise agricultural landscape.          Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p><b>P/VOC/2022/00524 MEADOW COTTAGE, HORTON ROAD, WOODLANDS, BH21 8NB</b>          Proposal: Demolition and removal of existing stables and construction of replacement stable building.          Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p>Notification of Appeal to the Secretary of State against the refusal by Dorset Council for a single storey rear infill extension at 3/21/0981 HOU Whitmore Cottage, Verwood Road, Woodlands, BH21 8LT</p> <p>Planning Enforcement advises that application 3/20/1401 FUL Priors Corner, Chalbury for an agricultural storage barn has been refused and the applicant intends to appeal this decision which has to be done within 6 months. It is the policy of Dorset Council to allow this process to run its course before enforcement action is taken.</p>
174	<p><b>Highways Matters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Parish Litter Pick for Woodlands will be held on <u>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2022</u>.</li> <li>• Dorset Council is arranging the replacement post for the Haythorne Fingerpost on the C2 at Horton.</li> <li>• Dorset Council consultation on a proposed road closure at Wimborne St Giles, B3078 21<sup>st</sup> February and Parsonage Lane 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022.</li> <li>• Public Notice of temporary closure of Kings Lane, Woodlands, 14/15<sup>th</sup> February 2022 09:30 until 15:30. More information available at <a href="http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/roadworks">www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/roadworks</a></li> <li>• Dorset Council would like to meet on site to review the three current Speed Indicator Device locations. Members would like to introduce a fourth site at the Whitmore end of Verwood Road, Woodlands. <i>Cllr Laker to arrange date and liaise with MA/RA/SB/TB.</i></li> <li>• Other Highway matters listed in Actions List below.</li> </ul>
175	<p><b>Rights of Way/Open Spaces</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Woodlands Village Hall Committee would like to use Woodlands Village Green to hold a village event to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2022. <i>Members agreed and the Clerk will advise St Giles Estate.</i></li> <li>• Rights of Way matters awaiting action listed in 'Actions List' below.</li> </ul>

176	<p><b>Burgess Field Play Area, Woodlands – Inspections</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly visual play inspections completed by Cllrs Morgan Antell and Linda Stocks.</li> <li>Woodlands members have received a copy of the quarterly inspection report last month which has raised a few low/very low risk items for repair. <i>Awaiting quotation for these works.</i></li> </ul>
177	<p><b>Tree Matters</b></p> <p><u>P/TRC/2022/00622</u> Location: 9 Park Lane Wimborne St Giles Wimborne BH21 5ND  Proposal: T1 Purple Plum: Thin canopy by 20%. T2 Walnut: Reduce by up to 1m, back to previous pruning points. T3 Walnut: Reduce by up to 1m, back to previous pruning points. G4 Pine x 4: Reduce heavily weighted laterals by up to 1.5m. T5 Cherry: Thin canopy by 20%. T6: No action. T7 Maple: Reduce by 2m. T8 Greengage: Reduce by 2m.  <i>Noted, no comment.</i></p> <p><u>P/TRC/2022/00614</u> Location: 4 Park Lane Wimborne St Giles Wimborne BH21 5ND  Proposal: Whitebeam: Fell.  <i>Noted, no comment.</i></p> <p>Clerk to ask Dorset Council for update on remedial works to The Remedy Oak which suffered damage last summer.</p>
178	<p><b>Wimborne St Giles Neighbourhood Plan</b></p> <p>Three assessments have been completed by AECOM.</p> <p>Further information is available on the Knowlton Parish Council website.  <a href="http://www.knowltonparishcouncil.org.uk/Wimborne_St_Giles_Neighbourhood_Plan_40092.aspx">http://www.knowltonparishcouncil.org.uk/Wimborne St Giles Neighbourhood Plan 40092.aspx</a></p>
179	<p><b>Actions List</b></p>
Sept 2018	<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 (priority 6). Feb 22; Clerk to chase up.</i></p>
	<p>E59/17 June 21: Notice of Temporary Closure of Footpath E59/17 Woodlands to enable building works within the grounds of Slough House from 26 weeks from 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021. The construction of the bridge has been put on hold. Sept 21: The bridge has been built and is ready for installation when access available. Jan 22 – The Ranger is awaiting agreement of landowner to gain access and if this is not forthcoming DC Legal will step in. Feb 22 – Clerk to check if temporary closure has now expired, is the definitive route now open allowing the bridge to be installed. Concern the permissive is route is boggy. Suggest path follows edge of stream after bridge.</p>
July 2019	<p>E59/15 Horse safe path needs extending on incline as tarmac not safe for horse. MNT41120 Dorset Council met with Landowner March 3<sup>rd</sup> and have agreed actions to resurface where necessary and place appropriate signage for horse riders. March 21: Dorset Council advises funding is hoped to be allocated out of 2021/22 maintenance budget. Dec 21: The Ranger is awaiting an amended quote as one crossing was omitted, then put Contractor in touch with the Golf Club to arrange timings etc.</p>
Nov 2020	<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</p>

	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 June 2021 Clerk to report again as waterlogged now and request site visit. July 21: Ranger has visited with MA and will consider a stone surface to improve this path. Dec 21: Ranger has agreed to this work and the Landowner is on board with helping, ground conditions might mean this has to wait.						
Dec 2020	E57/5 Maldry Wood, rotten bridge reported to Dorset Council. MNT50359 (priority 3) June 2021 DC has suggested the landowner is contacted directly as the bridge is on a permissive path. DC happy to install sleeper bridge if either the PC or Landowner provide sleepers. The definitive path is not accessible due to 5 bar gate and wire fence. Nov 21: Land is understood to be for sale so no further developments.						
July 2020	Water rising in Woodlands opposite 'Four Oaks', unsure if a spring or mains water leak. 1175017 Under investigation. Dec 21: Bournemouth Water report it is not a leak, Dorset Council agreed to investigate further and put out warning signs incase of ice. Feb 22, Clerk to advise DC the water is coming out of the verge and started when water was connected to stables in property.						
Nov 21	B3081 Keepers Cottage, water leak on highway, Jan 22: Chairman to report with photos.						
Jan 22	E40/8 Cllr Morgan Antell has reported DC three small trees down across the path.						
Feb 22	Clerk to report very poor surface on Horton Road at Haythorne end, edges of road breaking up further along and at Woodlands Crossroads. 1187924						
	Water leak opposite Meadow Cottage, Horton Road, Woodlands. Cllr Trevor Brown has reported to Water Co.						
	E59/3 access blocked by Landowner. Dorset Council aware.						
<b>180</b>	<p><b>Financial Matters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members were provided with up to date account balances.</li> <li>Members reviewed and approved the effectiveness of the internal audit procedure.</li> <li>Members resolved unanimously to pay items below including Clerk's Salary:</li> </ul> <table> <tr> <td>ONLINE ALDERHOLT PC</td> <td>97 Bus Q3 Oct – Dec 21 payment</td> <td>£399.67</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ONLINE DORSET PLANNING CONSULTANT</td> <td>WSG Neighbourhood Plan (from grant)</td> <td>£2016.00</td> </tr> </table>	ONLINE ALDERHOLT PC	97 Bus Q3 Oct – Dec 21 payment	£399.67	ONLINE DORSET PLANNING CONSULTANT	WSG Neighbourhood Plan (from grant)	£2016.00
ONLINE ALDERHOLT PC	97 Bus Q3 Oct – Dec 21 payment	£399.67					
ONLINE DORSET PLANNING CONSULTANT	WSG Neighbourhood Plan (from grant)	£2016.00					
<b>181</b>	<p><b>Information for Report Only</b></p> <p>Annual Parish Meeting of Electors will be held 6:30pm, 6<sup>th</sup> April 2022. Annual General Meeting will be held 7pm, 18<sup>th</sup> May 2022.</p>						
	<b>Next Meeting – <u>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022</u> at 7pm in Horton &amp; Chalbury Village Hall</b>						

**Meeting closed at 20:47**

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

**Signed;..... 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

## Appendix A

### **Budget proposals for 2022/23**

Dorset Council's budget proposals for next financial year, 2022-23, prioritise the continued delivery of vital frontline services for residents. They include more money for:

- **adult social care** – a 10% increase (equating to £13 million, taking the total budget to £141 million) to fund the rising need for social care in the local population and rising costs
- **children's services** – a 4% increase (equating to £2.7 million, taking the total budget to £74.5 million) to fund improvements to support children in care and children with special educational needs and disabilities
- **climate and ecological emergency response** – £10M capital investment over the next 5 years to help fund the delivery of the council's action plan
- **housing** – an extra £0.75 million to support the development of more new homes with our Registered Providers and the supply of better value temporary accommodation from the private rented sector.

This year's budget setting exercise takes place against a continuing national background of extreme pressures for councils resulting from the COVID pandemic alongside growing demand and price pressures. Social care services represent 59% of Dorset Council's total net spending.

The Government confirmed in December 2021 that Dorset Council will receive £10.4 million more than originally anticipated for 2022-23. This enables the council to put in place robust contingency funds. However, it is a one-year settlement, and not the multi-year settlement that was hoped for.

The budget proposals include a 3% increase in council tax: 1.998% increase in general council tax and 0.996% increase for the social care precept. For a band D property, this equates to £1.02 extra a week. Councillors will be voting on these proposals at the next full council meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

### **Dorset Local Plan – the Council is listening**

With over 9000 responses and 60,000 comments to the local plan consultation we have listened to what you are saying and the leader, Cllr Spencer Flower, has written to Michael Gove asking him to consider several radical alternatives. I have highlighted these below.

- allow Dorset to pilot a radically different approach to Local Plan making
- break the link between the housing land supply numbers and the Duty to Cooperate – i.e. the requirement for Dorset Council to accept unmet housing need from neighbouring councils
- allow Dorset an extension of two years until April 2026 to give more time for the new Dorset Local Plan to be developed and approved. During this extended period of plan preparation, Dorset should be protected against speculative housing development by suspending the five-year land supply requirement or by other means necessary
- fully recognise the climate and ecological emergency in the planning system, including new building regulations.

I will keep you updated about how this initiative is progressing, but as we stand now, the plan, with any revisions and/or amendments will be out for further consultation later this year.

**QE Leisure Centre future management**

As you are probably by now aware, towards the latter part of 2021, a consultation running on future management arrangements at Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre (QELC) in Wimborne was held. I summarise the situation below.

Dorset Council does not own the leisure centre at Queen Elizabeth School, but it manages and subsidises its community use at a cost of over half a million pounds each year. This means the funding of QELC is far higher than any of the eight leisure facilities the Council owns, which have to share what is left of the £1.7m per year leisure centres budget.

There is a good level of alternative leisure provision in the local area, with a high number of public leisure facilities within a 20-minute drive time, including three owned by Dorset Council. There are also several large private and budget leisure clubs within a 10-mile radius; and this high level of competition continues to have a negative impact on the centre's trading.

In short, a third of Dorset Council's overall leisure budget is currently being spent on one leisure centre that the Council doesn't own, in an area that already has a very good supply of leisure provision. This current arrangement raises the question as to whether this is fair to the Dorset Council Taxpayer, and/or provides value for money. Therefore, the Council is considering withdrawing from the management agreement at QELC. The Council would need to provide two years notice to withdraw from the management agreement.

The meeting of the Place and Resources Overview Committee will consider the outcome of the consultation at its meeting on February 10<sup>th</sup>. The officer recommendation is that we withdraw our agreement with QE from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. That officers continue to engage with the school during this transitional period and work with them to approach the Education and Skills Funding Agency to apply for exceptional circumstances funding in recognition of the change in contractual arrangements. That we continue to work alongside QE School in identifying ways to maximise the availability of leisure facilities for both the school and community use and provide advice to any displaced users who may need assistance in identifying opportunities to maintain their activity levels.

In addition that a bid for one off capital funding (up to a maximum of £150,000) should be included in Dorset Councils 2023/2024 capital budget process. If successful, this funding would be Dorset Council's contribution towards the replacement of the All-Weather Pitch.

I have attached a copy of the result of the consultation to go out with this report.

**CLlr Robin Cook**

**9<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

## Appendix B

### **Face to face meetings**

Face to face meetings of the Council and Committees will recommence from the 15<sup>th</sup> Feb Full Council Meeting onwards. This will be held in the Council Chamber at County Hall and will be live streamed. The Public and media will be able to attend in person or access the stream, and the recording. Those present live are asked to wear a face covering, and have a negative a Lateral Flow Test prior to attending.

### **Local Plan**

Dorset Council has written to Michael Gove seeking reform of the National Planning Policy Framework and proposing that Dorset could be a pilot for a new way of creating Local Plans, based on sustainability and local needs over the next 30 years, that also recognises the ambitions of our Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy.

We must have a Local Plan in place: without one we face the risk of unmanaged development in Dorset, but it has to be the right plan. Our hard-working and innovative planning officers have ensured the draft Local Plan is the best it can be, but it is constrained by current planning legislation.

As a result, of the unprecedented 9,000 responses our public consultation received, many residents share my view that the draft Local Plan chases housing numbers rather than prioritises local needs.

In the letter Cllr Spencer Flower (leader of Dorset Council) also believes it is better to have fewer bigger-scale new developments in Dorset which bring in the necessary funding and infrastructure, rather than lots of small developments which put further pressure on already-stretched community resources.

Mr. Gove has been asked to consider several radical alternatives:

- allow Dorset to pilot a radically different approach to Local Plan making
- break the link between the housing land supply numbers and the Duty to Cooperate – i.e. the requirement for Dorset Council to accept unmet housing need from neighbouring councils
- allow Dorset an extension of two years until April 2026 to give more time for the new Dorset Local Plan to be developed and approved. During this extended period of plan preparation, Dorset should be protected against speculative housing development by suspending the five-year land supply requirement or by other means necessary
- fully recognise the climate and ecological emergency in the planning system, including new building regulations.

We recognise that this is national policy and may require changes to primary legislation, which is not in our gift locally.

### **QE Leisure Centre**

Dorset Council is proposing to withdraw its management of the QE Leisure Facility. The facility is not owned by the Council but costs the Council around £500,000 per year.

Overall, 1,799 responses to a consultation were received. As expected, there was overwhelming support to keep the current arrangements which would result in no impact to residents, [QES](#) and those that use [QELC](#).

83% of respondents said they currently travel to [QELC](#) by car, which is of note given there is a good level of alternative leisure provision in the local area. 51.1% indicated that they use or have used other local sports facilities, of which there are eight other public leisure centres within 20 minutes' drive.

85.4% of disabled users who visit the centre use the pool and [QES](#) have raised concerns around being able to maintain the swimming pool at [QELC](#).

The Council has said it would work with QES to find a sustainable alternative solution.



This will involve helping the school find alternative funding opportunities, making the current facilities more widely available and providing support and guidance for any users who may need to make alternative arrangements for their activities if necessary.

The Council is also proposing that one-off funding of up to £150,000 is made available as a contribution towards the replacement of the all-weather pitch at the site.

### **Community Governance Review**

There will be a report presented to Full Council on 15<sup>th</sup> February which recommends no change to the arrangements currently in place in Alderholt, Cranborne & Edmondsham, and Knowlton Councils.

DRAFT